



THE FRIENDLY ECHO
FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WINNIPEG NEWSLETTER



Volume 17, Issue 9
December 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - *Paul Van Leeuwen*

Another FF Winnipeg year is coming to an end! We had a very successful inbound journey from Brazil in September and I would like to thank all involved again for their efforts in making this a memorable experience for our ambassadors.

Sadly, one of our new members, Carolyn Lehn has passed away on November 14th, 2108. Carolyn became a member in 2017 and travelled to New Zealand with the Manitoba Club this past year. On behalf of our club I would like to send our deepest condolences to her family.

2019 is promising to be a busy year with one outbound journey to Costa Rica in February and three inbound journeys from Germany, Gold Coast Australia and Toronto.

The board has concluded their evaluation of the FFW point system and will be presenting to our membership an alternative method to use for oversubscribed outbound journey criteria. Details will be discussed at our December dinner meeting.

I hope to see you all at the Christmas party on December 12th. Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year to you all!

December



Joe Keenan

Ernie Ostermann

Lorraine Franz

Jim Kubas

Karen Curtis

James Ryan

Marilyn Sloane

Leslie Galloway

Inga Zahodnik

PHONE COORDINATOR - *Joan Ostermann*

Phone Committee: Francis L., Shirley M., Gladys T. & Susan C.

The next dinner meeting is at 6:30 Wednesday December 12th at the Holiday Inn South. Please respond to your phone call/email promptly. As Joan will be away in December, if cancelling your dinner, please contact Frances at **(204) 237-7777** or fmlemieux@mts.net by 10:00 a.m. Monday December 10th. Thank you

A reminder that we will be collecting money and/or non-perishable food items at our December dinner meeting for Winnipeg Harvest. Some suggestions are peanut butter, baby formula, dried goods. Please remember to check **the expiry dates!** **Let's beat our totals of last year!!**

Host Coordinators Preparing for a busy 2019:

Val Keenan - Toronto – September 26th to 30th

FF Toronto incoming domestic journey will take place following their journey with the FF Brandon club. They have 13 ambassadors signed up and expect at least two more. Val Keenan, Host Coordinator, will be forming our hosting committee in January to develop the program. Volunteers are needed! Please contact Val if you can help.

Loretta Humeniuk – Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia – June 30th- July 7th

Committee:

Janet & Sandy Campbell – Assistant Host Coordinators

Fiona Crow – Treasurer

Nina Logan -Welcome/Farewell Dinner

Maureen Lelond – Activity Coordinator

Gary Crow – Photographer

Heather Gusnowsky – Home Host Coordinator

Karen Curtis – Day Host Coordinator

Charliene Havixbeck – Dinner Host Coordinator

The committee has already had their first meeting! Janette the Australian Ambassador Coordinator reported that they have 16 to 18 interested ambassadors so far.

Loretta's team is looking for help for home hosts, dinner hosts and day hosts! Please sign up and give them an early Christmas present.

Lorraine Franz and Elizabeth Grover –Vogtland Germany – June 12th – 19th

We have a committee in place after our last dinner meeting. Thank you everyone for volunteering!!! Our first meeting is 5pm before the January dinner meeting at the Holiday Inn. Members have also volunteered to be home hosts and made many suggestions for activities!

The Vogtland ambassadors are looking forward to reconnecting with the members that visited them!

News from Eastern Canada Region on Canffex

Christiane Beaupré, Regional Representative for Eastern Canada, has announced that her term will be ending in December. As of January 1st, 2019, she will be sitting on the Board of Directors of Friendship Force International. We are very fortunate and proud to continue to have successive Canadian representatives on the FF Board. Her replacement as Regional Representative will be Pierette Benoit of the Ottawa club. As well, she mentioned a future new club in Canada – Lake Simcoe!



Bessie-Marie Hill one of our long-time members is in St. Boniface Hospital. She has been there for a few weeks and is undergoing tests. She is also a member of "Margaret's Choir" and we have heard from them that she would love visits, not surprisingly, as we all know how sociable she is, and her family mostly lives hundreds of miles away. Cards too, no doubt, would be appreciated. She is on the 4th floor, B, Room 4014. St. Boniface Hospital, 409 Tache Ave., Winnipeg, MB. R2H 2A6. I'm sure Bessie-Marie can use some good cheer so while you address your Christmas cards, add her to your list!

We are sorry to hear of the passing of Susan Munroe's dear mother – Anne Marion. We send our deepest sympathy to Susan and Jim and hope that you will find comfort in the beautiful memories she left.

We are saddened to lose one of our Friendship Force members, Carolyn Lehn and we extend our heartfelt sympathy to her family.

Congratulations Joe and Val Keenan on your Golden Wedding Anniversary! Joe and Val were married on November 16th, 1968.

Congratulations to our newly elected board who were acclaimed for a second term at our November dinner meeting. Thank you to Sylvia Josse (Secretary), Maria Coutu (Treasurer), Linda Dart (Vice-President), and Paul Van Leeuwen (President) for your continued commitment

May your Christmas sparkle with moments of love, laughter and goodwill. And may the year ahead be full of contentment, joy and good health.

May the stars shine on you this season and all the through the coming year. Happy Holidays

From your Winnipeg Friendship Force Committee



friendship force
WINNIPEG

FFW Newsletter Editor/Publisher: Carol De Baets,
Contact: **The Friendship Force of Winnipeg;** Email: friendshipforcewpg@mts.net
Website: www.friendshipforcewinnipeg.org
Friendship Force International 400 West Peachtree St. NW, Suite 4-980, Atlanta, GA 30308
Email: ffi@thefriendshipforce.org Website: www.thefriendshipforce.org