Friendship Force of Greater Atlanta

February 2016

"Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrowmindedness, and many of our people need it sorely... Broad, wholesome charitable views...cannot be acquired by vegetating in one's little corner of the earth."

---Mark Twain

Volunteering at MedShare: A Helping Hand

We have confirmed our volunteer shift at MedShare for Thursday, March 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We will be packing medical supplies for shipment overseas to countries where there is a critical need for them. MedShare is located at 3240 Clifton Springs Road, Decatur, GA 30034. After our shift, we will go to lunch at The Marlay House, 425 Wet Ponce de Leon Avenue, Decatur, GA 30030. This has always been a very rewarding activity for us and a great chance to enjoy each other's company at lunch. Anyone interested in volunteering/lunch should contact Cynthia Williams at madamew@hotmail.com or 404-351-5352 by March 1.



It's a Match!

FFGA 2017 International Exchange Program

OUTBOUND EXCHANGE PROGRAM FOR US

October: Atlanta to Recife, Brazil

Looks like we have an opportunity in Brazil in 2017! Recife is in Northern Brazil, about an hour inland from the coast. We are looking for an Exchange Director for this outbound opportunity.

FFGA Facebook Page:

Thank you to Bonnie Evans for setting up our first FFGA Facebook Page! Simply go into Facebook and in the upper left corner, enter Friendship Force of Greater Atlanta. Some great photos of our club's trips have been posted. If you have pictures of an Exchange, send them with some written info about the location and/or people/exchange to Bonnie via email at kbemje@bellsouth.net

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support FFI each time you shop at no cost to you. Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your charity. Simply go to *smile.amazon.com*. Tens of millions of items of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You use the same account on amazon.com and AmazonSmile. This would be a great way to send additional monies to FFI for the cost of the updated database.



OPEN WORLD is coming:

John Wilhelm reports we expect a group from Open World April 1-9th. This may be a joint effort with FF of Big Canoe/North Georgia. John is also looking for a volunteer ED for Open World in the future whom he can train this spring. John's email is jwainc7@bellsouth.net

Inbound Exchange Arriving this April:

From April 20-26th, we have 16 Ambassadors from Eastern Washington/Northern Idaho arriving!

FFGA members are welcome to join any of the schedules which includes, among others, visits to the Center for Civil and Human Rights, the Martin Luther King Jr. Visitor Center, Ebenezer Baptist Church, the Atlanta History Center, lunch at the Swan

Coach House, Serenbe Farmers Market, Stone Mountain, the Georgia Aquarium, and the World of Coca-Cola.

Dues for FFGA for 2016 were actually payable as of 12/31/2015. However, we will continue to accept dues. Single membership is \$30; family or couple membership \$40. Send a check immediately to Membership Chair Anne Earle, 715 Clairmont Avenue, Decatur 30030.

FFI World Conference: will be held in Morocco in September 2016!

Yet another Exchange Opportunity for your consideration:

I have attached three documents sent by our Regional Field Representative, Tom Laggy:

- 1) A description of the two exchanges to Murray Bridge and Casterton, Australia
- 2) A description of a tour of the Great Ocean Road (one of the 10 most beautiful drives in the world) which will follow the exchanges
- 3) A budget showing costs and payment schedule (\$1700 plus air).

This is prior to posting in the global catalog, hoping to give US and Canadian members first chance.