



Capital Connections

Newsletter of the Friendship Force of Ottawa, Canada

January 2012 www.friendshipforceottawa.ca

Calendar 2012

General Meeting Dates for 2012

Jan 23
April 23
June 19
Sept 24

2012 AGM **Nov 6**

Tom Brown Hall
7pm for 7:30 pm

FFO Board 2012

President

Pierrette Benoit

VP, Membership

Anna Rochon

VP, Exchanges

Donna
Nicholson

Treasurer

Tom Patterson

Secretary

Claire Fortin

Directors:

Rosemae
Blackwood
Garry Bowes
Marion Dunning
Frank Mayda
Don Urquhart

Past President

Merv Sullivan

Message from your President

It is always interesting to have a quick look back before looking ahead. For FFO, 2011 was filled with exciting adventures and opportunities. We started our year with a Winter Global Exchange, transforming many adults into children as they discovered snow and winter. Our new friends from Kauai and, Central North Carolina and Florence enjoyed a Spring and Autumn experience, from the spectacular colors of the tulips to the breathtaking colors of fall leaves. We are so very fortunate to have members who put their energy, love and effort into all these events. And what of the new friends and exciting adventures our members enjoyed on outbound exchanges in Budapest, Dallas, Lansing and Vina del Mar; indeed our ambassadors represented our club and country with pride. A big thank you to all our members who helped make our exchanges such a grand success!

The FFO Revitalization Program influenced many of the Board's decisions and actions in 2011 and will continue to do so in 2012. It is an important component of our vision and mandate, and an integral part of our future plans. 2011 also saw the development and launch of a new FFO Website – www.friendshipforceottawa.ca. I strongly encourage all of you to visit this site on a regular basis; it contains a lot of important and useful information for all our members as well as for people who may wish to join our club.

We start 2012 with a new Board of Directors. Anna Rochon as VP Membership; Donna Nicholson as VP Exchanges; Tom Patterson as Treasurer; Claire Fortin as Secretary; Marion Dunning as Director Social Activities; Garry Bowes as Director Publicity; Don Urquhart as Director Media Equipment; Rosemae Blackwood as Director Projects; Frank Mayda as Director Archives and Assets; Merv Sullivan as Immediate Past President. Jerry Valihora is our new Editor Capital Connections.

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This year provides a great opportunity for members to reach out and literally “touch” different parts of the globe. We will be making new friends, experiencing new cultures and exploring new lands. India, Northern Idaho, and Brazil will be visiting with us, and we are also hosting fellow Canadians prior to the Canadian Conference. We will be travelling to Northern Ireland, Sweden, Western Montana, Lower Columbia, Indonesia, Penticton, and Calgary. . There are so many opportunities to contribute and experience an exchange – don’t miss out!!!

Another important venue for developing new friendships within our club is FFO social activities; check things out on the FFO Website. I’m confident you’ll find something that is of interest to you.

As a prelude to our January 23rd General Meeting, we are having our second annual pot luck dinner; it starts at 5:45pm, at the Tom Brown Hall, 141 Bayview Road. If you haven’t signed up for the pot luck yet, please contact Jessica Sullivan to let her know what delicious dish you would like to bring. The pot luck will be followed by our usual 7:00pm social, and 7:30pm meeting.

I encourage everyone to get involved in exchanges and social activities – you’ll feel energized, discover loving hearts and wonderful friendships!!!

**EXCHANGES
2012**

Inbound

**Pre-Canadian
Conference
(Quebec City)**
May 13-15, 2012

Nashik, India
May 27-June 3,
2012

**Eastern
Washington,
Northern Idaho**
August 13th week
2012

**Florianopolis,
Brazil**
October 13-21,
2012

Outbound

**Bushmills,
Causeway Coast,
N Ireland**
Between June 10th &
30th, 2012

**Helsingborg,
Sweden**
June 19-26, 2012

**Solo, Kurakarta,
Indonesia**
Sept 6-13, 2012

**Missoula, Western
Montana**
early Sept. *and*
Portland, Oregon,
mid Sept, 2012

**Penticton,
Okanagan**
Sept 27- Oct 1, *and*
Calgary
Oct. 1-5, 2012

**Please provide
feedback
regarding any of
these exchanges
to
Donna Nicholson**

VP EXCHANGES REPORT – Donna Nicholson

FFO Exchanges for 2012

The following is a list of Inbound and Outbound Exchanges for 2012. Specific dates are yet to be confirmed for some exchanges and will be shared as soon as they become available. Following the registration deadline of November 18th, there were three (3) outbound exchanges that were oversubscribed: Causeway Coast (Ireland), Sweden, and Montana/Oregon. Draws were held on December 12th and ambassadors holding spaces on more than one international exchange were asked to choose their preferred destination since a member cannot hold an assured space on more than one international exchange.

INBOUND

Canadian Conference May 13th - 15th
Hosting Coordinator: Jennifer Rae (FFO)
Destinations: Ottawa & Quebec City

Although many volunteers have signed up for day hosting, night hosting, dinner hosting and planning, the only club-directed activity will be night hosting since ambassadors will be on their own to explore Ottawa and its environs. If you are a night host, you are responsible for providing a host home and breakfast only. We expect to receive information regarding the number of ambassadors in February.

Nashik, India May 27 – June 3, 2012
ED David Douglas (FFO)
Destinations: Ottawa then to Lethbridge, Alberta (June 3–10, 2012)
21 ambassadors (TBC)

Eastern Washington/Northern Idaho, USA August 13th week
EDs Norm and Pat McLeod (FFO)
Number of ambassadors TBC

Florianopolis, Brazil Oct, 13-21, 2012
EDs Richard & Kathy Hatherill (FFO)
Number of ambassadors TBC

OUTBOUND

Bushmills, Causeway Coast, Ireland between June 10th & June 30th
ED: TBC
20 spaces available. Oversubscribed. Draw held Dec. 12th.
20 ambassadors with an assured space; 23 on a Yellow Standby List.

EXCHANGES

2012

Inbound

Pre-Canadian Conference (Quebec City)

May 13-15, 2012

Nashik, India

May 27-June 3, 2012

Eastern Washington, Northern Idaho

August 13th week 2012

Florianopolis, Brazil

October 13-21, 2012

Outbound Bushmills, Causeway Coast, N Ireland

Between June 10th & 30th, 2012

Helsingborg, Sweden

June 19-26, 2012

Solo, Kurakarta, Indonesia

Sept 6-13, 2012

Missoula, Western Montana

early Sept. *and* Portland, Oregon, mid Sept, 2012

Penticton, Okanagan

Sept 27-Oct 1, *and* Calgary Oct. 1-5, 2012

Please provide feedback regarding any of these exchanges to

Donna Nicholson

Helsingborg, Sweden June 19 – 26, 2012

ED: Huguette St. Pierre

Oversubscribed. Draw held Dec. 12th.

20 spaces available. 20 ambassadors with an assured space; 5 members on a Yellow Standby List; 2 on Red Standby List.

Missoula, Western Montana & Portland, Oregon early Sept for Missoula and mid-Sept for Oregon

ED: Susan Gardiner

Oversubscribed. Draw held Dec. 12th. 20 spaces available in each location. 20 ambassadors with an assured space; 12 members on a Yellow Standby List; 2 on Red Standby List.

Solo, Surakarta, Indonesia Sept 6 – 13, 2012

ED: TBC

Undersubscribed. 20 spaces available. 18 ambassadors with an assured space and 2 spaces available – preference will be given to members who do not hold an assured space on any other exchange. **TO REGISTER FOR THESE 2 SPACES, PLEASE CONTACT DONNA NICHOLSON BY JANUARY 27, 2012.**

FFI has proposed a second exchange with the Sunshine Coast Australia club either before or after the Indonesia exchange. An e-mail was sent to ambassadors holding an assured space on the Indonesia exchange to determine if there is an interest.

Penticton, BC and Calgary, Alberta Sept 27 – Oct 1, 2012 in Penticton and Oct 1 - 5, 2012 in Calgary

ED: TBC

24 spaces available. 24 ambassadors with an assured space; 7 members on a Standby List.

Exchanges 2013

Our 2013 Planning Request Form has been sent to FFI, and we expect to receive their proposals sometime in February/March 2012. In terms of outbound exchanges we indicated preferences as follows:

1) Peru or Mexico; 2) England; 3) Thailand or China; 4) California and Nevada or, Baton Rouge and New Orleans. We also indicated an alternate preference for Kenya in terms of an international exchange. In submitting our choices, consideration was given to the timing of exchanges; our goal is to try to distribute outbound exchanges throughout the year thereby promoting increased opportunities for all members to participate and ensuring that we have a good number of our members available to host our inbound exchanges.

In terms of inbound exchanges, we indicated an interest in hosting: 1) a Winter Global Exchange [Feb 2013]; 2) a reciprocal exchange with Horowhenua NZ; 3) the Cairo club since we regrettably had to cancel our 2011 outbound exchange. We also indicated an interest in hosting a hiking/walking exchange.

**Technical
Support/Info**

[FFO
Webmaster:](#)
Conrad
Gregoire

[FFO Website:](#)

[www.friendship
forceottawa.ca](http://www.friendship
forceottawa.ca)

[FFI Website:](#)

[www.thefriend
shipforce.org](http://www.thefriend
shipforce.org)

[FFO Newsletter
Editor:](#)

Jerry Valihora

[Friendship
Force
Membership
Directory](#)

Contact Anna
Rochon
to obtain the
link to view or
print the most
current
directory.

A message from the Director of Publicity

Happy New Year everyone. Another year and at least eight exciting exchanges to contemplate! In my role as the Director of Publicity, I encourage all traveling members to consider applying their literary talents to a written account of their exchange experience. Not only is this valuable information for our club archives and for Cap Con, but I would also like to submit for publication a really interesting article with attractive images from an FFO exchange. And, for you shutter-bugs, consider offering especially nice photos which we welcome for possible inclusion on our new website. Group photos or images of members enjoying a moment in famous or exotic surroundings are appreciated. And visitors to the website may also appreciate images of ambassadors having fun visiting Ottawa on an inbound exchange. Just remember that approval must be received from the individuals photographed before the photos can be considered for publication.

Garry Bowes

FFO Board Decision on Privacy: Email Addresses and Telephone Numbers

The Board discussed the issue of privacy at their first meeting last month and decided all email addresses and telephone numbers would be removed from the newsletter. Therefore, all members should keep their membership list handy for email references, when reading the newsletter since only the name of the referenced person will now appear but the email address or telephone number will **not** be printed.

Memories of Autumn Adventures

Friendship Force Ottawa was recently honoured by a generous contribution in its name to FFI's Legacy Fund. This gift was made by ambassadors of Central North Carolina and Florence, South Carolina Friendship Force clubs following their Exchange to Ottawa last September. ED Ralph Cauthen wrote that Ambassadors wanted to say thanks in a tangible way to all FFO members who were " so very good to us! and we are very grateful".

VP Membership Report

Many members of our club have had the opportunity to welcome into our homes ambassadors from a variety of countries with a diversity of cultures, languages, religions and lifestyles. As members of Friendship Force you may have been the ambassador. Those that have been members for a number of years cannot say enough about the opportunities and friendships that have developed through the travel experiences, dinner parties, golf games, bridge games, walking discoveries, and art appreciation excursions.

The Friendship Force of Ottawa has had a membership of about 175 and the goal is to maintain this number. With a large membership we are able to spread the responsibility of hosting over a large number of people and at the same time have 4 outbound exchanges a year.

A Friendship Force booth will be at the Travel and Leisure Show at the new Conference Centre on Colonel By Drive on March 10 and 11th. The hours are from 10am to 5pm both days. This will be an ideal location to meet like minded travelers that may be interested to join our club. Who better to "people" the booth but "friendly" members? If you are interested in spending 2 hours on your feet and sharing your experience with potential new members please contact Anna Rochon.

New Members



Al and Karen have lived in Ottawa for over 35 years and have three grown children and one grandchild on the way. Al worked as a contract manager for the government and Karen was a dietitian in long term care facilities. Both are now retired. Hobbies include gardening, birding, woodworking, and travel.

Al and Karen Toren



Nancy is from Toronto and Wayne is from the Bay of Fundy, New Brunswick. Married for almost 50 years. Nancy is a physio and occupational therapist who did mostly home care practice throughout her career, in Montreal, Ottawa and Lanark County. Wayne is an MD who did family practice in Carleton Place for 11 years and anesthesia for 25 years in Ottawa. Both have done extensive travel in many parts of the world both as medical volunteers and for the joy of travel. Particularly enjoyed South East Asia and Africa. Four kids, 11 grand kids. Ready for more travel and to meet new friends. Nancy's hobby is in stained glass and ceramic tile work.

Wayne and Nancy Barry

**Social Activity
Committee:**

Social Director:
Marion Dunning

Social
Committee:

Heather
Pettipas
Hazel Baskin
Elaine Bradley
Janet Sterling

Bridge Club:
Lorna McKenzie

Art
Appreciation:
Laura Legare
Tania
Kamienski

Dinner Club:
Jessica Sullivan

Walking Club:
Maria Schouten

Summer
Concerts
(Flying Solo):
Heather
Pettipas

Friendly
Wanderers:
Raymond Coté

Golf:
Rheo Brunet

Social Activities – Marion Dunning

Christmas Party

A very BIG THANK YOU goes to Heather Pettipas and her team of Janet Sterling, Hazel Baskin and Elaine Bradley for organizing a wonderful Christmas party at the Cedarhill Golf and Country Club. Our Tenors, John Knobel, John DuVernet, Rheo Brunet and Richard Mason put us in the Christmas mood as we always really appreciate their songs. 89 people attended and enjoyed a delicious meal and dancing to the music by Ed Lascelle and the Mellow Tones. Thanks to John DuVernet for being a good master of ceremonies but I am not sure about the jokes John– lots of booing??? Through your generous donations of jewelry and item purchases, Heather, Janet, Hazel, Elaine and Margie Bott raised **\$337.50** for the Canugan Disability Project in Africa. Navin Parekh is grateful for your support and will be able to purchase hand pedaled tricycles and communications equipment. Thanks to everyone, the Christmas party was a great success.





WINTERLUDE WALK

On **Thursday, February 9, 2012**, the Walking Club will go on a special Winterlude outing. We will meet **at 10 am at the Patterson Creek Skate Change Hut**, at Linden Terrace and the Driveway, and walk along the Rideau Canal Skateway to Confederation Park to view the ice sculptures and other activities. Then we will walk back and have a light lunch at Nanji's Restaurant at 753 Bank Street in The Glebe, for delicious Lebanese food. A sign-up sheet for this event will be available at the FFO General Meeting on January 23, or you can sign up by sending Maria Schouten an email.

Come on out and join us on our annual Winterlude Walk!!

Director of Projects – Rosemae Blackwood

Venues for events...always a challenge when it comes to Inbound exchanges!! Wouldn't it be great to have a list of potential venues posted on our website to help minimize this challenge? I've been asked to take on this task, and I'm ready to get going. To make this project a success, I need your input – please send me an e-mail regarding venues you suggest be placed on this list (i.e.: Community Centres, party rooms in condo buildings, church halls, restaurants, etc), capacity of the room and rental cost (if you have this information). Also, I'll be available at the January 23rd General Meeting to receive your suggestions – you'll find me at one of the sign-up tables; I look forward to seeing you!!!

Appendix "A" Minutes of Friendship Force of Ottawa Meetings

General Meeting

Tuesday September 20, 2011 socialize 7pm; meeting 7:30 pm

Tom Brown Hall, 141 Bayview Road, Ottawa

Minutes of the Meeting

President Merv Sullivan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Attendance: 91 Members, including 4 guests were in attendance.

1) Introductions: New Members : President Merv Sullivan introduced new member Don Ananny.

: Guests: Brian Engham, Karen McGaffney, Myrna Murphy and Jane Simms-
Dalmatas

2) Approval of Agenda: MOVED by Alain Dawson **SECONDED** by Carol Masleck that the agenda be adopted. **CARRIED**

3) Approval of Minutes June 16, 2011 : Secretary Norm McLeod presented the minutes on the June 16 General Meeting as published in Cap Con. **MOVED** by Bob Machacek **SECONDED** by Dorothy Brunet that the minutes be adopted. **CARRIED**

4) Membership Report: In the absence of Membership VP, Gail Nevraumont, President Merv Sullivan presented the membership report.

There are currently 183 members as was indicated in the September edition of Cap Con.

Gail asked that members knowing presenters of retirement courses to let her know. She would approach them to hand out our FFO information sheets.

A new membership list will be sent out shortly. If there are any address, email corrections or telephone number changes, please let Richard Hatherill know.

We have a proposal to approach the Travel Show in March 2012 at the New Convention Centre. We will be asking for a smaller booth. As many of our more active and younger members have been recruited from this source, Gail would like the club to support this endeavour.

Merv indicated that since the cost to FFO would be under \$500, approval of the membership was not required strictly speaking. He asked however, if there were any objections from the floor and seeing none, indicated this initiative would proceed.

5) Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Richard Hatherill presented his report.

Richard reported that there were monies remaining as Merv did not attend the international conference in Hamburg in September. The \$2600 surplus would likely become \$2000 by the end of the year.

Question: What is the reason for the \$558 surplus in inbound exchanges? It primarily comes from the Russian exchange in 2010 as a result of the concert held at the synagogue. The item was reviewed at the September board meeting and discussion was delayed until the October 4 board meeting. One member has submitted a suggestion on what to do with possible inbound exchange surpluses.

TREASURER'S REPORT – BUDGET : SEPTEMBER 20, 2011

		FY11 Actual	FY11 Budget	Variance	Notes
Income					
	Paid Members	185	183		
Membership fees		\$6,492	\$6,405	\$87	
Bank Interest		\$1	\$0	\$1	
Total Income		\$6,493	\$6,405	\$88	
Expenditures					
Membership Expenses					
FFI Fees		\$1,693	\$1,646	-\$47	2.8%
Room Rentals		\$192	\$400	\$208	
Meeting Refreshments		\$233	\$200	-\$33	
Miscellaneous		\$28	\$0	-\$28	
Member Recruitment			\$170	\$170	
International Conference Attendance		\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	
ED Training			\$120	\$120	
New Members Welcome Reception		\$73	\$100	\$27	
Christmas Party		\$350	\$350	\$0	
	Sub-total	\$2,569	\$3,986	\$1,417	
Administration					
Telephone/Long distance		\$14	\$50	\$36	
Photocopying/Printing		\$116	\$100	-\$16	
Manuals, Photos etc			\$100	\$100	
Stamps/Stationary/Office supplies		\$22	\$75	\$53	
Bank Charges		\$12	\$0	-\$12	
	Sub-total	\$164	\$325	\$161	
Insurance					
Directors' and Officers' Insurance		\$891	\$1,000	\$109	
	Sub-total	\$891	\$1,000	\$109	
Communications					
Website		\$280	\$100	-\$180	
Capital Connections			\$50	\$50	
	Sub-total	\$280	\$150	-\$130	
Contribution To FFI Legacy Fund					
Contribution to Legacy Fund		\$506	\$500	-\$6	
	Sub-total	\$506	\$500	-\$6	
Revenue Neutral Accounts					
Inbound Exchanges		-\$558	\$0	\$558	
Outbound Exchanges		-\$3	\$0	\$3	
Badges, Pins, & Buttons		-\$17	-\$189	-\$172	
	Sub-total	-\$578	-\$189	\$389	
Contingency					
Contingency		\$0	\$633	\$633	
	Sub-total	\$0	\$633	\$633	
Total Expenditures		\$3,831	\$6,405	\$2,574	
Balance/Deficit		\$2,662	\$0	\$2,662	

6) Social Activities: Social Director, Marion Dunning gave the following report:
It's the fall and we have a large slate of fall programs to enjoy.

Art Appreciation - We are entering our 9th season. Because of popular request we have formed a second group. If you have not signed up and wish to join, please contact Laura Legare or myself.

Bridge Club - Lorna McKenzie is in charge of this group and has a total of 22 teams.

Dinner Club -A special thank you to Lucy Nelms, who founded the dinner club, and has been the dinner club co-ordinator for many years. Lucy Nelms is stepping down. Please give a warm hand of applause in appreciation of Lucy's hard work. Jessica Sullivan will be signing up new dinner club members tonight.

Friendly Wanderers - Raymond and Eleanor Cote will be presenting a River Cruise from Budapest to Amsterdam on October 4th at 7:00 p.m. at the Citizen Building. Everyone is welcomed.

Christmas Party - The Christmas Party will be held at Cedarhill Golf and Country Club on Wednesday December 7th with cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 7:00 p.m. At a cost of only \$45.00 this is a very good deal for a Christmas Party. We also will enjoy lovely music from Ed Lascelle and the Mellow Tones. Heather is arranging a sale of "gently used jewelry" with the profits going to help the Canugan Disability Project in Africa, spear-headed by a Friendship Force member, Navin Parekh. This project assists people with disabilities in Uganda with the means of transportation and communication. Funds raised at this sale will go to purchase items like hand-pedaled tricycles, white canes and hearing aids. Jan Sterling announced that she and Hazel would collect jewelry from anyone who had brought some tonight. Hazel Baskin is selling tickets tonight for the Christmas Party.

Walking Club - Marie Schouten will tell us what is happening with the Walking Club. (On Thursday, Sept. 22 we will walk the 3.7 km Jack Pine Trail in Stony Swamp followed by a lunch in Bells Corners. The walk will start at 10:00 a.m. at parking lot P9 off Moodie Drive, south of West Hunt Club Road. On Thursday, October 13, 2011 we will walk around Pink Lake starting at 10:00 a.m. with a picnic lunch in Old Chelsea.)

Thanks to everyone for organizing these events. We look forward to a year of lots of fun. We especially hope the new members will take part. If you have any questions see me at intermission.

7) Exchanges:

2011: Exchange VP, Pierrette Benoit gave an update on her report as published in the September edition of Cap Con.

Inbound: Elizabeth Bowen, ED for the inbound exchange from Central North Carolina and Florence South Carolina, reported that the group would be arriving on Thursday. A couple from Tuscon, Arizona, will join the clubs from the Carolinas. The welcome party will be on September 22 at St. Basil's church. A sign-up sheet was available for the event. The

farewell dinner on September 28 will be \$25 and will be held at the Hungarian Community Center, 43 Capital Drive.

Outbound: Lansing, Michigan: In the absence of Raymond Coté, ED for the Lansing exchange, Susan Gardiner reported that 15 ambassadors travelled to the Michigan state capital. Among the events, they were introduced at a session of the State Senate and attended a football game where Michigan defeated Florida 44-0. A marching band playing "Amazing Grace" at half time was a remarkable event.

Outbound : Viña del Mar: ED Frank Mayda reported that 16 ambassadors were preparing to go from Oct. 20-27. A post travel trip to Machu Picchu in Peru is planned.

2013: Pierrette asked that members review the offerings for 2013 and indicate their destination preferences which are to be sent to the VP Exchanges, Pierrette Benoit benoitp@ncf.ca or if by regular mail 2706 Violet Street, Ottawa, On K2B 6X2.

DEADLINE FOR PREFERENCE SUBMISSION FOR 2013 IS OCTOBER 7TH 2011.

AVAILABILITIES:

HIGH AVAILABILITY: Anywhere is great; Anywhere in Asia; Anywhere in Latin America; Anywhere in South Pacific; Australia; Brazil; Burundi; Colombia; Ghana; Indonesia; Nepal; New Zealand; Tanzania; United States – mainland.

AVERAGE AVAILABILITY: Anywhere in Europe; Anywhere in Africa/Mid-East; Canada; England; Germany; India; Israel; Japan; Kenya; Korea; Mexico; New Caledonia; Russia; Taiwan; Ukraine.

LIMITED AVAILABILITY: Albania; Argentina; Austria; Belgium; Chile; Costa Rica; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Egypt; Estonia; France; Hungary; Latvia; Netherlands; Northern Ireland; Peru; Romania; Slovakia; South Africa; Sweden; Switzerland; Thailand; Turkey; United States – Hawaii; Wales.

SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS: China; Morocco; Vietnam.

FFI is also interested in knowing if we are interested or would consider "themed exchanges" thereby adding exciting features in the hosting region to the traditional home stay. Indicating an interest does not mean does not obligate us to do so; if interested, then FFI staff could work with us to create a successful exchange on this nature. Options are: Cycling; Eco-Exchange; Education; Gardens; Hiking/Walking; Humanitarian. .

SUGGESTION: that a list of places visited over the past 5 years be made available so that newer members will see where FFO has been. This could help to eliminate repeated preferences for 2013. Pierrette Benoit will create this list and make it available.

Members were reminded that there is an FFI website (www.thefriendshipforce.org) which lists other opportunities for travel. Also Canadian exchanges which are undersubscribed are available at www.canffex.ca

For the Indonesian exchange, Pierrette will look into the possibility of a double exchange with other clubs in fairly close proximity (I.e.: Western Australia). Once ambassadors are identified, interests and preferences will be discussed and Pierrette will explore with FFI accordingly.. There are as yet no ballpark dates for this exchange.

Merv reminded members that we need to concentrate on involvement of new members.

INTERMISSION

At the tables sign-up sheets:

Exchanges 2011 Inbound

Central NC Florence SC Welcome party	Sep 22, 2011
Farewell party	Sep 28, 2011

Exchanges 2012 Outbound

Helsingborg Sweden	June 2012
Causeway Coast Ireland	June 2012
Solo Indonesia	Sep 2012
Missoula MT & Lower Columbia	Sep 2012
Domestic Penticton - Okanagan	Sep 2012

Exchanges 2012 Inbound

Hosting Canadian Conference	May 13-15, 2012
Nashik, India	May 20-27, 2012
Eastern Washington-Northern Idaho	August 2012
Florianopolis, Brazil	Oct 13-21, 2012

Social Activities

Dinner Club
Christmas Party Wed Dec 7, 2011

Exchanges 2012 status & questions re: rules: Pierrette gave the results from the sign-up tables : OUTBOUND :

Helsingborg Sweden : 31 signed up for 20 spaces
Causeway Coast Ireland : 42 signed up for 20 spaces
Solo Indonesia : 22 signed up for 20 spaces
Missoula & Lower Columbia : 25 signed up for 20 spaces
Penticton- Okanagan : 21 signed up for 20 spaces

Members were encouraged to sign-up even if the exchange looks oversubscribed as spaces will become available as time passes. Members were reminded that for each exchange registered for, a \$35.00 per person per exchange fee was due by November 18, 2011. If a member withdraws at least 6 months prior to the exchange the fee will be refunded. If after the 6 months, the refund will be pro-rated.

Pierrette explained the process of selection for oversubscribed exchanges. She will send out a copy of the guidelines to anyone who requests one. She can be contacted at benoitp@ncf.ca or if by regular mail 2706 Violet Street, Ottawa, On K2B 6X2.

INBOUND 2012: there was a positive start for these exchanges. Anyone wishing to be involved in a 2012 inbound exchange can contact Pierrette.

10) Other Business:

- Elizabeth Bowen reminded people to sign-up tonight for the Carolinas welcome and farewell gatherings.
- Richard Hatherill reminded members that the fees for 2012 are due by December 31. It will remain at \$35.00 per member. Fees paid after December 31, 2011 will be \$40.00

11) Adjournment: MOVED by Maureen Sly **SECONDED** by Ginette Bocage that the meeting be adjourned. **CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

NOTE: the next GM will be the AGM on Friday December 2 (7:00 p.m. socializing for 7:30 p.m. meeting) in the Tom Brown Hall, 141 Bayview Road, Ottawa.

FFO	www.friendshipforceottawa.ca
Canadian exchanges	www.canffex.ca
Friendship Force International (Atlanta)	www.thefriendshipforce.org

From the Suggestion Box : 3 suggestions have been submitted through the suggestion box and forwarded on to board members for their consideration.