



friendship force
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

April & May 2022 Newsletter

Spring Pot Luck + Short General Meeting

Sunday, April 3, beginning at 2 pm

Lake Fairways Clubhouse

19371 Tamiami Trail, North Fort Myers



Let's celebrate **Spring**
and **Easter** by having
a club pot luck on
Sunday, April 3 - 2 pm

What's involved? Bring a dish to pass according to the initial of your last name as follows...

Salad A - D
Main dish E - O
Dessert P - Z

Paper plates, utensils, & cups provided. Bring your favorite drinks.

Jack and Jo Cooley will have an **International Trivia game** for us for the entertainment part of the afternoon. We will also have a short meeting to update you on club news and pending journeys.

Too far to drive? Call a close-by member and carpool.

We hope you'll support your club and join us for a fun Sunday afternoon! RSVP by 4/1/22 by email to [Carol Nasby](#)

All Florida Club Members are invited to



An Informal Get-together hosted by FF Florida Suncoast of Clearwater

When: May 20 – 22, 2022

Where: Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Harborside
401 Second Street, Indian Rocks Beach

Why: To get to know our fellow FL club members

Stay at Holiday Inn, at very special rate* (must reserve by April 20)

\$30.00 pp includes Saturday breakfast & Suncoast bag with area info. Suncoast Club invites you to a breakfast get-together and will ask club members to share some of their club information or stories.

Meetups at Jimmy Iguana bar patio (Holiday Inn, 7-9 pm, Fri & Sat)

Register Info: Send \$30 check by April 20. Check made out to FF-FS. Mail to: Gena Cameron, President, FF-FS, 6700 150th Avenue North, #226, Clearwater, FL 33761

Need more info: Contact Gena Cameron, President FF-FS, 140gecko@gmail.com, 727 666-2740

*\$100 'less than usual' rate, call Central Reservation 800-726-0865, reference FF Breakfast, Group Code FFB For close-by members, you may want to drive and skip the hotel or only book for one night!

Interested in carpooling to Indian Rocks Beach? It is 117 miles approximately 2-1/2 hrs. Let's discuss at Pot Luck on April 3rd!

Welcome New Members



Please join us in welcoming 5 new members of our club some of whom we met at our World Friendship Force Day event. As of March 31, our club has 45 members.

Debra Ferguson and Kit Thanel are neighbors of Sue and Rob Linehan in Punta Gorda. Deb is a retired attorney and Kit is a psychiatrist. They like to read, garden, cook, hike, bike and fish along with traveling, of course!

Meridy Moore also lives in Punta Gorda. She is a retired teacher, guidance counselor and was an administrator. She is particularly interested in international hosting.

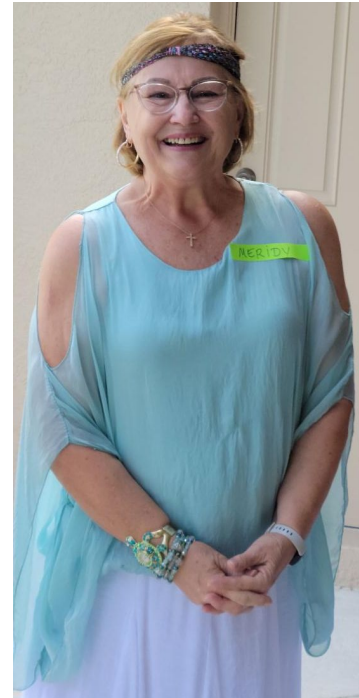
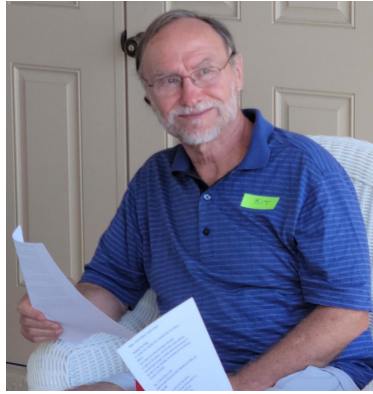
John and Beverly Stewart live in Bonita Springs. They are retired mechanical contractors and are interested in outbound journeys.

Thanks for joining us and we look forward to hosting and traveling with you!



Debra Ferguson

Kit Thanel



Meridy Moore



Beverly & John Stewart

Lunch, Swimming & Games
Saturday, May 7 in Estero at 12 Noon
Luvvy's Complex at 21460 Strada Nuova Circle



Luvvy says, "Let's meet at my place for a potluck lunch at noon. After lunch and conversation, there are 2 swimming pools and/or we can play cards or dominoes. Please RSVP to me and let me know what food item you will bring to share and what activity you will participate in." Email her by clicking on [Luvvy's email](#). Hope to see you there!

2022 - Save the Dates!



May 7- Meeting in Estero at Luvvy's complex. Pot Luck lunch, optional swimming in pool or board games.

June 1-7 **OUTBOUND SACRAMENTO**

July 6-18 **OUTBOUND TO 2 CANADIAN CLUBS**

August - Summer Break

September 9 - Ice Cream Social at Linda's home

October 7 - Presentation on Sacramento Journey - Ft Myers Library, 10:30 am

October 30 - Halloween Party at Linda's home 6 pm

November 18 - Presentation on Alberta, Canada Journey,

December 14 **Club Holiday Party** at Lake Fairways

How Do YOU Communicate?

As your newsletter editor, I think

COMMUNICATION ICONS



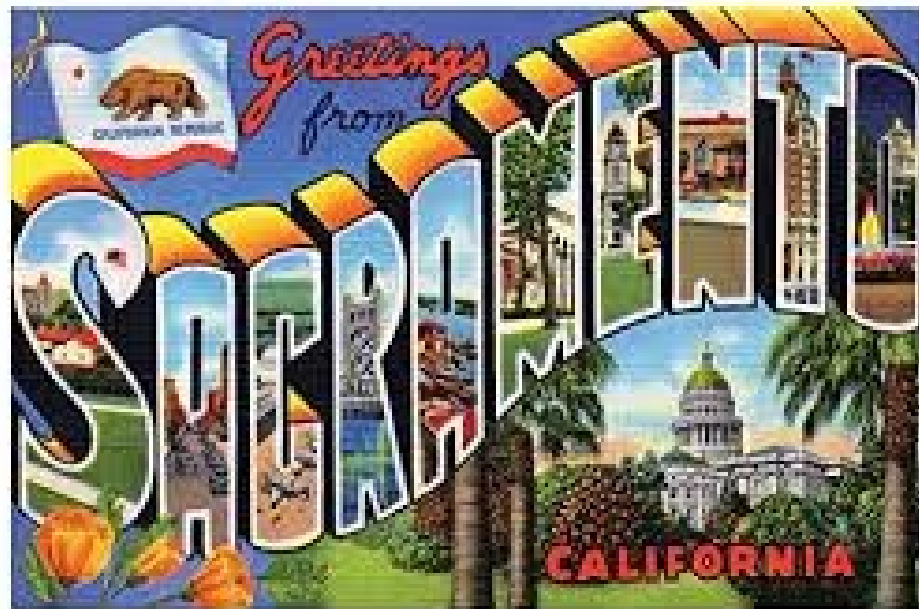
about communication. *How do I best send interesting news to everyone in the club?* These thoughts came to a head during the most recent inbound journey.

One day our co-president, Maureen, asked me why my husband didn't respond to her text? Oh, I thought.

Richard hardly ever reads texts...and he often doesn't answer his cell phone either - or even check his voice mails. He communicates *mostly by email* to the outside world! On the other hand, my daughter, Michele, rarely answers her phone and doesn't often read her email, unless I send her a **TEXT MESSAGE!** She won't use FaceBook either.

You get the picture. I think when doing our directory, we need to let club members know how to communicate with you!

What do you think? Send me a text....oh, I respond better to email!



Sacramento, California Outbound Journey June 1-7, 2022

Joanne Collins reports that 9 club members completed their application and deposit for our club outbound journey to Sacramento. Those club members going are: Joanne & Richard Collins, Maureen Butt, Michelle Kemps, Luvvy Kovacik, Cheryle

Phelps & Lou Rizk, Linda Supakoff & Rich Copeland. We recruited 3 more participants from The Villages FF Club and are looking for 4 more ambassadors from US clubs. There is still time to apply. **Low cost:** \$175 to FFI and \$150 to Sacramento Club for one-week stay. You arrange and pay for your own airfare. Good rates on United, Delta and Southwest. Let us know if you change your mind and want to take your first Friendship Force Journey!

It will be a fun time for all as we explore California and make new friends!

Please mail your check *by May 1, 2022* made out to *FF of Southwest FL* of **\$245** (\$175 for FFI + \$150 for club + \$20 contingency minus your deposit of \$100) to *Richard Collins, Treasurer, 257 Lido Drive, Punta Gorda, FL 33950* or *give it to him in person at the April 3 Pot Luck*).

CHANGING THE WAY YOU SEE THE WORLD



Canada Edmonton and Medicine Hat Outbound Journeys July 6-18, 2022

Carol Nasby says "The Alberta FF journey, 22717, was initially planned for 2020, so we are now turning it into a reality! Maureen and I are getting very excited about our Canadian adventures!"

Maureen and Carol related that there are many variables to this exciting journey. Some club members are going on the Pre-trip to Vancouver and riding the train, the Rocky Mountaineer. Some are continuing on to one or both of the clubs of Edmonton and Medicine Hat. You can be sure this will be an exciting trip to remember.

For those of you who are lucky enough to be going, It is time to send your final payment as detailed in an email sent to you on March 18. The check should be made out to Friendship Force of Southwest Florida and mailed or given to our treasurer, Richard Collins, 257 Lido Drive, Punta Gorda, FL 33950.

Co President's Comments



On April 7 Hank and I will be airborne heading over to Europe. We have an extended visit there with family and doing sightseeing on our own. We will also be attending a Friendship Force "Journey" with the Kiel Germany club May 5-11 and will join our FF of San Francisco club of which we are associate members.

Many in our club here in Florida will be traveling abroad in the next few months as well. Safe travels ☐

Linda will be available in the next few months in my absence. I will be back in Florida at the end of November. Have a great summer and I will look forward to enjoying time with those of you who are going on both Journeys to Sacramento and Alberta.

☐ Please remember to create your own FFI member portal on your computer as soon as possible. Your FFI membership has been assigned an ID number which is important to have as we move along in technology. Your member portal will be your main source of contact with FFI in the future. It is here that you will be informed of FFI changes, direction and opportunities. I appreciate you taking the time to do this.

In Peace and Friendship,
Maureen

Parting Shots

Many members participated in our World Friendship Force Day Pot Luck and brought dishes and wore costumes from some of their favorite countries.
What a fabulous event!



The Michigan Delegation was well represented with Marcy & Roy, Fred & Mary & visitors Pam & Stan Sackett (Southwest Michigan FF Club)



Sue Linehan looked fabulous



Rob Linehan dressed in his Panama best



Jo and Jack Cooley greeted everyone



Our co President, Maureen filled us in on FF news



Co President, Linda, hosted the event in her beautiful home - Thank you, Linda!



The McShanes - Priscilla and Hugh- join Michelle Kemps in conversation



Mary Giddings dressed in her Irish costume

**Friendship Force of
Southwest Florida**

[Email Us](#)



*Check us out &
contribute to Group
Facebook Page! Click
FaceBook icon above!*