



The Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison

Experience Different Views. Discover Common Ground.

November 2017



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Friendship Force Pledge

“As a member of the Friendship Force, I recognize that I can make a difference. I recognize that I have a mission. That mission is to be a friend to the people of the world. As I embark upon this adventure, I know that others will be watching me. I know that through my example to my fellow citizens and the people of other countries, the cause of friendship and peace can be furthered.”

We have completed all of our 2017 journeys and are beginning to look forward to 2018 and new opportunities to extend a hand of friendship here and abroad. Although we are beginning to plan for 2018 already, it is time to assess what worked, what didn't work and gather input from you. Did you participate in journeys this year? Does anything stand out? Did you participate in activities this year? Do you have new ideas or suggestions? It has been suggested that we sign up to volunteer at Second Harvest each month. It would definitely be a way to extend a helping hand in our own community. Would you be willing to pitch in? Are you willing to coordinate? We had a recent bus trip to Rockford's Anderson gardens. Although surveys from members indicated a strong interest in this type of activity the response from members was less than enthusiastic. Feedback is needed. And yes... it is time to begin thinking about officers for the coming year. Our elections will be held at the April business meeting.

We will hold our annual fall membership meeting November 11 from 3-5 p.m. There will be fun ... and pizza... and some conversation, sharing of experiences from the recent journeys, (and a little business). Please join us!

Sandi Wysock
President



FFWI-Madison General Membership Fall Meeting

Saturday, November 11, 2017
3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Sequoia Library,
513 S. Midvale Avenue,
Madison, WI

The arrival of fall means another year of activities for the club have come to the end and it is time to begin planning for the upcoming 2018 year. Mark your calendar now to attend the fall meeting to hear what the Board and the various committees are



2017 CLUB ACTIVITIES

Monthly Board Meeting - Bridge Point Waunona Community Center, 1917 Lake Point Dr, second Wednesday of the month, 12:30 p.m.

November 11, Saturday—Fall General Membership Meeting *

2018

February 11-17, Sunday-Saturday—Jakarta, Indonesia Inbound Journey

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

June 9-15, Saturday-Friday—Niagara, Canada Inbound Journey

October 27-November 3, Saturday-Saturday—Aichi Prefecture Japan Outbound Journey

November 3-10, Saturday-Saturday—Oita Prefecture, Japan Outbound Journey

* Information in this newsletter

☺ Information previously announced (Month in ☺Newsletter)

✍ Information to be announced later

considering and to give us your feedback. The following are some of the possible topics to be presented but there could be more.

- Nomination committee
- Office positions to fill for 2018-2019
- Preview 2017-2018 calendar
- 2016-2017 activities and journeys feedback
- Sharing experiences being a host for an inbound journey
- Second Harvest Volunteer Activity

Pizza and conversation will follow the business portion. RSVP Mary Mastaglio 608-241-0212 or mamastaglio@gmail.com

Mary Mastaglio
Activities Co-chair

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Officers Needed for 2018-2019 Year

We will elect officers at our April annual meeting. They then assume responsibilities at the September 2018 board meeting. There is a transition period of four months that allows new officers to learn from current officers.

Volunteers are needed for the nominations committee. The nominations committee is charged with developing a slate of officers to be presented to the membership at the April meeting. Following is list of the officer positions and a general summary of their responsibilities.

President

The president provides leadership for the club. They preside at all board meetings, serve as a liaison with FFI and other organizations, appoint chairpersons of all standing committees, prepares a report for the annual meeting, completes the inbound/outbound journey requests and submits the annual affiliation fee renewal form. They are expected to attend regional conferences and international conferences, if at all possible.

Vice President

Performs all duties and responsibilities in the absence of the president. Performs other duties authorized by the board and keeps Roberts Rules of Orders.

Secretary

Records the minutes of the Board of Directors meetings and the annual meeting, sends the minutes to the webmaster for posting and forwards copies of all records and reports to the historian.

Treasurer

Collects all dues, deposits club funds in the bank, keeps the books and accounts of the club, submits a treasurers report for the Board of Directors, pays bills, prepares books for the annual internal audit, files annual State of Wisconsin Certificate of Exempt and Non Stock annual report and files annual IRS forms. The IRS form is an electronic postcard. The treasurer is responsible for the Operating Account. Each journey has a separate treasurer so this reduces the involvement of the treasurer in journey activities.

The current Board of Directors meets on the second Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. All officers except the treasurer are able to serve for a maximum of two consecutive years.

Serving on the Board of Directors is a great experience. It is a great way to have input regarding upcoming activities, journeys, and to learn more about Friendship Force. If are willing to volunteer for any of these positions, please let me know. If you are contacted by the nominations committee please consider serving. You won't regret it.

Sandi Wysock
President

2017 Club Journeys Summary

Our club has now completed all of our journeys for 2017. We began with the Guadeloupe outbound international journey from February 22-March 1, 2017 led by co-ambassador coordinators Maureen Kind and Lise Skofronik. There were 21 ambassadors.

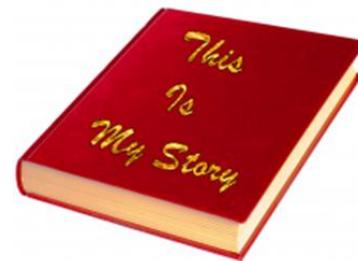
Fourteen domestic inbound ambassadors from the San Diego, California club were here from May 19-26, 2017. Gail Holmes and Donna Hussin were the co-host coordinators.

The New Caledonia inbound international journey from June 23-29, 2017, led by host coordinator Dan Eggerding and assistant Lise Skofronik, had 20 ambassadors (16 from New Caledonia and four from the United States).

An Open World, offering 32 hours of programming focusing on the topic of media literacy and countering false information, was held from September 8-16, 2017. There were five delegates plus an interpreter and a facilitator from Ukraine. Sandy Drew and Sandi Wysock were the host coordinators.

The outbound international journey to Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada had four ambassadors who joined 12 ambassadors from Fukuoka, Japan from September 12-19, 2017. Peg Hutnik was the ambassador coordinator. This journey originally was scheduled from August 8-14 in Medicine Hat and August 15 to 22 in Vancouver, Canada. There was insufficient interest in the Vancouver week which was then cancelled. Our August week in Medicine Hat was moved to September and combined with their incoming journey from Japan.

Gail Holmes
Journey Coordinator



My Ambassador Experience to Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada

The Friendship Force club in Medicine Hat is well thought of and prominent in the city. There is a plaque in the new

City Hall which lists all of the journeys they have welcomed. Their activities and journeys are usually chronicled in the local newspaper. We had a service project at the "Prairie Gleaners". Here, many of the vegetables grown in the area greenhouses were donated. Volunteers peel, cut, and diced many types of vegetables for a couple of hours. The vegetables are dehydrated and packed in one to two gallon bags and are shipped to at least 26 countries around the world. Our four ambassadors were so impressed that they gave a donation of \$80 each as their gift to the club as part of the journey. Medicine Hat is very interested in coming to Madison on a journey, probably in either 2019 or 2020, and it seems they would be a great group to have. Something to keep in mind.

Peg Hutnik



Report by Stephanie Sorensen, Secretary

I attended three specialty workshops. They had a lot of relevant information about what makes a thriving club. In this issue, I will share what I gleaned from the Fortieth Anniversary Campaign. The workshop about volunteering while traveling and the cultural workshop/tour of Manchester will appear in future newsletters.

Fortieth Anniversary Campaign Workshop

This workshop focused on understanding all the ways money and time are used by Friendship Force and discussing the goals for the new Fortieth Anniversary Campaign being launched. We were all thanked for our time in providing our skills in organizing and running local clubs, serving as hosts and coordinating journeys. Clearly FFI could not begin to function without endless volunteer hours at the local and regional levels.

The funds collected by FFI are of two types: fees and donations. The fees for membership and for journeys allow us to put on the journeys. These have been stable for three years and the goal is to keep them reasonable. But with declining membership, we are generating less income from these sources.

Donations, on the other hand, allow for investment in recruitment of members and in the development of innovations in programming as well as help in the establishment of new clubs. Costs for all services are increasing all the time.

Why launch a Fortieth Anniversary Campaign for donations?

- It is a special anniversary and a good reason to make a new effort
- We need a major investment in order to continue and grow our mission
- We need to develop a culture of philanthropy
- We need to establish new relationships now and going forward
- We need to gain more exposure
- We need sustained giving after this initiative
- We need to recommit to original mission of peace through person to person contact
- We need to propel FFI into the future

The goal of this campaign is \$1million (which we may or may not achieve). Not all of this will come from members. This is new territory for FFI. In the past, we raised money periodically for specific things but we did not maintain relationships with donors. Ongoing relationships are the key to sustained contributions. We will be going to both corporations and foundations to rekindle and establish ongoing relationships. This will be a staff effort mainly, but we want input, opinions and buy-in from everyone.

Goals for use of the funds we do raise:

- Strengthen clubs worldwide as well as develop new clubs
- Transition our websites and documents so that relevant things are easily available
- Develop regionally specific marketing and recruitment tools
- Develop club leadership and support the investments made in time and effort
- Develop excellent recruiting materials
- Increase development of innovative membership and programming ideas

Potential givers include:

- Clubs
- Individuals
- Corporations
- Foundations
- Have a list of over 200 potential sources thus far

How clubs can help:

- Sponsorship of an individual/event/program
- Support new programs and attract new members (increases FFI and Club revenue)
- Develop better advertising and marketing in their region

**INTRODUCING MORE CLUB MEMBERS WHO HOSTED NEW CALEDONIA AMBASSADORS
JUNE 23-29, 2017**



Martha McGregor and Mary Lou Martino and their ambassador Mireille Schneider



Sarah Rankin and Karl Hillie and their ambassador Suzanne Duquesne

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5809 Julia St
Madison, WI 53705
www.ffwis.org

November 2017
General Fall Membership Meeting
40th Anniversary Campaign

President:	Sandi Wysock	833-5326
Vice-Pres:	Peg Hutnik	334-4647
Secretary:	Stephanie Sorensen	819-6646
Treasurer:	Judith Taylor	345-6827
Newsletter:	Donna Hussin	845-3393

Email Accounts:

ffwis.general@gmail.com

ffwis.meeting@gmail.com

ffwis.membership@gmail.com

ffwis.outreach@gmail.com

Andersen Japanese Garden Tour – October 19, 2017 – Rockford, IL

