

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF GREATER ATLANTA



FEBRUARY 2017

<http://friendshipforceatlanta.com>

Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, 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

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WORLD FRIENDSHIP DAY MARCH 1ST

VOLUNTEER EVENT AND LUNCH

Wednesday, March 1st, is World Friendship Day. FF Atlanta members are needed as volunteers to sort books for **BOOKS FOR AFRICA** at their Atlanta Warehouse. The hours for volunteering are from 9AM to 1PM. You are welcome to join us for lunch if you are not able to volunteer earlier in the day.

Please contact **Bonnie Evans** by February 27 to let her know if you can volunteer and/or join us for lunch. Her phone number

is 404.771.0010 or email her at kbemje@bellsouth.net

Books for Africa Atlanta Warehouse is located at:
3655 Atlanta Industrial Drive, Bldg. 250
Atlanta, GA 30331
Phone: (404) 603-8680

Afterwards, we will meet for lunch at Jack's New Yorker Deli to enjoy some fabulous sandwiches and enjoy each other's friendship along with lots of laughter and good will.

Contact **Bonnie Evans** if you need a ride the event or wish to volunteer to drive other members. FFGA Ambassa-

dors on the outbound exchange to Tanzania are highly encouraged to be at this important volunteer event since it will tie in with our exchange to Tanzania.

Jack's New Yorker Deli is located at:
4691 S Atlanta Rd SE,
Suite 150
Vining's Court Shopping Center
Atlanta GA 30339
Phone: (404) 799-8500

Bonnie Evans
Exchange Director Tanzania Exchange
Greater Atlanta Friendship Force Webmaster
and Ambassador

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As you read this, our club will have completed a nine day Open World visit from a delegation of Kazakhs. There were two opportunities to meet them and I hope you availed yourself of the opportunity to meet these folks from the former Soviet Republic.

After a couple of years of sparse activity, both on the outbound and inbound exchange side, 2017 appears to be a banner year. We have inbound exchanges coming to us from Adelaide, AUSTRALIA (June 4-9), Central Willamette Valley, OREGON (Oct. 19-25), and Moscow, RUSSIA in late November or early December. Then of course, we have Bonnie Evans leading a large contingent to Iringa ,Tanzania, AFRICA in August-September. That is a full plate!

Recently some of you have taken advantage of outbound travel with other clubs. That is one of the perks of belonging to Friendship Force. If our club has a canceled exchange, or you prefer to visit a different country, that option is available for you. There is another side to your membership that needs your attention. We need to open our homes to ambassadors from inbound exchanges. The whole premise of FFI is to break down barriers between people, both by accepting their hospitality when we travel and conversely, hosting them with our "southern hospitality". We are doing pretty well on sending our members outbound, but sorely lacking on the hosting end.

I am asking every member to circle the aforementioned inbound dates on your calendar and contribute to our reception of these ambassadors. You can be an overnight host (most needed), or a day host, or provide a dinner for a few ambassadors, or drive folks to a destination, to name a few. But don't wait until the ED is pleading for your help at the last minute. Please be pro-active and reach out to the ED or board member to ask how you can help. Even those who have limited living space or bedrooms can find a way to make a contribution.

If you believe, like I do that Friendship Force is a wonderful concept and needs to be promoted, than please participate. Our current board of officers is considering modifying our by-laws to allow for a leadership council to govern our club. It has become increasingly difficult to find members willing to stand for president, VP , etc., so we are looking at alternatives. We really need "all hands on deck" to make this year a success. I hope that you will take this message to heart.

John Wilhelm

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FFGA BOOK CLUB DATE CHANGE

Our next meeting date has changed and will be on February 26, 2017 still at the home of Cynthia Williams, 1923 Claremont Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30318. Please call Cynthia at 404-351-5352 if you are planning to attend. The club will be discussing “A Long Way Home” by Saroo Brierley. This book was first a media sensation, then a #1 international bestseller and now it’s *LION*, a major motion picture, based on a true story.

March: “Eat Drink Delta: A Hungry Traveler’s Journey through the Soul of the South” by Susan Puckett. This book is part travel guide, part cookbook, and part photo essay by a veteran food journalist.

April: “The Queen of Katwe: One Girl’s Triumphant Path to Becoming a Chess Champion” by Tim Crothers. This is the true story of Phiona Mutesi and is also a major motion picture described as “astonishing” and “inspirational” by The New York Times Book Review.

May: “No Shame for the Sun: Lives of Professional Pakistani Women” by Shahla Haeri. The book covers conversations with six Muslim working women and goes into great detail about their lives.

All members are welcome to attend and encouraged to join us, suggest books and make new friends!

EXCHANGE DIRECTORS NEEDED

Take heed of our President’s message and step up to the plate. Volunteer to be an Exchange Director. Assistance will be provided to you.

We need your help with the Oregon Exchange and the group from Australia right away. We have some home hosts identified for these ambassadors, but need Exchange Directors.

Contact Cynthia Williams ASAP 404-351-5352
madamew@hotmail.com

**FFGA MEMBERSHIP
DUES 2017**

Dues are payable by the end of each December.

Checks are to be made payable to FFGA and sent to Linda Foley at 1010 Freedom Lane, Roswell, GA 30075.

WHO WANTS TO GO TO ENGLAND IN AUGUST?



The board of FFGA has authorized a significant stipend to a member in good standing, to be our representative at the Friendship Force International Conference in Manchester, England this August 24-28, 2017.

In return, we are asking this volunteer to agree to serve on the 2018 board in some capacity to be determined.

The usual manner of filling this role is to send either the current president or vice-president as our representative. Currently these positions are filled by members who have attended multiple international conferences.

Our board wants to give a new voice a chance to be heard and lead us into the future. Interested parties should contact Cynthia Williams @ 404 351-5352 or John Wilhelm @ 770 921-4333.



Pot Lucks are coming starting in April. Keep your eyes open for an announcement or newflash about the first Pot Luck in early April .

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP
DUES PAYMENT FOR 2017.**

This is the current list of dues collected from July 2016– February 17, 2017. If you don't see your name on this list and think you have paid, contact **Linda Foley** [770-493-6784](tel:770-493-6784)

Lfoley2002@yahoo.com

1010 Freedom Lane, Roswell, 30075

Anderson, Lynda

Bokoski, Stanley & Wanda

Brickley, Harvey & Mary

Clark, Donald & Anne

Clarke, William & Juanita

Cousins, Barbara

Darmody, William (Bill) & Marilyn

Davenport, Marjorie

Dokson, Robert

Dortch, Carole A

Douds, Steve & Catherine

Earle, Joseph & Anne

Evans, Bonnie

Fike, Cathy

Foley, Linda

Hagan, Mark & Vicky

Harris, Linda

Hausmann, Judy

James, Sue

Johnson, Darwin & Geraldine

Jones, Candace

Kimsey, Gloria S.

Kirchhofer, Wilma A.

Luke, Eunice

Martin, Janet L. and Larry Eggersman

McCray, Lester & Beverly

Mills, Susan

Mell, John & Joyce

Moore, Linda

Nickelsen, Neil & Vivian

Ogden, Mary

Rawls, Susan

Roney, Margaret E. (Peggy)

Sakmar, Michael & Diane

Scott, Ronald & Robin

Shields, Barbara

Van Der Hoek, Vicki

Vickers, Kent & Erika

Wilhelm, John & Glenda

Williams, Cynthia A.

Young, Harvey and Lawing, Anne



If you know you are not continuing as a member, we would appreciate you letting us know that, as well, so our records will be correct.