



Experience Different Views
Discover Common Ground

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Whew! Finally some cooler weather. Let's hope Fall sticks around for a while. We would have loved for it to be here while we hosted the club from Tallahassee, but alas it was hot the whole time. Despite that, it was a great journey and by all accounts our ambassadors had a wonderful time. Thanks to Mike Rakouskas, Host Coordinator, and his entire team who put on a successful journey. So many were involved that I dare not name names for fear of leaving someone out. We had people who helped plan the itinerary and publish our booklet, welcome and farewell party hosts, home and day hosts, regional dinner coordinator and hosts, and members who turned out for the Farewell Party. Our appreciation is extended to all.

We held a retreat with the Board of Directors on October 1 at Waltonwood Lake Boone. Thanks to Molly for planning the logistics and lunch, Doyle and Carol for being our resident Waltonwood hosts, and board members who attended – all but two were able to be there. There was a lot of good discussion about the viability of our club, how we could move forward, and which responsibilities each person was willing to take on.

As you are aware, we do not have a president for the coming year. This is not unique to our club, and there are various ways to handle it. We decided to divvy up the responsibilities for running the club, and each person or committee will be responsible to see that their part is done. We believe that we will have a successful year ahead.

Soon, you will receive a questionnaire asking how you would like to participate. We have committees that need worker bees, and every inbound and outbound journey needs lots of people to help. Especially important are the various parts and pieces we have to put together when we host another club. As you read in the first paragraph, it

is so much easier when lots of members pitch in to help. The added benefit is that we get to know each other better and it makes membership much more fun.

Speaking of journeys, there is still time to join the journey to New Zealand and Australia that departs mid-March 2020. Donna Steele, the Ambassador Coordinator, is learning more about the activities you will do there, and it all sounds interesting and fun. Soon the journey will be advertised to all Friendship Force International Clubs, so reserve your space now if you'd like to go. It promises to be an outstanding trip. After all, our purpose is to develop cultural understanding worldwide. This will be an easy step to take toward that end.

-Judy Wright

WELCOMING THE AMBASSADORS FROM TALLAHASSEE, FL



We were pleased to have nine Ambassadors from the Tallahassee Friendship Force Club visit our area September 24-29. A big thank you to all our members who participated in this incoming Journey and in particular to the Home Hosts, Day Hosts and Regional Dinner Hosts for all of their help in making the visit such a success. A special thank you to Elaine Rakouskas for hosting the Welcome dinner and to Pat DeBoer and Molly Kiefer for hosting the Farewell Dinner.

During the visit the Ambassadors had a Raleigh Trolley tour of downtown Raleigh and visited many highlights of the Raleigh and Durham area. Included in the week's tour were the Governor's Mansion, the NC Museum of Art, the Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral, NC State University Hunt Library, the North Carolina History Museum, Bennett Place, the American Tobacco Campus and the Duke University Chapel and Gardens. They were also treated to an opportunity to enjoy the Wide Open Bluegrass Festival in downtown Raleigh Friday evening and on Saturday.

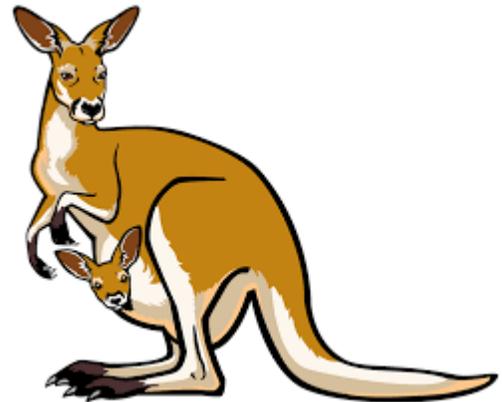


- Michael Rakouskas



NEW ZEALAND & AUSTRALIA JOURNEY, MARCH 17 – APRIL 7, 2020

It won't be long before members of our club will journey to New Zealand and Australia. Donna Steele, Ambassador Coordinator, and her entourage will have their first stay with the Kapiti Coast, NZ, club. The Kapiti Coast club visited us in 2016, and they are looking forward to returning the hospitality.



This club has provided a draft of their itinerary that includes a visit to the Lattey Homestead to see alpacas; the KenaKena School, a unique and award winning school that attracts local and international students alike; a mini bus trip to Mt. Victoria; a train ride and visit to Wellington; the U.S. Marine Memorial at Queen Elizabeth Park; a lagoon and beach walk; a nature reserve and more.

The second NZ week is still to be determined, but Friendship Force International staff is working on it.

The third week, ambassadors will travel to North Moreton, Australia, near Brisbane. While the itinerary is not complete, the plans are for you to visit the Australia Zoo where you can see koalas, kangaroos, and wombats among others. Also in the planning stages are a Botanical Garden and Planetarium, a visit to Brisbane City with a trip on the river, and perhaps another boat trip that includes some historical reenactments. There will be no shortage of opportunities to experience the diversity that Australia offers.

Donna and Herman Steele welcome you to travel with them on this "Down Under" experience. Contact Donna dhsteele249@yahoo.com or 919-333-6361 for all the details, costs, travel planning, etc. Make your plans now to go.

FLORIDA IN FEBRUARY ANYONE?

If you have the time, plan to spend a few days in Florida in February before taking off to enjoy Fall in NZ and AUS. Or if you can't make the NZ/AUS journey this time, consider a few days away on this journey to Florida Suncoast. <https://www.ff-fs.org/> February 20 – 25, 2020. Contact Judy Wright (judytwright@gmail.com) for additional information or to add your name to the list.

A GREAT GATHERING OF FRIENDS AT VIVO

A larger crowd than usual gathered at Vivo Italian Ristorante on Sunday September 8 for our monthly dinner and Annual Meeting. 28 people enjoyed socializing with old friends, newer members and guests before the Vivo staff served delicious appetizers, drink and meals in their private dining room. Thanks to Molly Kiefer and Mike Rakouskas for assisting me in getting the word out about this event.



During the Annual Meeting, President Judy Wright announced the 2020 slate of officers and Board candidates, which was accepted by acclamation by the membership. She also emphasized that Friendship Force International is putting focus on "Faces Not Places," described upcoming journeys this year and next year, and

asked for the entire membership's cooperation in becoming as active as their time and ability allow in order to make FF of Raleigh thrive. Please look for more journey, activity and event information in this newsletter. –Carol Reilly



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER 3



November First Sunday @ 5

Come and join members of the Friendship Force of Raleigh
On the First Sunday of every month at 5:00 p.m.
for beverages, food and friendship.

Our next event will be on November 3rd
at Karavan Uzbek Cuisine by 3 Olives
located at 1493 Garner Station Blvd, Raleigh, NC
27603. Cuisine originating from Central country of

Uzbekistan fuses influences from Chinese, Middle Eastern and Russian
kitchens. (<https://www.3oliveskitchens.com/karavan>)

They also serve pizza, pasta and calzones

<https://www.3oliveskitchens.com>) Dutch treat - "Come as you are"

Join us for a beverages, appetizers, and/or dinner
Please RSVP to Olga Dovoric at olganc9@gmail.com

We hope to see you then!

SAVE THIS DECEMBER DATE



**OUR HOLIDAY DINNER THIS YEAR WILL
BE ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5,
2019, 5:30 -7:45 P.M. AT THE
ROCKFORD RESTAURANT, 320 1/2
GLENWOOD AVENUE, RALEIGH,
N.C.27603.**

**THE COST IS \$32.00 PER PERSON.
THAT INCLUDES TAX, TIP, TEA AND
SOFT DRINKS. THERE WILL BE AN OPEN
BAR. WINE WILL BE \$6.00 PER GLASS.**

THE MEAL WILL BE A CHOICE OF ONE OF THREE ENTREES, CHICKEN, FISH OR FILET. THE MEAL INCLUDES TWO SIDES AND A DESSERT.

MUSIC WILL BE PROVIDED AGAIN THIS YEAR BY GRACE BOUDAH. WE ARE SO EXCITED TO HAVE HER RETURN!

PLEASE RSVP TO CAROLE DUBBER AT 919-302-0409 OR CEDUBBER@AOL.COM BY NOVEMBER 20, 2019. FINAL DATE!!

**PLEASE MAIL YOUR CHECKS BY THAT DATE
MADE PAYABLE TO CAROLE DUBBER AT 107 PATTERSON DRIVE,
YOUNGSVILLE, N.C.27596.**

An Author Among Us

I thought that you would like to know that Paula Berryann, a new member of our Friendship Force club, has published two books that might of interest to you. ~***Every Thought of You, a Sailor's Love Letters from the Pacific WW II*** is a compilation of letters Paula's father wrote to her mother during the war. Outskirts Press. Order on Amazon Kindle or place special order for paperback at Barnes & Noble.

~***Optimize Life for Your Aging Parents and You.*** Outskirts Press. Order on Amazon Kindle or look for paperback at Wake County Public Libraries.

From Carol Reilly

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2019-2020

11-03-2019	First Sunday @ 5 p.m. @ 3 Olives	Olga Dovoric 919-250-8376
11-12-2019	Board of Directors Meeting @ 1 p.m.	Judy Wright 919-848-3737
12-05-2019	Holiday Party @ 6 p.m. @ The Rockford	Carole Dubber 919-302-0409
01-05-2020	First Sunday @ 5 p.m. @ TBD	
01-14-2020	Board of Directors Meeting @ 1 p.m.	Molly Kiefer 919-828-5343
02-20-2020	Outbound Journey to Florida Suncoast	Judy Wright 919-848-3737
03-15-2020	Outbound Journey to NZ & Australia	Donna Steele 919-550-6634
05-31-2020	Inbound from Christchurch, NZ	Carol Reilly 919-847-7611

THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE PLEDGE

As a member of the Friendship Force I recognize that I can make a difference.

I recognize that I have a mission.

That mission is to be a friend to the people of the world.

As I embark on this adventure I know that others will be watching me.

**I know that through my example to my fellow citizens and people
of other countries, the cause of peace and friendship can be furthered.**

I can make a difference.

2020 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President – None

Vice President – Molly Kiefer

Treasurer – Donna Steele

Secretary – Heena Patel

Past President – Judy Wright

Directors:

DeAnne Dotson

Carole Dubber

Olga Dovoric

Doyle Long

Brenda Gay

Mary Louise Gray

Jan Johnson

Rachel Masimore

Jorge Montoya

Mike Rakouskas

Mary Elizabeth (Liz) Smith

Carol Winner

Much appreciation to members leaving the Board at the end of 2019 after many years of service to our club: Sara Brower, Karen Hatcher, Carol Reilly .

The Woman's Club of Clayton Fall Fundraiser

As many of you know we have held a number of our events at the Woman's Club of Clayton. They will be holding a fundraiser on November 9th and several of our members who are members of that club, including our Treasurer, Donna Steele, asked if we would let you know about this event. See the flyer for information if you have an interest in attending/participating.



**THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF CLAYTON
FALL FUNDRAISER**



SMALL TOWN GALA

HONORING CLAYTON'S 150 YEARS

DATE: NOVEMBER 9, 2019

TIME: DOORS OPEN 6PM; DINNER AT 7PM

LOCATION: THE FARM AT 42, HWY 42 EAST



Ticket price \$100

**Includes dinner, dancing, casino
cash, one Reverse Raffle ticket
(Grand Prize \$10,000)**

Prizes, FUN!



Donation of \$25 to participate in Diamond Dip

Donation of \$10 required for seat at Casino

**FOR TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION GO TO
TWCCNC.ORG**

CONTACT PERSON: JRYAN@TWCCNC.ORG

919-619-8155

We would love to share our Friendship Force experiences and travels with you. A Membership Form is attached at the end of this newsletter. We are in the renewal phase for current members. Anyone joining now will be credited with membership through 2020.

GET CONNECTED THROUGH PARTICIPATION

There are many ways that members can participate in Friendship Force activities. You can attend our local activities and participate in inbound and outbound journeys. You can also serve on the board and/or work on one of our committees. The more involved you are, the more connected you'll feel to our club and the other members. Please volunteer to help. Contact any of the folks below to let them know you'd like to help.

2019 Friendship Force of Raleigh Committees:

Activities – Carole Dubber cedubber@aol.com and Molly Kiefer mvkiefer@bellsouth.net, Co-Chairs; Members - Jan Johnson, Brenda Gay and Mike Rakouskas, Judy Allen

Membership – (Recruitment, Retention, Renewals) - Jan Johnson john115@bellsouth.net, Chair; Mike Rakouskas

Membership Records – Bob McCamy, Mike and Carol Winner

Journey Planning

Advisors to Host/Ambassador Coordinators – Doyle Long, Sara Brower

2018 Journey Coordinators:

Outbound Tallahassee – Sara Brower tsbrower1@gmail.com

Outbound La Serena, Chile – Jan Johnson (see above)

Inbound Central Montana – Judy Wright judytwright@gmail.com

Communications and Marketing

Newsletter – Olga Dovic olganc9@gmail.com

Facebook – Judy Wright judytwright@gmail.com

Website – Bob McCamy bobmccamy@gmail.com

Publications – brochures, itinerary booklets, flyers – Bob McCamy

Peace Pole Project – Mike Rakouskas mrakouskas@aol.com

Brenda Gay bmgay82@gmail.com

Find us on  <https://www.facebook.com/friendshipforceraleigh>

<https://thefriendshipforce.org/>

THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF RALEIGH 2020 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

www.friendshipforceraleighnc.com

Please circle one:

New

Renew

Today's
date: _____

A. INDIVIDUAL DATA

Last name _____ First name _____ M.I. _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Home phone (____) _____

Employer _____ Alt. phone (____) _____

Profession (or former profession) _____ E-mail _____

B. SECOND ADULT - Family Membership

Last name _____ First name _____ M.I. _____

Employer _____ Alt. phone (____) _____

Profession (or former profession) _____ Email _____

C. TALENTS OR INTERESTS YOU COULD SHARE WITH FRIENDSHIP FORCE

Foreign languages spoken _____

Countries visited or have knowledge _____

Talents and skills _____

Countries you would like to visit _____

D. MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR CALENDAR YEAR JAN. 1 TO DEC. 31

_____ \$50.00 Family membership renew /new (Two adults living in
same household with or without minor children)

_____ \$30.00 Individual membership renew / new

_____ \$10.00 Student membership renew / new

_____ **Total** Please make check payable to The Friendship Force of
Raleigh and mail to: The Friendship Force of Raleigh, P.O.
Box 21022, Raleigh, NC 27619

An Order Form Link for Name Badges can be found here:

<https://thefriendshipforce.org/resources/>