



The Friendship Force of Wisconsin

Changing The Way You See The World

March 2010



Message from the President

This Month Friendship Force is celebrating **World Friendship Day**. Our club is celebrating with Potluck Dinners on various days to accommodate your schedules. The dates are **March 12, 13 & 14, 2010, organized by Paul Buckalew**. Other clubs are celebrating with activities like – Wines of the World, attending a cultural musical performance, a costume contest with clothing from around the world, fund raising party for the FFI Legacy Fund and many other events.

What is World Friendship Day you may ask?

The tradition of **World Friendship Day** began in 2005 as a way for Friendship Force International (FFI), and its 360 clubs around the world, to have a specific day to commemorate the organization's birth. FFI was launched at a White House ceremony on March 1st, 1977, with the endorsement and support of President Jimmy Carter. A resolution honoring FFI, and recognizing March 1, as World Friendship Day, was introduced in the U.S. Senate in 2007.

The work of FFI was recognized with a 1992 nomination for the Nobel Peace prize. March 1, 2009 marks the fifth annual celebration of this important day acknowledging the groundbreaking work of FFI. FFI's signature program is the home stay, bringing people together at the personal level. The idea for the organization was born in the imagination of Wayne Smith, a visionary who understood the potential of friendship to overcome the prejudices of culture, color, language and religion.

Today, FFI is a worldwide organization, headquartered in Atlanta, with chapters, or clubs, in more than 350 cities and 60 countries. Friendship Force Clubs are community-based volunteer organizations that work to increase international understanding through the process of home hospitality. Clubs organize travel, called 'exchanges' to another country where members are matched with local hosts in whose home they live for a short time. Each year, more than 5,000 citizen ambassadors travel with FFI changing the way they see the world by exploring other countries from the inside as temporary citizens. Living with a host family, sharing everyday life brings a profound understanding of another country and culture.

In 2008, FFI launched its newest program, '**themed exchanges**'. Traveling ambassadors can now choose to

focus their experience on culture, education, humanitarian or environmental exchanges, still based around the home hospitality experience. Also in 2008 more than 4,500 Friendship Force citizen ambassadors traveled on exchanges, with thousands more serving as home hosts. In 2009, FFI will be extending the hand of friendship to Morocco, Jordan, Turkey, Ireland and Japan.

The end result of a Friendship Force exchange is a group of ordinary citizens returning to their home communities with an increased global awareness and commitment to make a positive difference in the world, fulfilling the FFI mission: **To promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people**. We believe passionately that the work of connecting people at the personal level is the way to make a significant positive impact on world relations. Now more than ever we need the force of friendship at work in the world, reaching across the barriers that separate people. I will be hosting one of the World Friendship Day Potlucks. Maybe I will see you there.

The spring **Annual Meeting** is April 25th, just around the corner. At this meeting we will **announce our Outbound Destination for 2011** along with our inbound home hosting. Do you want to be one of the first to hear to where our club will be traveling? Come join us and send in your reservations today.

MARY LINDQUIST, President

Exchange Director Workshop Wednesday April 7, 2010

It's time to host a workshop on what being an Exchange Director (ED) is all about. Come check out all the resources we have available to us to make the task easier. This will be an informal discussion. Prior ED's are welcome. They are the best resource.

Please RSVP by April 1st so we can set up a time that works for everyone interested. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

MARY LINDQUIST – President
marylindquist@charter.net 608-233-9351

**Upcoming Regional Exchanges and
International Festivals**

April 12 – 21, 2010

Festival in Bali – Featuring Exotic Bali plus Java and its traditional cultures

Hotel – April 13-17, Homestay – April 17-21 in one of these exciting cities of Jakarta, Bandung, Yogyakarta, Solo-Surakarta, Malang, Surabaya or Semarang.

For more information contact Maryam Jordan at FFI 1-404-965-4337

May, 16, 2010 to June 3, 2010

Global Exchange to Friesland, Netherlands - The Friendship Force of Lincoln

ED is Larry Kluck 402-770-3398 or 402-483-6508 evenings or email at LarryKluck@hotmail.com noting Friesland exchange as the subject matter.

May 19-June 3, 2010

Limburg Belgium - Friendship Force of Eastern Nebraska

ED – Bob Dreessen, email: dreessenre@aol.com, 402-339-3148

June 20 – July 4, 2010

Accra, Ghana – Friendship Force of Central Iowa

Contact Diane Oppedal at dianeopp@gmail.com

July 31 to August 7, 2010

Northern Germany – **Schwerin Festival 2010**

See www.friendshipforce.org website – in the Catalog

September 28 – October 10, 2010 Land only \$1700

Nepal Global Exchange – Friendship Force of Greater Milwaukee
Global ED - Donna Baldwin-Haut, dhaut2006@sbcglobal.net
262-695-0172

October 9 to October 22, 2010

International Conference – Washington DC – Friendship Force of Lincoln NE

Domestic Exchange with Friendship Force of Connecticut

ED Betty Starr – 402-486-4006 bettystarr@inebraska.com

(The International Conference is NOT a part of this exchange.

You must arrange you own travel and lodging in D.C. There will be options for you to participate in a home stay following the conference, but this also is not part of this exchange.)

October 16 to October 22, 2010

International Conference – Washington DC – Friendship Force of Greater Milwaukee

Domestic Exchange with Friendship Force of Charlotte NC

ED Doris Mueller calldm@sbcglobal.net

Last week of October into November 2010

Filobobos, Altotonga, Mexico – Friendship Force of Lincoln NE
Co-ED's, Pat King pking4@neb.rr.com or Julie Albrecht
jalbrecht1@unl.edu

November 2010

Semarang, Indonesia – Friendship Force of Minnesota – Twin Cities

Contact Jim Collins at contact me at idicollins@aol.com or 612-869-1587

November 30, 2010, to December 10, 2010.

Global Exchange to **Bogota & Cartagena Colombia** –

Friendship Force of Greater Des Moines

ED is Beverly Lytle 515-222-1504 or 515-292-1554

bdlytle@gmail.com

Cost is \$800.00 (land only). Airfare at your cost

Friendship Force Outreach

Club members are invited to attend these upcoming Friendship Force presentations of recent trips to Peru.

On Friday, March 5 at 1 pm, by Jim and Shirley Lake at the Goodman Community Center (149 Waubesa Street - Madison),

Monday, March 8, at 1 pm by Fay Schoenemann and Milly Pearson at Capital Lakes Retirement Community (333 W. Main Street - Madison)

Friday, March 12, at 1 pm by Jim and Shirley Lake at the Lussier Community Education Center (55 S. Gammon Road - Madison.)

Past community programs have been well received by audience members. Help spread the word of Friendship, support our member's efforts and attend one of these above programs.

MARGIE GROOM, Outreach Coordinator

608-518-2290 nargiepg@charter.net

Wisconsin to Costa Rica

Plans are now complete for the Costa Rica Exchange taking place April 6 through April 21, 2010.

A final workshop is being held on Saturday, March 13 at 9:00AM

at the Pinney Library located in the Shopping Center at Cottage Grove Road and Monona Drive.

All members are welcome to join us for the workshop to learn about Costa Rica.

Judi Blodgett, Exchange Director - 608-244-8897
jablodgett@charter.net

Friendship Force Board Survey



The Board thanks everyone who returned their survey which was included in the last newsletter. All the comments are most welcome and helpful. We are still accepting completed surveys so if you haven't sent yours we would appreciate you're doing so soon.

A summary of the responses will be published shortly...

MARGO LINDL, Historian
271-3899



2010 CLUB ACTIVITIES

Monthly Board Meeting - Third Friday - 11:30 am
Everyone welcome - 615 E. Washington Ave., 2nd fl.

March 5, 8, & 12 – Outreach Programs *

March 13 – Workshop Wisconsin to Costa Rica *

March 12, 13, 14 – World FF Day Pot Lucks **

April 6 – 21, FFW to Costa Rica *

April 7 – Exchange Director Workshop *

April 25 – Annual Business Meeting & Lunch *

May 8 – Adopt A Highway *

May – Mystery Event **

June 16 – 24, FFW to Oklahoma *

June 23 – 26, Mystery Trip *

July 20 - 27, Tucson to FFW **

July 22 – Annual Picnic **

October 16-19, 2010 FFI Conference **

* Information in this newsletter

** Information to be announced or previously

AN INCOMING MYSTERY TRIP

Our club has received a request to host an incoming Mystery Trip,

and I have agreed to be the Exchange Director for it. Since it is a **mystery trip** the location of the club will remain unknown until we get to meet our guests.

The dates are Wednesday, June 23rd through Saturday, June 26th. Present plans are for our guests to arrive about noon on Wednesday and to depart after lunch on Saturday.

Here is a good opportunity for new members or others who have not hosted to try out hosting for a shorter period of time than a regular exchange. Of course, I will welcome anyone who wants to host. We have told the club that we can host as many as want to come, so please don't hesitate to let me know that you want to host.

I also need a few people who are willing to help plan a few group activities which we will have.

Please call me at **255-0858** or email me at **gdewey@wisc.edu**. **Thanks in advance** for your willingness to make this a great exchange for our guests and us!

GENE DEWEY, Exchange Director

Our New Web Site

Our club now has a new website. The site was developed by Friendship Force International. It is designed specifically for local Friendship Force clubs. Even so, it is much more flexible and easier to customize than the old site.

The new address is **www.ffwis.org**. It will take a few weeks before search engines such as Google are aware of it. The old site will be disabled shortly. I've not been given an exact date.

There is still a lot of work to be done. Many features have not yet been moved from the old site. I will continue to develop it and would welcome your comments. Please check it out and let me know what you think. I hope you like it.

DAVE DOHLER - Webmaster
dedohler@tds.net (608) 222-3794

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The following persons have graciously accepted the nominating committee's request for their service. The committee is pleased and grateful to present the following

slate of officers for the 2010 Election to be conducted on Sunday, April 25, 2010.

President	Mary Lindquist
Vice President	George Wysock
Secretary	Helen Ann Rugowski
Treasurer	Diana Long

Article VI of the by-laws:

Section 2 - Only members present and in good standing may vote. There shall be no voting by proxy.

Section 3 - The Chairperson shall receive from the floor further nominations with the written consent of the nominee.

Respectively submitted: Margo McKnight, Chairperson
Committee: Lois Parsons, Milly Pearson

NOMINEES:

PRESIDENT: MARY LINDQUIST

Thank you for the past year as President, though actually it has only been since September 2009. I have enjoyed the time spent as president and have learned a great deal more about Friendship Force.

I am currently serving as the President and wish to be re-elected for a second term. I have been a member of Friendship Force since 1982. My experience with Friendship Force is numerous. I have been an active member participating in many exchanges. I have also served on the Board since 1994 when becoming the ED for inbound Rio de Janeiro Brazil Exchange. Since then I have led two exchanges to New Zealand and Australia and a Domestic Exchange to Central Montana. I have participated in many additional activities of the Friendship Force of Wisconsin including participating in the International Conference held here and in London England along with a couple of other Regional Conferences held here in Madison.

Now that I know what I am doing, I would like to continue to give back to the club by representing and leading the club as President for another year. Thank you for the opportunity to apply for this position.

VICE PRESIDENT: GEORGE WYSOCK

I worked as an accountant with a number of companies including GE, Honeywell, and lastly for the Wisconsin DNR. My wife and I retired about three and a half years ago and coincidentally joined the Friendship Force at the same time. We have day hosted for an Australian and British exchanges, and home hosted for the Moscow

Exchange. We have traveled with the FFW to Montana, and will travel to Costa Rica this April. In addition we have volunteered to answer phones for the public television auction.

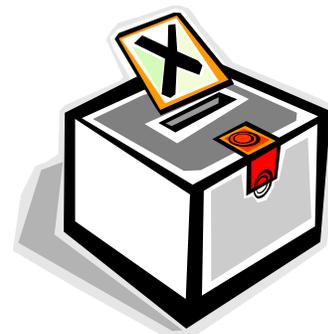
SECRETARY: HELEN ANN RUGOWSKI

I have been a member of the Friendship Force since 2000. During this period, I have traveled with our club members to Scotland, South Korea, Sherbrooke/Quebec, Canada and most recently to Trujillo, Peru on a mystery trip exchange. I home hosted in November 2000 when the FF International Conference was held in Madison and was thrilled for the opportunity to shake hands and go jogging with Jimmy Carter. I retired in 2008 and now wish to become more involved in hosting as well as continuing to be a FF ambassador. As it's evident I have received far more than I've given over the years, I am submitting my name for a second year as secretary."

TREASURER: DIANA LONG

Diana served 15 years as the Accounting Director for the State Bar of Wisconsin. She and her husband Bernie have been members since 1980 participating in many inbound and outbound exchanges, attended 6 International Conferences, was assistant exchange director three times and was the exchange director for the Jenna, Germany (inbound and outbound) exchanges.

Diana currently is treasurer, has previously held the Treasurer's position for FFW, as well as for several other organizations. _



Adopt - A - Highway

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 8 if you are willing to HELP with our spring highway clean-up. Ten volunteers works really nice.

We meet at the Park and Ride Lot at Hwy 12 exit 249 and start at 8:30 am. With enough help we should be through by 11 am. Please call to tell me you will be working with us. It will save my having to make phone calls.

**Any questions call.
DON GOSTOMSKI, Chairperson
608- 249-8250**

Tucson Friendship Force to Madison

The dates are set;
The plans begin;
Offer your help;
On you we depend....

Twenty ambassadors from Tucson, Arizona are expected in Madison from July 20-27. Special emphasis will be on Frank Lloyd Wright related buildings in and around Dane County. The ambassadors will attend the Concert on the Square (July 21) and the Annual Club Picnic (July 22). Touring will include two days in Madison, one in Spring Green, and one in a local community. The weekend will be free time with the hosts.

Let me know if you are interested in hosting or helping. Interviews will be in late May.

**NANCY MUELLER, Exchange Director
RNMUELLER@yahoo.com**

**WISCONSIN FRIENDSHIP
Official Publication of
The Friendship Force of Wisconsin
Madison, WI**

Friendship Force of Wisconsin to Oklahoma

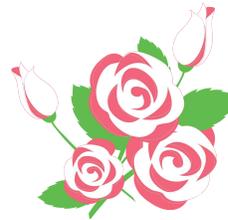
FF of Oklahoma has invited FFW to visit from June 16 - 24. We are planning to travel by bus with a stop overnight on the way there and on the way back.

On June 18, we will be attending the Red Earth Festival where 1,200 Native Americans in full costume come and dance and show their artistic wares jewelry, paintings, crafts, etc. The festival is known world-wide, and every club they have "treated" to this event has been really happy with the opportunity.

**JANE KESSENICH, Oklahoma Exch. Director,
608-836-8429, jpkessenich@charter.net**

MEMBERS OUTREACH

Jane Kessenich presented our trip to Azerbaijan on January 19 at the Middleton Senior Center, and January 27 at the Madison Senior Center. She will present our trip again on April 19, at the Fitchburg Senior Center at 1p.m.



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P. O. Box 56223
Madison, WI 53705
www.ffwis.org

March 2010
Oklahoma Exchange
Annual Meeting Luncheon Reservation
Exchange Director Workshop Sign Up

President: Mary Lindquist 233-9351
Vice Pres: Margo McKnight 345-6827
Secretary: Helen Rugowski 238-9731
Treasurer: Diana Long 849-5592
Newsletter: Janet Lonergan 592-3336

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WISCONSIN

Annual Meeting, Election of Officers, Luncheon, and program
Sunday, April 25, 2010 Time 12:30



Knights of Columbus Clubhouse 5256 Verona Rd. Madison
Cost \$15.00

Edith's Catering

RESERVATION DEADLINE: April 19, 2010

Reservations for lunch can not be accepted after April 19, but after April 19 persons will still be welcome to attend the meeting.

REMEMBER YOUR NAME BADGES

Enclose a check payable to the Friendship Force of WI
Send to: Fannie Hicklin, 3814 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53705 608-233-5748

Reservation Deadline April 19

cut

cut

Names ATTENDING:

\$15:00 per person _____ #attending x \$15.00 = \$ _____

If you do not wish to cut your newsletter, please copy this information to another sheet of paper and include with your check.