



THE FRIENDLY ECHO

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WINNIPEG NEWSLETTER



Volume 23 Issue 1 January, February, March, 2023

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - March 2023 - James Ryan

FF Winnipeg was honoured to host the World Friendship Day dinner on March 1st at the Holiday Inn South along with members of FF Manitoba. The celebration was well attended and all members seemed to enjoy the dinner. Sandra Somerville of the Manitoba club was the guest presenter and spoke of her work supporting Ukrainian refugees. Don Greig of the Manitoba club sold a number of his woodcraft items, with proceeds going to support the charitable work of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress. Overall, \$580 was donated to Ukrainian relief from the proceeds of the evening. I want to thank Denise Lawson, President of FF MB who did a slideshow review of the support that President Jimmy Carter provided to Wayne Smith in the early days of FFI. Finally, I want to thank Diane Kubas, Susan Munroe, Susan Cormack and her phoning committee for making all the arrangements for a successful dinner.

I have just returned from a two-week journey to the FF San Diego & Los Angeles clubs who both outdid themselves in showing us the sights of their wonderful cities. The eight ambassadors were warmly received and cemented new ties with their hosts in the true spirit of friendship.

Please remember that we will be hosting FF La Serena, Chile from June 10 to 17. Paul Van Leeuwen and his planning group are finalizing the itinerary for this journey. The organizers will be looking for Day and Dinner hosts for this event.



JOURNEY CO-ORDINATOR REPORT - Maria Coutu

Winnipeg Outbound Journey to San Diego and Los Angeles

We arrived in San Diego on March 3rd and spent a week visiting many interesting sites. Prior to our arrival, both clubs sent possible sites we might want to visit. As a group we decided what we would like to see and both Clubs delivered. We went on a walking tour of Coronado which included the Hotel del Coronado, the beautiful beaches and many stories about the mansions around this popular tourist destination. We also attended the musical "Respect" featuring the ladies of "Motown" music. We visited the San Diego Zoo, Botanical Gardens and visited the Japanese Botanical Gardens in time to view the Cherry Blossoms at the beginning of the Cherry Blossom Festival. The Rancho Bernardo Wine Tasting was also quite intoxicating.

From San Diego we took a two-and-a-half-hour bus ride to Los Angeles, where we were met by our hosts. That afternoon we visited the Academy Awards Museum. The next day we began another week of visiting many beautiful sites, including the Getty Villa, a day in Malibu, a visit to the Autry Museum where we visited the Warner Brothers Studio. Many of us had pictures taken on the "Couch from Friends". The highlight was the Academy Awards Party. Everyone was in their party best including a tuxedo clad Jim Ryan. (See photo) We all had a wonderful time. We were rained out of our downtown tour but each host took the ambassadors to different sites as the afternoon cleared up. We thought Los Angeles was huge and our hosts had to drive far to take us to the different venues. Many days our hosts drove one and a half to two hours each way so we could visit the different sites.

The above is a condensed description of mostly everything we saw but the best part of this Journey was the making of new friendships (San Diego Club) and the renewing of old (Los Angeles Club).

We are grateful to the San Diego and the Los Angeles Clubs for a wonderful Journey.

FEEDBACK REQUIRED - The lighter evenings are on their way, but it is always good to think ahead. In January and February Club meetings were held during daylight hours, ie lunch time, It has been suggested that this practice be followed during the later dark months of the year - a boon to those who no longer drive at nighttime. Please email your comments to Susan Munroe - jabra3@mts.net

ACTIVITIES REPORT - Susan Munroe - Activity Co-Ordinator

Greetings everyone, It has been wonderful to see so many of you bearing the elements to attend our events of the last few months

In March we shared World Friendship Day with a dinner and presentation held jointly with the Manitoba club. Denise Lawson gave a wonderful presentation on the significance of Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter and their efforts in establishing and promoting the development of Friendship Force. It was a comprehensive and enlightening presentation, followed by Sandra Somerville, a member of the Manitoba Club, who shared her inspirations and interactions with recently arrived Ukrainian refugees. Each member who attended received a commemorative packet of Sunflower seeds for planting, as well as a ribbon solidarity pin, to help us remain ever aware of the atrocities in Ukraine and the devastation to their citizens.

We have three more meetings before our summer break, hope to see you out for them. We have an interesting slate of speakers and activities planned. We will keep you posted. Cheers!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

JANUARY

Sachitha Attawar

FEBRUARY

Barbara Ammeter
Dave Campbell
Jennifer King
Debbie Spracklin

MARCH

Joe Daniel
David Judge
Kathy Lesyk
Gladys Spracklin
Paul Van Leeuwen
Susan Munroe

FFW ZOOM BOOK CLUB - Nina Logan

The FFW Book Club meets the last Thursday of the month by Zoom. We enjoy connecting with each other and then talking about the book. Only two more meetings left until summer actually arrives - April 27, "The Dutch House" by Ann Patchett and May 27, "The Erratics" by Vicki Laveau-Harvie.

FWW WALKING GROUP - Linda Dart

The Walking Group will continue to meet on the first and fourth Tuesdays of the month. We are still meeting in the Food Court at the Outlet Mall on Sterling Lyon at 10 am. Once the ice is melted from the streets and sidewalks we will be able to walk outside. On the Sunday before each Walk an email will be sent giving the meet-up location. Following each Walk we will find a place to have a coffee and a visit. Everyone is welcome so please join us.

BRIDGE REPORT - Carol De Baets

Mark your calendar for May 9th - which is the date of the wind-up at Val and Joe Keenan's party room. Present and previous bridge players are all invited. Further information will be forthcoming.

KEEPING IN TOUCH - Recently we were pleased to receive the following from a former member of our Club who moved to Victoria a few years ago:

We are enjoying life in Victoria. Glad we made the move. We are still cruising regularly and belong to 2 cruising clubs. I'm also in the Newcomers Club which is very active and within walking distance so that's ideal Especially after driving 40 miles for FFW meetings in Winnipeg. Our FF Victoria has been going only for about 6 years so I'm still with it. The club is going to France and Belgium this year. Our incoming is from Africa. Just got a new pup that still needs training. We are near the inner harbour and The Leg. So our condo is very central and large by Victoria standards. Bus service is great too as most city buses start at the leg and for \$2.50 you can travel to the ferry or Butchart gardens etc. places about 20 miles away. Stay well and give my good wishes to any club members who remember me. If they contact me, they too would be welcome to visit. Bye for now!

Brenda Koch-Schulte
501 - 630 Montreal Street
Victoria BC
1 204 803 0919

DO YOU HAVE LEXOPHILIA?

- I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.
- England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.
- Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.
- This girl today said she recognized me from the Vegetarians Club, but I'd swear I've never met herbivore.
- I know a guy who's addicted to drinking brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.
- A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.
- When the smog lifts in Los Angeles, U.C.L.A.
- I got some batteries that were given out free of charge.
- A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.
- A will is a dead giveaway.
- With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
- Police were summoned to a daycare center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.
- A bicycle can't stand alone; it's just two tired.
- The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine last week is now fully recovered.
- He had a photographic memory but it was never fully developed.
- When she saw her first strands of gray hair she thought she'd dye.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done. That's the point of it.
- I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.
- Did you hear about the crossed-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?
- When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble
- When chemists die, they barium.
- I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.
- I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down



HAPPY MEMORIES OF CHRISTMAS 2022



SUSAN MUNROE - ORGANISER SUPREME



WORLD FRIENDSHIP DAY - MARCH 1, 2023



Sandra Somerville, the guest speaker, sitting with Don Greig - crafter in wood



THE LEAF - Winnipeg's latest horticultural attraction.

Photo taken on a recent visit by our club.

FFW Newsletter Editor/Publisher: Diane and David Judge
Contact: The Friendship Force of Winnipeg. Email: friendshipforcewpg@mts.net
Website: www.friendshipforcewinnipeg.org
Friendship Force International 279 West Crogan Street, Lawrenceville, GA 30046
Email: ff@thefriendshipforce.org Website: www.thefriendshipforce.org

