



# Capital Connections

Newsletter of the Friendship Force of Ottawa, Canada

January 2011 [www.friendshipforceottawa.ca](http://www.friendshipforceottawa.ca)

## Calendar 2011

### **WORLD FRIENDSHIP DAY BRUNCH**

Saturday, Feb.26  
10 a.m.–12 noon  
Tom Brown Hall.  
Brunch  
Activities  
Silent Auction  
**Bring a friend!**

### **General Meeting Dates For 2011**

**Thursday Jan 27**  
**Tom Brown Hall**  
**5:45 p.m.**  
**Potluck Dinner**  
**7PM socialize &**  
**refreshments**  
**7:30 meeting**

Thursday April 14  
7:00 -9:30 p.m.  
Tom Brown Hall

Thursday June 16  
7:00 -9:30 p.m.  
Tom Brown Hall

Tuesday Sept.20  
7:00 -9:30 p.m.  
Tom Brown Hall

**AGM**  
Date to be  
confirmed

## **2011 – Looks like an Event-Full Year**

Reflecting back on 2010, our club had a busy but fulfilling year with great exchanges and social events. The final two events were the Moscow Exchange and the Christmas party. See reports on both in this issue. We are very lucky to have members who put their energy and effort into all these events. On behalf of the club, thanks to all our members who helped make 2010 a success.

This year promises a great opportunity for members to reach out and literally “touch” different parts of the globe. This is who we are – travellers to other lands to see how others live, to make new friends and to bring visitors to Ottawa and when they leave to count them as friends. With 9 exchanges scheduled for the year we are able to offer to any member who wishes the opportunity to experience an exchange. There are still a couple of exchanges with openings so contact Pierrette Benoit if you are interested.

I believe one of the reasons our club has been so successful is the range of social activities that are offered. These provide an opportunity to get to know other members and establish friendships within the club. In this way, we travel on exchanges, not just with other tourists, but with friends. We are offering another initiative for the General Meeting on Jan 27th - a pot luck. It seems to have good appeal since over 50 members are coming!



The first exchange of the year is the Global Exchange starting February 9<sup>th</sup> with events such as dog sledding and snow shoeing. The incoming group (mostly Aussies) will probably have quite a different understanding of Canadians and our winters when they leave.

World Friendship Day will be celebrated in Ottawa with a continental breakfast and silent auction on Sat Feb 26<sup>th</sup>. Come and celebrate the great Friendship Force idea. Bring a friend! Tickets are \$5 with all proceeds going to the local Food Bank.

In the background, your board has already met twice. We welcome 4 new members to the board (picture next issue). A redesign of the club website is under way and the report from the vitalization committee will be presented to the board and membership in April.

We encourage our members, particularly our new ones, to get involved in an incoming exchange. You will get to know not only other Ottawa members but also those from other countries. We always need hosts for our incoming ambassadors whether it be Night, Dinner or Day hosts.

*Meru*

## **FFO Board 2011**

President  
Merv Sullivan

VP, Membership  
Gail  
Nevraumont

VP, Exchanges  
Pierrette Benoit

Treasurer  
Richard  
Hatherill

Secretary  
Norm McLeod

Directors:  
Susan Aiken  
Garry Bowes  
Marion  
Dunning  
Joan Gregoire  
Frank Mayda  
John Taylor

Past President  
Jaap Schouten

**How do you  
like our  
newsletter?  
Let Donna or  
Merv  
ffopres@bell.net  
know**

## **Suggestions & Feedback**

Your board always  
welcomes feedback  
and suggestions.  
Contact Merv  
(ffopres@bell.net)  
or any other board  
member.

## **FFO Newsletter Editor**

by Merv Sullivan

This month we welcome Donna Nicholson who has assumed the role of editor of *Capital Connections*. A special thanks for Donna's persistence in finishing it despite a fractured shoulder

I would also like to thank Bonnie Hudon for her much appreciated past service as newsletter editor

## **2010 Exchange Reports**

### **Moscow Incoming Cultural Exchange** to Ottawa (Oct 27-Nov 4, 2010)

Exchange Highlights: After a year in the planning and 10 planning meetings for 16 committee members, the fourth Incoming Exchange of the year came about from Oct 27 to Nov 4 (8 days) with 22 incoming Ambassadors.

The Moscow Cultural exchange was a regular exchange with a simultaneous entertainment dimension (Cultural Exchange) plus coordination with the Montreal FF. Ambassadors' difficulties in obtaining visas added to the stress of the exchange. Although all goals were not met, we consider the exchange successful. As with most exchanges, new friendships were formed and old ones reinforced (20 Ottawa hosts had been to Moscow in 2008). Both ambassadors and hosts have a better understanding of each other's culture. The 'cultural' or entertainment part of the exchange was enjoyable. It also exposed Moscow FF to the Ottawa community.



Highlights of the Exchange were the concert at Temple Israel on Sun Oct 31, the Welcome party at the Chimo Inn with many FFO members adding to the musical performance and the House parties and pot luck dinners that were

spontaneous gatherings to ease the language barriers. We had great participation from over 90 members of FFO and since many day hosts were joining in for the first time, they made many connections to reinforce their enjoyment of our club. (16 hosts were new members of the last 2 years.)

Gail & Ulysse Nevraumont, EDs



## EXCHANGES 2011

### Inbound 2011:

**Global Exchange**  
(Australia & USA)  
Feb. 9-16

**Kauai, USA**  
May 24-31

**Central NC &  
Florence, SC,  
USA**  
Sept. 22-29

**Santo Angelo,  
Brazil**  
Oct. 12-19

### Outbound 2011:

**Budapest,  
Hungary**  
April 28-May 5

**Dallas, USA**  
April 27- May 4

**Lansing,  
Michigan, USA**  
Sept 6-13

**Vina Del Mar,  
Chile**  
Oct. 24-31 or Oct.  
30-Nov.6

**Cairo, Egypt**  
Nov 20 - 27  
(proposed)

**Please provide  
feedback  
regarding any of  
these  
exchanges to  
Pierrette Benoit  
ffopres@gmail.co  
m**

## Meet a New Member



**Carole Ann Ingham.** Carole recently moved to Ottawa with her husband after spending 7 yrs in Minnesota. Prior to that, they lived in Aurora, Ont., Calgary and Vancouver. A graduate of U of Waterloo, she worked in the fields of recreation, fitness and outdoor education. She is now semi-retired and manages a cottage rental business near Georgian Bay, Ont. Carole loves outdoor pursuits such as hiking, skiing, canoeing, etc. and enjoys coordinating outdoor group activities. Since her three children are now scattered to BC and Europe, visits and travel are now possible. Carole looks forward to expanding her love of travel by meeting new people through travel experiences with the Friendship Force

## Membership Report

by Gail Nevraumont, Membership Chair

**Membership Issues:** The annual membership runs from Jan 1 to Dec 31. Renewals are solicited in Nov & Dec. Renewals after the 31 Dec are subjected to a \$5 late fee. **New** members who join after Sept 1 are given the following year as part of their original membership fee. This is a one time "benefit". The introduction of a 'late fee' has facilitated earlier renewals. At present we have 163 renewals and 10 non renewals with 94% of the membership accounted for. This has made the task of both the Membership Chair and Treasurer much lighter. Thank you for your great response.

**Information sessions:** There are two in Jan and one in Feb. Inquiries have been made about getting the booth for the Travel show, but so far there has been no response. If any one is interested in helping on Sat April 2 or Sun April 3 please sign up at the Jan 27 meeting. Notices about the Jan 27 meeting have been sent to the Citizen, Forever Young & the EMC local papers. The Citizen notice was in the paper on Thurs Jan 6.

**Reminder for any aspiring journalists:** A prize of a \$30 gift certificate to Chapters will be awarded to any club member who writes an article encouraging membership in Friendship Force that gets published in a local newspaper or magazine. Articles must be approved by the Board before submission for publication.

note: the new email address for Rheo and Dorothy Brunet (see membership list)  
Volunteers are being sought to form a new support committee for the Membership VP. Individuals have been recruited for several tasks over the last year and it was decided to try a make a viable group that would help in setting up and/or hosting information sessions, acting as mentors or recruiters for mentors, heading up the travel show volunteers, working on the membership directory and other membership-related tasks. Three to four people to act as a committee would make the load fairly light for all. If you are interested please contact Gail at 613-723-5591 or [ffomembership@gmail.com](mailto:ffomembership@gmail.com).

The directory is in development and an updated electronic version with this year's membership will be distributed to all by Feb 1. If you would like a hard copy, please let Gail know. You will be charged the printing cost.

## Why a Global Exchange?

This Feb, 2011 we'll be hosting our first Global Exchange and also our first winter exchange in a long time. A Global Exchange is usually organized by one club (Sunshine Coast Australia in this case) but also leaves spaces for ambassadors from all over the world. This provides an opportunity for multicultural experiences. It will also be a winter exchange starting here in a jointly hosted exchange with our French sister club and then moving on to Winnipeg Feb 16<sup>th</sup>.

The exchange is planned to coincide with Winterlude and hopefully the weather will cooperate. We'll need to provide plenty of warm clothing and footwear (in addition to hot chocolate!!) for our guests from down under.

## FFO Exchanges for 2011

The following exchanges have been approved by Friendship Force International and Friendship Force of Ottawa for 2011.

### INBOUND

**Global Exchange** February 9–16, 2011  
ED Pierrette Benoit (FFO) & Roger Lafleur (FARCC)  
Destinations: Ottawa, Gatineau, Winnipeg  
Partnership: FFO and Canadian Capital Region  
Ambassadors then travel to Winnipeg February 17-24th

The joint FFO and FARCC Planning Committee would like to thank all members who have volunteered to be night, day and dinner hosts. The Welcome Party is on February 9th (6:00 p.m.) at the Cabane en bois rond (331 Cité des Jeunes, Gatineau) and the Farewell Party is on February 15th (11:30 a.m.) at Fulton's, 291 Concession Road, Pakenham. The sale of tickets will be announced soon via e-mail to all FFO members and will also be available at the General Meeting on Jan. 27th. This winter exchange is quite exciting since for many of our 33 ambassadors, this will be their first winter experience. We have a wonderful Activities Program for them, filled with many outdoor activities.

**Kauai, USA and Big Canoe, North Georgia** May 24–31, 2011  
EDs John & Kay Knobel  
10 ambassadors

This exchange has now been advertised on the FFI catalogue to allow for more registrants. Currently we have ten ambassadors interested. Our committee is busy planning the program. All members who have volunteered have been contacted by our hosting coordinator Helen Hamon. Mark this week on your calendar and be prepared to join the fun.

**Central North Carolina and Florence, South Carolina** Sept. 22-29, 2011  
ED Elizabeth Bowen

It is too soon to know how many ambassadors from these two clubs will join the Exchange. But these clubs are organized and very enthusiastic about visiting Ottawa! Some ambassadors will spend a few days in New York City and Montreal before arriving in Ottawa by train on September 22. Others plan to arrive by car on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Thanks to everyone who signed up to help with this exchange. We still need hosts of all kinds, so please add your name to the volunteer list during our next general meeting on January 27th.

The ambassadors are interested in visiting schools and/or high tech businesses "that you are noted for". Help! Can anyone help to arrange these visits? Do you know about other industrial tours? Please let the Exchange Director know if you can help.

**Santo Angelo, Brazil** Oct. 12-19, 2011  
EDs Carol & Mike Lundy  
# of ambassadors to be confirmed

## Exchanges 2011

Can you  
volunteer?

Our incoming  
exchanges  
depend on our  
members  
volunteering to  
host the  
incoming  
ambassadors.

### NIGHT HOSTS

The main contacts  
with ambassadors  
– explain and  
demonstrate our  
culture, etc.  
They provide  
overnight  
accommodations,  
breakfast and 1  
or 2 evening  
meals.  
A great  
opportunity to  
forge an  
international  
friendship

### DAY HOSTS

Transport  
ambassadors  
from their  
accommodations  
to daily exchange  
activities.

### SUPPER HOSTS

Prepare and host  
one meal for 2-4  
ambassadors and  
their hosts.

### Not sure how to do it?

Contact one of  
the Exchange  
Directors (EDs)  
listed under each  
exchange for  
more info.

## OUTBOUND

### Budapest, Hungary April 28-May 5, 2011

EDs Ralph & Carole Baker

15 ambassadors registered.

Fifteen members of FFO will travel to Budapest, Hungary on April 28, 2011 for a seven day exchange, hosted by the Budapest club. Contact with the Budapest Exchange Director is well established; the matching form has been sent; all fees deposited and charge card forms are complete. Even the exchange booklet nears completion! No "pre" or "post" group exchange travel has been proposed but most ambassadors intend additional personal visits in Europe.

Budapest, reportedly one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, will be new to most of the Ottawa group. Among other planned events, one evening will be at the famous Budapest Opera house for a performance of the "Barber of Seville".



### Dallas, USA April 27-May 4, 2011

ED John Taylor

20 spaces available. 8 ambassadors registered.

Experience a real Texan exchange. Dallas has it all; art, culture, cowboys and wonderful hosts!

### Lansing, Michigan Sept. 6-13, 2011

EDs Raymond & Eleanor Coté

25 spaces available. 16 ambassadors registered.

We are currently in communication with Lansing to plan this exchange. The exact date in early September has not yet been confirmed. We have requested the dates of Sept 6 or 7. Sixteen members have signed on for the exchange and we are looking to add to that number since Lansing can accommodate up to 25 ambassadors. There is still room for anyone wishing to participate in this exchange. Contact the EDs if you are interested.

### Vina Del Mar, Chile Oct.24-31 or Oct.30-Nov.6, 2011

EDs Frank & Mary Mayda

15 spaces available. Oversubscribed. Draw held Nov.2, 2011.

This exchange originally scheduled for the spring of 2011 has been re-scheduled for the end of October. The host club can accommodate 15 ambassadors and the exchange is currently full with a short wait list.

### Cairo, Egypt November 20, 2011 (proposed)

EDs Jaap & Maria Schouten

25 spaces available. Oversubscribed. Draw held Sept. 2, 2011.

In November, 2011, 25 Ottawa ambassadors will travel to Egypt, for an exchange with the Friendship Force of Cairo. Planning for this exchange started recently with the establishment of an organizing committee of 14 (!) ambassadors who all offered their services. Beth and Tom Patterson will be deputy EDs, Doug McGregor is our treasurer, Kathy Hatherill heads up our pre/post travel group, and Jan Sterling is cultural coordinator.

We have established contact with our host club but exact dates are still to be confirmed. Plans for pre- and/or post-exchange travel are now being developed. In addition to a Nile cruise and a visit to Alexandria, many of our ambassadors are also interested in visiting Jordan (particularly Petra), Israel, and the Red Sea. On February 28, we will hold a potluck dinner at the home of Beth and Tom Patterson, featuring dishes from the Middle East. We hope to have a guest speaker, to enlighten us about the people, culture, customs, literature and language of Egypt and of Cairo in particular.

## Future Exchanges 2012 and beyond?

At the end of last year all FFO Members had an opportunity to complete an Exchange Questionnaire and return it to Pierrette Benoit. Future Exchange activities are based on the results of this survey.

The letter posted opposite is from an individual who is encouraging members to consider a Western Canada Exchange. Please send your comments regarding this idea to either:

Pierrette Benoit  
(ffopres@gmail.com)

or

Merv Sullivan  
(ffopres@bell.net)

They would be interested in hearing your comments about this exchange or any other.

## My Bucket List

With the Friendship Force, I have traveled the world from Viet Nam to Australia to South Africa through Europe and many places in between. We have hosted ambassadors from Japan, New Zealand, Europe and the United States. To a man they have all commented on what a marvelous beautiful country we live in. We don't really have to be told - we are aware of that.. In many cases though, they are telling us this from their personal experiences as a result of being there and seeing the wondrous sights of the Rocky Mountains from Alberta and British Columbia, Victoria Island, Vancouver, Whistler, Banff, Lake Louise, the Okanogan Valley and I could go on and on.

I have seen much of the Canadian West on television and landed a few times at Vancouver International Airport while in transit. At this stage of my life,



seeing and experiencing this great land of ours is becoming more of a priority. That wish on 'My Bucket List' will be accomplished. I can't think of a better way of seeing and appreciating Western Canada than via a Friendship Force Exchange. There are ten Friendship Force Clubs west of the Manitoba border. Surely they would be capable of hosting a group from Ottawa. I believe it has not

happened because they have never been asked. Sue and I may be the only members in the club that feel this way or would support a domestic Western Canadian Exchange but I don't think so.

In fairness to our Board, I don't think they have been asked before to request or arrange this type of Exchange and therefore there has never been one. If other interested members contacted Pierrette Benoit (ffopres@gmail.com or Merv Sullivan (ffopres@bell.net) they would consider the request and advise us as to the possibilities. I think the Board would find your comments very interesting whether for or against so please reply to them directly.

George Neilson

## Social Activities

### Walking Club: Winter Walking Is Good For Your Brain!

In November, 2010, the FFO Walking Club went on an "urban hike" exploring the Westboro and Wellington Village areas. As shown in the picture, many



hardy members participated in this walk. Afterwards, we had a nice lunch at the Wonton Restaurant on Wellington Street, where a private room with a large round table had been reserved for us. In 2011, we will go on a Winterlude Walking Tour in February (after the Global Exchange). In March, we plan a walk in New Edinburgh, guided by Claire Fortin, followed by a swim in her apartment pool.

Then late April/early May, we will go on a walk around Mer Bleu followed by a (picnic) lunch at the home of Chris Jones. Stay tuned for further details.

Maria Schouten

**Social Activity  
Coordinators:**

Social Director:  
Joan Gregoire

Social Committee:  
Coordinator:  
Heather Pettipas

Hazel Baskin  
Pauline Delorme  
Patricia Hay  
Elaine Bradley

Bridge Club:  
Lorna McKenzie

Art Appreciation:  
Laura Legare

Dinner Club:  
Lucy Nelms

Walking Club:  
Maria Schouten

Summer Concerts  
(Flying Solo):  
Heather Pettipas

Friendly  
Wanderers:  
Raymond Coté

Golf: Rheo Brunet

**Friendly Wanderers**

16 FFO members attended a meeting of the Friendly Wanderers held Jan 18 at 7 pm at the Citizen Meeting Room, on Baxter Road. There was a presentation on Morocco consisting of independent travel experienced by Jaap and Maria Schouten and the Friendship Force group travel experienced by Ian Wilson.



This included pictures on places visited and points of interest seen during their respective trips. The meeting also allowed members to informally share any information related to travel. The next meeting proposed for early May, will cover a trip to the Southern part of Africa

experienced by Peter Turner and Grace Strachan. If you are interested in attending the next meeting send your name, phone number and e-mail address to Raymond or you can call 613-825-4038. A reminder of the meeting will be sent to those interested a few days before the meeting.

Raymond Coté

**Bridge Club**

Sorry to all the 2010 bridge players for missing this announcement in the November issue of Capitol Connections.

An evening of dinner and bridge was held on September 16<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the wind-up of the 2010 season and the start-up of the 2011 season of the Friendship Force Bridge Club. Winners of the 2010 season were: first, Asha Bhatnagar and Maureen Keon; second, Bob and Laure Legare; third, Lucy and John Nelms. The high one night score winners were Maureen Sly and Lorna McKenzie. Welcome to new players Darlene & Jim Frank, Bob & Adele Blair and Janet Stirling as well as welcome back to Marjorie Phalen and Phyllis Nitschke, for a total of 21 teams.

Lorna McKenzie

**Dinner Club**

There are already a number of groups going. Additional dinner party groups can be formed once 8 or more people sign up. This is a great opportunity for new members to meet others and feel comfortable and more a part of the Ottawa club. The dinners are easy because, as host, you only do the main course and provide the tea and coffee. Individual groups select suitable dates to meet and rotate by providing appetizers, soup or salad, or dessert. If you are interested in joining, please contact Lucy Nelms (729-6357)



**World Friendship Day Celebration Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Your World Friendship Day committee (Marion Dunning, Ruth Kirk, Mary Mayda, Gail Nevraumont, Maureen Sly, Joan Gregoire) is hard at work planning a Continental Breakfast, a Silent Auction and other activities to be held from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor meeting room of Tom Brown Arena. If you would like to participate, items to donate can be brought to the general meeting and left with Mary Mayda or Ruth Kirk. Donations can also be brought before 10 am the day of the celebration. Bring any items (new or gently used; that you have accumulated on your travels or would like to re-gift to a new home. Tickets are \$5 and proceeds from this event will go to the Food Bank. Any questions? Contact Joan Gregoire. Additional details will be forthcoming at the General Meeting on Jan. 27th.

**WHO:** FFO and Prospective Members  
**WHEN:** Saturday, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 10 a.m. to Noon  
**WHERE:** Tom Brown Arena meeting room  
**WHAT:** Light Brunch, Activities, Silent Auction

**Technical Support/Info**

FFO Webmaster:  
John Nelms

FFO Website:  
[www.friendshipforceottawa.ca](http://www.friendshipforceottawa.ca)

FFI Website:  
[www.thefriendshipforce.org](http://www.thefriendshipforce.org)

FFO Newsletter Editor:  
Donna Nicholson  
Send your text and/or pictures to: Donna

**2010 Christmas Party**

The annual Christmas party was held at Cedarhill Golf and Country Club in December with 86 members attending. This year, the star attraction was Santa, A.K.A. Jaap Schouten, and his bevy of beautiful elves. *The Mellowtones*, a local group of musicians, had the audience up dancing the evening away and just to add some fun and variety, Andrew Sterling and his wife Eileen put on a silent auction. The auction items, donated by various members, were well received, and the monies raised will go to the Legacy Fund. This fund allows new clubs to get started around the world, especially in areas where there is a need for start-up money. A big thank you goes out to Hazel Baskin who made the beautiful flower arrangements, to Elaine Bradley who bought the prizes, to Jan Sterling who made up some interesting quiz questions, to Ray and Pauline who handled the money, to Pat Hay, a new member who helped take names and money for the event, to John D., our MC, to *The Tenors* for entertaining us so well, to Jaap Schouten and his `bevy`, and to Cedarhill for helping us get in the Christmas spirit so early in December.

Heather Pettipas

***The Mellowtones & Dancers***



***The Tenors***



**GENERAL MEETING**  
Tuesday Sept 21, 2010 at 7:30 pm  
Tom Brown Arena, Ottawa

**MINUTES**

President Merv Sullivan called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Eighty-seven members were in attendance and five guests.

**1) Introduction of New Members & Guests**

President Merv introduced and provided a badge to Patricia Hay. Guests included Bev Hummel (who joined), Graham and Sherrill Crowder, Sylvia Williamson, and Marilyn Sloan.

**2) Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was circulated prior to the meeting. It was **MOVED** by John Knobel and **SECONDED** by Paul Koch that the agenda be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

**3) Approval of Minutes GM April 17, 2009**

**MOVED** by Carolyn Masleck and **SECONDED** by Rosemary Beseau that the minutes of the General Meeting of June 15, 2010 as published in *Capital Connections* be approved. **CARRIED**.

**4) Membership Report**

VP Membership Gail Nevraumont reported that currently we have 186 members, with 7 joining since June plus 2 returning members. There have been 3 Information Sessions and Andrew Stirling is doing a presentation to the Ottawa Newcomers Alumni on Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>. Remaining luggage tags will be sold at the next meeting with proceeds to a club selected charity.

**5) Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Richard Hatherill reported that the circulated financial report (attached to the Agenda) indicated an income of \$5920.00 from Membership Fees and a closing balance of \$ 1460.00 in the General Account. In answer to a question from Paul Koch, Richard indicated that the new sound system was paid for from the General Acc't and monies will be transferred from the Reserve funds.

**6) Exchanges**

VP Exchanges Pierrette Benoit presented a chronological chart of all exchanges for **the 2011** year. She encouraged members to sign up for Exchanges to Chile, Dallas (now separate from Chile) and Lansing, Michigan as well as volunteering to sign up for Inbound Exchanges starting in Feb, 2011. (See below)

**Inbound**

**Global Exchange** (February 9-16, 2011):

43 Ambassadors are expected (31 Australians and 12 Americans. They will arrive 1 day early and rooms have been booked at the Southway Inn to accommodate their early arrival. This exchange is to be hosted by FFO and FARCC, our Francophone partner in the region.

**Kauai, Hawaii** (May)

**North & South Carolina** (September)

**Germany** (October).

## **Outbound**

The following four have been confirmed and were listed in the Capital Connections edition of June 2010.

**Budapest** (April 2011) 21 ambassadors

**Vina del Mar Chile & Dallas** (May 2011) 25 ambassadors

**Lansing, Michigan** (July 2011) 25 ambassadors

**Cairo** (November 2011) 20-25 ambassadors. A draw was held and Ambassadors have been selected and notified.

Judy Whyte asked if a second Exchange could be added in South American with Chile.

ED Gail Nevraumont for the **Inbound Moscow Exchange Nov 2010** stated that of the 25 guests, there will be about 10 "cultural" ambassadors who will be presenting their various talents at various venues. Activities will include a reception at the Embassy hosted by the Ambassador of the Russian Republic, a Sunday afternoon concert at Temple Israel, and a day at Canterbury. Tickets are now available for the Welcome and Farewell dinners as well as the Concert.

### **7) Other Business**

Merv stated that Claudette Tougas was home from a Palliative Care hospital stay and emails and cards could be sent.

Raymond Coté reminded members to read about the new **Wanderers group** meeting on **Oct 5<sup>th</sup>** to hear the Rochons speak on their 31 day Pilgrim's Way (El Camino) trek in Spain. Meet at the Citizen Building at 7pm. RSVP to Ray Coté.

Judy Whyte mentioned a few words about the possibility of an Exchange to Montana in 2012.

### **8) Adjournment**

Upon motion by Dorothy Brunet, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

A Vitalization Workshop followed the meeting run by Elizabeth Bowen and Dave Williams.

The **Annual General Meeting** is scheduled for **Tuesday November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010** at the Tom Brown Arena.

**Recording Secretary**

**Norman McLeod**