**President's Message**

Well, summer is here so we will have a meeting break until September. We will still have some fun activities coming up. No newsletter for July and August, but if we need to reach you a Blast will be sent, so keep your eyes open.

Thank you to the many people who helped make our Florida Rendezvous a success. We got to know the folks from The Villages and Sarasota and enjoyed their company. They said they had a good time. We raised $320 from our raffle and that money will be donated to FFI from the three clubs. A huge thank you to those who donated baskets.

Terri Holsinger, our Florida FFI representative and a member of the Sarasota club, announced the 2023 outbound journey for our club – Nova Lima and Brasilia, Brazil. When we voted in February, Brazil was our second choice, so that is great news and should be a wonderful trip.

We had our voting for new officers and we welcome them. I think it is a wonderful group of able, smart, and talented folks. Thank you to our nominating committee, Geri Espy, Sue Olnick and Jane Lee.

I hope you all have some travel plans this summer – near or far, adventure or family. As for me, I am headed to Ontario, Canada, starting June 10 for five weeks, two of which are with FFI Sarasota. I’m then heading to Germany on August 21 with The Villages club for two weeks. I will continue my journey with more Germany, France, maybe Spain, and then over to Italy. I will cruise back to Tampa and be home November 21.

During my time away, Gretchen Worth will step up to the presidency early to do what needs to be done. She will be a wonderful president, and I welcome her.

Thank you all for being so helpful to me while I was president. This was not a natural or, truthfully, good position for me. I tried to do the best I could. I’m really a people person not a runner of an organization person. The part I loved most was getting to know so many of you better, seeing your strengths and great volunteer hearts. I learned how many people it takes to do what needs to be done, and it is a bunch!

I love our club and what we stand for. I believe we can bring peace to this world even one small step at a time. As Jimi Hendrix said, "When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace."

Imagine, Gena Cameron  