



The Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison

Changing the Way You See the World

November 2016



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Whew! We have finished a busy exchange season. In May we traveled to Cleveland County UK. In July, we hosted Nashik Riverside, India and in September, we hosted Santa Barbara and Winnipeg. I know that we all enjoyed hosting and being hosted but those of us who have been active in all of the exchanges and on the various committees are ready for a break. Having said that, plans are well underway for our trip to Guadeloupe in February.

I want to thank Bernie Long, Joan Calkins and Kay Babcock for sharing their stories about the early days of the Friendship Force. We had about 40 members and several potential members at the general membership meeting on October 18. Feedback has been very positive. Thanks to Lucy Lasseter we were able to arrange to have the meeting videotaped by Fitchburg Community Television. We will receive copies of the tape for our records.

When I asked Bernie, Joan and Kay whether they felt they had made a difference, they agreed that their trips to countries like Russia and Cuba definitely had an impact. Madison traveled to Russia in 1983 when the Cold War was particularly intense. This was a year when the nuclear early warning system falsely reported the launch of intercontinental missiles from the US twice. We traveled to West Berlin in 1987 which was the year that Reagan call for the Soviet leaders to "Tear down this wall". We traveled to Czechoslovakia in 1988 at the beginning of Perestroika. In 1988 and 1989 we traveled to the USSR and Lithuania as part of the A.R.M.S (American Russian Mutual Survival) program. Kay shared her experiences from Cuba during the Castro era. Of course we also traveled to more comfortable and safe countries like England, Switzerland, Brazil and Germany but it does raise the question of where would you travel today to have the greatest impact on world peace?

The board has submitted our outbound exchange requests for 2018. Our requests are South Africa, Japan, Chile, and India. I think it is exciting that all of our choices are visits to cultures that are distinctly different than our own. If we receive one or more of these assignments, 2018 will offer some very interesting opportunities.

In friendship,

Sandi Wysock
President

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2016 CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

November 2, Wednesday—LEO, Buraka Restaurant ☺ (October)

November 23, Wednesday—Newsletter Deadline

December 11, Sunday—Holiday Party Potluck*

December 15—Membership Renewal Form Deadline*

2017

January 20, Friday—Book Club*

February 22-March 1—Guadeloupe Outbound Exchange

March 25, Saturday—Book Club ✍

May 10, Wednesday—Book Club ✍

May 19-26—San Diego Inbound Exchange

June 23-30—Noumea, New Caledonia Inbound Exchange

August 8-14—Medicine Hat, Canada Outbound Exchange

August 15-22—Vancouver, Canada Outbound Exchange

August 24-28—FFI 40th Anniversary World Conference, Manchester, UK

* Information in this newsletter

☺ Information previously announced (Month in ☺Newsletter)

✍ Information to be announced later



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Activities

BOOK CLUB

We hope you will be able to join us for one of our upcoming FF book club discussions. We have planned three book club gatherings for the first half of 2017 – in January, March & May.



Our book club discussions will be on different days of the week and at different times of the day, trying to be mindful of holidays, sports events, and the fact that many of us would prefer to not be out on the roads in the evening during our cold and snowy winter months. Our upcoming newsletters will provide more detailed information about the books and how to RSVP.

DATE: Friday, January 20, 2017
TIME: 2:00 PM
TITLE: Leonora, The Buried Story of Guadeloupe
AUTHOR: Dany Bébel-Gisler
LOCATION: Lakeview Library, 2845 N. Sherman Avenue, Madison

DATE: Saturday, March 25, 2017
TIME: 2:00 PM
TITLE: One Child: The Story of China's Most Radical Experiment
AUTHOR: Mei Fong
LOCATION: Stephanie Sorensen's Home, 1624 C North Golf Glen, Madison

DATE: Wednesday, May 10, 2017
TIME: 6:30 PM
TITLE: Stalag Wisconsin: Inside WWII Prisoner of War Camps
AUTHOR: Betty Cowley
LOCATION: Jane Kessenich's Home, 5 Sebring Court, Madison

Nancy Brown



Membership Renewal Time Deadline December 15, 2016

I would like to thank many of you who renewed their membership. This saves me time and money with fewer mailing of renewal notices. For those that have not renewed, your renewal notice was mail on Tuesday October 25. If you did not receive one, you may download the "Membership Renewal" form on the website www.ffwis.org. The renewal form was also included in the October 2016 newsletter. If you are not a member, and would like to become a member, you may download the "Membership Application" to start enjoying what Friendship Force is all about.

If you have questions, call or email me. Thank you for your prompt attention to renewing your membership or becoming a member. **Renewals are due on December 15, 2016.** We look forward to seeing you soon.

Mary Lindquist, Membership Chair
608-233-9351 or marylindquist@charter.net

How Do I Order a Friendship Force Name Badge?

We have had several requests for name badges. It's as easy as one, two, three!

One – Decide on which type of name badge you would like – clip – pin – magnet.

Two – Send a check for \$15, per badge, and request name badge to:

Friendship Force of Wisconsin – Madison
Attn: Mary Lindquist
5809 Julia St., Madison WI 53705

Be sure to specify which type badge you would like – clip – pin – magnet.

Three – Wait about a week for one to show up in your mail box.

It's that easy!. Any questions, give me a call.

Mary Lindquist – Membership
608-233-9351 or marylindquist@charter.net

Exchange Coordinator Report

We have now completed our 2016 exchanges: outbound to Florida Club of Greater Orlando March 11-18 coordinated by Nancy Brown; international outbound to Cleveland County, England May 11-18 with co-EDs Nancy Brown and Stephanie Sorensen; international inbound from Nashik Riverside Club, India July 8-15 with ED Helen Ann Rugowski and Asst. ED Jerry Fuller; and international inbound from Winnipeg, Canada and Santa Barbara, CA September 13-20 with co-ed's Patrick Fleming and George Wysock.

The 2017 exchange schedule is finalized! We begin with the outbound international exchange to Guadeloupe February 22-March 1, 2017. Co-Ed's Maureen Kind and Lise Skofronick are corresponding with the Guadeloupe ED. Ambassador interviews have been held and we are awaiting word whether the Guadeloupe club can host more than 20 ambassadors.

San Diego inbound reciprocal exchange is scheduled for May 19-26, 2017 and they anticipate 20 ambassadors. The international inbound exchange from Noumea, New Caledonia is June 23-29 following their exchange with the Chicago club June 18-23. Anticipate the number of ambassadors to be between 15-20. Both these exchanges were approved at the October board meeting.

Peg Hutnik has been approved to be one of the EDs for one of the weeks of our outbound exchange to Medicine Hat, Canada August 8-14 and Metro Vancouver, Canada August 14-22.

A number of domestic clubs have expressed an interest in coming to Madison: Denver, Colorado in spring or fall, Western North Carolina with about 10 ambassadors, and a reciprocal with Lower Columbia in Washington.

Gail L. Holmes
Exchange Coordinator

THREE Exchange Director Opportunities

Now's your chance to share your unique talents! We have three opportunities for Exchange Directors in 2017. The San Diego Club has a reciprocal exchange with us from May 19-26 for 20 ambassadors. Our international inbound exchange with Noumea, New Caledonia is June 18-23 with about 15 ambassadors. Won't you volunteer to be an Exchange Director, along with your planning committee, to welcome these ambassadors to our club and community?

We are also seeking an experienced Exchange Director from our club to partner with Pat Hutnik for the two-week outbound exchange to the Medicine Hat, Canada club August 8-14 and the Greater Vancouver, Canada club August 15-22. Each ED would coordinate just one week in consultation with their EDs, who are already excitedly planning for our exchange.

There are many of you who could provide this leadership which is at the heart of our successful exchanges. I am counting on volunteers to step forward to lead these two incoming exchanges and an outbound exchange. You will be supported by the Exchange Coordinator, former EDs, other club members, and a detailed ED manual. If you have questions, please give me a call. Hope to hear from you real soon.

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



Winnipeg/Santa Barbara Exchange Welcome Party

Winnipeg/Santa Barbara Exchange A Success!

The exchange with Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada and Santa Barbara, California was a great success as evidenced by the fact that we came out in the black and the evaluations were very positive. Our treasurer, Lois Schulz, reported that we had \$189.13 left over after all the bills were paid.

Although the evaluations were very glowing, we can still learn from their feedback. We had a very diverse group of people in the two groups, i.e. Americans from California and international visitors from Canada. The ages varied a great deal but there were many veteran Friendship Force travelers in both groups, which gave them the advantage of comparing this exchange with others. We realize we could have done a better job of mixing the two groups together during their stay. It really helped the planning committee when the ambassadors let us know their interests ahead of time. What one group found very interesting, the other group might not have rated as high such as ABS. We always struggle with how much free time our guests want and need to spend with their host families or just resting and relaxing on their own, especially older ambassadors. We saw the need to do more to educate the group prior to the event so they would have a better appreciation for the presentations such as Frank Lloyd Wright and the Unitarian Society. The quality of the guides makes a big difference also. Both guides at the International Crane Foundation were fantastic and the evaluations reflected that.

Our committee wants to thank all of the host families, the day hosts and those who were instrumental in scheduling the events for your efforts. We couldn't have done it without you!

George Wysock & Patrick Fleming Co-Eds



Hinchley Farm Tour—Marilyn Torrey, Santa Barbara

WISCONSIN FRIENDSHIP
Official Publication of
The Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison
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November 2016
Membership Renewal Reminder
How to Order Name Badge

President: Sandi Wysock	833-5326
Vice Pres: Sandy Drew	833-5811
Secretary Stephanie Sorensen	819-6646
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Email Accounts:

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Holiday Party Potluck

Sunday, December 11, 2016
Middleton Glen Retirement Community
6720 Century Avenue • Middleton, Wisconsin
Social Hour 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm • Potluck Dinner 1:00 pm

Join us as we gather this year in the holiday spirit as we have in the past.
We will share in the love and fun which is what makes this wonderful gathering last.

Please bring a dish to pass, an entrée, dessert or salad to serve eight.
Beverages and tableware are furnished.

In the spirit of giving as we prepare for the holiday, please bring a personal toiletry item to our gathering. Suggestions: toothbrushes for adults and children, toothpaste, deodorant, hand lotion, hair brush/combs. These items will be donated to the Catholic Multicultural Center. On behalf of the less fortunate, we thank you.

Each of you is what makes this special day great. When at the end of the day we leave to go our own way, we will ask God to wrap us all in his arms, and keep each of us safe from harms way.

If you have any further questions, please contact Margo McKnight at (608) 345-6827 OR memcknight1@yahoo.com