

Friendship Force of Manitoba Newsletter June 2015

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 Lynda Walker at 204-832-0191 or Judy Single at 204-294-6428.

Friendship Force Manitoba

friendshipforcemanitoba.org

2015 Board Members

President: Judy Single
jud64@mymts.net or 204-294-6428

Vice President: Lynda Walker
lyndadawnwalker@yahoo.ca

Secretary: Gail Keeley
gailke@hotmail.ca

Treasurer: Esther McKenty
emckenty@shaw.ca

Send contributions to the summer newsletter (date tba) to Bev Phillips, proofreaders@mts.net or 306-15 Kennedy Street, Winnipeg R3C 3X5.



Wednesday, June 3

**Masonic Memorial Temple
(This meeting only: Lower level)
420 Corydon at Confusion Corner
Doors open at 6:00 p.m.
Beef Buffet Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Pay at the door: \$20**

We'll enjoy some fun Summer Picnic games before our buffet dinner.

Our program will be an educational session about Exchanges – Incoming and Outgoing. Hear tips from experienced Members about home hosting, day and dinner hosting, participating in activities, being an Ambassador, and more.

At 5:00 p.m. in the Club Room, lower level, there will be an **orientation session** for the Long Island Exchange about hosting and all the details on the itinerary. This is especially for those who have signed up to host and anyone else who is thinking about perhaps being a dinner or day host.

Bring your questions about this upcoming exchange.

**** Remember to wear your membership badge ****

Reminder! If you promise to come to dinner and don't come, you will be charged the \$20. You can cancel up to two days ahead (by Monday). Our club must pay when members and guests do not show up for dinner. Thank you very much for your cooperation!

Our events are organized by the **Program Committee** and they always welcome new members!

Contact (outgoing) Program Chair Jan Kollesavich (204-338-4913 or jankollesavich@gmail.com) to find out how you can participate. It's a great way to get involved with the club and get to know more of your fellow members.

Upcoming meetings

September 9 October 7 November 4 December 2

FF Who, What, Where

Membership renewals

Memberships run from January to December.

Renewing members:

\$35 single and \$65 couple

New members:

\$45 single and \$85 couple

(extra fee to pay for name tags)

— *Esther McKenty, Treasurer*

Address changes

Have you changed your address, email address or phone number? If so, please contact our Secretary, Gail Keeley, right away so she can update our membership list: gailke@hotmail.ca or 204-257-9837

Club website

Check our website anytime for upcoming events, past exchanges, issues of this newsletter, and useful links: friendshipforcemanitoba.org

Club property

If you have any items belonging to the club (books, paper records, etc.), please let our Secretary Gail Keeley know: gailke@hotmail.ca or 204-257-9837.

canffex.ca

Are you interested in joining up with another Canadian club to travel? Visit the **Canadian Friendship Force Clubs Exchange Site** at canffex.ca for undersubscribed exchanges from across Canada. You can sign up for monthly updates and immediate notices of new exchanges. The site also includes field representatives' reports and other news.

The joys of summer

I love driving around at this time of year, seeing all the green in the trees, absorbing the sweet fragrance of the lilacs and apple blossoms, enjoying the vibrant colours of spring blooms in flower beds. It's a time for planting and seeing those vegetables or flowers popping up, or perhaps instant blooms from the nursery. Spring is new growth, new adventures and new experiences.

I hope that many of you take advantage of the opportunity to make new friends and see new sights when we host Ambassadors from Friendship Force Long Island in August. It's an adventure and experience not to be missed. Be a part of the entire week or on those days you have free.

My wish is for all of you to have a wonderful summer with friends and family, enjoying the weather and the sights and perhaps a trip somewhere. Whatever your summer plans are, ENJOY.

— *Judy Single, President*

Hike for Hospice Palliative Manitoba

Thanks to all my Friendship Force friends for your generous support to my campaign for the 2015 "Hike for Hospice Palliative Manitoba." Your donations helped me to reach a new high this year: \$5,127.

On Sunday, May 3, I joined many other hikers to reinforce the mandate of Palliative Manitoba that "People deserve to live and die in comfort and dignity, surrounded by others who care." The funds raised for the free services will stay in Manitoba "Helping You Live Today."

On behalf of Palliative Manitoba, thank you for caring.

Sincerely,

Barbara Main



2015 Committee chairs

Exchange Coordinator: Elizabeth Schirmer 204-475-1220, schirmer@mymts.net

Past President: Dallas Bagby 204-661-6199

Program Chair: Jan Kollesavich 204-338-4913, jankollesavich@gmail.com (until June 2015)

Communications: TBA

Newsletter Editor: Bev Phillips 204-942-5453 (phone/fax), proofreaders@mts.net

Webmaster: Judy Single 204-294-6428 or ffmb@mymts.net

Exchange Directors: Liz Martin, Long Island inbound exchange, elizm@mymts.net
Gail Keeley and Doug Jackson, Southern Oregon inbound (2016): gailke@hotmail.ca, 204-257-9837

Kathy Lesyk, Toulouse, France outbound exchange 2016, kglesyk@shaw.ca

May meeting: Richmond & Raleigh

The May meeting was well attended and we enjoyed a stuffed pork loin supper. Many of us had just returned from a very successful exchange to Richmond, Virginia and Raleigh, North Carolina. Jan opened the program with a few remarks about the exchange.

As a first-time Ambassador, Ted Churchill gave us a report on his experiences. He was impressed with the welcome he received from hosts, how friendly they were and how they opened their homes to us and treated us so well. He enjoyed the variety of places we visited and the events we took part in, and if an exchange he was interested in came up he would not hesitate to do it again.



Governor's Mansion in Colonial Williamsburg

Lawrence and Joan Pitcairn were also first-time ambassadors. Joan spoke on the daily events of the exchange. She also was impressed with the reception she received. Their first host placement in Richmond was with a working couple so

Lawrence and Joan spent each day with a different day host who picked them up in the morning and returned them to the host family each night. Because of this situation they got to meet more people of the host club. In Raleigh they and Ted were hosted at the same home, and again they received exceptional hospitality. Joan mentioned a few of the highlights they enjoyed. She also agreed they have a positive attitude towards exchanges.

Jan thanked the speakers and added a few comments about events that took place and her positive outlook on day and home hosting for incoming exchanges and taking part in outgoing exchanges. She urged everyone to become involved in exchanges as it is the best way to get to know your fellow members and make new friends.

In the second part of the program Liz Martin outlined the very interesting activities for the incoming exchange from Long Island in August. The participation forms will be out soon and she asked members to sign up for home and day hosting. Jean Hyrich then presented an informative quiz on Long Island.

— Jan Kollesavich, Program chair



Inside the Governor's Mansion in Raleigh, a group picture on our final day

Richmond/Raleigh Report

Our exchange to Richmond, Virginia and Raleigh, North Carolina was a huge success. I would like to say thank you to the Ambassadors who took this exchange with me. Your cooperation, assistance in planning, looking out for each other – and me – and your fun-loving spirit brought us together as a group. We got to know each other better and we made new friendships. Thanks to Ted Churchill and Joan Pitcairn for speaking at our meeting.

A special thank you to Stan Croall who was our treasurer and my main man to use as a sounding board and get things done. I also appreciated the good job the McKentys did in presenting our skit and look forward to enjoying the memory book Shirley Twerdun and Barb Main are preparing.

— Jan Kollesavich, Exchange Director



Farewell party, Richmond

Thanks to Barbara Main for the photographs from the exchange.

Exchange Coordinator Report

Our plan to host FF Campinas, Brazil is cancelled so we can concentrate our efforts to make our guests from Long Island feel welcome.

Gail Keeley and Doug Jackson will be our Exchange Directors for FF Southern Oregon (May 29 – June 4, 2016). Who would like to be ED for the visit from FF Osaka, Japan in mid August? Training is available so “I haven’t done it before” is not a valid excuse! Please contact me if you are willing to take on the challenge.
— Elizabeth Schirmer, Exchange Coordinator (EC),
schirmer@mymts.net

Exchange Update: Long Island, August 11-18

The FF Long Island Ambassadors have sent a letter sharing how excited they are to be visiting FF Manitoba in August. Now is the time to clear your calendars and mark in pen “FF MB/LI exchange: August 11-18.” All our members will receive the sign-up and information sheets by email or mail and we hope you will be as excited to share this time with our visitors as we are. Gail will be at the June 3 meeting and will be happy to receive your forms and cheques or you can mail by the date shown on the forms. We will be going to some places you’ve been before, because you’ve told us you enjoy taking friends and family there, and we will also be going to places that, perhaps, you’ve not had the opportunity to visit. We have a good mix of designated time and free time and even options that are free – how about that.

We are inviting all members who have offered to be home hosts, day hosts or dinner hosts to come to an **orientation meeting at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3.** (Maybe you’ve done this before but here is an opportunity to ask questions about our itinerary, etc.) We will meet in the lower level, in the Club Room, which is next door to the room we will have our buffet dinner meeting. We also want to extend that invitation to all members who would like to know more about hosting (home, day or dinner).

— Liz Martin (elizm@mymts.net) and Kathy Lesyk (kglesyk@shaw.ca) and committee

Going to the World Conference in Vancouver?

We have been asked to help out with this Conference in various ways. If you are interested, please contact the organizers, Dan and Lissa Macmaster at dan.macmaster@gmail.com.
— Judy Single, President

FFI World Conference

Vancouver, August 28-31, 2015

Registration is full but there is a waiting list.

You can access the conference website from
thefriendshipforce.org

Location: Renaissance Vancouver Harbourside Hotel
1133 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC V6E 3T3

2016 World Conference

Marrakesh, Morocco, October 2016

2015 Exchanges

Incoming:

Long Island, NY – August 12-18
ED: Liz Martin, elizm@mymts.net

2016 Exchanges

- Inbound from Osaka, Japan (ED available) and Southern Oregon: EDs Gail Keeley and Doug Jackson, May 29 – June 4
- Outbound to Toulouse, France, ED Kathy Lesyk (date TBA)

— Elizabeth Schirmer, Exchange Coordinator (EC),
schirmer@mymts.net

**CHANGING THE WAY YOU
SEE THE WORLD**
thefriendshipforce.org