



# The View from the Peak

Volume 9, Issue 6, December, 2016

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## Next Membership Meeting

### Save the DATE/TIME

**Tuesday, December 13, 2016**  
at 5:00 PM

### **General Membership Holiday Meeting**

**LOCATION:**

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

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

**FFPPR dues are due**

**See page 2 for details**

## Message from Dan Hannaway, Leadership Council Coordinator

*Dear Friends of the Force,*



Trite as the saying may be, it's true! This has truly been another very successful year for our club. The success is principally the result of everyone's cooperation and involvement, and the outstanding work of the members of the Leadership Council. During 2016 we added 11 new members, had a terrific international exchange to the Alajuela, Costa Rica Club in February, and made new friends with members

of the Northeast Ohio Club (Cleveland) during our visit there in late April and early May. On the hosting side, it was busier than usual. We hosted incoming exchanges from Brandon, Manitoba, Canada in June, the Central North Carolina Club in July, and our first every Global Exchange in September. Look at this year's past issues of the newsletter for highlights and photos.

In 2017 we will have two international inbound exchanges, Sao Paulo, Brazil in late May/early June, and Xalapa, Mexico in early August. (We had a great time with the Xalapa Club during our visit there in 2015.) Our outbound international exchange will be to Montreal, Canada in mid-September. Through the persistent efforts of our Exchange Coordinator, Judie Werschky, in late June we will travel to Oregon on a domestic exchange to spend time with members of the Southern Oregon Club.

The Western Colorado Club hosted the Mountain States Regional Conference in May and served as a "coming out" event for our new Regional Representative, Sue Palmer, past president of the Western Colorado Club. The next regional conference was scheduled to be held in 2018 in Denver, but that may change. The Friendship Force Western Region Field Representative is planning a Super Regional Conference that would include western regions of the U.S. and British Columbia to be held in the Sacramento, CA area in May, 2018.

*(continued on page 2)*

## *Message from Dan (cont.)*

This concept of Super Regional Conferences was discussed at the World Conference held in Marrakesh, Morocco in August. In the future, the World Conferences will alternate with the Super Regional Conferences. Speaking of world conferences, I encourage those of you who have the time and the funds to attend the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary World Conference in Manchester, England in late August, 2017.

I thank everyone for their great support during 2016, and am counting on the same in 2017, and looking forward to seeing everyone at our December meeting. If I can't say to you personally... I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a most

Happy New Year!

*Dan*

## *Next General Membership Meeting*



Our next General Membership is a Christmas holiday meeting. It will be held on **Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00** at the **Colorado Springs Senior Center**. BYOB if you wish. The Senior Center now allows us to do so. A barbershop quartet will furnish the holiday entertainment.

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

Last names beginning with

- |                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| “A” through “H” | -- Sides    |
| “I” through “S” | -- Desserts |
| “T” through “Z” | -- Salads   |

**Please Do NOT bring serving utensils.** We have adequate utensils in stock and want to avoid mixing or losing your utensils.

There is a \$5 per person charge to cover expenses. Also, Dick Battersby will be collecting FFPPR dues for 2017 (see below).

Questions? Please call Joanie Huggins at 630-1955

## *2017 FFPPR Dues are Due*

### *Just another reminder*

Dues for 2017 may be paid at the December FFPPR General Meeting. The amount is \$35 for singles and \$70 for couples. **Checks should be made payable to FFPPR.**

Payment at this time is encouraged and will avoid postage expenses and a follow-up in January. If you are unable to attend the FFPPR December Meeting, please mail your check to our treasurer:

Dick Battersby at 2591 Willow Glen Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80920.

## *Highlights from the November 14 Mountain States Region Leadership Conference Call*

The new FFI Website and the Database Update should be completed before the end of December, 2016. The website is almost completed. On-line training will be available on the new Website for all club members. FFI staff, Field Reps will be trained so they can help with inquiries from Presidents and members.

On November 1, 2016 FF Travel Insurance **changed** from Travel Guard to Nationwide Insurance. Nationwide Insurance offers the same type of travel insurance – cruise, single-trip, and annual travel plans. The new insurance will also be available for people outside the US. See the links below.

<http://www3.thefriendshipforce.org/downloads/Insurance.pdf>

[www.friendshipforce.org](http://www.friendshipforce.org)

According to Mathew Nidek in Atlanta, a new club is starting in Alaska. The first hosting is planned for September, 2017.

## *FFPPR Has an Updated Website*

A new, and improved FFPPR web site is now available for member use. Thanks to the efforts of our webmaster, Nora Durham, the FFPPR website has a brand new look as well as some additional features. You will now be able to access and download FFPPR and FFI forms directly from this site. Old issues of this newsletter are readily available as well. One-click buttons simplify navigation to topics of interest. You can also easily access the new FFI website via the “Download Forms” option and link to our fellow Regional Club websites.

Our website will continue to evolve and will be updated periodically to offer an additional means of keeping up to date with the goings on of our club and its events. The new format should give visitors an easy means to find out what we’re all about. It should be especially useful for in-bound exchange clubs, giving them an idea of what our area has to offer as well as providing a means of promoting our club to potential new members. But aside from all that, we hope you will find the website personally useful. And, the next time you see Nora Durham, be sure to give her kudos for a job very well done.

To check out the new FFPPR website, mouse over the following link and enter Ctrl-Click or copy and paste the link to your web browser. Make sure you add it to your favorites for ease of access in the future.

<http://www.friendshipforcepikespeak.com/>

## Travel in the Off Season

By Jerry Sabolik

In recent years, when Jeanette and I have travelled to Europe, we have chosen to do so in the off season. For us that means sometime in the October through December time frame; however, I would define the European off season as being anytime between October and March. I must caution you that there are a number of downsides to travelling during this time of year --the most obvious being the weather. In Italy, the rainiest month is usually November. One year we spent a bone-chilling day in Ljubljana, Slovenia under a freezing fog. Not only were we very cold, we couldn't see much beyond the other side of the street let alone those supposedly great views from the castle. In the off season, Northern Europe, especially, has short daylight hours under mostly gray skies. Some popular attractions have shorter opening hours or are even closed. It is a frequent time of year for maintenance and restoration work on famous buildings. Some ferries don't operate in the colder months. It can be very windy at times. Oh, and it can snow too.

Despite all the negatives, off-season travel in Europe offers some distinct rewards for the intrepid traveler who plans accordingly. Sure, you have to pack more clothes and use the Colorado layering approach to allow for changes in the weather. But then, airfare and accommodation costs are significantly lower. Tourist crowds are much smaller. There are loads of indoor attractions, and you can see them up close. Admission lines to world-class museums are shorter or even non-existent. Restaurants are not so crowded. You begin to feel more like a local. And who knows, the weather can pleasantly surprise you. Then there is the experience of what the Danes call, *Hygge* (pron. "hYOOguh"). Hygge is that feeling of coziness that you can get when it's cold outside, and you're inside by a fireplace enjoying conversation with friends over coffee or a hot chocolate. But then, there's something even more. Those cold, dark, and often dreary, European cities and towns become cities of light and color as the winter holiday season approaches.



Aside from a few temporary weather situations, Jeanette and I have been very lucky in our off season travels. Those bitterly cold days in Ljubljana turned into beautiful sunny days around Lake Bled and the Julian Alps. We even did some hiking in the area. In other years we were able to take in many of Europe's best museums at our leisure. And there is



a transformation that takes place only in Europe's off season. Christmas markets sprout up all over, and along with them is a distinct ambience that surrounds the holiday season. European cities take on a new, different, and festive character.

Christmas markets are temporary stalls that are set up in various squares in European towns. Some stalls are run by local Lions or Kiwanis clubs. They sell scarfs and hats, and other winter clothing, handmade local crafts, Christmas ornaments, and, of course local food dishes prepared on the spot. Drinks include hot spiced wine sold in commemorative holiday mugs. Turn in the mug and get some money back. Keep the mug and you have a rather unique souvenir of your visit. Some Christmas markets are centered around amusement parks. Many feature live entertainment. And, you might even find a side street with a small kiosk where you can just enjoy a brat and a drink among 20 or so new acquaintances. So, yes, there is a lot to do and see and do in off-season Europe. Think about giving it a try if you're ready for a little Hygge.



*European Christmas Markets*



## *Adventurous Destinations - Havasu Canyon*

*By Irmgard von der Gathen*

When we saw a picture of it in the National Geographic Magazine our reaction was: "Wow, maybe we should explore this. It looks like a piece of paradise." So one summer, when my mother was visiting from Germany, we thought: "let's show her something different, typical of America and not the least bit like New York."

We headed out in a rented motor home the size of a small house and drove for two days through seemingly endless, sometimes barren landscapes, such as my mother had never seen before since Germany is for the most part lushly green and heavily populated.

On the second late afternoon we arrived at the top of the Havasu Canyon. Here we had to park and leave our motor home behind. Everyone had to carry food, water and clothing for the next couple of days. Bathing suits were in preparation already worn under our clothing. Stepping out to the beginning of the trail that would lead us on an 8 mile track down the canyon to the Havasu Falls immediately gave us an impression of what we were in for as the extreme afternoon heat of the desert like country enveloped us. We knew that is was a long way down but we definitely had no idea just how hot it would be. Our daughters were in their teens and my husband and I were young enough to take on this arduous adventure. My mother on the other hand was in her mid 60's and had never experience this kind of heat. But she was an experienced hiker and so we all marched on, taking frequent brakes and soon the complaints started. "How much longer? Are we ever going to arrive? I am hot; I am thirsty, and so on." I had to admit that the journey down the canyon seemed to go on forever but there was no chance of turning around.



When we finally neared the village we had to cross a shallow sparkling river. Off went shoes, shirts and hats as we all plunged in to cool off. Next we waded for another seemingly long time through hot desert sand until we finally arrived in the village where we had to sign in with the head of the Havasu Indian inhabitants. As we spied large bodies of water and heard the rushing of the famous waterfalls we felt we were in for a treat. Approaching with much anticipation we stopped in wonder to admire lakes filled with crystal clear waters which were being replenished by the most picturesque and huge waterfalls I had ever seen. I felt like I had entered into the picture of a postcard. "Indeed, I thought, this could be what one imagines paradise would be." Calcium deposits had formed a large round lake and from it water flowed into smaller round miniature lakes that accommodate swimmers like

hot tubs. All was surrounded by an unexpected variety of greeneries and trees. Children and adults were swinging from ropes tied to trees reaching over the lake. A heavenly sight at which all complaints about the long and torturous trail were immediately forgotten. With barely a hesitation we dropped whatever we were carrying right then and there und plunged into the heavenly coolness.

We spent the next two days in our bathing suits hardly ever out of the water or lingering under the trees without any care. But alas, then it was time to walk 8 miles uphill out of the canyon. Just the thought of that ordeal made me cringe and I said to my husband. "I'm not walking. It's got to be a helicopter or horses." The idea had been turning in my mind when I saw the Indians traverse thus up and down the canyon. My ever obliging husband promptly went to the village and was able to arrange for 3 horses and two mules. Everyone was elated when he returned with a villager leading our pack animals. Even my mother, who had never sat on a horse, must have thought that this was better than walking. She laughed and was a bit embarrassed as the villager heaved her onto the horse that would carry her safely back to our motor home waiting at the top of the trail.

*Irmgard*



## Merry Christmas, FFPPR Members!

Christmas is a great time to reach out to your ethnic neighbors.

Foreign-born believers will be pleased when you wish them "Merry Christmas" in their native language. (And they'll enjoy helping you with the pronunciation!) Here are Christmas greetings in over 50 languages, reprinted with permission from [Brigada Today](#):

Afrikaans	'n Geseende Kersfees en 'n voorspoedige Nuwejaar
Albanian	Gezuar Krishtlindje
Arabic	I'd Miilad Said Oua Sana Said
Armenian	Shenoraavor Nor Dari yev Pari Gaghand
Basque	Zoriontsu Eguberri. Zoriontsu Urte Berri On
Bengali	Bodo Din Shubh Lamona
Bulgarian	Tchestita Koleda; Tchestito Rojdestvo Hristovo
Celtic	Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda
Chinese(Mandarin)	Kung His Hsin Nien bing Chu Shen Tan
Chinese(Catonese)	Gun Tso Sun Tan'Gung Haw Sun
Croatian	Sretan Bozic
Czech	Prejeme Vam Vesele Vanoce a stastny Novy Rok
Danish	Gladelig Jul
Dutch	Vrolijk Kerstfeest en een Gelukkig Nieuwjaar!
English	Merry Christmas
Esperanto	Gajan Kristnaskon
Estonian	Roomsaid Joulu Puhi
Farsi	Cristmas-e-shoma mobarak bashad
Finnish	Hyvaa joulua
French	Joyeux Noel
German	Froehliche Weihnachten
Greek	Kala Christouyenna!
Hawaiian	Mele Kalikimaka
Hebrew	Mo'adim Lesimkha. Chena tova
Hindi	Bada Din Mubarak Ho
Hungarian	Kellemes Karacsonyi unnepeket
Icelandic	Gledileg Jol
Indonesian	Selamat Hari Natal
Iraqi	Idah Saidan Wa Sanah Jadidah
Irish	Nollaig Shona Dhuit

Italian	Buone Feste Natalizie
Japanese	Shinnen omedeto. Kurisumasu Omedeto
Korean	Sung Tan Chuk Ha
Latvian	Priecigus Ziemas Svetkus un Laimigu Jauno Gadu
Lithuanian	Linksmu Kaledu
Navajo	Merry Keshmish
Norwegian	God Jul Og Godt Nytt Aar
Polish	Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia
Portuguese	Feliz Natal
Romanian	Craciun Fericit
Russian	Pozdrevlyayu s prazdnikom Rozhdestva i s Novim Godom
Serbian	Hristos se rodi
Slovakian	Sretan Bozic or Vesele vianoce
Scottish	Nollaig Chridheil agus Bliadhna Mhath Ur
Serbian	Hristos se rodi!
Slovak	Vesele Vianoce. A stastlivy Novy Rok
Slovene	Vesele Bozicne. Screcno Novo Leto
Spanish	Feliz Navidad!
Swedish	God Jul and (Och) Ett Gott Nytt Ar
Tagalog	Maligayamg Pasko. Masaganang Bagong Taon
Thai	Sawadee Pee Mai
Turkish	Noeliniz Ve Yeni Yiliniz Kutlu Olsun
Ukrainian	Srozhdestvom Kristovym
Urdu	Naya Saal Mubarak Ho
Vietnamese	Chung Mung Giang Sinh
Welsh	Nadolig Llawen
Zulu	Nginifisela inhlanhla ne mpumelelo e nyakeni



## 2017 Exchange Summary

Here's a summary of our planned exchanges for 2017. Please make a note of these dates so that you may plan your level of participation. There are many ways you can participate. Participation is not limited to just Home, Day, and Dinner hosting. Feel free to contact the assigned EDs to express interest. Additional details will be made available as they emerge.

### In-bound international exchange:



#### Sao Paulo, Brazil

May 27 - June 3

ED Committee Chaired by Margaret Baptist (520-5237)

with team members Annabel Widney, Kaye Brabec, Shirley Miekka, Judie Werschky

### In-bound international exchange:



#### Jalapa, Mexico

August 2 - 8

ED: Dan Hannaway (596-7633)

### Out-bound domestic exchange:



#### Southern Oregon

June 21 - 27

EDs: Joanne and Werner Karlson (475-2574)

### Out-bound international exchange:



#### Montreal, Quebec

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

September 14 - 20

EDs: Jeanne and Brian Marsh (590-7237)

## *Help Welcomed*

The term “It takes a village” has been over-used, but it’s very true when it comes to organizing an FFPPR dinner meeting. To get a picture of what’s involved, take a look at what went on behind the scenes of the October meeting.

Joanie arranges for use of Senior Center.  
 Council decides on menu and program.  
 Joanie calls Senior Center again to ask if Y allows us to bring alcohol.  
 Jerry sends info in newsletter and tells Steve how to do the evite in Jerry’s absence.  
 Margaret, who won’t be at the meeting, takes membership info to Jeanne.  
 Steve sends evite and keeps track of responses.  
 Susan phones all members who failed to respond.  
 Dick, who will miss the meeting, sends list of members to Bob.  
 Joanie tells Debbie what supplies will be needed.  
 Debbie, who won’t be able to attend the meeting, culls the 8 supply tubs for necessary items.  
 Mike picks up tubs and later returns them to Debbie.  
 Dan orders chickens from Sam’s.  
 Steve and Susan pick up chickens.  
 Mike makes the coffee.  
 Joanie and Judie bring fall décor for the tables.  
 Kaye, Mike, Carol, and Bob help Joanie and Judie set and decorate tables.  
 Steve and Mike cut up chickens.  
 Bob collects \$5 fees in Dick’s absence.  
 Jeanne signs up two new members.  
 Dan conducts meeting, sets up equipment, and presents program.  
 Many members help clear tables and clean kitchen.  
 Steve, Susan, Kaye, and Mike package left-over chicken and carcasses for members.  
 Judie takes home flatware to be washed.  
 Mike takes supplies back to Debbie.  
 Debbie replaces supplies in proper tubs.

In December the process will be repeated. It would be wonderful if other members would step up to do some of the chores. It really does give a sense of belonging when you invest in the meetings. A good time to volunteer is before the Dec. 8 council meeting. Contact any council member. The venue and program are already determined.

*Judie*

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### FFPPR Council Meeting Minutes October 4, 2016

**Attendees:** Dan Hannaway, Mike Brabec, Dick Battersby, Judie Werschky, Joanie Huggins, Margaret Baptist, Nora Durham

#### **Introductory Remarks** (Dan Hannaway)

- Website update progress. Dan and Nora will meet after this meeting and continue to refine the Website.
- New FFPPR retractable banner just arrived.
- Hosting database (Judie) is progressing.

- FFPPR Cards, member option. Template is available from Dan.
- Nominating Committee for 2017 Leadership Council is complete and will be presented at the member meeting on Oct. 18 for approval. Margaret has agreed to assist her replacement on the council.
- Wish List for 2018 Exchanges Due November 1. Dan will email Club preferences to FFI. Preferences will be presented to general membership at Oct. 18 meeting.
- FF name plates will ordered from FFI. Mike Brabec moved that the Club will buy new name plates for all members. Seconded, passed. Margaret will check about prices.
- Council members reminded of outing to Butte Theater in Cripple Creek. Seven members have indicated plans to attend.
- Dick Battersby reported that Barbara is recovering fine from her recent surgery.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Mike Brabec) Accepted as submitted.

**Treasurer's Report** (Dick Battersby). Copies circulated to Council by Dick Battersby. Checking balance of \$3,416.09, when combined with Savings and Exchange, Checking, yields a total of \$5,681.66.

**Exchanges** (Judie Werschky):

International Exchanges:

May 27-June 3, 2017 In-bound Sao Paulo, Brazil

ED Committee of Margaret Baptist, Annabel Widney, Kaye Brabec, Shirley Miekka, Judie Werschky are working on this exchange. Agreed that Sao Paulo should prepay cost before their arrival.

August 2-8, 2017 In-bound Xalapa, Mexico -- ED Dan Hannaway

Sept/Oct 2017 Out-bound Montreal, Canada EDs Jeanne and Brian Marsh. Pre- and Post visit activities will be examined. Ottawa, and Quebec City were mentioned as desirable sites.

Several British clubs are offering sites for visits during the International Meeting at Manchester in 2017.

Domestic Exchanges:

2016 Inbound: Global Exchange – September 18-21 – EDs Susan Tindell & Judie Werschky Very successful visit. Ambassadors were very impressed and pleased.

2017 Outbound to South Oregon – 3rd week in June – Joanne and Werner Karlson EDs. Ambassadors will plane to Medford, OR and focus of activities will be at Ashland.

**Meeting and Event Plans** (Joanie Huggins): October and December general meeting will be at the Senior Center. Members are allowed to bring their own libations, if desired. The Club will purchase roasted chickens from Sam's Club for the October meeting. Members will bring dishes as assigned by alphabetical listing. The December meeting will serve Pot Roast. Entertainment by a Barbershop Quartet.

Suggested that the Food Truck could cater our February, 2017 meeting.

Mike volunteered to pick up the Club Totes from Caldwell's prior to the dinner.

Judie indicated that she would collect the dirty silverware after the Oct. 18 dinner and wash it.

For the Good of the Order: The next meeting will be November 1 at Library 21C Room B6 at 1 PM. Adjourned, 2:45 pm. Respectfully submitted, Mike Brabec

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

**Checking Balance 10/4/2016** \$3,416.09

Expenses:

10/18/2016	Cash	Senior Center	Usage Fee	\$62.00	-\$62.00
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Income:

10/28/2016	Dep	General Mtg Fee	30 @ \$5 less \$62 SC Fee	\$88.00	
10/28/2016	Dep	Kyohei Sakuda	2016 New Member	\$35.00	
10/28/2016	Dep	Caroline Schlatter	2016 Member Fee	\$35.00	\$158.00

**Checking Balance 8/31/2016** \$3,512.09

**Other ENT Credit Union Accounts:**

9/30/2016	Savings		\$1,911.50
9/30/2016	Exchange Checking		\$354.38

**Total All Accounts** \$5,577.97

The FFPPR Newsletter is published and distributed on a bi-monthly schedule and usually will correspond to our general membership meeting months. As your newsletter editor, I welcome any suggestions, criticisms, and, of course, your articles. An FFPPR 2017 Calendar of Events will reappear in the February 2017 edition of the newsletter. It will include the schedule of General Membership meetings, Leadership Council meetings and FFPPR exchanges for the new year. Don't forget to check out our updated FFPPR website where you can view past issues of our newsletter and much more. A special thanks to those who submitted articles, photos, and other material during the past year. It made my job a bit easier. Thank you all for your support, and please send your comments and articles to me at [j2sabolik@comcast.net](mailto:j2sabolik@comcast.net). In the meantime, here is wishing all of us a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

*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](mailto:eatmonjudy@gmail.com)

Denver Carl Dawson [CarlDawson@remax.net](mailto:CarlDawson@remax.net)

Northern CO Barbara Miller [bmill4708@comcast.net](mailto:bmill4708@comcast.net)

Pikes Peak Dan Hannaway [dgmh@comcast.net](mailto:dgmh@comcast.net)

Utah/Salt Lake City Judy Cohen [judycohen@xmission.com](mailto:judycohen@xmission.com)

Western CO Sue Moyer [suemoyer51@gmail.com](mailto:suemoyer51@gmail.com)

Mtn States Field Rep Sue Palmer [alfshouse12@hotmail.com](mailto: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/>



**friendship force**  
INTERNATIONAL

Changing the Way You See the World

FFI Atlanta website: [www.friendshipforce.org](http://www.friendshipforce.org)