



friendship force
KNOXVILLE

“Gateway to Worldwide Friends” Newsletter

Volume 17, No.7

December, 2015

December Meeting

The December meeting will be a **Christmas Luncheon**.

The lunch will begin at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 13th at **The Paris Apartment Boutique, Bistro & Tea Room** located at 4461 Kingston Pike near the new Fresh Market in Bearden to the left of the CVS.

We will meet in a private room which can accommodate 35 people. As of this writing, 30 members have signed-up. If you are interested in attending and have not signed up, please call Sandy Kehne at (865) 693-6071 or E-mail her at sbkehne2@gmail.com.

This year each member attending will receive \$10.00 in cash that you can apply to your individual bill. Everyone can order from the menu. If you visit our website at www.friendshipforceknoxville.org and go to the Newsletter page, you will find the restaurant's menu.

They do not serve alcoholic beverages, but we can bring our own wine. If you do, there will be a one-time per person additional corking fee (or uncorking fee) of \$3.50.

Messages from Panos

The Holiday Season is upon us ! I hope all of you have had an enjoyable Thanksgiving and are getting into the Christmas spirit.

As I look back to the past two years, I feel very blessed and thankful for the opportunity to serve as your President.

Our club has moved forward with up-to-date and professional Website and Newsletter thanks to Ray and Don. We also have a healthy financial position thanks to your efforts and support for all the different club activities. Our Membership has grown to a total of 56 members and with your continued efforts of "getting the word out" we will certainly continue to grow.

The Christmas party on December 13th (see details earlier in this Newsletter) has had a good response. As of now 30 people plan to attend. We hope to fill the last five available spots very soon (contact Sandy Kehne if interested). I look forward seeing as many of you as can come to the Christmas party luncheon.

At the luncheon, we hope that our nominating

committee, led by Phyllis Driver, will present a full slate of Board Officers for next year.

Renee and I send you our heartfelt wishes for the best ever Holidays, with Health, Friendship and good spirits to enjoy with all your loved ones.

Best wishes to all,

Panos

EXCHANGES

An **incoming exchange** with approximately 8 people from Whidbey Island, Washington is proposed for spring – April 17, 2016. It is in the early planning stages. What is needed now is to identify the **Exchange Director**. If you have any interest in being the Exchange Director of this program please let our President Panos Ioannides know.

Outgoing Exchanges

Calgary Stampede and Southern Alberta Heritage

June 26 to July 13, 2016

Calgary, Medicine Hat and Lethbridge

Our home hosts during our exchange to

Calgary last year have asked us to make our members aware of their *Calgary Stampede and Southern Alberta Heritage* themed

global exchange to take place from June 26, 2016 through July 13, 2016

Go to our website at

www.friendshipforceknoxville.org and to the Exchange page. On the right side of the page, click onto Friendship Force Calgary

for a full two pages of information about the exchange.

If you decide to go, you will find this to be one of the most memorable and scenic exchanges you have ever undertaken.

Friendship Force International Exchanges Available

Friendship Force International has notified us that the following exchanges are available. If you want further information about any of these Exchanges, please contact FFI at www.friendshipforce.org

Explore Myanmar

February 13 to 25, 2016

Yangon, Inle Lake, Bagan and Mandalay Myanmar

Marlborough and Tauranga, Western Bay of Plenty, NZ

February 18 – March 3, 2016

Marlborough, Tauranga, Western Bay of Plenty, New Zealand

NextGen Discover the Outback

March 28 – April 11, 2016

Adelaide and Cairns, Australia.

Adventure: New Zealand

March 12 – 23, 2016.

Kapiti Coast, Napier, and Wanganui,

Explore China

April 2-17, 2016

Zia Shamsy Exchange Director, FF Dallas

zia_shamsy@yahoo.com

214-403-4299

Adelaide and Tamworth, Australia.

February 29 to March 15

China and Taiwan

April 7 -27, 2016

Shanghai, China and Taipei, Taiwan

Relish in the Hospitality of Brazil

June 4 to 18, 2016

Sao Paulo and Curitiba, Brazil.

Friendship in Action in Kenya

July 18 to 30, 2016

Nairobi, Kitui, and Voo, Kenya

Crazy for Quilting

Sept. 30 to Oct. 9, 2016

Cedar Rapids and Central Iowa, USA.

Discover Israel

Oct.26 to Nov. 6, 2016

Tel Aviv, Caesarea, Haifa, Nazareth,
Tiberius, Galilee, Yardenit, Jerusalem, and
Beit Shean, Israel.

In Addition Friendship Force International has announced cruises to Dominican Republic, Cuba, Old World Prague and the Blue Danube, Panama Canal Cruise and Panama, and Winter Time on the Seine.

For more information on these and other exchange opportunities go to

www.friendshipforce.org

FFK Historian

Friendship Force of Knoxville was founded on May 16, 1981. On May 16, 2016, the club will be celebrating its 35th Anniversary.

Since the death of Eleanor Bush several years ago the club has not had a Historian.

We are now looking for one or more club members who would be interested in working as a committee to organize the club history.

The objective would be to prepare and present a written documentation of our 35 years as a Friendship Force club.

Members were able to present a wonderful overview of the club at the 25th Anniversary 10 years ago. Using that as a base, new information can be added.

We would like to include memories and pictures from members about their travels and adventures with Friendship Force over the years.

If you can help assemble our history please contact Panos Ioannides.

May, 2016 will be here before you know it.

2016 Dues and Membership Application

Membership dues for 2015 have not been increased and remain at \$30 for an Individual and \$45 for a Family.

Dues are due and payable to Friendship Force of Knoxville. Mail them to Ray Simko, Treasurer at 1194 Treymour Way, Knoxville, TN 37922.

2016 Membership Application

Individual \$30 ____ Family \$45 ____

Member #1 First Name _____

Member # 2 First Name _____

Family Name _____

Address, _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____

Phone Area Code & Number _____

Email Member#1 _____

Email Member#2 _____

Birthdays

Member #1 _____

Member #2 _____

Couple's Anniversary _____

Birthday and Anniversary Wishes

The Members of the Club send best wishes on their **Birthdays** to:-

**Phyllis Driver
Joan Frey
Panos Ioannides
Lillian Stradley
Ely Driver
Tom Mishu
Al Schuetz
J. Paul Dakak
Andrew Foth**

And to

**Ron & Jean Mayer
LeRoy & Wanda Rogers
Laura & Gordon Ford
Anne & Roger Jessup**

on their **Anniversaries**.