

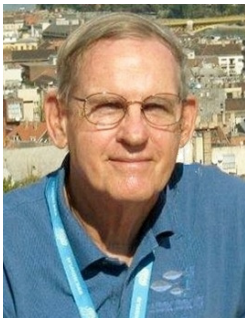


THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF GREATER ATLANTA NEWSLETTER



MARCH • APRIL • 2014

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘



At our annual business meeting last fall we cast ballots for where we would like to go on our 2015 outbound exchange. Each of us could select first, second and third choices. When the votes were tallied our preferences were clear. Germany received 76 points and the Ukraine garnered 40. These results were sent to Friendship Force International headquarters, with the qualification that we preferred Braunschweig-Peine, Germany and Kiev, Ukraine as reciprocal exchanges. We hosted the former in February, 2012 and the latter just last October. When we received our 2015 proposed exchanges from FFI they proposed July exchanges with Varel, Germany (population about 25,000) and Kiev. I emailed back, "Going to Ukraine just doesn't have the same appeal now as it did last year when we took the vote. Is there a Plan B?" A plan B was possible, but the list of countries with hosting availability was headed by Australia and Brazil, the destinations of our club's

last two outbound exchanges. Then followed Egypt, (Not much better than Kiev at the moment), Indonesia and New Caledonia. We were encouraged to accept their proposal. They think conditions in Kiev might improve over the next 17 months.

The second part of the FFI proposal dealt with inbound exchanges. Here we learned they "regret that we are not able to propose an inbound exchange for a number of clubs (including ours) in this first round of exchange assignments. One third of all Friendship Force clubs around the world are in the U.S., and our overseas friends have been hosted here so many times already that the demand for exchanges does not meet the supply of hosting." Lacking more favorable alternatives, your board voted to accept their proposal.

During our last board meeting Membership chair Anne Earle discussed purging the membership list before we publish the 2014 club directory. Anne reported 20 names that were in last year's directory will not appear in this year's. That's almost one out of every five members.

After I returned home from the board meeting I took time to reflect on these topics; no inbound exchange and a shrinking membership. I mentioned to Mary that I might write my bi-monthly message for the newsletter about them. Her comment was, "You aren't supposed to present a problem unless you are going to propose a solution as well." Unfortunately I don't have any sure fire solutions. But I can present a few mitigating factors and suggest where we are headed. Let's start with the lack of an inbound exchange. In reality we will have three hosting opportunities this year: the inbound from Turrialba, Costa Rica; the tri-city civil-rights-themed exchange being planned by Dr. Wilma Kirchofer; and the Open World event in September being headed by John Wilhelm. There will likely be similar ancillary exchanges in 2015.

Reversing the membership trend is easy in theory, but it seems to elude us in practice. We need to retain the members we have and recruit more people to join us. The key to both retention and recruitment is participation. We need more events to participate in, and your current board, like the last one, is committed to having at least one event each month that you can attend and bring a friend.

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In February a Valentine's Day party was scheduled only to be postponed for a week due to horrible weather, thereby resulting in a drastic reduction in participation. On March 1 we celebrated World Friendship Day working from nine-to-noon packing medical supplies at MedShare and then sharing lunch at a Decatur pub. In the future, on Thursday, April 10, all members and their guests are invited to participate in the farewell party for our friends from Costa Rica. Pack a picnic dinner and join us at Stone Mountain Park. On April 30 we assist the Atlanta Symphony Associates at the Decorators' Showhouse. Lunch at the OK Café will follow. Why are we depriving so many of our friends of this fun and fellowship? Invite them to any of these events. It is the best way to show them what we are all about. Details pertinent to each of these social occasions are shown elsewhere in this newsletter, I hope to see you at one of them.

In friendship,

Harvey

YOUR 2014 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿



MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: ANNE EARLE - Anne Earle became involved with a Friendship Force theme exchange to Oita Prefecture, Japan in 2001, accompanied by her family and 185 of their friends in the Decatur High School Band. She found that to be so enjoyable that she volunteered again to be the Co-ED on a trip to northern Germany with 120 band members and parents in 2003. After these experiences she decided it would be more fun to travel with a group with whom she did not have to serve as a member of the Beer Patrol, and joined FFGA. Since that time she and her husband Joe have hosted ambassadors from many countries and traversed the globe on several trips with our club. Anne has always been one of the first to volunteer for anything she feels will support FFGA and has served on the Board of Directors as the representative from the Decatur Branch club when it was a separate organization. She has also been FFGA President, Newsletter Editor and

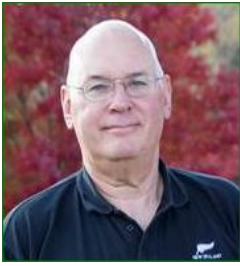
is the current Membership Chair. She has been an Inbound Exchange Director and she has also used her sewing talents in support of other ED's by making gift bags for their exchanges. Anne is not a reticent member of the Board of Directors and is responsible for numerous proposals that have had an impact on the operation of both the Board and of FFGA, itself.

Anne is married to mild-mannered journalist Joe Earle and they reside on heavily traveled Clairemont Avenue in Decatur. They have two grown sons, and both are gainfully employed. Despite devoting a large amount of time working on FFGA projects, Anne is also currently teaching preschool. She has however, agreed to writing a light-hearted (If not just plain humorous) recurring section about the experiences one may encounter as a member of FFGA, hers included. Look for it beginning with the May – June Issue of your FFGA Newsletter.



SOCIAL ACTIVITIES CHAIR: GLENDA WILHELM - Glenda and her husband John have been members of FFGA since the year 2000 when they were invited to host ambassadors from Trujillo, Peru. They have remained avid members of the club since that time and have volunteered for many leadership positions within it. While Glenda has been active in the support of her spouse during his terms as Vice President and President of FFGA, and later as the FFI Field Representative for the Southeast United States, she has recently assumed more leadership roles, as well. In 2013 she led a highly successful outbound exchange to Lima, Peru, and she accepted appointment as the Social Activities chairperson this year. Glenda has served as the club's hostess extraordinaire to untold numbers of FF Ambassadors and to other delegations from around the world.

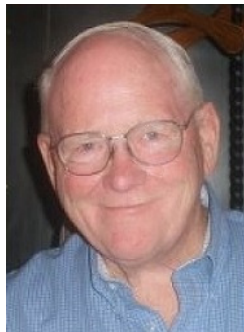
Mrs. Wilhelm was born and raised in Chicago. She attended Chicago Teachers College (now Northeastern Illinois State U.) and received her Bachelor of Science degree in Education. She and John have been married since 1967 and have two adult children in the legal profession. Glenda is currently finishing her 27th year as a substitute teacher in DeKalb County. The Wilhelm's arrived in Atlanta in 1974 and reside in the Stone Mountain area. She has become an expert on the Stone Mountain Park plantation area and frequently gives guided tours for FFGA inbound ambassadors.



WEBSITE CHAIR: DAVE KELLEY - Dave and Carla Kelley have been married since 1999 and live in Roswell. Each has brought two children from previous marriages into their family and have just recently added a fourth grandchild to the Kelley clan.

Both Kelley's have served as Exchange Directors and as Ambassadors and Hosts on many FFGA exchanges. Dave joined the Friendship Force in 1992 and has remained active, fulfilling many roles since that time. Most members may recall that Dave was the Vice President of FFGA in 2009, and was also elected to be the President in 2010-2011. He has been assisted in many of those duties by his talented wife Carla, who has also become the FFGA's de facto club photographer, and she is very good at it. While remaining on the FFGA Board of Directors as President Emeritus Dave also volunteered to become the club's webmaster and has done an admirable job of keeping our website interesting and up-to-date. Please make an effort to visit the site on a regular basis. The website address is: <http://www.friendshipforceatlanta.com>.

Mr. Kelley has had a long career in the banking industry since graduating with a BS degree from the University of Tennessee and a MBA in Accounting from Georgia State University. He is currently employed as an Accounting Manager with SunTrust Bank.



NEWSLETTER CHAIR: KENT VICKERS - Kent and Erika Vickers have been members of Friendship Force International since 1990. He has served on the FFGA Board of Directors as the Membership Chair for seven years, Vice President for two years and has been the News Editor of the club's Newsletter and Newsflashes for the past eighteen months.

Kent states that his greatest joy has been in managing the highly successful foreign officer's visitation program between FFGA and Fort Benning for three years. Groups of 15 - 20 officers from 76 different nations came to Atlanta four times a year for a long weekend visit. Kent found the hosts and planned the program. Many hosting families developed lasting friendships with these young men and women that remain strong today. The program not only strengthened the bond between FFGA members but brought new members into the club. At the 2012 FFGA Annual Meeting he was taken by surprise when the club awarded him the prestigious Wayne Smith Medal as FFGA's most outstanding member. Only 46 of these awards have been made world-wide as of the end of year 2012. The Vickers' have hosted Ambassadors from several countries and have traveled as Friendship Force Ambassadors to ten foreign countries. He has served as an incoming ED on three occasions but has not yet led an outbound exchange.

Kent retired from the U.S. Army as a Command Sergeant Major and moved to Georgia at the completion of his 23 year military career in 1977. He then became a commercial packaging artist and also retired from that profession as Art Director for Flex-O-Craft, Inc. in 1992. The Vickers married 56 years ago in Berlin, Germany. They had two sons; one has passed away, and the other resides with his family in Milner, Georgia.

FFGA RECENT EVENTS: ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘



Our hosts for the 37th FFI World Conference are the members of the Friendship Force of New Zealand. They are working with the FFI staff to arrange an unforgettable program as well as a variety of optional tours offering an authentic and memorable experience.

In the nation known as the "Land of the Long White Cloud" you will enjoy Auckland's beautiful Rendezvous Grand Hotel's accommodations. You will also be able to sample fantastic local seafood and wines, view spectacular landscapes, and receive an unforgettable Maori powhiri welcome. There will be engaging, interactive FFI presentations and leadership training, cultural workshops to "*Change the Way You See the World*", a selection of interesting day tours around

Auckland and a lot of other surprises that the FFI staff cannot even begin to share yet.

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Everything you may need to know about the conference and/or registration may be found by visiting the FFI website at: <http://www.thefriendshipforce.org> and clicking on the [View Event Details](#) located in the blue block at the upper right of the page. A list of contacts is provided should you have any questions after reviewing the event details. When making flight arrangements to New Zealand, please be aware there is a 17 hour time difference. For example, when it is noon on Friday in Atlanta it is already 5:00 AM Saturday in Auckland. **If you plan to attend the conference you can save 50 New Zealand Dollars by registering before 30 April 2014, thereby taking advantage of "Early Bird Registration."** (Currently \$1.00 NZD = \$0.85 USD.)

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿



Vicki Van Der Hoek was born and raised in Southern California and moved to Georgia in 1986. She received her BA from Georgia State Film School. Currently, she is a semi-retired real estate investor who lives in Morrow with her dog and two cats. She enjoys various activities, outings and some co-hosting with her mentee of ten years, a young man named Xaleon, who was a neighbor boy that she took under her wing when he was six.

Ms. Van Der Hoek has been a member of FFGA since 2005, joining when she and her travel companion, Allen Freedman, went on a joint FFI/ GCIV (Georgia Council for International Visitors) humanitarian trip to Cuba. That same year they went to the remote indian village of Ayutla, Mexico to meet and visit with her two "ChildFund International" sponsored children. It was after these two trips that she realized forging a personal connection and making a difference was the most rewarding type of vacation. In another of their humanitarian trips, she was named Honorary Chairwoman by a non-government organization called "Stop-AIDS-Albania", and spent that vacation with a needle exchange program. Among other endeavors, they targeted male prostitutes to halt the spread of HIV-AIDS in Albania. That ended with her presenting an emotional speech to the Tirana Police Department. It is illegal to be a homosexual in Albania, where it brings a 10 year prison sentence – (if you survive the beating by the police). As a side note, she has since heard that every drug addict/prostitute she met has died.

She has served as the club Secretary on the FFGA Board of Directors, and was the E.D. for a group of FFI-sponsored business people from the Republic of China. Ms. Van Der Hoek volunteers often as an inbound host and figures that between FFGA and GCIV she has hosted people from almost 60 countries on five different continents. Among those she states that she especially enjoyed the Ft. Benning international military officers' visits. Her FFGA sponsored outbound trips have included China, Costa Rica and Russia.

Ms. Van Der Hoek has shared three of her most memorable photos for this interview. From left to right below are: Vicki and Xaleon with two judges they were hosting from Greece and Turkey; posing with the farmer who discovered the famous terra cotta soldiers near Xian, China; in Albania with the STOP-AIDS van and one of the prostitutes who was given clean needles along with a cup of coffee and donuts. He lived in a burned out car.



(Editor's Note: Ms. Van Der Hoek is a reporter for the FFGA Newsletter and contributes interviews for the "Getting to Know You" segment. As editor I have requested that she submit this interview of herself using the third person format. – Kent)

THE SOCIAL SCENE: ❧ ❧ ❧ ❧ ❧ ❧ ❧ ❧ ❧ ❧ ❧ ❧ ❧ ❧



Valentine's Day Party: Although it was scheduled to be before the actual date of Valentine's Day, and it should have been a happy event shared by all FFGA club members at the Intermezzo Café in Sandy Springs – **it wasn't!** Father Frost was not yet done terrorizing Atlanta and unleashed yet another wintery blast of freezing temperatures, rain and ice. No one could blame FFGA's reluctant socializers for opting to stay at home and close to their fires. Even this did not faze our Social Activities maven, Glenda Wilhelm. She simply rescheduled everything for the following week when the temperatures were sure to be much balmier and spring-like. Alas! The damage was done and only the very hard core members dared the vagaries of Atlanta weather in February. For those few it proved to be a very enjoyable evening among friends while sharing delicious entrees, fine spirits, and fabulous desserts, all at a very reasonable price.



(L to R) John Wilhelm, Erika Vickers, Glenda Wilhelm, Kent Vickers, Bonnie and Joe Evans, Barbara Shields and Cynthia Williams pose for the camera at the Intermezzo Café.



World Friendship Day: As FFGA has done in the past, we volunteered to celebrate World Friendship Day on March 1st by helping MedShare International fulfill its mission of providing surplus medical supplies and equipment to less fortunate countries around the world. By the end of our three-hour shift we, in coordination with a few other like volunteers, had packed 543 cardboard cartons with desperately needed supplies, enough to fill eight conex containers.

Often we had no idea of what some of the items were and had to track down a member of the harried MedShare staff to explain what it was and where it should go. Even though we were sometimes confused, all 18 FFGA members diligently stuck it out for three hours until noon. At that time it was off to the heart of Decatur and The Marlay House, Irish pub. Filling two long tables we also filled our bellies with tasty shepherd's pie and huge Angus hamburgers, all washed down with pints of Guinness Ales and iced teas. We then parted ways with a sense of satisfaction in a task well done and looking forward to a peaceful afternoon nap.

Special thanks to the following volunteers. Know that you have just possibly helped to save a life in a country in desperate need of America's bounty. Harvey & Mary Brickley, Anne Earle, Bonnie Evans, Pat Holt, Anne Lawing, Eunice Luke, Sue Mills, Neil & Vivian Nickelsen, Barbara Shields, Kent & Erika Vickers, John & Glenda Wilhelm, Cynthia Williams, Harvey Young and special thanks to FFI representative Matthew Nidek. Various pictures of the day are displayed below:



FFGA Volunteers help out at MedShare Intl.



Anne Lawing & Harvey Young sort supplies



Mary Brickley with two hands full



Turrialba, Costa Rica Farewell: Our "Ticos" will arrive from Fort Myers, Florida on 5 April and fly home on the 11th, and we now have everything ready for them. The itinerary has been agreed upon, there are enough hosts for the Ambassadors, volunteers to host the dinner parties. It would be great if even more FFGA members came out to meet the Ticos before they return home. **You are all invited to do just that at their farewell event at Stone Mountain Park on Thursday, April 10th beginning at 6:00 PM.** The group will set up on the upper right portion of the lawn as you are facing the Confederate Memorial Carving. Bring your own picnic dinner, drinks, and lawn chairs or blankets and enjoy the laser show and fireworks later in the evening about 8:30 PM, (Spring Break special 5-12 April). Although some of the restaurants will be open in the park, a bucket of fried chicken always seems to taste better when picnicking on the lawn. Please be advised that Stone Mountain Park charges a \$10.00 per car parking fee at the entrances to the park.

It is again time for one of our clubs' annual commitments to community service.

The 2014 Annual Decorators' Show House and Gardens



Located on W. Paces Ferry one of Atlanta's Historic Family Homes owned by the Rhodes family. Named the Pink Palace and built in 1920's this architectural masterpiece sits on 3.5 acres in the heart of Buckhead. Designed by Neel Reid and Schutze this beautiful home provides a perfect match of Italian Baroque with all the modern amenities including a vast geothermal system, 6 bedrooms and 7 baths. In the grand room 18th century tapestry fills the walls. Amazingly beautiful features are throughout the house including a large pool house, attic apartment, gentlemen's room and 2 rooftop terraces.

Each year our club helps to raise funds in support of the Atlanta Symphony Associates. We do this by acting as docents at their "Annual Decorators' Show House and Gardens" for a few hours on just one day of each year. The duties are fairly easy. Docents remain in one area of the home and direct visitors through an interior designers' showcased room. A printed information sheet is furnished regarding the prices and some details of the items on display. Docents are also there to keep an eye on those items and to alert security if any try to vanish. The Atlanta Symphony Association has requested that our club furnish 27 volunteers this year if possible. Tickets to tour the Decorators' Show House and Gardens are normally \$30.00 at the door but as a docent one usually has time for a brief tour before the paying public arrives at 10:00 A.M. Volunteers may also return in the afternoon after a shift and tour at their leisure, as long as they have a docent badge. To see the home's interior on the internet without the interior designers input, please visit the Keller-Williams real estate advertisement presented in the Redfin Slideshow at:

<http://www.redfin.com/GA/Atlanta/541-W-Paces-Ferry-Rd-NW-30305/home/24726362#photoSlideShow>

How to volunteer: If you decide that you would like to be a member of our club's Docent Group, on the 30th of April, please contact **Kent Vickers** by e-mail at: kvickga@hotmail.com or by telephone at: **770-460-8794**. **PLEASE DO SO BEFORE APRIL 23rd.**

Enjoy a Social Luncheon with other club members: After our morning tour of duty is finished, FFGA members normally get together for a late lunch at a nearby restaurant. This year our destination will be the O.K. Café, not far from where we will park our vehicles. The restaurant has an extensive menu and is well known throughout Atlanta for the quality of its food. We will attempt to sit together, but will not have a reserved table due to an additional service charge. See the website at www.okcafe.com.

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Listed below is information for volunteering as FFGA Docents.

Our Show House Date is: Wednesday, April 30, 2014.

Our Shift Time is: 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM (Board the shuttle bus at 9:00 AM.)

Attire for Volunteers: Women: Black dress, skirt or trousers with a black or white top.

Men: Black trousers, black or white shirt. No jacket or tie.

Parking: (No parking is available at the show house) Free parking is available for docents at the Medici Building, 3284 Northside Parkway. A free shuttle will bring you to and from the Show House. **The docent's shuttle bus begins departures at 9:00 A.M.** Please be on time in order to arrive for an orientation briefing before the scheduled shift starting time of 9:30 A.M. Make sure you bring your parking ticket with you. It will be validated at the show house ticket table.

Please see the map at the end of this Newsletter for directions to parking and to the OK Café.

For those who have never been to one of these affairs it can be quite interesting to see how some of the most notable interior decorators in the southeastern United States can make a room desirable from what most would consider hopeless. In addition, it is always a pleasant experience to dine with your fellow club members at a nearby restaurant after completing your shift as a docent. At the time you receive this Newsletter, 15 members have already agreed to volunteer as docents for this popular event, solely by word of mouth. There is still room for 10 more members. Please contact Kent Vickers if you would like to volunteer to join us in this worthwhile endeavor.



Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with FFGA: This month's social event will be a festive ethnic dinner with your FFGA friends at the "Nuevo Laredo Cantina". (**NOTE:** this will be on Tuesday, the 6th of May not the 5th). The restaurant is located at 1495 Chattahoochee Avenue, NW. Atlanta 30318. We will meet there at 5:30 PM. Ordering will be from the menu, and we will be billed individually. This Latin-American Restaurant is reviewed at 4 to 5 stars in most Atlanta guidebooks to good dining. If you visit www.Google.com and type Nuevo Laredo Cantina into the search block it will bring up directions, a pictorial menu with prices and a number of great reviews. Please contact Ms. Glenda Wilhelm by May 2nd if you plan to attend, by email at: jwainc7@bellsouth.net or telephone at: 770-921-4333, so that she may provide attendance numbers to the restaurant.

FUTURE EXCHANGES: (Updates) ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘ ☘



Domestic Exchange: E.D. Joyce Mell reports that the Domestic Exchange to the Friendship Force of Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho is now firmly set for June 5th through 10th 2014. However, a second exchange is now scheduled to visit the Friendship Force of Whidbey Island from June 10th to June 15th. (The island is located about 30 miles north of Seattle in Puget Sound and involves a trip aboard a ferry to get to.) Mrs. Mell states that she has a full

20 person contingent for this exchange and that is the maximum that either club can accept. As time draws near to departure some ambassadors may change their mind about going. So if you are interested in traveling on this exchange, you should contact Mrs. Mell as soon as possible to place your name on the waiting list. You may contact her by telephone at: 770-232-2987 or by e-mail at: jnjmell@bellsouth.net.



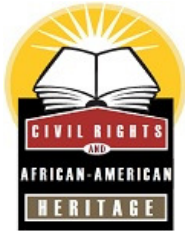
Discovery exchange: Here's your chance to visit the "Warm Heart of Africa"! The exchange in Malawi will be from 26 June – 2 July, 2014 and will be comprised of 3 nights of home stays, 2 nights at a hotel and 1 night in a lodge. Those doing only the Malawi portion should arrive in the capital city of Lilongwe and depart from Blantyre, the commercial center of Malawi. All hosts speak English, which is the official language of the country, and most of them are associated with the university in the city of Zomba. (Continued)

There are two add-on options available if desired. These are; Option 1: Visit to Johannesburg, South Africa, and Kruger National Park; return home from Johannesburg. Option 2: Visit to Johannesburg, South Africa, and Kruger National Park; visit to Port Elizabeth with possible homestay; return home from Cape Town. Due to the fact that many who have expressed interest in this exchange would like to use frequent flyer miles, flight arrangements are up to the ambassadors, though we can provide suggestions. The price for the Malawi portion of the exchange only is expected to be well under \$900. If you are interested in this exchange please let Cynthia Williams, the Exchange Director, know as soon as possible by e-mail at: madamew@hotmail.com or telephone 404-531-5352.



Open World Exchange: Mr. John Wilhelm has volunteered to be the exchange director for an Open World Leadership delegation arriving from Serbia September 12th and departing on the 20th. There will be 5 delegates, a facilitator to act as a bilingual guide and an interpreter. The subject of interest is to be Financial Crimes. The genders of the group are not yet known.

The effects of the current American and Russian conflict may have a bearing on whether this exchange will even take place as the Serbs were close allies of the Soviet Socialist regime and may still harbor a fraternal loyalty toward Russia. If you would be interested in being a host during this exchange, should it take place. please contact Mr. Wilhelm to volunteer at: jwainc7@bellsouth.net.



WALK THE PATHWAYS TO FREEDOM: DISCOVER AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY IN THE U.S.A.

E.D. Dr. Wilma Kirchhofer reports that this will be a Global exchange to three cities: Cincinnati, Ohio; Atlanta, Georgia and Birmingham, Alabama. Each city will highlight its historical events and current progress in advancing civil rights. FFGA's portion will take place during the week of the 21st through the 27th of September with up to 20 Ambassadors arriving from Cincinnati. The tentative itinerary for the Atlanta portion will focus on the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the accomplishments of the Atlanta University

system and the advances of the African-American business community in Atlanta. Ambassadors will also visit the newly-constructed Civil Rights Museum near Centennial Olympic Park. More details will be provided as they are developed. Please contact Dr. Kirchhoffer if you would like to volunteer to host or help her make this a successful Discovery exchange in any way. Her email address is: ardine@bellsouth.net. You may telephone her at: 404-559-9634. Please do so before 15 July. FFI ambassadors from many countries will be participating in this exchange, and all FFGA members are welcome to participate as well.

ODDS & ENDS ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘



Minutes of the FFGA Board of Directors meetings: To review the FFGA Board of Directors Minutes from the March 2014 board meeting held on March the 9th, please remember to depress and hold down the "Ctrl" key on your keyboard while clicking on the following link: <http://1drv.ms/NQFW0y>. If the link does not open the minutes for you, copy the link individually into the address bar of your internet browser to open it. Please allow time for the link to open.



New Memberships: The Friendship Force of Greater Atlanta is pleased to welcome the following new member to our club and is looking forward to having her join us during future social activities and on exchanges yet to come.

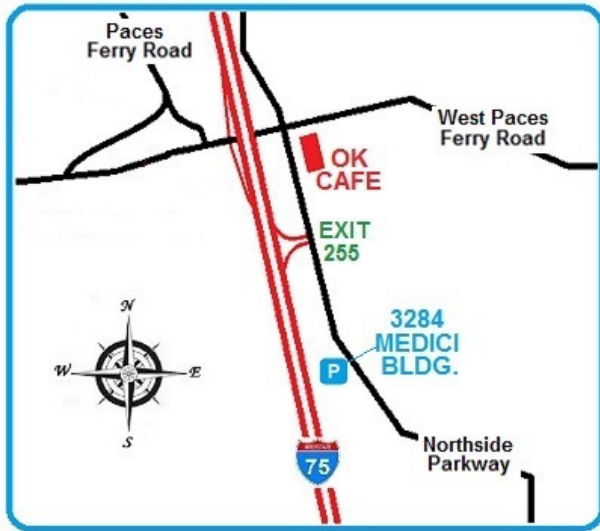
Linda Foley resides in Atlanta, GA in the Chamblee area.

_____ T H E E N D _____

Please see a map and details about parking and dining for volunteers at the Decorators' Show House on the next page.

In Friendship,
Kent G. Vickers
Newsletter Editor

2014-Decorators' Show House Medici Building & OK Café



Going North on I-75 exit onto Northside Parkway at exit 255 and stay in the right lane past Howell Mill Road until you see a small sign announcing Show House parking. Turn right and pass the first building. Proceed to the end of the street where the free parking garage is. Make sure you bring your parking ticket to have it validated at the Show House ticket desk. The bus leaves from the corner before the Parking deck.

Parking is free for the Decorators' Show House docents at the Medici Building, 3284 Northside Parkway.

The Shuttle Bus will begin departures from the Medici Bldg. at 9:00 AM
Docents must be at the show house by 9:15 AM

We will finish our shift by 1:00 PM and return to the Medici parking area.

From there it is less than ½ mile to the O.K. Café at the corner of West Paces Ferry and Northside Parkway.

Our volunteer docents may return to the show house for a free tour at their leisure. You will need to show your docent badge from the morning shift if you do so. The last tour of the show house begins at 3:30 PM.

Thank You for Volunteering

Free Symphony Tickets: This event will run from April 25th through May 18th. If you complete four shifts as Docent, including FFGA's, you are eligible to receive two FREE Symphony Tickets. The Staffing Office will maintain a file with the names of multiple-shift Docents. It is your responsibility to make sure that your name is entered in this file each time you sign in for a shift.