

*Friendship Force Manitoba meets monthly September through June. We usually meet the first Wednesday of each month at the Masonic Memorial Temple at Confusion Corner; check our events listings for date and location.*

*Guests are always welcome. Call Patricia Loustel at 204-489-4790.*

### **Friendship Force Manitoba**

***friendshipforcemanitoba.org***

***Honorary Patron Philip S. Lee  
Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba***

### **2014 Board Members**

**President:** Dallas Bagby 204-661-6199  
(phone/fax)

**Vice President:** Patricia Loustel 204-489-4790

**Secretary:** Gail Keeley  
gailke@hotmail.ca

**Treasurer:** Georgette Boille  
gboille@shaw.ca

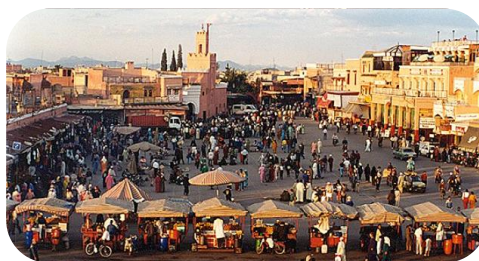
*Contributions to the December newsletter are due by November 26. Send contributions to Bev Phillips, proofreaders@mts.net or 306-15 Kennedy Street, Winnipeg R3C 3X5.*

## **“North Africa”**

**Membership Meeting Wednesday, November 5**  
**Masonic Memorial Temple**  
**420 Corydon at Confusion Corner**

**Doors open at 6:00 p.m.**

**Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Pay at the door: \$20**



**Marrakesh, Morocco**

**Let's visit Egypt and Morocco!**

*Jan Kollesavich will talk about Morocco, where the 2016 FFI international conference will be held. Terry Hercus will do a presentation on the Valley of the Kings in Egypt.*

*Our menu will feature beef meatballs, coucous or rice, Mediterranean vegetables and chef's choice of dessert.*

*The program will be followed by our **Annual General Meeting**.*

**Bring your membership renewal payment.**  
**Remember to wear your membership badge!**

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### **Upcoming meetings**

**December 3 – Christmas Party – “Christmas in Finland”**  
**January – “Guess Who's Coming to Dinner” Home-hosted dinners**

#### **Craft Circle:**

Contact Judy Single at jud64@mymts.net or 204-294-6428 for information on the next meeting.



*President Dallas Bagby, presenters Helen Whetter and Jan Kollesavich, and our guest musician Ameena Bajer-Koulack*

## October membership meeting

October's program featured the American South, in anticipation of our spring 2015 exchange to Raleigh, N.C., and Richmond, Virginia. Jan Kollesavich talked about Virginia, which holds a historic garden week each April. From Richmond, the ocean, the Blue Ridge Mountains and Washington, DC are all within a two-hour drive.

Helen Whetter described a trip she and her husband made on the Blue Ridge Parkway, a 469-mile-long road through the Appalachian Mountains. The leisurely drive offers more than 200 "overlooks" to stop and enjoy the spectacular views. There's ample opportunity to camp, canoe, fish and enjoy the outdoors.

One instrument closely associated with the South is the banjo. Our guest musician Ameena Bajer-Koulack shared a brief history of the banjo before playing a few traditional tunes. Although Ameena is still in university, she is an accomplished banjo player.

The first banjos in the U.S. were built by slaves in the 1700s based on instruments they had played in Africa. Ameena described the evolution of the instrument with different numbers of strings and styles of playing including minstrel, early jazz and Earl Scruggs style. She plays clawhammer style, which remained popular for generations in the Appalachians, and is always played with the fiddle.

If you would like to get in touch with Ameena, you can contact her at ameenasarah@hotmail.com or 204-417-7688 (home phone).

During our business meeting the nominating committee presented the proposed slate of new officers for 2015: Judy Single as President, Lynda Walker as Vice President and Gail Keeley continuing as Secretary. The Treasurer's position is still available. In other news, the 2016 international conference will be in Marrakesh, Morocco, and Liz Martin has volunteered to be ED for the 2015 Long Island exchange.



*Ameena demonstrates the clawhammer technique.*

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## It's Time to Renew Your Membership

You can renew your membership at the November meeting.

### Renewing members:

\$35 single and \$65 couple

### New members:

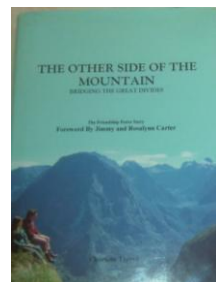
\$45 single and \$85 couple  
(extra fee to pay for name tags)

— *Georgette Boille, Treasurer*

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## *The Other Side of the Mountain: the Friendship Force Story*

*We have two copies of this book in circulation. Do you have one? If you do, please bring it to our November meeting and we can pass it along to another member.*



## My Egypt

In the fall of 1976, I moved from Winnipeg to Hamilton, Ontario to serve as an archivist and rare book librarian at McMaster University. At various university social functions, I met several new engineering professors, all from Egypt.

I soon learned Egyptians are crazy about bridge. I attempt to play the game and did know that Omar Sharif (yes, that Omar Sharif) of movie fame wrote the syndicated bridge column that we all studied. Eventually I became part of a group that had our own informal bridge tournaments every weekend in Toronto which continued without me when I moved back to Winnipeg in 1980.



In 1999, Bernie and I got to take our dream trip to Israel, Jordan and Egypt. We cruised the Nile on a luxury boat. Many Egyptians were also passengers on that trip. The dancers, singers and jugglers kept us westerners entertained but I never saw any of the Egyptians there. One afternoon, we went up to the top deck. There we discovered the never-ending bridge game and all the Egyptian passengers glued to the action. No one would speak, but all would circle to study each hand and guess to themselves what action the players would take. Make no mistake about it, Egyptians love bridge.

— Dallas Bagby, President

### Friendship Force International

Read about the 2014 World Conference  
in Auckland, New Zealand  
at [www.thefriendshipforce.org](http://www.thefriendshipforce.org)

### 2015 World Conference

Vancouver, August 28-31, 2015

### 2016 World Conference

Marrakesh, Morocco, October 2016

## What's in your basement?



I am currently doing an inventory of the club's property. If you are storing items for the club please send me a list at [gailke@hotmail.com](mailto:gailke@hotmail.com) or call me at 204-257-9837.

— Gail Keeley, FFM Secretary

## 2014 Committee chairs

**Exchange Coordinator and Past President:** Stan Croall 204-261-4198 or [sfcroall@me.com](mailto:sfcroall@me.com)

**Program Chair:** Jan Kollesavich 204-338-4913 or [jankollesavich@gmail.com](mailto:jankollesavich@gmail.com)

**Communications:** Shirley Twerdun 204-237-7856 or [shirley.twerdun@shaw.ca](mailto:shirley.twerdun@shaw.ca)

**Newsletter Editor:** Bev Phillips 204-942-5453 (phone/fax) or [proofreaders@mts.net](mailto:proofreaders@mts.net)

**Webmaster:** Judith Single 204-294-6428 or [ffmb@mymts.net](mailto:ffmb@mymts.net)

**Exchange Directors:** Jan Kollesavich, Richmond/Raleigh, 204-338-4913 or [jankollesavich@gmail.com](mailto:jankollesavich@gmail.com)

Liz Martin, Long Island inbound exchange, [elizm@mymts.net](mailto:elizm@mymts.net)



## Have you moved or changed your phone number or email address?

If so, please contact our Secretary, Gail Keeley, right away so she can update our membership list: [gailke@hotmail.ca](mailto:gailke@hotmail.ca) or 204-257-9837

## Kingdom of Morocco

Population: 32,000,000

Area: 172,000 sq. miles/446,000 sq. km

Official language: Arabic; Berber dialects and French (business, government) also spoken

Capital: Rabat (1,800,000)

Major cities: Casablanca (3,000,000), Fès (1,100,000)

Independence: 1956

Economy: farming, mining, manufacturing, tourism

Religion: 99% Muslim, 1% Christian

Life expectancy: 73 male, 79 female

***There is one FF club in Marrakesh.***



*Cairo, Egypt*

## Arab Republic of Egypt

Population: 85,000,000 Most people live in the Nile Valley.

Area: 386,000 sq. miles/995,000 sq. km

Official language: Arabic; English and French also spoken

Capital: Cairo (metropolitan area 11,000,000)

Second major city: Alexandria (4,500,000)

Independence: 1922

Economy: manufacturing, farming, gas/oil, mining

Religion: 90% Muslim (mostly Sunni), 9% Coptic Christian

Life expectancy: 70 male, 75 female

Interesting note: The ancient Egyptian language is preserved in the Coptic Christian liturgy.

***There is one FF club in Cairo.***

## 2015 Exchanges

### Incoming:

Long Island, NY – August

ED: Liz Martin, elizm@mymts.net

Campinas, Brazil – date to be determined

### Outgoing:

Raleigh, NC April 11-18

and Richmond, VA April 18-25

Exchange Director: Jan Kollesavich,

jankollesavich@gmail.com

— Stan Croall, Exchange Coordinator (EC)

sfcroall@me.com, 204-261-4198

## What would your newsletter look like?

As I near the end of my second year serving as newsletter editor, I'm looking for some new ideas to make it more interesting to you.

What are your favourite parts of the Keystone Klippings? What would you like to read more about? I have seen these items in other club newsletters:

- Short profiles of all new members
- Writeups of unusual types of exchanges
- Columns by FF reps
- A one-paragraph progress summary of each exchange
- Report on the latest international conference

What do you think? Please let me know what new items you'd like to see in the KK in 2015!

— Bev Phillips, Editor, 204-942-5453,  
proofreaders@mts.net

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SEE THE WORLD**  
thefriendshipforce.org