



March and April, 2015

www.thefriendshipforce.org

www.friendshipforceofutah.org/

Club meetings are held the third Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November at the Salt Lake County Government Center at 2001 South State Street, SLC. Use the East Entrance at the north end of South Building where free parking is available.
Social 6:30-7:00 p.m.
Program 7:00-7:45 p.m.
Clean up 8:50-9:00 p.m.

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THE NEXT SOCIAL EVENT

Our next event will be on **April 16th** which is on a Thursday. We will be visiting International Travel Outfitters for a packing demonstration. We will also get a discount for items in the store. If you haven't been there, this is a great place to buy any travel gadget you might need. The time is 6:30 pm and the address is 328 N. Hwy 89, North Salt Lake.

March 24, 2015 Meeting
Judy Cohen Gave a Presentation on her travels

Judy: For my presentation, I showed photos of my travel in both Colombia and Guatemala.

These trips were different in their focus. The trip to Colombia was hosted by the Bogota FF and it included five half days of Spanish classes at the International House Bogota.

Also most of our hosts did not speak English so by the time we got to Bogota we were immersed in the Spanish language.

The trip to Guatemala was a Friendship in Action+trip where we partnered with local non-profit groups to whom we took donations of money and goods. There is no Friendship Force in Guatemala so we were staying in hotels. The non-profits we visited included two schools for children, a home for indigent elderly and a reptile sanctuary.+

Judy talked about the differences and similarities of these two trips.

A special collection of used books was taken in honor of World Friendship activities. Barbara Herrmann took the donations to a city library branch for the Friends of the Library.



You can find out more about this organization at this web site.

<http://www.slcp1.org/files/2011FriendsApp.pdf>

From the President's Desk Margret Boes-Ingraham

Hello Friends!

What a great group we have! I am always impressed with what a nice group of people we have in our club. Whether traveling, hosting or learning you seem to put your all into everything. Good Job! On behalf of the board we really do appreciate that and all the work you do.

We have received our outgoing assignment for 2016 and it will be our special friends to the North. **Canada**. This is an area near Niagara Falls. Keep tuned as we learn more about our Canadian Friends. A firm date for this will be known soon.

In the meantime remember the incoming visitors from Niagara, Canada June 24-30, 2015. Dasha and her committee have met and also received input and ideas from some of our new members. I believe it will be a lot of fun. This is a group that you don't have to worry about a language barrier so plan to get involved and learn, explore and enjoy this visit.

Explore • Understand • Serve®

You may email utahfriendshipforce@gmail.com with any ideas, suggestions, areas you would like to be involved with.

I have been advised there are still openings for the International Conference in Vancouver, Canada. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Friendship Force. When I went to my first International Conference I was not sure it would be anything I would really enjoy or like but I had so much fun! Check it out; there are also some great pre and post conference exchanges you might enjoy also. The web site www.thefriendshipforce.org will provide you with great information. The conference is August 28-30, 2015. On this web site you will also find many opportunities besides the conference.

We are making plans to be a post-exchange for a Global Exchange in September 2016. This will be a shorter visit and tentatively the theme will be Salt Lake City Olympic City.

Cheers!
Margret



Membership Report

Kris Hill, VP Membership

I am thrilled to report that we have 70 members. Please continue to spread the word about our club and please continue to invite guests to our events. If you know of anyone who needs more information, please let me know.

New Members

Please welcome our newest member, Donna Jacobs (dj1789@me.com) of South Jordan. Donna is a retired Program Manager for the state of Utah. She speaks some French and is interested in photography, gardening, history, music, art and literature. Donna is a friend of Betsy Heath, who referred her. Please say hello to her at an upcoming event.



Incoming Exchange . Niagara, Canada June 24 to June 30, 2015

Dasha Prokofyeva has accepted the ED position for our incoming exchange from Niagara, Canada in June of 2015. She is very excited to plan an exciting program to introduce the Salt Lake area to our Canadian friends.

I ask for your support of Dasha in the committees needed for this exchange. Many of you remember Dasha helped us learn a few Russian phrases at our May, 2014 meeting and assisted with the Russians at the parties with our Russian guest. The dates for Niagara have been confirmed for June 24-30, 2015.



You may call Margret at 801-424-2850 or e-mail UtahFriendshipForce@gmail.com with your interest in the exchange.

Outgoing 2016 Exchange to Greater Hamilton and Burlington, Ontario, Canada

We've been assigned this club for our outgoing exchange in 2016. Here's some information on them and the area excerpted from the FFI website:

Ours is a small but active club (51 members). We usually host two inbound exchanges each year, and in turn do two outbound; recent outbound exchanges have taken us to Brazil, Costa Rica, Germany, Holland, California, and Texas. Since the fall of 2010 we have also organized two inbound global invitational exchanges with a focus on the performing and visual arts all around us.

While most of our members live in Hamilton and/or Burlington at the west end of Lake Ontario, we also have and welcome members who live in Toronto (just under an hour to the east of us).

About the region: Situated at the western tip of Lake Ontario and conveniently located within an hour of Toronto & Niagara Falls, the neighbor cities of Hamilton and Burlington await your visit.

About a typical Exchange: On a one-week club-to-club exchange, we typically program an overview of our area and its many attractions. In addition to the best of Hamilton/Burlington, we give guests an opportunity to visit Niagara Falls, Toronto, and frequently, a two-night "Cottage Outing" in small groups at lakeside and woodland vacation homes belonging to our members. Our themed invitational arts exchanges, which have included trips to The Stratford and Shaw Festivals, concerts and plays in Hamilton and Toronto among other things, have very quickly been oversubscribed each time they were offered.

SOCIAL AT SAMPAN RESTAURANT

On February 21st, 26 people, most of them FF club members, met at Sampan restaurant to enjoy Chinese or Japanese food. There was good food and good conversation.



ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

On February 22 Jan fell and broke her hip. She was moved to a rehab place at Orchard Cove 485 E 5th So., Bountiful 801-299-4800. She is now home and doing fine.

SIX TRAVEL RESOLUTIONS FOR 2015, provided by Wanderlust

I WILL TRY SOMETHING NEW

Cycling, micro lighting, baking batiking, paddle boarding, perfume-making, whatever! I will have a go at something I've never done before. Something that helps me delve into a destination, understand what makes it tick or is just jolly good mind-expanding fun.

I WILL USE MORE LOCAL GUIDES

A local guide will better bring the place to life for me and point out things I have never known or noticed.

I WILL REMEMBER TO LOOK UP

As 2015 has been designated the International Year of Light and because March 2015 sees a total solar eclipse occur over the Atlantic, I will reengage with the sky. I will prescribe myself a regular dose of dark skies.

I WILL HAVE A MICROADVENTURE

I will not mope when I'm not travelling. Instead, I will fill gaps with camping, atop the hill near my house, swimming down a nearby river or going on a hike.

I WILL ENGAGE WITH LOCAL PEOPLE

I will engage with local people from other places and invite them to our meetings.

I WILL SEIZE THE DAY

I won't put off that trip of a lifetime. Even if that means saving up all year, I'll book my dream adventure in 2015. No excuses. This is the YEAR!

WORLD CONFERENCE 2015 VANCOUVER, CANADA



Dear Friendship Force Members,

We are pleased to announce that registration is now open for the 2015 FFI World Conference to be held in beautiful Vancouver, Canada from August 28 to 31! The Vancouver host committee is planning a very special

welcome reception on the evening of the 28th, complete with live music and entertainment. You won't want to miss this authentically Vancouver experience, with food representing the city and its culture, so plan your arrival accordingly!

We are opening up more conference spaces. There are also pre and post conference options that are available if you are not able to attend the conference.

All conference details can be found on the [Official Conference Website](#). We encourage you to bookmark the link for easy reference and to check for updates over the coming months. While you are there, check out the "Conference Options" tab to see all of the ways you can explore Vancouver during the conference!

Should you have any additional questions please contact FFI's Conference Director by emailing conf@thefriendshipforce.org.

We look forward to seeing you in August!