

Your presenter

- ▣ Patricia Ghiglieri
- ▣ Member since 2007
- ▣ ED for an inbound exchange within 6 months
- ▣ Vice President 2nd year
- ▣ President 2 years
- ▣ Multiple experiences similar to FF so the transition and leadership roles were easily accepted

Demographics of the Friendship Force Club of Sacramento

- ▣ We are a large Metropolitan City- Sacramento California, USA
- ▣ Multiple smaller cities that are part of the larger metropolitan area. We have 250 square miles or 415 kilometers with a population of approximately 2 million people.

Demographics

- ▣ Sacramento has 19 major public and private colleges and universities
- ▣ 16 public school districts
- ▣ 15 major art and historical museums
- ▣ 20 public libraries
- ▣ 10 hospitals
- ▣ 30 parks
- ▣ 6 million trees
- ▣ 4 public golf courses

Demographics (Cont.)

- ▣ Greater Sacramento has been cited as one of the five “most livable” regions in America in 2004 and TIME magazine cited it as America’s Most Diverse City in 2002
- ▣ Sacramento River, longest river within California, flowing south for 447 miles

LEADERSHIP

- ▣ Hold board meetings monthly on the same day as the general meeting
- ▣ Members can participate in the board meeting and their ideas and opinions can be voiced and heard by the board
- ▣ Have General Meetings at least 10 months of the year with a program at each
- ▣ Go out to dinner with one another at least 6 of the general meetings
- ▣ Have current bylaws and Policies and Procedure Manual
 - ▣ Encourage members to take leadership roles

Leadership (continued)

- ▣ Become a 501(c) 3 (United States)
- ▣ Brainstorm how to meet the needs of the majority of the membership
- ▣ Meet in public places, like libraries not members homes
- ▣ Survey membership on interests, time of day for meetings, activities they would lead, etc
- ▣ Offer additional activities beside board meetings. Mystery trips, planned trips, gardens, unusual locations that many have never seen

Exchanges Planning

- ▣ Develop a requirement for ED's to be an inbound ED before they can take on an outbound.
- ▣ Announce applications are “now open” for the following exchanges and ask members to apply, listing their qualifications. Try to make it an honor to be selected, no begging.
- ▣ Line up your ED's at least 9 months in advance for international exchanges

Exchange Planning (Continued)

- ▣ This year for an In Bound, our ED hosted all home hosts for a light dinner and then went over the weeks activities and hosting expectations and responsibilities. Everyone attended and this was quite successful
- ▣ Invite all club members, to the Welcome and Farewell.
- ▣ Try to have as many day hosts as possible during an exchange

Exchange Planning (Continued)

- ❑ Be clear in expectations and finances
- ❑ Require each ED to present to the board their exchange budget at least 2 months before the exchange
- ❑ Find a member who is willing to take on the role of ALL exchanges treasurer
- ❑ This person also develops the budget for each exchange and the board treasurer is out of this loop.
- ❑ This helps to find someone who is willing to be treasurer on the board

Exchange Planning (Continued)

- ▣ Always keep an accurate accounting of each exchange expenses and provide it to each Ambassador on Out bounds
- ▣ It is easier to recruit an ED for International Out bound if you follow the suggested recommendation by FFI and have all Ambassadors pay a portion of the airfare and FFI fees for the ED.

Exchanges (continued)

- ▣ At the Welcome, have the host introduce each Ambassador and say 3 things about them they have learned since meeting them (This really warms up the group)
- ▣ If you do not have a large exchange, you could also do the reverse, have the Ambassador tell 3 things about their hosts they have learned about them.

Exchanges (continued)

- ▣ Hold meetings and obtain ideas from your committee. President and or Vice President should attend this first meeting even if they are not planning to host
- ▣ No exchange should be planned by just one person. Involve as many members in your club as possible
- ▣ Club member responsibilities: Home hosts, Dinner hosts, Day hosts, Gift Bags. Ambassador booklet and Host booklet, coordinators of each activity, Welcome and Farewell lunches/dinners.

Exchanges (continued)

- ▣ Read the FFI Manual; It is invaluable
- ▣ Make copies so each new ED has one
- ▣ Keep the general membership updated through monthly newsletters, email updates and telephone calls if necessary

Community Involvement

Library displays
(We have 12 of them)

Participate in smaller local activities, such as a town parade and march behind the banner

Sisters Cities

Presentations about Friendship Force anywhere asked.

Retirement associations, women's organizations, men's organizations

World Friendship Day

Membership Recruitment

- ▣ World Friendship Day
- ▣ Brochures that are exciting
- ▣ Business cards for board members and general membership, especially when traveling to promote FFI.
- ▣ Member outreach to friends
- ▣ Wear badge and club shirts at community activities
- ▣ Offer training about FFI as soon as possible following World Friendship Day or another activity

What have we gained from these activities?

- ▣ Multiple members capable of being an ED
- ▣ Multiple members encouraged to become a leader or chair of an activity
- ▣ Beginning to bring in “slightly” younger members
- ▣ A real bonding
- ▣ Clubs want to visit us and want us to visit them

What have we gained from these activities?

- ▣ Have applied to have our World Friendship Day be a Trailblazer project
- ▣ Have placed our policies and procedures manual on our website
- ▣ Annual meeting in October is our Oktoberfest and annual report to the membership of the years' accomplishments and vote on the next years exchanges
- ▣ Large enough now to request more inbound exchanges and that has been granted
- ▣ We will offer the additional exchange mainly to new members which will keep them interested
- ▣ We have been asked to start a club in Russia.

Final Thoughts

- ▣ Involve your club as much as possible in the local community
- ▣ Reach out to other clubs and say “yes” more often than “no”
- ▣ Ask FFI if you have an idea they may have not thought of before and brainstorm if you can do it!
- ▣ Always do something special and ongoing for new members. Mentor them!