



# PASSPORT

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## **FRIENDSHIP FORCE “FESTIVAL AT SEA” 2018**

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## GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT



*by Julie Albrecht  
President*

**T**he Friendship Force of Lincoln's Annual Meeting is August 19! What a wonderful time to get to know your fellow FFL members. See the newsletter article for more details and register now.... FFL asked FFL to host a training session for new club leaders from around the world. What a wonderful opportunity for our club to showcase our experiences with new clubs. Please check the article for more details and plan to meet these new club leaders.

In November, we will be hosting an Open World delegation from Azerbaijan. The topic is Women in Politics and Civil Society.

Every month we have a Breakfast and Conversation that provides an opportunity for FFL members to get to know each other and have fun with a challenging question for discussion. LEO's

(Let's Eat Out) are held every 3 months and provides FFL members to learn more about an ethnic restaurant in Lincoln and enjoy the company of members and your guests! Check out the calendar for the next opportunity to meet new members and renew friendships with current members.

Our FFL Board meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at First Lutheran Church on South 70th Street. The board meetings are open to any member to attend. We will be posting our approved minutes on our website which will help members keep up with FFL activities. Note that the board meeting is held at 6 PM.

We are encouraging all members to become INVOLVED! Find an activity or committee chair and find out what they are up to and how you can be involved.

### 2019 Slate of Officers

**President:** Julie Albrecht  
**Vice President:** Arlene Rea  
**Secretary:** *to be nominated at the Annual Meeting*  
**Treasurer:** Milton Bayer

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

*by Mary Bryant*

**W**e are in need of new members! With that in mind, I would appreciate receiving the name, mailing address, phone, and email of individuals and couples you believe would be interested in our organization. I will send an email and a follow-up packet of information about The Friendship Force of Lincoln. Amy Birky, Membership Assistant, or myself, will contact them to determine their degree of interest in our group. Let your friends and acquaintances know about the interesting events, activities, and travels you have experienced.

Why not bring a friend to a Breakfast and Conversation held each second Saturday of the month from 8:30 a.m. until approximately 9:45 a.m. at Stauffer's Café. We have lots of fun introducing ourselves and addressing the Topic for Discussion.

## Friendship Force “Festival at Sea” 2018



*Left to Right: Sally O'Neill, CEO, Jeremi Snook, Betty Starr, Karen Kuhn*

*by Betty Starr*

**O**n Sunday, April 21st, we set sail on the Holland American Line (HAL) ship, Zeiderdam, leaving from Ft. Lauderdale, FL to participate in the FFI sponsored cruise across the Atlantic with the destination to Copenhagen, Denmark. My roommate for the adventure was Marilyn Peterson from the Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley Club. She and I have remained friends since 2005 when our clubs enjoyed reciprocal domestic journeys.

We participated in HAL activities, their scheduled excursions at the ports of call as well as many FF activities and workshops planned for the 18 days we were at

sea. The FF sessions lasted approximately 1 hour when we had full days at sea. We were free the rest of the day for the activities of our own choosing. Our FF members also met most days at sea for a Happy Hour, scheduled by FFI Board Member, Jo Custead of the Saskatoon Club. These Happy Hours gave members a chance to meet members of clubs throughout the world and helped make a smaller group onboard.

In 2017 they offered the first “Festival at Sea”, which drew about 60+ members. This was the 2nd journey at sea and there is a 3rd one planned for 2019. For this cruise, there were participants from Australia (6), New

Zealand (12), Japan (2), Canada (15), and approximately 58 from the clubs throughout the US, including two FFI staff members, Jeremi Snook and Laura Romero. Beside myself, there were two members of The FF of Greater Omaha. In addition, two other individuals from Lincoln, Karen Kuhn and Sally O'Neill, were on the cruise. Susan Copenhaver and her mother Theresa Copenhaver. Jeremi and Laura introduced the opening sessions providing us with several fun activities for us to meet other member participants on board. On several days, we were introduced to various activities which FFI is adding to their programs. Here are just a couple of the topics we learned from the workshops on the cruise:

\*\* We were shown a video of the Inaugural Flight in 1977 with Atlanta and Newcastle upon Tyne. There were videos of past journeys and news articles from these journeys. Their program was titled Friendship Force in Sound & Image. Our CEO, Jeremi's belief is that “You cannot know where you are going, until you know where you have been.” More emphasis will be placed on this concept and our history of where we originated and what activities have become

*continued on page 4*



## Festival at Sea

*continued from page 3*

parts of FF since 1977. Many newer members do not know how Friendship Force began.

\*\* FFI Strategic Plan 2019 -- The current Strategic Plan expires in 12/18. They are working on a new Plan for 2019-2021. The book "Who Moved My Cheese" by Dr. Spencer Johnson was a recommended reading which emphasized this concept: "When you change what you believe, you change what you do." There are three gears which make the

FFI motor work: 1) Board of Directors, 2) Staff, 3) Clubs & Members. The Club & Members gear consisted of Hosting, Recruiting New Members, and Travel & Connecting Locally. They encouraged our clubs to consider partnerships with citizen diplomacy groups such as Sister Cities, Rotary International, Cities Visitors Bureaus, etc. to improve communications. Better Communications through translation for the website, e-newsletter and other



*Nebraskans: Left to Right (back row: Karen Kuhn, Betty Starr, (a member of FF Lincoln) Sally O'Neill, Front Row: Theresa Copenhaver and her daughter Susan Copenhaver, (FF Greater Omaha).*

notifications also need improvement. This is expensive but needs to be done from the Staff gear. What is your Clubs Strategic Plan for the year?

On one of the last days at sea, we hosted a get-acquainted workshop for any person on the cruise who wanted to learn about FFI. This was very successful, as we added several more peo-

ple to the family of FFI from this session alone. This was a most rewarding experience with many positives coming from the group. I would strongly encourage members of our club to participate in a future cruise. These have been very successful and will be continued in the future. This was GREAT! Take advantage of this opportunity.

## Upcoming Journeys to Texas & Azerbaijan

*By Wendy Horacek*

**O**ur club has two out-bound opportunities for 2019. The first is a domestic journey to Austin, TX April 2nd-9th. April is a great time to visit Austin. The

blue bells will be in bloom and it's before the summer heat. Their club is already looking forward to our visit and making plans. They can host 15 ambassadors. Look for more information at the annual meeting and be sure

to sign up early.

Azerbaijan is the international journey destination planned for October 2019. Come to the annual meeting to learn more about Azerbaijan.

## Another “Festival at Sea” Will Set Sail in 2019

by Betty Starr

**O**n April 24th, FFI introduced their next 2019 Festival at Sea. It is also with the Holland American Cruise Line to sail around the Coast of South America on the Zaandam Ship. This will be an approximately 15 day cruise leaving from Buenos Aires on February 21st and finishing at Santiago on March 8, 2019. Many along on this journey were ready to receive the early bonus package which HAL offered and made reservations with the cruise line. They plan to cap this cruise at about 100 members. A new addition will be the inclusion of FF excursions along the journey and a meet up with clubs along the South American shore. An after excursion for FF members was suggested to the Galapagos Islands, if possible. All this is yet TBD! I suggest you consider this in your upcoming plans and register when it becomes available on the FFI website. If this looks inviting, please register early. It looks like another well planned and fun experience.



## A PREVIEW OF THE 2019 CONFERENCE IN BOULDER, CO

by Betty Starr

**D**uring the Festival at Sea, we were introduced to the plans for the 2019 International Conference. It will be held in Boulder, Colorado with all of Colorado's 4 clubs assisting with the planning. Be sure to save the date for July 23-27, 2019. Due to hurricane, Marian, the conference planned in Porto Rico was cancelled and this conference was rescheduled in Colorado.

They will be retooling future conferences with some ideas implemented this year. The first part of the conference will be devoted to content workshops, preparing clubs for the future and succession planning for each club. There will be content about the history of FF. The second part will be a cultural focus on the Colorado area. FFI will add speakers

with subject matter content in citizen diplomacy. Many members have indicated that past conference prices have been expensive limiting who can attend. Thus FFI will be collaborating with the University of Colorado at Boulder for conference space, on-campus housing, and arrangements, making this a more affordable stay. Each club is going to receive a personal invitation to send a representative to the conference to bring back these ideas to share with your club. FFI is going to begin working with the Peace and Conflict Studies at Boulder workshops and translation services for members who do not speak English. Our newer members no longer understand or realize processes of the formation of FFI in the early years. This is an easy location for FF Lincoln. Save the date for this one too. It should prove to be an informative and innovative conference.

## 2018 Annual Meeting

*By Jim Caruso,  
Social Committee Chair*

The annual meeting will be held on Sunday, August 19 at the Christ United Methodist Church located at 45th and A Streets.

We will start at 5PM with a Social Hour and Appetizers. At 5:30 we will begin a pot luck dinner brought by our members with the addition of chicken tenders from Raising Cane's as our entrée. Our annual meeting, which includes the election of 2019 officers, will begin at 6:15; an agenda will be made available for you at the meeting.

The members of the Social Committee: Jerre Brammeier, Ginny Burstein, Dave Crews, Jim Caruso, Carolyn Harp, Lois Katt and Kay Straube are excited to announce that we have been able, with the help of the Humanities Nebraska, to bring to you Chris Sayre, a noted singer, composer and instrumentalist at 7PM as the entertainment for this evening.

The total cost of the party is \$4 per person payable at the Annual Meeting. Please respond by Aug 10 to Ginny Burstein at 402.405.5911 by a phone call, text or message

or to Jim Caruso at email address jcaruso\_61@inetnebr.com., indicating how many are coming and what you will bring for the dinner. The first letter of your last name denotes what food type you will bring. Remember to bring enough for 10 people

- A-F appetizers
- G-L veggie dish
- M-R salads
- S-Z desserts

Would you be interested in bringing a bouquet of fresh cut flowers – We expect 72 people at 8 to a table we would have 8 tables to place a table centerpiece...let us know when you call.

*See you on the 19th!*

## INTERNATIONAL TRAINING SESSION

*by Joanna Rogers*

The committee for the October International Training Session includes:

- Mary Bryant in charge of small-group dinners,
- Carolyn Kitterer in charge of special dinners,
- Hope Partridge in charge of hosting,
- Joanna Rogers and Betty Starr in charge of program,
- Janet Walters in charge of materials.

If you are interested in hosting, participating in a small-group dinner, or presenting during the program, please contact one of the above committee members.

The dates for this International Training Session are October 12-18, 2018. At this time, FFI has 12 applications from new club members in Canada, Philippines, Russia, Chili and Africa. We will have daily sessions on subjects such as finances, membership, inbound and outbound journeys, journey coordinator panels, hosting responsibilities, by-laws, policies and procedures, websites and other subjects of interest to a new or existing club.

We have three guest presenters—Matthew Nidek from FFI, Dave Kalan from FF of Greater Milwaukee where the training has been done in the past, and Dale Moore, FFI Midwest Field Representative. We are hoping that many of our members will take part in this training which will not only teach incoming officers of new clubs, but will also strengthen our own FFL.



friendship force  
INTERNATIONAL



# HUB CAFE LEO



## Bruce Keim

The July LEO was held Sat. July 28th at the Hub Café near the Jane Synder Bike trail on North 21st Street. Eighteen members and 1 prospective member had the opportunity to have Anastasya Krestovsky, the cafes front manager and events coordinator discuss the options available on the menu. Anastasya is from St Petersburg, Russia and has been in the states about 8 years. We had breakfast and lunch options available to order. The French Toast with warmed seasonal fruit looked good as did the Fried Farm Egg Sandwich. From the lunch menu, the Squash Banh Mi with grilled squash, carrot and daikon pickle on baquette was an interesting choice. Later Chef Jake Thiessen spoke to the group and told us more about the Hub Café. The Hub Café started in 2016, is owned by Branch Oak Farm and provides farm to fork foods. Much of the produce used to prepare the menu items is from Lone Tree Foods, a collective company of local farm producers.

The next LEO is October 16th at Shogun Japanese Restaurant 3700 South 9th Street Lincoln, Nebraska.



# MAMA (MIDWESTERN AFRICAN MUSEUM OF ART) PICTURES FROM AN EXPOSITION





## **2018 - 2019 Upcoming Dates - Mark Your Calendar**

### **AUGUST**

- 2 Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church, 1551 S. 70th Street
- 11 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café, 5600 S. 48th Street
- 19 Annual Mtg - Christ United Methodist Church

### **SEPTEMBER**

- 6 Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- 8 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café
- 10-20 Outbound to Missoula, MT

### **OCTOBER**

- 4 Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- 13 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café
- 16 LEO 6:30PM, Shoguns Japanese Restaurant, 3700 S. 9th Street
- 12- 18 FFI Training Program

### **NOVEMBER**

- 1 Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- 2-10 Open World
- 10 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café

### **DECEMBER**

- 6 Board Mtg 6 PM Location to be determined
- 8 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café
- TBA Holiday Party

### **JANUARY 2019**

- 3 Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- 12 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café

### **FEBRUARY**

- 7 Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- 9 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café

### **MARCH**

- 7 Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- 9 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café

### **APRIL**

- 2-9 Outbound Journey to Austin, Texas
- ? Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- 13 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café

### **MAY**

- 2 Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- 11 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café

### **JUNE**

- 6 Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- 8 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café

### **JULY**

- No board mtg
- 13 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café
- 23-27 FFI Meeting Boulder, Colorado
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### **AUGUST**

- 1 Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- 10 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café

### **SEPTEMBER**

- 5 Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- 14 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café

### **OCTOBER**

- 3 Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- 12 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café

### **NOVEMBER**

- 7 Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- 9 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café
- ? Outbound Journey to Azerbaijan

### **DECEMBER**

- 5 Board Mtg to be determined
- 14 Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café