

# Friendship Force of the National Capital Area

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

## Summer 2016 Newsletter

### Trip to Ottawa

Ambassadors from our club traveled to Friendship Force Ottawa for a busy, fun-filled and educational exchange in mid-June. Our Ambassadors toured Parliament, Supreme and Federal Appeals court, saw the Royal Canadian Mounted Police during practice, and walked around town. We participated in a “car rally” which was an engaging way to see much of the Gatineau area while answering questions about a variety of attractions. The final event was held at a country club, and the Ottawa club entertained our Ambassadors with songs about Canada.

### Hosting of Izmir, Turkey

Eighteen Ambassadors from Izmir, Turkey traveled to Washington, DC in May. Our club welcomed them at Great Falls, followed by a tour of the Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Center. Other highlights included a tour of the National Archives, the White House, Renwick Gallery, the Capitol, Library of Congress, the DC memorials, with an American style barbeque for the farewell dinner. Our friends from Turkey entertained us with traditional dance and music.

### Upcoming Summer Schedule

August 14 - Board meeting

September 16-19 - World Conference in Morocco: The FFI World Conference will take place at the Kenzi Farah hotel in the fashionable L’Hivernage district, within walking distance of Marrakech’s UNESCO-listed medina. Register now at <http://catalog.thefriendshipforce.org/>

### President’s corner:

It has been a busy year for our club so far. Chuck Goldfarb has earned our gratitude and congratulations for directing the incoming exchange from Izmir, Turkey in May. Our thanks also go out to the many home hosts, day hosts, and many other volunteers to make sure that all our activities and events were successful. Our new friends from Izmir seemed to enjoy themselves, and were grateful guests.

In June, Carol Kearns led our exchange to Ottawa, Canada, and Barbara Williams took care of arrangements for 10 of us to visit Quebec City and Montreal on the way. We all had a tres fantastic time in Quebec and Ontario provinces.

The Friendship Force World Conference in Marrakech, Morocco is only a month away, and six members from our club will be in attendance. Judith Gilbert, Justine Johnson, Mary Tobin, and Barbara & Tom Williams will join me in Marrakech to participate in FF workshops, meet the new President of Friendship Force International, and learn more about how we can help build bridges across cultures. Once we return from our sojourn in Morocco, we will fill everyone in on the country, our journey and what we learned at the Conference.

In early October, for the first time, our club will participate in a themed exchange with four other clubs (Greater Harrisburg, Central Virginia, Charleston, WV, and Richmond), on the theme of the Civil War. Twenty ambassadors will spend four nights with us as the last stop on their 20-day adventure through Civil War sites on both sides of the Civil War divide. I encourage you to volunteer - we can use all the help we can get to ensure the success of this exchange.

We will gather as always in early November to elect new officers and club board members for 2017. If you are interested in participating on the board, or want to nominate someone you believe would be a good candidate, please send the name to me at [mackenb222@gmail.com](mailto:mackenb222@gmail.com). All positions are open. Term limits for the position of club president require that a new president be elected at the November meeting.

Did you enjoy the ethnic lunches we had this year? Barbara Williams and JoAnn Thacker, among others, made these lunches happen. There will be more to come. Contact either Barbara or JoAnn with your suggestions.

We have a busy 2017 to look forward to. We will welcome members of the Flanders, Belgium club to our area. Chuck Goldfarb will lead the outgoing exchange to Izmir, Turkey in the spring. In late August, the FF World Conference will be held in Manchester, England, to celebrate the 40-year anniversary of Friendship Force at the location of the first exchange. Check the FFI website for dates.

Club info: The Friendship Force of the National Capital Area, 60 members, established in January 1979  
Board of Directors:

Barbara Macken, President  
Chuck Goldfarb, Vice President  
Barbara Williams, Secretary  
Mary Tobin, Treasurer  
Paul Gesalman, Member-at-Large  
Justine Johnson, Member-at-Large  
Carol Kearns, Member-at-Large  
Dorothy Wicker, Immediate Past President

Newsletter: This is our first issue of FFNCA quarterly newsletter...ideas and topics for inclusion are welcome. Perhaps highlight a couple of members each quarter? First person accounts from recent FF exchanges (to include those you've taken with other clubs/through the catalog)? Please email Karla Timmons with your comments/concerns: ms\_karlat@yahoo.com.

Additional information about:

- [Friendship Force of the National Capital Area](#)
- [Friendship Force International](#)