**Member Profile: Mair Murphy**

*by Kathleen Jamison*

Soft spoken with a lilting accent, Mair Murphy has the distinction of being the only FFFS member who can pronounce "Mae hi'n bwrw hen wragedd a ffyn." (A Welsh phrase that is especially appropriate with all the downpours we've had recently; its literal translation being "it's raining elderly ladies and sticks.)"

Curious to "see what America was like," the native of south Wales took a job as a nanny and arrived in Buffalo, New York at age 21. One of her most vivid memories of that time was "the biggest blizzard I had ever seen." She still goes back home every two or three years but has lived ever since around the US, and for three years in Saudi Arabia. When her nanny family moved to California's Pacific Palisades, she went with them. There she met her husband Richard and really began her travel adventures. That included most everyone's youthful fantasy of spending six months touring around the UK and Europe in an old car and by train, and later driving to Alaska in an aged Volkswagen with a pop-up tent.

The couple has been in this area for 30 years, but she still has the travel bug, which makes her a perfect Friendship Force member. Right now, she is wrapping up the details for coordinating the club's upcoming outbound to Long Island, New York. Since joining about six or eight years ago, she has led trips to Peru, New Zealand and Milwaukee, served as president, treasurer and newsletter editor, and home hosted. Among other things.

The Murphys have two children – son Thomas who lives in San Antonio and daughter Erenna who lives in Columbus, GA – and one grandson. Mair was a stay-at-home mom while the kids were young, then began a career in the world of finance. After her years at Raymond James, she says the best advice she can offer for those of us wishing to get rich quick is "buy low and sell high." (A little Welsh humor?)