

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF GREATER ATLANTA



FFGA

September 2016

Special Points of Interest:

- Message from President
- Outbound Exchange to Tanzania
- Website
- Annual Meeting October 16th

SAVE THE DATE:

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD

HOLIDAY PARTY

ESTIMATED COST \$35 PER

MORE DETAILS LATER

From the desk of John Wilhelm, President

The silence is broken as I take to the keyboard to share the latest news affecting our chapter. We have accepted two new exchanges for 2017. We will travel to Iringa, Tanzania on an outbound exchange with Bonnie Evans as our fearless leader with the dates to be determined. We have also committed to hosting an inbound exchange from Moscow, Russia sometime between April and October 2017. We do hope that you will consider participating in one or both of these ventures. If we are to remain a

viable group, more of our members are needed to travel and host when we commit to these exchanges.

Barbara Shields, our activity chairperson is trying to schedule a monthly or every other month event to promote fellowship and pique your interest. In another portion of this message there is information about our book club meeting this month. We will have our general membership meeting in October and our holiday party in early December. When the times and venues are published, we urge you to make the

effort to attend.

Recently, we have had a string of bad luck with outbound exchanges Kiev, Ukraine (2014), Pine-Braunschweig, Germany (2015), Recife, Brazil (2016) all being accepted and then canceled due to no fault of ours. We have seen a decline in active member involvement and diminished participation in our activities. Your board knows that we need to be planning activities to make your affiliation worthwhile.

Please place a priority on involving yourselves in these upcoming exchanges and other club activities. We need to get stronger and can't do it without you!

2017 Outbound Exchange to Tanzania:

A Pot Luck Dinner was held at Bonnie Evans home on August 27 where 19 exchange prospects attended the information session for the Tanzania Epic Exchange and Safari.

Guests were nourished by all kinds of super dishes but their minds and hearts were filled with excitement about the tentative plans for the visit to Tanzania. A presentation was also made to the Big Canoe Friendship Force the previous

Sunday.

The tentative dates for the exchange is 8/31/2017 to 9/19/2017 starting and ending in Kilimanjaro. The exchange will be with the Iringa Friendship Force chapter headed by Newton Maganga. A public service project will be included. The safari will include Ruaha National Park, Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater with a professional safari outfit. Currently the exchange has 35 people signed as prospects for the ex-

change but only 20 will be selected. Earnest money of \$200 per person (made out to FFGA) plus completed Friendship Force Ambassador application and pledge is due by 11/1/2016 to hold your place as a prospect. Please mail to the Exchange Director, Bonnie Evans, at 1954 Musket Court, Stone Mountain, GA 30087.

If you would like a copy of the booklet handed out, please email Bonnie Evans at kbemje@bellsouth.net

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF GREATER ATLANTA

Annual Meeting October 16th

The meeting/dinner will be held on **Sunday, October 16, 2016** at Mimi's Café, 1221 Ashford Crossing, Atlanta, GA 30346, near Perimeter Mall.

A social period will begin at **2:00 PM** with \$5.00 drink specials: house wine, Sangria (red or white) and Mimosa's. Of course, one may order any beverage of choice at Mimi's regular price.

The dinner will be served at **2:30 PM** with the meeting following at approximately **3:30 PM**, ending by **4:30 PM**. Members are not required to attend the social or dinner, but are encouraged to attend the business meeting. Please call Barbara Shields, 770-981-3625, if you plan to attend the meeting only. We want

to be sure to have enough seats for everyone.

Those attending the dinner should mail a check made payable to FFGA for \$20.00 for each person with their menu choices to Barbara Shields at 4681 Mercer Road, Stone Mountain, GA 30083 **no later than Monday, October 10th.** Cancellations can be made prior to that date. **Also tell Barbara your selections for supper :**

House salad with vinaigrette dressing or Caesar salad with Parmesan dressing or cup of tomato basil soup or cup of corn chowder. Salads come dressed but can be ordered plain.

Entrée: Grilled Atlantic Salmon Salad or Grilled Chicken & Frites or Chicken Tillamook Cheddar Mac or Slow-Roasted Turkey.

Dessert: Strawberry crepe cake or birthday crepe cake. The cakes have 15 layers of crepes, 2 layers of angel food vanilla cake and sweet cream. (Barbara sampled and reports it was delicious!)

Pricing includes tax & gratuity for a full three course meal of soup or salad, entrée, dessert and non alcoholic beverages.

Bring your old eyeglasses with you for the Lion's Club . See another article in the newsletter about volunteering.

Mimi's Cafe Perimeter Place#105, 1221 Ashford Crossing, Atlanta, 30346

[\(770\) 351-8444](tel:7703518444)

FFGA BOOK CLUB

Will be meeting on October 22nd at 2 p.m.

Cynthia Williams' house:

1923 Claremont Street NW

Atlanta 30318

Book Title:

ASTORIA

<http://friendshipforceatlanta.com>

Our website has been updated. In the first quarter of 2016 the software for the website had been changed and of course with any updates, there were snags. Many thanks to Dave Kelley who worked on the issues for many months with me to get it back in operation. The Joomla software was user unfriendly.

When the webmaster located in Colorado also had issues then I knew that a change had to be made. He recommended that we change the website software to *Word Press* which is more user friendly.

Other clubs have been successful using it. It would make it easier in the future to train new members on managing our website. Once the transfer

of items has been completed, I will receive additional training. So stay tuned!!!! In the meantime the current website does have new announcements posted.

Bonnie Evans
Greater Atlanta
Friendship Force
Webmaster and Ambassador



Board Members and Meetings

FFGA Board Members are:

John Wilhelm, President,
jwainc7@bellsouth.net

Cynthia Williams, Vice President,
madamew@hotmail.com

Beverly McCray, Secretary,
bkaymac3@att.net

Ron Scott, Treasurer,
sronald1@comcast.net

Anne Earle, Membership,
anneearle@aol.com

Barbara Shields, Social Committee Chair,
barbarazee@mindspring.com

Bonnie Evans, Webmaster,
kbemje@bellsouth.net

Sue Mills, Newsletter,
delray316@gmail.com

The Board meets once per month on the second Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. Location can change.

Meetings are open to all members. Join us!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

This is the story of the eyeglasses!

Cynthia Williams is working with a local Lion's Club which recruits volunteers to sort donated eyeglasses.

Cynthia is working on a date in the first or second week of November for our club members to help in

sorting these glasses which are then sent to areas outside the US in need.

Thus, we asking you to dig through those old drawers, desks and cabinets for eyeglasses no longer needed.

We'll be collecting them at the Annual Dinner on

October 16th.

As soon as we have the volunteer date and time, a notice will go out to our membership.

We always finish our volunteer hours with a social activity, e.g., food/lunch!

Our Facebook site, The Friendship Force of Greater Atlanta, continues to be visited. It is a tool to attract new members to the club and keep members informed of current activities. If you have photos of exchanges or activities, please sent them to Bonnie Evans to post .

kbemje@bellsouth.net

Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely... Broad, wholesome charitable views...cannot be acquired by vegetating in one's little corner of the earth."

---Mark Twain