



The Friendly Echo

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WINNIPEG NEWSLETTER



Volume 17, Issue 4
May 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring is finally here! I enjoyed seeing the spring flowers in full bloom in Europe and am happy to be back in Winnipeg.

There is not much news to report. Lethbridge, Edmonton and Calgary FF clubs are still in the planning stages of hosting a Western Canadian Conference. They would like this to be open to all Friendship Force members. Lethbridge is a small 17-member club and a hotel stay will most probably be necessary as the interest across Canada might be large. I will let you know when more information becomes available.

What we know at this stage is:

Pre-conference stay in Lethbridge: Sept. 19 -21

Conference in Calgary: Sept. 21-23

Topics will include: "Growing Membership Using a Strategic Approach", "Development of Club Leaders" as well as a feature session with Jeremy Snook, President and CEO of FFI.

Post-conference stay in Edmonton: Sept. 23-26
FFI fees: \$10.00 per person per day

Hope to see you all this Wednesday.

Paul



Springtime in Keukenhof Holland 2018

A Big Welcome to our Two New Members

Marianne McClusky and Susan Wallis



May

Sandra Lehmann
Diane Judge
Loretta Humeniuk

Richard Grover
Dolores Tutkaluk
Gary Crow

ACTIVITY COORDINATOR – Susan M.

I am happy to announce that Reena Nerbas will be our guest presenter at our May 9th meeting. Ms. Nerbas, a well-known author and motivational speaker will present "Harness the Power of Words". This was the #1 choice amongst our members when polled earlier this year. It is a strong message with practical solutions to encourage positive relationships.

Also, at the May 9th meeting we will be holding our ***ANNUAL BOOK EXCHANGE*** so pack up those pocketbooks and dust off those novels and bring them along to the meeting. There will be plenty of time to browse before and after the meeting.

Paperbacks – 50 cents
Hard Covers - \$1.00

MANY GREAT TREASURES TO BE FOUND

The Year End Picnic will be held at St. Vital Park at the Duck Pond picnic site and shelter. Mark your calendars now, Wednesday June 13th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., rain or shine. There will be plenty of food, fun and activities planned. Dig out a treasure from your white elephant bin and bring it along for our flea market table. Pack a lawn chair and wear comfortable clothing and shoes. More details to follow.

PHONE COMMITTEE - Joan O.

Phone Coordinator for **May** will be:

Email: fmlemieux@mymts.net

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

If cancelling your dinner, please call Frances by **10:00 a.m.** on the **Monday** before the Wednesday dinner.

INBOUND JOURNEY REPORT – Sao Jose do Rio Preto - Sept. 12-18 - J. Kubas

The response for home and dinner hosts was excellent. Thank you to all that have volunteered. However, we do need more day hosts. If you can commit for a day or two (or more) we could use your help as a day host.

Some of the visiting ambassadors have limited ability in English. Translators would be most helpful. If you speak Portuguese or know of anyone that does and can help, please let me know.

We also need helpers for two other events:

1. We are planning an evening BBQ in Lake Winnipeg area on Friday, Sept. 14th for which we will require two or three helpers to organize the BBQ at Maria Coutu's cottage. This will be part of a day trip to Gimli and area.
2. Our Farewell Dinner will be pot luck on Monday, Sept. 17th at St. Andrew's Church Hall. We need helpers to set-up, assist in the kitchen and for clean-up.

Sign-up sheets will be available at the club meeting on May 9th or advise me at jameskubas@gmail.com.

JOURNEY COORDINATOR'S REPORT

J. Ryan

Sao Jose do Rio Preto – Sept. 12th – 18th.

We will be hosting 14 ladies and one couple for a total of 16.

The FF group from Vogtland, Germany has requested a change in the timing of their visit to June 2019 instead of October. This proposal has been accepted by your FFW executive pending confirmation by FFI. They have ten confirmed Ambassadors.

FF Costa Rica, as well, has requested a change in scheduling of our visit to their country. They have proposed advancing the date to February instead of March 2019 which is acceptable to our exchange coordinator for this trip.

Fall FFI Conference – Calgary Sept. 21 – 23

The registration form should be available later this month with opportunities for possible homestays in Lethbridge and Edmonton to be arranged separately with these clubs.

A  **from your editor:**

I want to pass on a Friendly Reminder of the importance of responding accurately to our phone calls or emails regarding our dinner meetings.

We need to let the Holiday Inn know the **exact** numbers and sometimes members will show up without informing us or members inform us of their attendance and then do not show up.

Unfortunately, we must pay for your meal if we have counted you in our numbers. As well, if you bring additional guests or yourselves without informing us, there might be a food shortage as well as a room too small for our group.



friendship force
WINNIPEG

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