



The Friendship Force of Raleigh

No. 6

Nov./Dec. 2017

Changing the Way You See The World

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a busy and wonderful time as the President of the Friendship Force of Raleigh I have had this year! I have had the opportunity for international traveling, making new friends at each stop and hosting the Open World teachers all in the past year! I could not have imagined such a travel year with such great memories as Herman and I have had through the Friendship Force. Herman and I participated in our first international exchange/journey in Leicestershire, represented your club at the International Meeting in Manchester, England, traveled to Quebec City, Quebec with our club members, and hosted 2 great English teachers from Moldova.



I want to thank all of you for your support for me as a "Newbie" President. I jumped right in and did my best with the help of all the coaching from experienced board members. I welcome Judy Wright as your new President and I will be staying on the board as your new treasurer. .

2018 Exchanges: So you can plan your trips and get involved, plan ahead now to start traveling and hosting in the club:

Update: The incoming International Exchange with the Quebec Club planned for 2018 has been cancelled due to the lack of the number of members who could travel from Quebec in April and that the Seattle club chose not to participate as well. We hope to plan another exchange with Quebec and Seattle soon

Our incoming Domestic Exchange from Central

Montana will be **September 28-October 4, 2018**. Please contact Judy Wright at 919-848-3737.

Additionally, the outgoing International Exchange for 2018 has been approved for **November 6-13, 2018** partnering with the Knoxville, TN club to travel to La Serena, Chile. We expect to have 10-12 members participate.

Judy and the board members are planning an outgoing domestic exchange in in 2018. And we will need a volunteer for the Exchange Director.

Lastly, I wish to thank all of you who have made this year a success for our club! I especially want to thank all of the exchange directors for all of the hard work of planning and all of the board members that have served so well this year.

In Friendship,
Donna Steele



ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP FORCE HOLIDAY PARTY

Thursday, December 7, 2017
NC State University Club
4200 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC
Social at 6:00 pm/Dinner at 7:00 pm
(after dinner entertainment)

Buffet Menu: Chicken Cordon Bleu, London Broil, Varied Sides, Salads,
& Dessert

Cost: \$36.00 per person
Make check payable to The Friendship Force of Raleigh

RSVP by Monday, December 4th to:
Brenda Gay
105 Avenel Lane
Clayton, NC 27527
919-359-9502
E-Mail: bmgay@embarqmail.com



Suggested Peace Pole for Dorothea Dix Park

Mike Rakouskas, Kate Pearce, Brenda Gay

Brenda Gay and Mike Rakouskas met with Kate Pearce, Senior Planner with the City of Raleigh on Thursday evening, November 16th during a Community Meeting at the Hunt Library concerning the future development of the Dorothea Dix Park. The purpose of the meeting was to get input from the public about any ideas to suggest for the new park.

The purpose of our meeting with Kate was to present an idea which stemmed from an Exchange our club made to Dayton, Ohio in 2015. During our exchange the Dayton club arranged a tour of the Dayton International Peace Museum and our Ambassadors saw two beautiful Peace Poles which their Friendship Force club was instrumental in having constructed in community parks.

With the support of our Board, we have contacted representatives from several other international organizations in the Triangle area including Raleigh Sister Cities, International Focus, the Center for International Understanding (now called Go Global NC), the International Students Officer at NC State and the State Fair's Peace Booth to ask their support to approach the city of a Raleigh about the construction of a Peace Pole high above Raleigh in the Dorothea Dix Park as a symbol of the City's commitment to a peaceful community and world.

We hope to have a meeting with the city in the near future to discuss this further with City of Raleigh representatives and all the interested parties to determine whether the City would support such an idea. The timing of such a proposal could be appropriate given that in April the Dalai Lama will be visiting Raleigh at the request of Mayor McFarlane and announcing such a gesture could be a welcome step during this visit.



Dayton Peace Pole

