



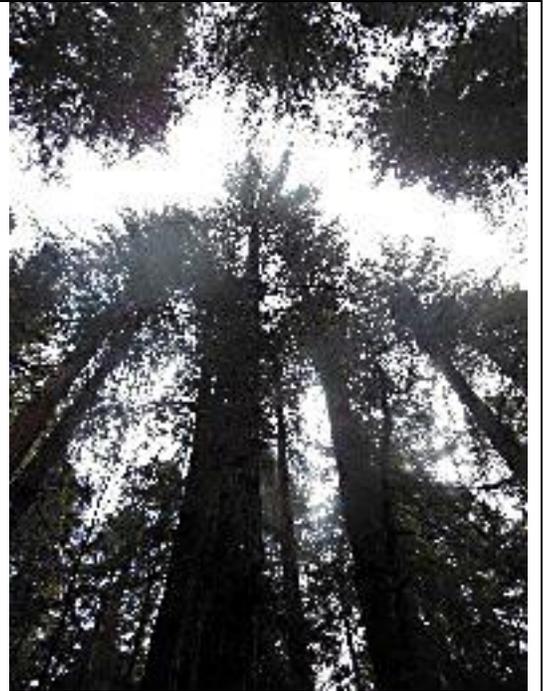
Friendship Force New Mexico Newsletter

Spring 2016

Napa/Sonoma exchange



The welcoming dinner for the FFNM exchange to Napa and Sonoma in California was held at the Petaluma Community Center (above). One of the first activities was a walk through Armstrong Redwoods State Park (right). Exchange participants will present a program at FFNM's June luncheon. See more pictures inside.



Photos by Sue Bowersock

President's note

From Lenore Pardee

Incoming exchange

New Mexico FF will host an incoming exchange from Napa-Sonoma from October 10-17. Twenty ambassadors (four couples and 12 singles) have already signed up. John Farris is the ED for the exchange and will be asking for hosts.

Regional conference

John Heard and Lenore Pardee attended the SW Regional Conference in Austin, Texas, April 1-3. At the presidents' session it was decided to hold regional conferences only every other year rather than annually. A conference for club leaders will be held in the Dallas-Fort Worth area in 2017.

It was also announced that FF International also has decided to hold international conferences in alternate years, beginning after the August 2017 conference in Manchester, England. The 2016 conference is scheduled for Marrakesh, Morocco, September 15-18.

2017 is the 40th anniversary of the founding of Friendship Force International; Atlanta is planning a huge celebration during the first week of March and urges local clubs to plan anniversary celebrations as well.

John gave a presentation on "Colombia: Drugs, War and Peace" to the SW Regional Conference. Lenore promoted the global exchange, "Ancestral Puebloan and Contemporary Pueblo Societies," that our club will host May 8-20, 2017. A number of people expressed interest in attending.

2017 exchanges

In addition to the global exchange, New Mexico will host an exchange from Toronto in October 2017. We need an exchange director or directors.

Officers

The board is delighted that Nancy Covalt has joined us as board secretary. However, we need people to volunteer to join the board for next year. Several long-time members are retiring.

Brazil exchange opportunity

Members of N.M. Friendship Force,

Atlanta has offered us an outgoing exchange to two clubs in Brazil in August 2017. The clubs are Campinas, a city northeast of Sao Paulo, and Salvador da Bahia on the northeast coast, the colonial capital of Brazil and a center of Afro-Brazilian culture. They can receive 15 to 20 ambassadors.

Our club has not been supportive of recent international exchanges. Only six club members participated in the exchange to Chiapas, Mexico. We canceled the exchange to New Zealand for lack of interest. Our exchange to Peru this year has only six of our club participating.

The board needs to know how many members would be interested in a Brazil exchange. There is a great deal of effort involved in organizing an exchange, both by our club and by the clubs who host the exchange.

Please speak to me or to another board member if you are interested.

Members of our club who are sincerely interested will be expected to submit an application and a deposit of \$350 by October 2016. If we do not have enough interest we will inform Atlanta and the Brazilian clubs that we cannot participate in the exchange.

Lenore Pardee

Summer events planned

Happy Spring, friends!

We have a great summer ahead of us! Member orientation is scheduled in June at Judith Mead's home. The orientation will cover exchanges, club rules, the role of an exchange director, both domestically and internationally, compensation for being an exchange director and so much more. The exact date will be announced at the next meeting.

In July, a fun-filled "Guess Who Is Coming Dinner" will be held. We need to know how many will be available to participate. From the participants, a host/hostess will be picked, someone will bring the main entree', another will prepare a side dish and we can't leave out dessert. No one will know who is attending until they meet at the host/hostess home!! It should be fun!

As summer comes to an end, an ice cream social will be held. Several varieties of ice cream will be offered along with different toppings and syrups. The place and time will be announced.

It is hoped you will be able to join us in this array of social get-togethers.

Please contact Berta Wagstaff -- vets4vets@aol.com or 899-0236 -- with any questions or to sign up for the events!

Membership

Honorary member Imogene Lindsay passed away Easter Sunday at her home. She and her husband were among the founding members Friendship Force New Mexico.

New members:

Penina Ballen penina@swcp.com

Julie McGaharan and Mark Vaughan, 304 Calle Leon NW, Albuquerque 87114

Julie: 505-263-3046, jamcgaharan@gmail.com

Mark: 505-379-3191, markrebb@gmail.com

Orientation meeting

A new member orientation meeting will be held at Judith Mead's house in late June. All members who have joined the club in the past two years will be invited. See more details in "Summer events planned" above.

New Southwest region field rep

As of now, Kay Binder, the former three-time president of the Austin Club, is the new FFI field rep for the Southwest Region, taking over for our John Heard, who has other competing obligations and desired to step down. Kay is an outstanding and creative leader with a wealth of experience with Friendship Force as president, exchange director, ambassador, host and general innovator. She will serve this club and other clubs of the region well over the next few years. Please give her your support and collaboration if and when the opportunity arises.

Napa/Sonoma exchange



Among the first stops on the Napa and Sonoma exchange was the Luther Burbank home and museum (left), where Sue Bowersock photographed these pretty flowers.

Friendship Force New Mexico officers

President: Lenore Pardee LenoreRP@aol.com	Vice president: Cheryl Lehmborg clehmf@yahoo.com	Co-treasurers: Martha and David Meister dmeister39@centurylink.net
--	--	--

505-256-1455	972-658-4241	505-881-7359
Secretary: Nancy Covalt Nancyocovalt@comcast.net	Membership chair: Evelyn Thole ELThole1@aol.com 505-265-7069	Membership development chair: Berta Wagstaff Vets4Vets@aol.com 505-710-4448
Past co-presidents: John and Anne Heard, JohnHeard2@msn.com 505-401-2646		

Hosts needed by sister organization

FFNM member Adelle Lees, who sent us the email below earlier in April, says she still needs to find three homes to host the young people being brought here by our sister organization Global Ties, preferably two homes without pets. Please note that the request for hosts and the need for mentors are separate. If you can host, mentors can be found separately.

Contact Adelle at adelle@globaltiesabq.org or call 505-918-5334.

Here is her email, edited to update:

Young Transatlantic Innovator Leadership Initiative

I just wanted to reach out to you to see if you might be able to help me with placing three European Entrepreneurs in a home-stay in one of your members' homes. There are a total of five visitors (I have found two homes so far) coming to Albuquerque June 4-19. Countries represented are: Spain, Albania, Bulgaria, Turkey, and Norway.

In fact, if you have friends in the industries they are involved in, I am also looking for mentors for each of these visitors. I still need to find mentors for:

Spain -- owns a company that does music and events

Norway -- owns a company that produces small slow cookers and is looking at ways he can support indigenous entrepreneurs

Bulgaria -- owns a company that makes items (jam, tea, and jewelry) from Bulgarian roses, wants to distribute internationally (she can be paired with anyone who has a business that specializes in something New Mexican)

If someone you know here owns a company like one of those above and you think would be willing to mentor, please let me know and I will contact them directly.

I am attaching a one pager about the program and also their bios. If you could send these along to your members/associates, I would greatly appreciate it!!

Adelle Lees

Director, Global Ties

Chinese New Year dinner

Friendship Force New Mexico members celebrated the Chinese New Year with a dinner Feb. 7. Here are some photos, courtesy of Cheryl Lehmborg.





Direct newsletter and website contributions and comments to Gary Carter at garycarter74@yahoo.com or 505-633-9149.

Visit our website at www.friendship-force-new-mexico-usa.org