

# The Friendship Force of Lake Hartwell

OCTOBER 2008

[www.ffloh.com](http://www.ffloh.com)

NEXT MEETING ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ NOVEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>. ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ 7  
PM

**SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE MEETING**  
EVERY MEMBER SHOULD BRING GUESTS

PLEASE Pay your 2009 FFLH Dues  
Family \$45 Single \$28  
BOB REYNOLDS is collecting

## EXCHANGE CALENDAR

2009

MARCH \_\_\_\_\_, 2009 **TO** Curitiba and Belo Horizonte, Brazil...Pete & Paula Chambers  
MAY \_\_\_\_\_, 2009 **HERE** Sydney, Australia...Wally & Barb Züst EDs Bob & Carol Beasley asst.  
EDs  
JULY \_\_\_\_\_, 2009 **HERE** Auckland, New Zealand ...Skip Walter ED



### NOV. FOOD HOSTS

Candy and Dave Pursell  
Marti and Rich Reckdenwald  
Gayle and Bob Reynolds

DEC. 1<sup>st</sup>. CHRISTMAS PARTY  
**NEED VOLUNTEERS**

**NOV. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**  
**BRING FINGERFOOD**  
**(PARTY FOOD)**  
**FOOD HOSTS PROVIDE FINGER**  
**FOOD DESSERTS**

### JANUARY FOOD HOSTS

Judy Sanfilippo (Leverette will sub)  
Susan and Bill Schafer  
Stephanie and Ron Sparling

## FOOD HOSTING

If you cannot do your food hosting it is up to you to find a substitute. The substitute's name will not be printed in the newsletter. **[If you inform the newsletter who your sub is the subs name can be entered beside yours.]** It is up to you to check and make sure the substitute will be there for you. If there are extreme problems contact Judy Sanfilippo 706 376-7788

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### **Congratulations Bobbie!**

Word has reached us that Bobbie was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Opening Dinner during the just completed International Conference in Australia. Very well deserved Bobbie, we here have known your of accomplishments for quite awhile, good to know that Atlanta values your services as well. Bobbie has been a constant asset to the Hartwell club since its

inception. Her persistence and innovation has been rewarded now on an international scale. We are all very proud of you and your accomplishments as a Friendship Force employee for many years and as a member of our own club! Again, congratulations on behalf of all the members of FFOLH.

During the October meeting the membership elected to request consideration for outbound international exchanges to the following locations: Indonesia, Costa Rica, Thailand, Canada, Japan , and anywhere in Latin America. I will be submitting these requests prior to the November 1 deadline. Hopefully we will be rewarded with one of our primary locations. Keep in mind that if awarded , we must do our utmost to fill the exchange from our club population.

Next months meeting, November 3, has been designated as a membership drive. All members are encouraged to attend this special event and bring a guest or guests. Please identify and bring whom ever you feel would be an asset to the club. Someone that enjoys travel and meeting new people in the world. I remind you that FFI is not a travel club per say, rather an international ambassador of world friendship. Enjoyably, that mission is accomplished through worldwide travel and development of friendly relations with peoples around our world as we learn their cultures and share ours with them. So, look for that couple or single who you feel would enjoy the experience as they contribute to the goals of Friendship Force. Encourage them to accompany you to the meeting and learn more about our mission and accomplishments. Merilee Brister has planned an open , relaxed atmosphere for everyone to meet and talk with all the members of the club, to have the chance to speak to previous Exchange Directors about our experiences in England, New Zealand, Montana and Wyoming, Russia and Germany, all the places we have travel to in recent years. Also to learn about the wonderful people we have hosted from both our country and other nations; the teachers from Indonesia, visitors from California, Canada, Latin America and Russia. The purpose is obvious! We need to expand our membership. Each exchange requires participation by our members, particularly incoming exchanges. The larger our base the less effort each member needs to contribute. On outgoing exchanges we have struggled recently to fill the exchanges. We are now graded on our ability to fully populate our assigned exchanges when we apply for new opportunities to go outside our country. So, again, it's important that we have an active membership large enough to support our assignments. Please come and greet our guests, wear your club shirts and definitely wear your name badge. If you would like to contribute to the evening please contact Merilee and volunteer. Merilee will have additional information here in the newsletter regarding the details about food and such. See y'all there!

December is our Christmas Party! Because of the regularly scheduled meeting date falling on the Monday after the Thanksgiving holiday, we have elected to move the party to Monday, December 8! One week from our normal time. The hall schedule has been changed so be sure to change your personal calendar. We are still in need of a chairperson to organize the party. Several members have expressed willingness to assist but we still look for a chair! If you would like to organize the party please email me and I will put you in touch with those interested in helping. Should we not have a chairman we will not have a formal party, instead we will still have a meeting on the 8th! Hopefully someone will come forward! Either way change your calendar now for the new date.

Lastly, congratulations to Barb Walter on a successful exchange to the UK. All who had the opportunity to attend had a wonderful time in both Cornwall and Newcastle. The people we met and lived with were exceptional folks and our world wide friendship base continues to grow! Thanks Barb.

**Skip Walter** [e\\_walter@hotmail.com](mailto:e_walter@hotmail.com) 864.225.0666

## **VP NOTES**

Being a part of a FF International Conference is always a great experience and the one this year was no exception! I have just returned from the Gold Coast of Australia, where FF's 31st Conference was held with about 300 members from around the world in

attendance. Our Conference Hosts saw to every detail and the weather was superb. The "new" FF was heralded with the new logo displayed on the new brochure and FF products, ranging from coffee mugs to lapel pins. Workshops focused on "the next generation" Exchanges, Clubs, Hosting and Media", with additional workshops on how to set up a website (they could have used Ffolh as a model!) and communicate within your community and area. These programs produced many good ideas and just talking with new friends produced many more.

Our friends from Howick, New Zealand, send greetings to our club members (and get well wishes to Bill Buziak) and are looking forward to seeing us next year when they come on their exchange. Fay Graves, ED for South Australia, is working hard to recruit for their exchange with us, too. It was a great pleasure for me to represent our club at the Conference and I look forward to seeing you in November!

**Bobbie Jones**

## **MEMBERSHIP**

**ON NOVEMBER THIRD, WE WILL BE CELEBRATING F.F.O.L.H.  
WITH A FALL FESTIVAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!**

**FOOD:** MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO BRING PARTY FOOD FOR OUR MEETING.

**FOOD HOSTS** WILL BE BRINGING DESSERT TYPE PARTY FOOD

PARTY FOOD~~~~~ TEA & COFFEE~~~~~ BYO BEER & WINE!

**HAVE TABLES WILL BE SET UP FOR SEATING~~~~~NO SET TIME TO EAT.**

AFTER SKIP, BOBBIE & DAVE SPEAK BRIEFLY PEOPLE WILL THEN BE INVITED TO HAVE REFRESHMENTS OR VISIT TABLES TO DISCUSS ISSUES OF Ffolh.

CURRENT PRESIDENT, SKIP WALTER, & VICE PRESIDENT, BOBBIE JONES, **(RECENT WINNER OF THE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FROM FRIENDSHIP FORCE INTERNATIONAL AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN AUSTRALIA)** WILL SAY A FEW WORDS ABOUT FFI TO THE MEMBERS & GUESTS.

PAST PRESIDENT, DAVE PURSELL WILL SAY A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE OPEN WORLD PROGRAM WITH RUSSIA.

EXCHANGE DIRECTORS WILL HAVE TABLES SET UP WITH INFORMATION REGARDING THEIR PAST EXCHANGES. THEY WILL ALSO DISPLAY PHOTO ALBUMS AND WILL BE SHARING THEIR EXPERIENCES, JOYS, CATASTROPHES, THINGS THEY WOULD DO AGAIN, THINGS THEY WOULD NEVER DO AGAIN.

HISTORIAN, MARTI RECKDENWALD WILL SHARE WITH US THE SCRAPBOOKS FROM THE PAST 12 YEARS OF Ffolh.

CHARTER MEMBER, KAY CLEVELAND, WILL BRING HER PHOTO ALBUMS & WILL SHARE HER PERSPECTIVE FROM THE "OLDEN DAYS OF Ffolh"

GRETCHEN & KEN FULLER WILL HAVE A TABLE WITH GOLFING INFORMATION SINCE SO MANY OF US PARTICIPATE IN THE MONTHLY GOLF AND DINNER EVENT.

ANYONE WITH LAPTOPS WITH DVD'S PERTAINING TO Ffolh ACTIVITIES THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO SET UP ARE INVITED TO DO SO. **PERHAPS, TOM CHRISTMAN AND CHUCK THORNE COULD BE PREPARED TO TALK ABOUT THE WEBSITE?**

TO ENCOURAGE GUESTS TO JOIN Ffolh DURING THE MEETING THEY WILL RECEIVE A FREE Ffolh MUG & PIN. WE ARE ASKING MEMBERS TO BRING A GUEST TO THIS SPECIAL EVENT!

**NO BUSINESS MEETING!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR CLUB BY ATTENDING AND BRINGING GUESTS.** OUR TOTAL MEMBERSHIP IS ABOUT 65 AND WE WOULD HAVE MORE TIME WITH OUR AMBASSADORS IF WE COULD ADD A FEW FOLKS TO SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES & FUN!

IN FRIENDSHIP,

**Merilee & Richard Brister** [ml7777@yahoo.com](mailto:ml7777@yahoo.com) or [merilee@ffolh](mailto:merilee@ffolh)

## **WAYS AND MEANS**

The winner of the 50/50 Raffle was Stephanie Sparling. The prize was \$58. Thanks to all that participated in the raffle. There will be another raffle at the November meeting.

**Susan Schafer**

## **HISTORIAN**

**Marti Reckdenwald**

## **SUNSHINE**

Please contact me with information for any SUNSHINE need. I can't respond if I don't know the need. Phone: 706 376-4631 email: [jkcleveland@hartcom.net](mailto:jkcleveland@hartcom.net)  
Snail mail: 1243 Cleveland Mill Road Hartwell, GA 30643

**Kay Cleveland**

## **WEB SITE**

**Check it out!!!!** [www.ffolh.com](http://www.ffolh.com) Look it over. Fill in name and email and hit subscribe to register so you can get into member information (it doesn't cost anything to subscribe).

**Tom Christman**

**Chuck Thorne**

## **GOLF**

### **FFOLH GOLF OUTING NOVEMBER 20, 2008**

*anderson country club 1607 west market st. anderson, SC 864-225-8291*

*\$20.00 per person (senior rate)*

*hosted by ken and gretchen fuller*

*t-times will start at 12:06pm arrive by 1130am for team assignments and check -in*

*dinner to follow at longhorn steak house at 6pm*

*since november meeting is a membership drive event please email your rsvp to*

*trvlbyg@aol.com or 864-972-1798*

**Ken and Gretchen Fuller**

November - Ken and Gretchen Fuller

**2009 Golf Hosting Schedule**

February - Beazleys

March - Boylan

April - Bristers

May - Chambers

June - Christmans

September - Zust Open

October - Fords

November – Howe

## **OUR FIRST EXCHANGE**

We've been members of FFLOH for about a year and a half. We've Day Hosted and Home Hosted (a mini Knoxville exchange) and attended meetings regularly, but had never gone on either a Domestic or International exchange. When the chance to visit England came up, we were ready to go! We had been to England 30 years ago and were itching to go back.

What an experience! We saw all of the principles of FF in action. The members of both of the clubs that we visited (Cornwall & Newcastle) were very friendly and accommodating. The planned activities were both interesting and informative. The Hosts in both Cornwall and Newcastle were super folks. From a 200 year old home in Tregony, a small village of 600 in Cornwall, to a modern, 13 year old home in Durham, a bustling city near Newcastle, we saw a great cross section of English life, culture and countryside.

What a history lesson! We walked on Roman Emperor Hadrian's wall, visited Edinburgh and York, saw cathedrals and castles that were awe inspiring. We saw the estate of George Washington's ancestors and visited a site on the River Fal which was a staging area for the U.S. troops and equipment prior to the D-Day invasion. We met the Lord Mayors of both Truro and Newcastle and also the Sheriff of Newcastle, all of which are ceremonial positions.

We really enjoyed the opportunity to sit down in the homes of these new friends and talk about almost everything. How enlightening to learn their perception of the U.S. and to find that we have so many things in common. In both cases our Hosts were very well traveled, in fact the couple from Newcastle had just returned from 5 weeks in the Carolinas. It was interesting to find out their viewpoints on world issues as well as common everyday events. We found that our garden plants are similar and that our Robins are quite different - that you can't be classed as a city unless you have a Cathedral and that a soccer field is called a "pitch".

What a great time! It was all we expected and more. We are looking forward to the next exchange that we will be able to go on. We hope to stay in touch with these new friends and really believe that as our motto says - "we can make a difference" - in today's very small world by having this type of interface with its people.

**Barb and Al Watson**

## **MINUTES FROM FFOLH October 6, 2008**

President, Skip Walter called the meeting to order at 7 PM and thanked food hosts Chris & Darrel Panner and Candy & Mike Pufall.

Jerry Cleveland gave the blessing.

September Birthdays & Anniversaries were celebrated with song.

**Treasurers Report** – Bob Reynolds reports a beginning balance of \$3,894, with income of \$2,620, expenses of \$949, leaving a balance of \$5,786 and a CD value of approximately \$1, 897. He also reminded the members that yearly dues are due this month. If you haven't paid them, please send Bob a check by mail to: 1036 North Shore Dr., Anderson, SC 29625. Dues are \$45/couple and \$28/single.

**Skip Walter** received e-mail from Bobbie Jones. She has met Kay Graves the ED for our Australian exchange and is encouraged that the exchange will take place. A date is still to be set

**Bobbie Jones received a well-deserved “Lifetime Achievement Award” at the conference.**

**WAY TO GO BOBBIE!!!!!!!!!!**

**Exchanges:**

**UK** – Barb Walter and Gayle Reynolds gave a little synopsis of the two weeks in England. Highlights included a Cream Tea welcome with scones & clotted cream, walking tour of a manor house & gardens, adventures in the sea with boat rescues from the tide and a TV appearance in Cornwall. New Castle is a totally different area. People come to the ancient Roman ruins to walk an 82-mile long wall. There are several missing areas in the wall where it is thought residents have taken the stones to build their homes. This area has more farming, more formal people and definitely more accent, called Geordie. It took Gayle two days to understand what her host was saying. Lots of memories to be cherished.

**Brazil** – Pete Chambers has sent the ambassadors visa information and applications via e-mail and given them the application form. He would like the ambassador form filled out and returned to him this week. A Yellow Fever shot is required and can be obtained at various health departments. He will be getting information about the visa procedure. We have 12 people who have a given deposit. Pete will be putting the trip on FFI web site soon in order to fill the trip.

**New Zealand** – Skip Walter reports that New Zealand has agreed to come June 23-30<sup>th</sup> in order to take advantage of the pre-fourth activities in Hartwell. He will be asking for home hosts, day hosts and other volunteer activities at a later meeting.

**2009 Domestic Exchange** – Bobbie Jones was to look into a possible exchange for the fall of 2009. Skip and Dave met a couple From Niagara, Ontario while they were in New Castle. They seemed to be interested in having our club come to Canada in 2009 They would also be interested in coming to Lake Hartwell. They are going to present this to their club when they return to Canada. Bobbie will follow-up.

- **Membership** – Merilee Brister will have the new membership brochures for the November meeting. Each guest will receive a nametag.
- She is asking the food hosts to bring finger desserts for this meeting.
- She has set the agenda for the meeting as follows: (no formal meeting or executive board meeting)
- Skip Walter will give a short talk about our club
- Dave Pursell will give a short talk about the “Open World” program we did for the Russians
- Tables with photo and/or video presentations on the various exchanges:
  - David & Mary Lou Leverette – Indonesia
  - Susan Schafer – New Zealand
  - Brenda & Jack Dixon – Santa Barbara
  - Barb Walter– UK
  - Darrel Panner – Montana/Wyoming
  - Marti Reckendwald – Past Trip Scrapbooks
  - Membership Table – guests joining will receive a FFIOLH mug & pin
- Susan Schafer will do a 50/50 raffle

2010 International Exchange Requests - We are required to have our requests into FFI by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Skip Walter passed out a list of international clubs that are accepting exchanges from the US. Skip mentioned again that the 2010 international conference has a good chance of being in Bali and that the people from Jakarta would like us to visit them either before or after that conference. The outcome of our discussion is as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> choice – Indonesia

2<sup>nd</sup> “ Costa Rica

4<sup>th</sup> “ Canada      3<sup>rd</sup> “ Thailand

5<sup>th</sup> “ Japan  
6<sup>th</sup> “ Latin America

Skip also noted that the FFI takes into account how well each club has filled their previous exchanges when they decide who gets what exchange.

**Christmas Angles** – Sandy Martin (welcomed back after a long absence and feeling much better) has agreed to chair the committee. She had 30 names of residents of our usual local nursing home. Please sign up to bring a little cheer to one of the residents. Two tags are provided. One tag has the name and suggestions about the gift; the other is a gift tag to put on the wrapped gift. Please remember no chewing/smoking/adult beverage products. Also, large print books, white socks only (as they need to be marked) easy access and washable clothing.

Skip Walter asked for a Christmas Party Chairman. No one has volunteered as yet. It was noted that we might have a conflict with the date of the party. Our usual meeting is the first Monday of the month. December 1<sup>st</sup> is the first Monday and the Monday after Thanksgiving when many people are out of town. It was decided to try and switch the date to December 8<sup>th</sup>. If the hall is available, that will be the day; if not we will proceed with December 1<sup>st</sup> (provided we get someone to chair the event).

**Bill Schafer** – Still has 13 hats left at \$10 and one ladies M black shirt available.

**Golf – Dennis & Jeanne Andrews** are hosting October golf on October 16<sup>th</sup> at Oconee Country Club. Tee time is 12:10 PM. Dinner will be at Paesanos Italian Restaurant 1727, Blue Ridge Blvd. (Hwy. 28) 864-3368.

**50/50 Raffle** - \$58 was won by Stephanie Sparling

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM

Respectively submitted,

**Jeanne Andrews, Secretary**

2008 BOARD MEMBERS

President.....Skip Walter  
Vice Pres.....Bobbie Jones  
Secretary.....Jeanne Andrews  
Treasurer.....Bob Reynolds  
Historian.....Marti Reckdenwald  
Parliamentarian...Dave Pursell  
Hospitality.....Judy Sanfilippo  
Membership....Merilee & Richard  
Brister  
Newsletter.....Mary Lou Leverette  
Publicity.....Jeanne Howe  
Sunshine.....Kay Cleveland  
Ways & Means.....Susan Schafer  
Web Coordinators Tom Christman

Exchange Directors

Brazil  
Outgoing...Pete & Paula Chambers  
Sydney Australia  
Incoming...Wally & Barb Zust  
Bob and Carol Beazley  
New Zealand  
Incoming... Skip Walter