



Friendship Force of Sacramento Inc.

www.thefriendshipforce.org

www.ffi-sacramento.org

November 2017

Special Points of Interest

6:30-8:00 pm, Thurs., Nov. 9: General Meeting with reports about recent outbounds

11am to 1 pm, Sat., Nov 11: Training for potential Journey coordinators

4:00 pm, Sun., Dec.10: Holiday Party at Monika O'Brien's

President's Message:



At the time of this writing I've just returned from Vietnam and Cambodia. I'm a little jet lagged but anxiously getting ready for the inbound from Toronto that arrives tomorrow. We are excited to meet our new friends. Kathy Hart has done a superb job coordinating the Journey, especially with so many of us being out of the country the last month.

Those of you who have followed the Facebook postings or read the blog have seen some incredible photos from the Japan Journey. There will be a presentation at our November meeting by some of the Ambassadors. I'm looking forward to hearing in more detail about the great times they had. We are planning to host Gifu, Japan next year, so some of the friendships created will be renewed when we get a chance to show them our area.

I'm still looking for Journey Coordinators for next year. As mentioned in last month's newsletter, on November 11th there will be a training class. We need several Coordinators for 2018 so now's the time to see if it's something you'd like to help with. Besides working on the core programs for Friendship Force, there are other benefits to being a Coordinator. Sign up on the website to learn more or email me if you have questions.

I'm afraid I'm a bit fuzzy still so this will be a short message this month. I do look forward to seeing you all at the functions arranged for the Toronto inbound.

Chris Smith, President



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Calendar of Events	
Thurs., Nov 9	2:00-5:30 pm: Joint Board Meeting of 2017 & 2018 Officers at Sun River Church Family Life Center, 11223 Trinity River Dr., Rancho Cordova 5:30-6:20 pm: Dinner break at nearby restaurants. Possibilities include Indian Spice Restaurant at 2228 Sunrise Blvd., Rancho Cordova , or, in Sun River, Applebees, Jack’s Urban Eats or Rubios. 6:30-8:00 pm: General Meeting with reports on Japan journey and other recent journeys. Please register on line so we can have an adequate number of chairs set up,
Sat., Nov 11	11:00 am to 1:00 pm: Training for potential Journey Coordinators at Chris Smith’s, 615 27th St., Sacramento. Limited seating. Sign up on line.
Mon., Dec. 4	Registration deadline for Holiday Party
Sun., Dec 10	4:00 pm: Holiday Party at Monika O’Brien’s, 4006 Canonero Ct., Fair Oaks
May 3-5, 2018	2018 Western Regional Conference at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites in Elk Grove
May 6-9, 2018	Mini Mystery Journey: Urgent: Hosts are needed to accommodate attendees after our Western Regional Conference, and we need to know in advance how many guests we can accommodate .

Happy Thanksgiving



JOURNEYS

Journey Coordinators & Training **11:00am- 1:00 pm, Sat., Nov 11**

We have another active year planned for 2018. At the heart of our Friendship Force club are the Journeys between various cities. This is what we are all about, meeting other people, learning about their culture and making new friends.

Each of our Journeys requires a Coordinator to oversee it. This person works with the Board to recruit volunteers and make sure everything goes smoothly. It's a big job but it also is very rewarding. Believe me, I've done it 15 times.

There are also some "benefits" for being the Coordinator. On the Outbound Journey, part or all of your transportation costs will be paid depending on how many go on the Journey with you. On the Inbound Journeys there aren't any financial costs to reimburse you for, so you get priority on Outbound Journeys including being an Outbound Journey Coordinator if you'd like.

We're actively asking for Coordinators for 2018. Please let me know ASAP if you'd like to coordinate:

- Late May or Early June - Outbound to Big Canoe, Georgia and Shelby, North Carolina
- June - Inbound from San Antonio, Texas
- Late September or Early October - Inbound from Montreal, Canada
- Early November- Inbound from Gifu, Japan

I'm going to have a training class at my home in Midtown Sacramento for potential Coordinators on Saturday November 11th from 11 am to 1 pm. Seating is limited to 8 so if you'd like to attend please sign up soon. Go to [our website](#) to sign up.

If you'd like to find out more about being a Coordinator but can't make it to the class just let me know. We'll work out a time to meet.

I hope you will consider being a Coordinator. It is really rewarding to see the joy people get from these Journeys.

Chris Smith

Holiday Party
4 pm, Sunday, Dec.10

You are invited to the Friendship Force of Sacramento Holiday Party in Monika O'Brien's home at 4006 Canonero Ct., Fair Oaks
The theme this year is Holidays Around the World, and you are encouraged (not required) to wear international holiday dress. Please wear your name tags.
IMPORTANT: Members/guests **NEED** to sign up online by Dec.4th so you will get a parking pass. Cars without passes will be ticketed!

The party is potluck and the club will provide beer, wine, coffee and tea.
If your last name begins with A-I please bring an appetizer
If your last name begins with J-P please bring veggie appetizers
If your last name begins with Q-Z please bring a sweet

Some of our very talented members will provide music and the craft table will be set up in case you have a few holiday gifts you need to purchase. If you are interested in making a contribution to a good cause, World Relief has been selected as our charity because we have members working as a Good Neighbor Team.

Come and celebrate the holiday season! This is another great event to invite someone new to attend and meet some FF members. Let's share the joy that comes with hosting and traveling together around the world!

Thank you to Kathy Hart, Monika O'Brien, Nancy Sinnwell, & Glenn & Gwen Tilton for arranging this event.



Everyone Loves a Mystery! Play the Game, Be a Mystery Host, and Attend the Super Regional Conference in May 2018

Do you **love a mystery and a bit of game playing**? Would you appreciate the opportunity to attend a FF Regional Conference in your own “backyard”? Do you wish you could host, but live outside the traditional Sacramento hosting area? Do you need more Friendship Force service time?

Here is your opportunity to participate as a **MYSTERY HOST, SOCIALIZE, and ATTEND the CONFERENCE** while you **SERVE UP FUN** for your club and support the mission of Friendship Force without having to travel far from home. Mystery Hosts will know their ambassadors. **HOWEVER**, ambassadors will not know their hosts or destinations until the last night of the conference Gala Dinner.....unless they can figure it out through a series of obscure clues and sleuthing during the conference. FF **Sacramento Club Hosts** will be coached on how to be evasively friendly and mysteriously slippery without giving themselves away. ***It will be deliciously fun!***

If you live in an outlying area from Sacramento, The **Mystery Mini-Journey** will be a ***unique opportunity for you to home-host Friendship Force Ambassadors from our region for 3 days and 4 nights in your home and your community. You determine the mystery itinerary based on your interests and those of your matched ambassador(s). If you live in the Sacramento area and are experienced hosts, you too are welcome to participate in this unscheduled hosting opportunity. We need day hosts and helpers, too!***

SAVE THE DATES: May 3-5 and 6-9, 2018

From May 3-5, 2018, our Sacramento Friendship Force Club, will be hosting a Super Regional Conference in our “backyard”, Elk Grove. Marty McKnew and Pat Ghiglieri, past FF Sacramento Presidents and current regional field representatives, are the coordinators of this regional conference, “Citizens of a Global Community”. They are lining up some wonderful speakers and interesting workshops that you won’t want to miss. Contact Marty or Pat to volunteer for conference.

It is hoped that ALL members of the Sacramento Club will sign up in FORCE to attend this regional conference and/or even volunteer to help with the conference. The Conference will culminate with a ***Cinco De Mayo Gala*** dinner on May 5. Sacramento Mystery Hosts and Sleuthing Ambassadors must attend the conference and the dinner for the big reveal of the Mystery Match. Hosts will determine whether to whisk their ambassadors away on Saturday Night or Sunday morning. Contact Roz Worrall or Audrey Wiechman if you have questions or need for info.

GO TO: Friendship Force Sacramento [Website](#); Log in to Members Only section for detailed Mystery Mini-Journey Flyer information and Sign Up.

Mission: To promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people.

Vision: Each individual will make a contribution to global goodwill. • The Friendship Force worldwide network of clubs and individuals will overcome differences among people and nations. • By connecting the world, one friend at a time, we will create a world of friends that becomes a world of peace.



Kudos to George & Lynn Meyer for our successful & enjoyable stay in Japan.
Photo by Roz Worrall

Board Members

President: Chris Smith president@ffsacramento.org	Membership: Kathy DeBlonk deblonk@comcast.net
Vice President: Kathy Hart vp@ffsacramento.org	Newsletter & Crafts: Judy Maas jemaas@aol.com
Secretary: Charlene Taylor jackandcharlene@frontier.com	Past President: Larry Friedman ljsjo@comcast.net
Treasurer: Ross Deter rdeter40@gmail.com	Activities: Nancy Sinnwell nisinnwell@gmail.com
Journey Treasurer: Karen Flemming kkflemming8@gmail.com	Webmaster: Marty McKnew webmaster@ffsacramento.org

Next Newsletter Deadline: November 24, 2017

Please submit your articles & photos to Judy Maas at jemaas@aol.com.