



CIRCLE OF FRIENDS



President's Report



On November 15th Marilyn, Mort and I arrived at the Friendship Force Leadership and Innovation Conference in Ottawa. We joined the 24 other delegates from the eastern Canada clubs as well as some members of the FF Ottawa club and board.

Together we enjoyed a lunch, a welcoming and goal setting introduction from Christiane Beaupre followed by a message from Jeremi Snook, President of FF International.

The next days, saw the small group of 27 exploring workshops and presentations on facets of membership development and education, including skill development, club organization, journey management and member recruitment and motivation.

The conference closed following an in-depth exploration of the role technology can play in club development and management with special focus on the value of Google Docs.



The delegates also reaffirmed the need to maintain the canffex.ca website as a viable tool to fill under subscribed Canadian journeys with Canadian ambassadors.

During the wrap-up session there was a significant discussion on the role of conferences in the Canadian Friendship Force community. For many, the regional conference characterized by large groups arriving from near and far seemed to have become out dated. The compact regional gathering with 30 participants studying a specific topic in-depth seemed to offer

greater appeal. Too, these small gatherings permit the use of home hosting by members of the local club, a feature that pleased many at this gathering.

Two additional notes of interest came from the meeting:

- Christiane Beaupre will be taking a seat at the FFI Board in 2019.
- Pierette Benoit will step into the role as our Eastern Canada Field Representative.

Bill



Dates to Remember

December 5 – Club Christmas Dinner at Dalhousie Yacht Club

February 13 - 16 – Friendly Visit Central Coast Australia

February 20 - 27 – Outbound San Antonio

1st Vice President's Report**Journey's 2019**

The Outbound Journeys to San Antonio and Derbyshire are set and reported on by Martha Abra and Clarice West Hobbs respectively as Ambassador Coordinators.

The Inbound Journey from Itanhaem, Brazil has been cancelled.

The inbound journey from Hobart – Melbourne, Australia is in the planning stage under the leadership of Jean Armitage.

The Friendly Visit of Central Coast, Australia to Niagara from February 13-16 is in the final planning stages.

The Board has been presented with requests for visits in 2019/2020 from Clubs in San Antonio, Texas, Tucson, Arizona and Madison, Wisconsin.

Submitted by Willard Thorne

Past President's Report

As this will be my last communique as Past President let me say that it has been a pleasure to interact and connect with so many members this last year.

I have been working on the club by-laws to incorporate the motions made at the last AGM on October 16 of this year and also to complete any changes made to club policy.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Joyous New Year, I remain yours truly.

Karin Lampman



Costa Rica 2017 in front of an active volcano

Outbound Journeys

Taiwan October 28-Nov 9, 2018

Hello everyone;

I have compiled the evaluations I received from the Niagara ambassadors on this journey.

It is obvious from the comments that our group had an extraordinary experience and we thank the Host Coordinators, Hosts and members of both Taiwan clubs for giving so generously to us. Our memories of your beautiful people and land will stay with us for a very long time. Thanks again everyone.

It has been my pleasure to be the Ambassador Coordinator for this journey. My thanks to all who helped me, especially Helen, Sandra, Jean and Martha, who took on roles that made my life so much easier! We surely had a great time, didn't we?



Carol Liboiron, JC and Helen Self, Co JC



Derbyshire April 30-May 7, 2019

Next meeting is Monday, November 26 at the home of Lynn Butler. At that time, we will finalize our arrangements for those taking a tour of Scotland and other extra plans.

We will also finalize costs for the Friendship Fund and Contingency Fund. We have now received the FF check list for mobility and we will be signing the forms at that time. On November 26 a friend from Derbyshire will come and discuss the area with us.

That's all for now.

Clarice West-Hobbs JC, Sharon Thorne DJC

Inbound Journeys**New Hampshire Journey September 20-25, 2018**

This is our final report as Howard has now completed the paper work on our expenditures. We have yet to send our donation to FFI. We will also be returning the cheque provided by FFN as we did not have the need for it. We will be sending funds of over \$300 to add to the FFN coffers. A special report and summary of expenses will be left with the president.

Once again, many thanks to all who worked on the journey for a job well done.

Clarice West-Hobbs, Journey Coordinator

Social Committee

FF Niagara Breakfast Social was held on Tuesday, November 13. We had over 25 people at the event. Money was collected at that time for the Christmas Party. This is a special event to recognize our founding members who started our club 20 years ago. That event will be held on Thursday, December 6 with cocktails at 6:00 and dinner at 6:30. The cost will be \$42 per person, HST and gratuities included. Members have a choice of salmon, chicken or strip loin. All orders must be in by **November 25**.

A final meeting of the Social Committee will be held on Thursday, December 13 to plan for upcoming events for 2019. Your new Chair will be Wynne Nicholson and we wish her well. Thanks for the opportunity to have been your Social Chair for the last two years.

Clarice West-Hobbs, Social Committee Chair

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