



The View from the Peak

Volume 9, Issue 5, October, 2016

Highlights Inside

Meeting Details	2
Origin of the T-Shirt	3-5
New Member Profile	6-7
2016 Global Exchange	8-9
2017 Exchange Info	10
Council Meeting Minutes	11-12
Treasurer's Report	13
FF General Information	14

Next Membership Meeting

Save the DATE/TIME

Tuesday, October 18, 2016

at 5:00 PM

**General
Membership
Meeting**

LOCATION:

Senior Center

**1514 N Hancock Ave,
Colorado Springs, CO**

**Questions? Call Joanie Huggins
Phone: 630-1955**

See page 2 for details

Message from Dan Hannaway, Leadership Council Coordinator



Dear Friends of the Force,

Everyone can take a deep breath and relax until 2017, when our club will resume traveling and hosting. We just concluded our last hosting for this year in mid-September, and it ended on a high note. It was our first ever hosting of a Global Exchange. There were 20 ambassadors from throughout the United States (Michigan, Ohio, California, Oklahoma, Florida, Illinois, Louisiana, New Jersey), Canada (Quebec, British Columbia, Ontario, Alberta), and New Zealand. Accompanying the group was the overall ED for this "Peaks to Plains" exchange, Kay Thomas of the Northern Colorado FF club. Our own EDs for the exchange were Susan Tindell and Judie Werschky, who did a fabulous job. The entire experience was over two years in the making. The overall itinerary for the exchange included three nights in each of the six Friendship Force clubs in the Mountain States Region – Cheyenne, Northern Colorado, Denver, Pikes Peak, Western Colorado, and Utah. We provided accommodations in 13 homes. Our local itinerary featured visits to the Air Force Academy, Garden of the Gods (which included a sunrise photo op for the brave, and a picnic breakfast), the Broadmoor Hotel, Penrose Heritage Museum, a cog railway ride to the top of Pikes Peak, and a tour of the Olympic Training Center. Jeanne and Brian Marsh opened their home for the welcome party on Sunday evening, and Bruni Berkowitz secured the club house at Paseo del Sol for the farewell gathering. A highlight of the farewell was the native American dance performance arranged by Etta McClanahan. A BIG THANKS to everyone who made the entire exchange a true success. How successful you ask? *One ambassador said that of all the groups they had visited on this trip, ours was the friendliest and most comfortable! She thought part of it was that we had a good time, too, and seemed to really like one another!* How's that for an endorsement! Congratulations members of the FF of the Pikes Peak Region. You did it again!

-- Dan

Next General Membership Meeting

Our next General Membership meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 18th at 5:00**. This meeting takes us back to our familiar venue, the **Colorado Springs Senior Center**.

Dan Hannaway will present part II of last year's southern Mexican journey featuring slides of Palenque, the ancient Mayan city, and much more.

The club will furnish the entrée of rotisserie chicken; however, we are asking members to provide the following:

Last names beginning with

“A” through “H” -- Desserts

“I” through “S” -- Salads

“T” through “Z” -- Sides

There is a \$5 per person charge to cover expenses.

Questions? Please call Joanie Huggins at 630-1955

A Personal Note from Marilyn

Dear Friends-

I would like to thank everyone for the kind telephone calls, emails, cards and get well wishes. Knowing that so many were holding me in their thoughts and prayers meant more to me than words can say. How thoughtful it was to take the time to remember Jerry and me. We are very blessed to have found so many wonderful friends. We are home in Colorado Springs, and will be leaving for Spain on September 24 to rest and recuperate. We hope to see you all during the Holidays.

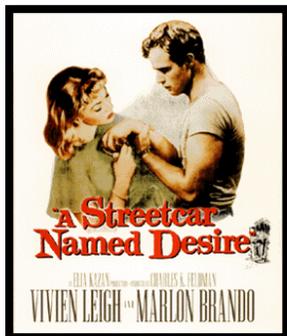
Marilyn and Jerry Werschky

There are flowers everywhere for those who bother to look. -- Henri Matisse

The Origin of the T-Shirt

By Irmgard von der Gathen

It Was All Marlon Brando's Fault!



This story is about the invasion of a garment which was, so very ironically, born in Europe. Yes, Europe. I'm talking about the T-shirt mania in America. Oh, give me liberty to share my observations and thoughts on this fashion transgression:

The T-shirt, although it was not yet called by that name, was a standard issue undershirt for European soldiers during World War I. American troops observed and quickly realized how comfortable these lightweight cotton shirts were during hot and humid summer days, or how practical they were for wicking up perspiration under their woolen uniforms. Hence, they wasted no time in christening the undershirt by the now popular name "T-shirt" and by World War II both the Navy and the Army included the white cotton shirt as standard issue.

But back to the part Marlon Brandon played in the T-shirt Blitzkrieg. Brando shocked the movie audience by appearing in the white undershirt, sans dress shirt, on the big screen. History was made, when during a steamy scene in the movie *A Streetcar Named Desire* the shirt was torn from his muscular body exposing his chest. Young men all over America promptly discarded their dress shirts and started a new fad by prancing around in their white undershirts, cigarette packs tucked into the rolled up sleeve to boot. In 1955 movie idol James Dean reinforced this cool look in *Rebel Without a Cause* and the T-shirt was henceforth ordained as a symbol of rebellious male youth.

In the 1960's, during the time of the tie-dye frenzy, T-shirts proved to be the ideal product on which to experiment. After the immersion into rainbow colors, the Marlon-Brando-look was never the same. By then the shirt was worn as a unisex, all-purpose clothing item, and it blossomed into varieties in the form of tank tops, scoop necks, v-necks. When long sleeves were added and "double knit" was introduced, that variety morphed into what is known by the crass name of *sweatshirt*. There was no stopping the proliferation of the clothing market by the T-shirt. It was an inexpensive item, and everyone loved the lazy, comfortable style.



People in the printing business had quickly realized that one could capitalize by printing unlimited images on a T-shirt. Consequently, it didn't take long for rock bands to discover that they could make vast amounts of additional money by selling their motto- emblazoned T-shirts to the willing audience. Professional sport didn't waste time following suit. The Disney Company embellished the shirts with every cartoon character imaginable, and the new billion-dollar enterprise was embraced wholeheartedly as frosting on the cake.

From then on, imagination on what to do with, or to, a T-shirt ran amuck. When other entities, such as record and movie companies, bars, restaurants, animal lovers to computer geeks, and private clubs to universities joined the bandwagon, there was no limit to the oncoming pandemic.

Nor is there any boundary to people's tastes when it comes to wearing the famed shirt. Can one go anywhere to escape the T-shirt-clad torso? One could say that the T-shirts and jeans combination has become America's civilian uniform. Look around you, and you'll find yourself inundated with babies, grandparents, fat and skinny, young and old wearing them. Why, even the big and tall shops carry the special sizes! They are worn as day or nightshirts, under or over regular clothing, or two or three at the same time.

It seems to be perfectly acceptable in today's society to wear them in sizes, which have nothing to do with actual body measurements. If it doesn't fit, cut it, rip it, tear out the sleeves, lower the neck line with a quick snip, cut off the bottom to expose the pierced navel, wear them until they are in shreds and the wearer will be instantly in style. Certain types of young men like them triple large, or larger, so they cover the knees, lest their butt crack gets exposed, because they are wearing pants of ridiculously exaggerated sizes, which constantly slip down and could end up around their ankles. Dirty, grimy T-shirts seem to be accepted as just another variety.

Macho men prefer the ones with the huge armholes to expose their hairy armpits. And after all those years, when they should know better, they still think it's "oh, so cool" to roll up a pack of Marlboro in the short sleeve. Some guys even thought they'd make good seat covers by slipping them over the back of a car seat, and almost started a new trend.

Then there are the T-shirts proclaiming messages. Have you read them? They range from stupid to interesting, from tacky to outrageous, from violent to obscene. I shudder at the sight of some which are imprinted with the most crude gestures and phrases. No matter how offensive, I guess it all falls under the protection of the free speech amendment, and no one was ever arrested for bad taste, as far as I know. Even though the thought occasionally has crossed my mind, I don't have the guts to walk up to a person and ask pointblank: "Why for heaven's sake are you wearing that obnoxious shirt?" But is there anything more egregious than vulgar images worn on ignoramuses' bodies? T-shirt and wearer have become unplugged and gone over the edge.

Clothing designers, who once thumbed their noses at them, have long realized that it is a no-brainer to dupe millions of people to be miniature billboards. Hordes of young people clump around day and night in their logo emblazoned T-shirts, providing the designer and manufacturer with immeasurable amounts of free advertising. Even the formerly hidden labels are now sewn on the outside! Many wearers even think of them as a status symbol. People can be so gullible! Can you count how many of those walking advertisements you see in a day?

What excellent give-aways they make! Since everyone loves a freebie, the giver can get the human sheep to do his advertising easily, and most importantly, cheaply and constantly. Every inch of a T-shirt can now be affixed with logos and jabber-jabber. The front of the shirt no longer suffices. Specialty printers long ago figured out how to imprint the back too. Even the sleeves have lost their virginity!

Young students plague their parents with their choices or their refusal to wear imagined unpopular brands of T-shirts. Principals have an additional and difficult task of getting involved in the fashion world and knowing where to draw the line.

Women, not to be outdone, conjured up innumerable ways to load up, (but not necessarily enhance) a T-shirt. Why not add sequins and glitter; paint whole still-lives on them; sew on buttons, lace, and beads; and heaven forbid, those embroidered flower-like things; and top it off with some fake fur? There is just no end to it. Don't have enough ideas to keep up with the trend? There are galleries of books available on just that subject. Imagine, literature on

how to decorate T-shirts! And these hideous fandangles don't come cheap. The more thingamajigs and doodads are added, the more dollars are spent. Heck, the shirts could be called diversified portfolios. Tacky, tacky, tacky.

Was it women or men who came up with the "brilliant" idea of the wet t-shirt contests, or is the movie industry to blame again? Silly question. It's got to be men!

There is no end to people who deliberately want to look absurd or be extreme. It crosses all ethnic groups and economic classes. I have a difficult time understanding the person who walks next to someone wearing a T-shirt imprinted with an arrow pointing his or her way saying, "I'm with stupid!" And why does a young woman think she has to draw attention to her abdomen with an arrow on her oversized T-shirt pointing down to the word: *Baby*? Why does she think the world must know that she is pregnant? If the onlooker supposed to acknowledge, inquire, or even care?

Oh horror! They have multiplied into epidemic proportions! They are everywhere in the world! No country has been spared the invasion! Even the formally fashion-conscious youngish population of Europe is caught up in this fashion lunacy. I could hardly tell the European males from the American ones, with the exception that those foreigners do stop short of mutilating their shirts or wearing dirty ones. Even the poorest of the poor nations somehow manage to acquire enough T-shirts for the natives to replace traditional garb or cover their formerly unclad bodies. Has there ever been a garment with such short history that has spread and conquered the world, without resistance, in such a quiet coup d'état? Where to have the nonconformists disappeared?



I am left with the only option of simply accepting this amazing and sometimes freakish turn in fashion or lapse in good taste. I may mock them, or be dismayed by them. I may wish for T-shirt etiquette, requirements for cloaking the screaming torsos, or a T-shirt police. Or I could hope for someone to take up the good course of burning them. It's of no use!

But wait! I found a use for the ugliest ones among the dozens upon dozens accumulated by my jogger husband from every race in which he participates. I use them to polish my shoes, the car, the silver, or any other thing around the house that won't mind the images or garish colors. Alas, they are of some use after all!

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New Member Profile

Editor's Note: FFPPR has been fortunate to have gained a number of new members over the past year. Other than the brief introductions at our bi-monthly meetings, it can be difficult to get to know them, let alone being able to place faces with names. Debbie and Tim Caldwell, as well as many of our other new members, have become quite active during the 2016 exchange season. Debbie has graciously provided the following profile. I would like to publish more such profiles in the future as a means to get better acquainted with our membership. So, during our next meeting, please say hello to Debbie, Tim, and anyone else you may not know that well. As this article indicates, we are all pretty interesting people.

-- js

Hey There!

Debbie Caldwell here, to introduce Tim and myself to Friendship Force* Colorado Springs (if you don't already know us). In April, 2016 we joined FF (I keep saying "Frequent Flyers" which is probably appropriate anyway). At our very first meeting, in our great enthusiasm, we volunteered to store all the "stuff" for the parties, so you might know us as the folks carrying the tote boxes. That has been so fun..... really

Anyway, a little about us. We moved to Colorado Springs in 1982. I am originally from the Chicago area (Glenview) and Tim is originally from Washington State or Susanville, California, depending on which stage of life we are talking about. We met while we both lived in Santa Barbara, CA, during my "vagabond van days". Actually, when we met, I was about to leave there for Colorado and said to Tim, "I'm going, you coming or not?" And he did.....

Tim and I live to travel. The travel bug was instilled in me by my folks taking us on family vacations (often to Colorado). When I was in 8th grade we visited Colorado Springs and even then I said I was going to live here. Because Tim and I wanted to be in the mountains as much as possible, and because we also wanted to travel the world, the only option was to move to the mountains and then travel the world as best we could, given our finances and our jobs. Tim is a fabricator and glazer for Ryan Glass Company; and until my "retirement by default" (my boss of 30 years retired) I worked in the law office of BJ Fett, who is still a municipal court judge here in town. Well, Tim's still working (someone has to!) and I take the odd office job, filling in if and when needed. (That's a bit of a plug – at BJ's retirement party I wore a sign that said "Will work for \$" .)

We have traveled quite a bit – more than many but of course not as much as some. Some of our favorite places for cultural interest were Turkey, South Africa, Russia while still under communism, Australia, and the British Isles, especially given Tim's Irish/Scottish/Welsh heritage. I am of Polish descent, and have visited my relatives there twice, both times before Solidarity. That was a pretty memorable experience, for sure. I also believe that at least every two years Hawaii should be mandatory for every American as an insurance-covered preventative health care benefit. Am I right?

When grounded here in Colorado, we always try to head to the mountains -- camping in the summer and snow-shoeing or x-country skiing in winter.

Our craving for travel (and not having any family here in Colorado) has resulted in a childless (and dogless) lifestyle. We have always had (and have) cats which are much easier to make arrangements for while being gone. And that rounds out our household.

Since retirement, besides taking this time in life to intensify my spiritual journey, I volunteer at Partners in Housing (a transitional placement for homeless families, mainly single moms.) It is a wonderful organization, and has a 95% success

rate in getting its partners back on their feet and into productive society. (Another plug here). Also, for fun, I just signed up to usher at the Fine Arts Center, so maybe someday I will see you there and help you to your seat.

We are excited about being members of this club. When traveling, we always have tried to be “ambassadors” for our country and show folks not all American tourists are stereotypical. I think we have been somewhat successful in our encounters and joining “Frequent Flyers”* will enable us to continue to be ambassadors, even while remaining at home.

We are pleased to meet you all.



FFPPR Quiz: Where in the world was that picture taken? Don't know? Ask Debbie or Tim.



2016 Global Exchange

Our brief, but whirlwind, in-bound Global Exchange was a lot of fun. This exchange gave us the opportunity to meet some really nice folks from varied places and many different clubs. Shown below are a sampling of photos from the recent Global Exchange.



Oh, and a few more



And finally, saying goodbye to new friends.



Blessed are the curious for they shall have adventures. -- Lovelle Drachman

2017 Exchange Info

2017 promises to be another exciting year for FFPPR exchanges. Here's a summary of where things currently stand. Please make a note of these dates so that you may plan your level of participation. Feel free to contact the assigned EDs. Of course, additional details will be made available as they emerge.

In-bound international exchange:

Sao Paulo, Brazil

May 27 - June 3

ED team: chaired by Margaret Baptist

In-bound international exchange:

Jalapa, Mexico

August 2 - 8

ED: Dan Hannaway

Out-bound domestic exchange:

Southern Oregon

June 21 - 27

EDs: Joanne and Werner Karlson

Out-bound international exchange:

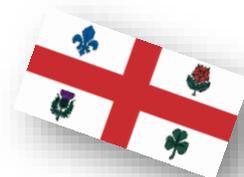
Montreal, Quebec

probable pre- and/or post-trip to Quebec City and Ottawa

September 14 - 20

EDs: Jeanne and Brian Marsh

--Judie



FFPPR Council Meeting Minutes August 4, 2016

Attendees: Dan Hannaway, Dick Battersby, Judie Werschky, Jerry Sabolik
Past President/Current EDs/Guests: Susan and Steve Tindall, Nora Durham

Introductory Remarks (Dan Hannaway).

- Website update progress. Nora gave a demo of the current state of the new website. Some minor changes were suggested, e.g., less busy map of CO. Dan will provide a “where we’ve been” text in place of flags. It’s almost ready for prime time. Nora expressed the need for a backup webmaster. She noted that she will be out of town toward the end of this month. Nora gave Jerry a flash drive to test out the website.
- Retractable banner for FFPPR revisited. Judie led a banner design discussion. Banner to include FFPPR logo, phrase “Changing the way you see the world,” GoG photo, FFPPR and FFI web addresses. Dan to provide sample of design and e-mail to council for review.
- Hosting database (Judie) revisited. Judie to print individual copies and distribute to members at next general meeting.
- FFPPR Cards revisited. Dan showed an example in Word and noted that reasonably priced card stock is available at Costco and Sam’s. He will e-mail sample card to council members.
- Leadership Council Inquiry from Hobart. Hobart, Tasmania club is interested in reviewing our processes for possible use by their club. Dan sent PowerPoint slides to the Hobart contact.
- President’s Report to FFI. Dan submitted President’s Club Report for review. This report provides our exchange information to Lori Ann Scott, FFI’s club support consultant. Suggestion made to revise the application and include food preferences.
- FFI news. Dan called our attention to upcoming FFI Wednesday webinars and urged us to attend. Advanced registration is necessary. Dick noted that a Webex download is also necessary to attend. Also FFI will be publishing an e-Newsletter which is expected to debut sometime in the fall.

Minutes of Previous Meeting (Mike Brabec). Minutes were circulated by email and letter prior to meeting. A motion was moved, seconded and passed to accept minutes as submitted.

Treasurer’s Report (Dick Battersby). Copies of the August 4th Treasurer’s Report were circulated (copy to be archived with minutes). A checking balance of \$3,595.91 was noted, with other credits bringing the final total to \$5861.31. Expenses for the period included a \$250 ED fee for the Brandon exchange. Income totaled \$54 from a General Meeting fee and the sale of 49 FFPPR pins. The Treasurer’s Report was approved as submitted. Dick added that he had sent an FFPPR pin to the Denver club in response to a request from that club.

Exchanges (Judie Werschky). Judie has written a ED Guidelines document to supplement existing general instructions. This document contains FFPPR detail and will serve as a useful checklist for future EDs. The recent Brandon, Manitoba and Central North Carolina exchanges were very successful. FFPPR received much positive feedback from the visiting ambassadors.

Global Exchange:

September 18-21, 2016

EDs Susan Tindell & Judie Werschky. Susan presented a mock-up of the brochure for this exchange. Itinerary will include AFA, GoG, and Pikes Peak. Because of the time limitations, there will not be separate dinner hostings. Etta McClanahan will organize a farewell dinner for September 20th. A brief event review meeting of FFPPR hosts will be held on September 1 at 2:30 in Library 21C, Room B6 immediately prior to the next Council meeting.

International Exchanges:

May 27- June 3, 2017

Inbound Sao Paulo, Brazil

Margaret Baptist is a possible ED, maybe co-EDs

August 2-8, 2017
Inbound Xalapa, Mexico
ED Dan Hannaway

June, 2017
Outbound Southern Oregon (Medford/Ashland area)
ED TBD. This exchange is now a “Go.” It will likely be set for the 3rd week of June, possibly a Wednesday-to-Wednesday; however, the dates have not been finalized.

Sep/Oct 2017
Outbound Montreal, Canada
EDs Brian and Jeanne Marsh. Pierrette Picard will be the Montreal ED assisted by Bario Beaulier. Judie has e-mailed Guy Bedard to nail down dates and is investigating the possibility of arranging pre or post extensions of this exchange. 2017 will be the 375th anniversary of Montreal and the 150th of Canada. There are numerous festivals, events, etc. planned to commemorate these anniversaries.

Other: The Columbia-Cascade exchange did not materialize.

Meeting and Event Plans (Joanie Huggins).

Group discussion ensued regarding the 8/16 General Membership meeting. Susan stated that the Woodmoor Barn has been reserved from 4:00-8:00. Set up to begin at 4:00. Formal meeting to start at 5:00. Road signs will be placed to facilitate finding the Barn. Susan will talk to Popeye’s on Baptist to arrange for a mix of fried chicken. Dick can deliver the chicken. A small ham will be provided. Judie will supply lemonade. Susan will provide iced tea. A \$3/person charge will be imposed to cover expenses. Dick to collect at the meeting. Discussion took place to iron out logistics and table decorations. Margaret had noted in the last meeting that she and Joanie will bring ice. 2, 10lb bags should suffice. Jerry will send out the Evite and will e-mail both Susan and Judie with the attendance tally on the Friday prior to the meeting.

Newsletter (Jerry Sabolik). Jerry is in the process of assembling the August newsletter. He anticipates finalization and distribution by 8/7. Jerry also expressed the need for a backup person to do Evites when he is out of town. The procedure is not complicated, but the user must copy and paste all member e-mail addresses the first time the service is used. Registration for Evite is free, but is on an individual basis and uses your e-mail address for the user ID.

For the Good of the Order: The next meeting will be held September 1 at Library 21C in Room B6 at 3 P.M.

Meeting adjourned at 3:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Jerry Sabolik for Mike Brabec, Secretary and Historian



**FFPPR Treasurer's Report
September 1, 2016**

Checking Balance 7/31/2016				\$3,595.91
Expenses:				
08/04/2016	CK 1905	Judie Werschky – ED Fee for North Carolina	-\$250.00	
08/16/2016	CK 1906	Void	\$0.00	
08/16/2016	CK 1907	Nora Durham – Virus Protection for Website	-\$80.54	
08/16/2016	CK 1908	Bob Werschky – Popeyes Chicken for Gen Mtg	-\$62.28	
				-\$392.82
Income:				
08/16/2016	Deposit	General Membership Mtg – 36@ \$3.00	\$108.00	\$108.00
Checking Balance 8/31/2016				\$3,311.09
Other ENT Credit Union Accounts:				
7/31/2016	Savings			\$1,911.18
7/31/2016	Exchange Checking			\$354.38
Total All Accounts				\$5,576.65

The FFPPR Newsletter is published and distributed on a bi-monthly schedule and usually will correspond to our general membership meeting months. As your new newsletter editor, I welcome any suggestions, criticisms, and, of course, your articles. A special thanks to those who submitted articles, photos, and other material for this edition. We have all had interesting travel experiences and share an interest in learning from the experiences of others. Thank you all for your support, and please send your comments and articles to me at j2sabolik@comcast.net.

Jerry



Friendship Force Information

FFPPR Leadership Council 2016-2017

Council Coordinator

Dan Hannaway, 596-7633

Treasurer

Dick Battersby, 531-5991

Secretary/Historian

Mike Brabec, 434-2053

Exchange Coordinator

Judie Werschky, 632-9989

Membership Coordinator

Margaret Baptist, 520-5237

Activities Coordinator

Joanie Huggins, 630-1955

Newsletter Coordinator

Jerry Sabolik, 481-2876

Webmaster

Nora Durham, 232 9277

<http://friendshipforcepikespeak.com>

Friendship Force of the Mountain States Region Presidents for 2016

Cheyenne Judy Eatmon eatmonjudy@gmail.com

Denver Carl Dawson CarlDawson@remax.net

Northern CO Barbara Miller bmill4708@comcast.net

Pikes Peak Dan Hannaway dgmh@comcast.net

Utah/Salt Lake City Judy Cohen judycohen@xmission.com

Western CO Sue Moyer suemoyer51@gmail.com

Mtn States Field Rep Sue Palmer alfshouse12@hotmail.com

Mountain States Region Friendship Force Club Websites

Cheyenne -- <http://www.friendshipforcecheyenne.org/>

Denver -- <http://friendshipforcedenver.org/>

Northern Colorado -- <http://ffncolo.com/>

Pikes Peak -- <http://friendshipforcepikespeak.com/>

Utah/Salt Lake City -- <http://www.friendshipforceofutah.org/>

Western Colorado -- <http://www.ffwcolo.com/>



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FFI Atlanta website: www.friendshipforce.org