



The Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison

Experience Different Views. Discover Common Ground.

July 2017



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

"There is magic in long-distance friendships. They let you relate to other human beings in a way that goes beyond being physically together and is often more profound."
Diana Cortes

A number of recent conversations and messages have caused me to consider the value of our long distance friendships and especially those that we establish as members of the Friendship Force. The arrival of our ambassadors from New Caledonia provided us with opportunities to establish life-long relationships that make our personal lives so much richer. I am reminded each day about the impact of Friendship Force in my life when I check Facebook or Email and see photos, stories and messages from my friends in Ukraine, Russia, Turkey, Costa Rica, England, Germany and of course around the United States. As much as we sometimes curse social media and electronic communication, it has made our connections more immediate and easier. At the same time, social media like Facebook can lead us to watch but not engage. I have to remind myself that it is time to send a personal messages that says I am thinking of you today. Whether is it snail mail or email, it still takes the effort but in the end the effort is worth it.

Nearly nine years ago, we day hosted Miles and Katy from Matlock England. Katy and I have sent each other weekly messages for most of the nine years. Last year we were able to visit Katy, Miles and their beloved dog Tiffany in Matlock and reinforce our connection. Today, I count Katy as being among my dearest friends. Without Friendship Force I wouldn't have people like Katy in my life. Many of you have similar stories that I am hoping that you will share in our newsletter. What better way to share our mission with others than to tell our stories!

I am looking forward to seeing you at activities throughout the summer. Please remember to put dates for our various activities on your calendar!

Sandi Wysock
President

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2017 CLUB ACTIVITIES

Monthly Board Meeting - Bridge Point Waunona Community Center, 1917 Lake Point Dr, third Wednesday of the month, 1:15 p.m.

July 17, Monday—L.E.O. *

August 25-28, Saturday-Tuesday—FFI 40th Anniversary World Conference, Manchester, UK ☺ (February)

September 8-16, Friday-Saturday---Open World ☺ (January)

September 10, Sunday—Ice Cream Social ✍

September 12-17, Tuesday-Sunday—Medicine Hat, Canada Outbound Journey *

October 1, Sunday—L.E.O. ✍

2018

April 20-22, Friday-Sunday—Great Lakes, Midwest, and Southwest Regions FF Combined Super Conference, Cincinnati, OH ✍

* Information in this newsletter

☺ Information previously announced (Month in ☺Newsletter)

✍ Information to be announced later



New email address: Marian Ehrenberg
marianeh2014@gmail.com

New Members

Judy Endle, 4710 Washington Way West, Estero, FL 33928
608-238-4606, jendle4209@gmail.com

Mary Marshall, 156 Felix St, Wales, WI 53183
262-968-2118, mary.marshall@wi.rr.com

Patricia Stone, 7221 Maywood Ave, Middleton, WI 53562
608-831-6686, patden@tds.net

Bobbie & Roger Vrooman, 655 Sanibel Ln, Sun Prairie, WI 53590, 864-905-2268, bobbiesque@gmail.com,
robovrooman@gmail.com



Bylaw Change and President 2017-2018 Voting Results

The June newsletter provided information on a proposed bylaw change to amend what constitutes a term when a vacancy of an elected officer occurs. This bylaw change would allow Sandi Wysock to be nominated to serve as the president for 2017-2018. Both actions needed to be voted on by membership at a meeting open to all members. The annual picnic on Wednesday, June 28, 2017, provided the opportunity. More than 25% of the members were present to constitute a quorum. All members received a ballot in an envelope when they arrived in accordance with the Club's bylaws. The vote was unanimous to change the bylaws to include "any vacancies filled for a partial term will not be considered as a full term for future elections." The vote was also unanimous for Sandi Wysock as president.

Our elected officers from September 2017 to September 2018 are:

President, Sandi Wysock
Vice-president, Peg Hutnik
Secretary, Stephanie Sorensen
Treasurer: Judith Taylor

Congratulations to all!

Donna Hussin
Nominations Chair



Seeking Board Members

I am looking for members who are willing to serve on the board as leaders, co-leaders or assistant leaders.

Activities co-chair-- we need one member who is willing to work with Lois Schulz to oversee and coordinate activities which include book club, LEO's, the picnic, highway clean up, WPT auction, charitable activities and the holiday party. We have leaders for most of the sub activities in place.

Membership: Mary Lindquist has been the leader of this Standing Committee for many years. She will continue to maintain all of our records and membership files but would like to step back from board obligations.

Outreach: The Outreach Standing committee is responsible for raising our profile in the community. Last year they presented a program about Guadeloupe to attract new members. This committee is responsible for our booth at the International Festival

and for providing speakers to community groups in our area. The leader will also assist with development of a marketing plan.

Journey Manager- assistant. Gail Holmes would continue as the board member. However, we would like to find an assistant who is willing to learn more about the position and who would be willing to assume these responsibilities in the future. Gail locates journey coordinators, coaches new coordinators, and plays a key role in setting our journey calendars. Past experience as a journey coordinator is required.

Our board currently meets once per month on the third Wednesday from 1:15 to 3:15 at the Bridge Lake Point Community Center.

If you would like to know more about these opportunities to support our club, please let me know as quickly as possible. We are hoping that all new incoming board members will be able to join us for our strategic planning session July 12, 2017.

Sandi Wysock
President

sandrawysock@msn.com 608-833-5326 African-

Activities

Let's
Go Out
For...

American "Soul Food"

July 17 L.E.O Dinner

5:30 p.m. Social

6:00 p.m. Dinner

The Pub, Brookline Apartments
7707 N Brookline Dr, Madison, WI 53719

The menu is fried or BBQ chicken, greens, black-eye pea salad, cornbread, sweet potato pie and peach cobbler. Cost is \$20. RSVP Jane Kessenich, 608-836-0324 or jpkessenich@charter.net.

Directions: The Brookline Apartments are part of Coventry Village on Madison's far west side. Brookline Dr is off S High Point Rd. Coming from anywhere in Madison: due to the bridge under construction on S High Point, your best route is to take Watts Rd and turn south onto S High Point. Turn right onto Brookline, (little hut sits in middle of Brookline Dr) turn left into the parking lot adjacent to the L-shaped high rise building.

Coming from Fitchburg, Verona and Monroe, take Midtown Rd to S High Point, can only turn north onto S High Point. Continue to the end of the village (little hut sits in the middle of Brookline Dr) and turn left. Continue to the parking lot adjacent to the L-shaped high rise building.

Chris Manke

2017 Club Journeys

San Diego Journey May 19-26, 2017



Second Harvest Foodbank Service Project

We offered unique activities and educational experiences for 14 (3 couples and eight women) ambassadors from the San Diego, California club. The traditional experiences included the Friday night fish fry, tour of the State Capitol, and visit to Hinchley Dairy Farm with free time to take in any of the museums on the Capitol Square. The new experiences were a scavenger hunt of downtown Madison, Horicon Marsh Explorium and pontoon boat tour, Second Harvest Foodbank service project, House on the Rock, New Glarus Historical Village and Swiss meal with entertainment, Brodhead Airport vintage aircraft and a polka dance and sing-along farewell party. The members of the planning committee for this eight-day journey were Gail Holmes and Donna Hussin, co-host coordinators and Patrick Fleming, Audrey Liimatainen, Tom and Donna Miller, and Lois Schulz. This was truly an exchange since our club went to San Diego in 2015 with several hosts reciprocating to their ambassadors.

The San Diego ambassadors were Nancy Alongi (ambassador coordinator) and Andy Alongi, Judy Anderson, Bonnie Andrews, Carol Babbitt and Stan Newton, Lauren Beaudry, Pam Onglo, Susan and Michael Pasterkiewicz, Brenda Pearson, Mary Prokop, Patricia Rudner, and Moyra Woodward.

The Club's home hosts were Rita Bloomfield, Jan Gruetzmacher and Lisa Simon, Kathy and Doug Johnson, Jane Kessenich, Lucy and Bob Lasseter, Martha McGregor, Sarah Rankin and Karl Hille, Lois Schulz, Kathy Speck and Gabor Kemeny, Stephanie Sorensen, and George and Sandi Wysock.

Dinner hosts who provided delicious meals and good conversation were Dorothy and John Baldwin, Sandy Drew, Jane and Wes Licht & Nancy and Richard Mueller, Margo McKnight and Chris Manke, Donna and Tom Miller, Julie Pretell and Allen Risland, Lise Skofronick, Stephanie and Dean VandenBush, and Bobbie and Roger Vrooman. The dinner coordinator was Jane Kessenich.

Day hosts were Dan Eggerding, Sueli Goulart, Donna Hussin, Mary Mastaglio, Magdi Sebestyen, Lise Skofronick, and Judy Taylor. We enjoyed having these club members join in many daily activities—Lucille Cortorno, Rita Haring, Mary Lou Martino, and Bobbie Vrooman

Mary Lindquist and Janet Lonergan handled interviews, Lise Skofronick purchased the welcome bags, Gail Holmes secured the contents, including our club pin, luggage tag, and a Made in Wisconsin chocolate bar, Jan Gruetzmacher baked cookies, Tom Miller was the photographer, Lois Schulz the journey treasurer and also in charge of the crockpot soup lunch at Hinchley's which was provided by Jan Gruetzmacher, Gail Holmes, Chris Manke, Mary Mastaglio, and Lois Schulz along with ice cream and cheese cuds provided by Margo McKnight and Donna Hussin. It takes a large group of Friendship Force of Wisconsin members to have an exchange be successful! Much appreciation to everyone!

Gail Holmes and Donna Hussin
Journey Ambassador Co-coordinators

Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada Outbound Journey September 12-17, 2017



There is still time to join this outbound journey to Medicine Hat. If interested, send your ambassador applications along with the \$25 fee to reserve your space to Peg Hutnik, journey ambassador coordinator. Address and contact information is provided below. The cost for the seven-day journey is estimated at approximately \$150.00. That does not include the FFI fee or travel costs.

Peg Hutnik,
Journey Ambassador Coordinator
13 Hickory Hollow Dr, Madison, WI 53705
608-334-4647 or benhut@att.net

Journey Ambassador Co-coordinator Needed for 2018 Japan

We have one person who expressed an interest in being a co-coordinator and are in need of a second person for our 2018 two-week outbound journey to Japan. One week will be with the Aichi club on the island of Honshu and the other with the Oita club on the island of Kyushu. Tentatively they are suggesting late October/first week of November when the fall foliage is in its prime. Each ambassador co-coordinator would coordinate just one week and would be supportive of each other. The host clubs plan the activities for our ambassadors. Preferred is someone who has been on an outbound journey.

Gail L. Holmes, Exchange Coordinator
608 249-1846, ggholmes@wisc.edu

WISCONSIN FRIENDSHIP
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July 2017

Bylaw Change and President Vote Results
Committee Board Members Needed
Japan Ambassador Co-coordinator Needed for 2018

President: Sandi Wysock	833-5326
Acting Vice Pres: Sandy Drew	833-5811
Secretary Stephanie Sorensen	819-6646
Treasurer: Judith Taylor	345-6827
Newsletter: Donna Hussin	845-3393

Email Accounts:

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San Diego Journey – May 19-26, 2017



Brodhead Airport Vintage Aircraft WWI and WWII



Hinchley Dairy Farm Tour of Crops