

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2017 # 102



Friendship Force Niagara



President's Message— Karin Lampman

I have so much to be thankful for and as this is the last newsletter for 2017, I want to thank all of you, the members, who have supported me throughout the year and of course, also, last year. I want to thank you for sending me to the FFI International Conference in Manchester, England. I also want to thank the Executive and the Board members for listening to me and for their support. In turn, I will support the incoming Executive and Board for 2018. And last but not least, I want to give a special thank you to Janet Guembel, our Newsletter Editor, for doing such a great job in producing this newsletter.

For 2018 we have some interesting outbound journeys to Northern Illinois, Madison, Wisconsin and Greater Taipei and Kaohsiung, Taiwan. The inbound journeys from Oita, Japan, New Hampshire Seacoast and a Global Outdoor Adventure Journey with FF Clubs Haliburton and Hamilton will be prove to be awesome.

On November 7, 2017 at our AGM, nominations were held and I am pleased to say that we now have a full slate of officers for 2018.

I want to wish each and every one of you a **Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.**

In friendship,

Circle of Friends

1st Vice President's Report— Bill Harkness

Journey Co-coordinator Report

FF Niagara's 2018 Journeys:

Inbound:

Oita, Japan - Sandra Yemm - May 2 to 9, 2018

A Global - Ontario Outdoor Adventure - *committee - Sept. 10 to 14, 2018

New Hampshire Seacoast - Clarice West-Hobbs - Sept. 20 to 26, 2018

Outbound:

Northern Illinois, USA – Wendy Hammond - June 3 to 9, 2018

Madison Wisconsin, USA – Marilyn Weber - June 9 to 15, 2018

Greater Taipei, Taiwan - Carol Liboiron - Oct. 28 to Nov. 3, 2018

Kaohsiung, Taiwan - Carol Liboiron - Nov. 3 to 9, 2018

News from Toronto - The Recruitment Meeting

On Monday, November 13, Clarice and Bill attended a meeting in Toronto, a meeting hosted by FF Toronto and sponsored by FF International.

The meeting was lead by Christiane Beaupre with Laurie Anne Scott from Lincoln Nebraska and Allison Lindsay from FFI acting as resource personnel.

The meeting was attended by at least 2 representatives from each of the 6 Ontario clubs.

Allison up-dated the group with news from Atlanta. She noted that most of the work being done by staff is being done at their home offices. Commuting is almost entirely a virtual experience.

Allison also took the group through a brief tour of the FFI Strategic Plan.

Laurie Ann brought news from the Manchester Conference. She described and highlighted the themes addressed by both speakers and workshop presenters.

The principal focus of the meeting was an examination of member recruitment at the individual club level.

These discussions focused on many facets of the recruitment issue ranging from tools to employ, the age of prospective new members and the need to target diversity.

The conversation continued with topics such as the need to follow-up on initial contacts, the mentoring of new members and the use of media to generate awareness and interest in club activities.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

1st Vice-President Report—(con't)

Philosophy did enter the membership discussion when it was noted that travel is the vehicle we use to achieve the goals of Friendship Force.

Allison took some time to describe the new Travel Insurance packages available from FFI for any FF traveler.

There are two packages available.

One covers members travelling to the U.S. only.

The second package covers travelers who are NOT entering the U.S.

FFI does receive a premium with each policy sold and is anxious to encourage members to purchase these products.

Policies may be purchased directly from the FFI website.

Christiane closed the meeting with a statement that a Regional Conference will be planned for late 2018 and will be held in Ottawa. This conference will be open to members from Ontario and Quebec.

Membership - Bill and Mary Armbrust

In December we welcomed 3 new members, Philip and Jacqueline Carroll and the return of Jean Armitage. Unfortunately the Roubles, Smeeton, Warriners, McEwens and Gerri Palmer are not rejoining.

So far this year 62 have rejoined, 6 have promised to rejoin and 3 are undecided.

Sunshine Lady—Grace Bowslaugh

It is with sadness that Wolfgang and I lost our last parent on December 1st. Karl Guembel (1929—2017) It is sobering thought when we realize that we are now the Senior members of the Guembels.....



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Social Committee—Clarice West-Hobbs

Our Christmas party on Friday, December 1st at Club Capri was lots of fun. We had 60 people and that included some of our former members and some new people. Our entertainment by Willard Thorne and Myrna Kroeker was great and we thank them both for volunteering to lead us. Everyone remembered to bring a wrapped gift with a value of \$5.00 and the big exchange took place.

In January there will be a Trivia Night, watch for the date.

Future events will include the international dinner in March and possibly an Ice Dogs game in the early spring..

Many thanks to Willard Thorne and Donna Painter for their work as they move to other things. A very big thank you to all the committee for all their work this year. Doug Holmes, Pat Mills, Irene Millington, Lynne Kemp, Willard Thorne, Myrna Kroeker and Donna Painter.





*Our Concert
Leaders*



Our Presidents

Past

Present

Bill Harkness
Past President





Circle of Friends



OUTBOUND JOURNEYS REPORTS- 2018

Taipei and Kaohsiung Taiwan Outbound Journey. October 28-November 9, 2018

The first meeting of interested ambassadors was held at 380 Vine street Social room on Thursday, December 14 th. We have 16 ambassadors showing interest and have made contact with the two clubs in Taiwan. This was a preliminary planning meeting to let people share information about this upcoming opportunity. There are still 3 available spots in Kaohsiung if any members are interested.

Carol Liboiron - Journey coordinator

Northern Illinois USA June 3rd to 9th, 2018

WE STILL HAVE ROOM! 5 or 6 spots left!

Don't want to be away from home for a long period of time at the beginning of summer? Then why not join us for a six day exchange to Northern Illinois. In just under two hours you can fly non stop from either Toronto or Buffalo and be in the beautiful city of Chicago.

The club was founded in Libertyville, a northern suburb of Chicago, and the membership extends throughout the suburbs of Chicago.

The area is filled with art, music, museums, parks, skyscrapers and small town neighbourhoods filled with history and culture.

Some of the activities usually include a visit to a Baha'i Temple to experience its breathtakingly beautiful architecture; Botanical Gardens; a day tour of Chicago including a 90 minute historical/architectural boat cruise of Lake Michigan and the Chicago River as well as a visit to Millennium Park to view Cloudgate (affectionately named "the bean"); a tour of Frank Lloyd Wright's home, studio and the neighbourhood to see the work of one of America's greatest architects.

We are also looking into the possibility of attending a Cubs game at Wrigley Field and/or the theatre.

The club loves to show off their city and surrounding areas offering art and architecture, historic places, scenic areas, ethnic neighbourhoods and traditions – so there is something for everyone.

There is ALSO room for four (4) Ambassadors to extend their Journey to FFMadison, Wisconsin from June 9th – 15th

Contact Wendy Hammond—Ambassador Coordinator at 905-892-1334 or

whammond2014@gmail.com to secure a spot before we offer it outside our club.

Special message from Peter and Carol Nichols

MESSAGE FROM ELAINE DUFFY RE: GLOBAL FOOD AND WINE EXCHANGE AMBASSADORS FROM CALIFORNIA

Many of our club members will remember Peter and Carol Nichols who participated in our Global Food And Wine Exchange in 2016. They were hosted by the Armbursts. Peter was a winemaker in Australia for 20 years before returning to the family ranch near Carpinteria, south of Santa Barbara where their 85 hillside acres grow avocados, cherimoyas, dragon fruits, etc. Their home sits in the middle of all of these lush trees with a distant view of the Pacific. The trees are all linked with a sophisticated water pipe system.

Diane Love and I visited them for a few days in November following our Journey with the Toronto FF club to Sacramento. While there, we also had dinner with Stan and Terry Scrivner, who were hosted here by Mort and Marilyn (you may remember that Stan had the Santa-like white beard). Both couples continued to compliment us on the Food and Wine program that they participated in and couldn't do enough, they said, to reciprocate for they claimed was their best exchange ever, here in Niagara. We were treated magnificently, toured around the ranch and as well visited the packing plant that Peter oversees. He was always looking ahead to plan ways that he could make things better.

Carol's note below is devastating.

Elaine

Dec. 12th 2017

Dear Elaine and Diane,

We are safe, Peter saved the house !!!

He stayed there, I left at 2:30am, he was determined to save what he could,

Ran out of water and the water pipe burned.

Jacuzzi water put out the fire under the deck. Then he had to get the hell off the ranch. He went back that morning. I am at Stan and Terry's . Roads are closed! . Lost 2 houses, tractors, ATV and god knows what else, not a pretty picture. Pray for Peter as he is working in that smoke and mess.

No water! Pipe burned.
We're safe.

Love and Blessings

Carol & Peter ♥



Circle of Friends



Friendship Force of Niagara Executive Committee—2017

President	Karin Lampman	klampen28@gmail.com
1st V. President	Bill Harkness	wdharkness@gmail.com
2nd V. President	Mort Sider	mortfromport@gmail.com
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Sunshine Lady	Grace Bowslaugh	ghutch@cogeco.ca



Friendship Force of Niagara



FFN Slate of Officers and Committees for 2018

President	Bill Harkness	wdharkness@gmail.com
1 st Vice-President	Willard Thorne	wjthorne@cogeco.ca
Past President	Karin Lampman	kllampen28@gmail.com
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