



The Friendship Force of Wisconsin

Changing the Way You See the World
October 2014



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We just finished our third incoming exchange of the past three months! All three hugely successful thanks to Exchange Directors Donna Hussin, Donna Calvert and Gail Holmes and our many members who took part in home hosting, day hosting, dinner hosting, transportation, web site, booklet, treasurer, and planning. The list of members who participated and were so generous to our ambassadors is a long one. Thank You! This is what belonging to the Friendship Force is all about and what we do best; opening ourselves and our homes to strangers and becoming friends.

September is the month when we welcome new officers and say thank you to those leaving. Welcome to Judith Taylor, treasurer and Lois Schulz, secretary. Please give them your support in the coming year. Thank you to Margo McKnight, treasurer and Jan Weber, secretary for your diligent service to the board and our club.

Membership renewal time is coming up so be giving some thought to how you intend to participate in the coming year. The renewal form will have a different look. Our 2014 exchanges are over for the year but there is still work to be done. Our bylaws were last revised in 2011 and need updating. We need a few volunteers to undertake this task. I helped with this last time and recall it took one meeting and a few hours of time. If you can help, please contact me.

I hope to see you at the Fall Festival!

In friendship,

Helen Ann Rugowski, President

Explore • Understand • Serve®



2014 CLUB ACTIVITIES

Monthly Board Meeting – Third Friday – 11:30 AM
Everyone welcome - 615 E. Washington Ave., 2ndfl.

October 11—Festival of India ☺ (September)

October 13—Crafter's Group Meeting*

October 14-16--World Conference, New Zealand ☺ (March)

October 20—Book Discussion, Mai Ya's Long Journey*

April 7-14, 2015—San Diego Outbound Exchange*

August 29-31, 2015—FFI World Conference, Vancouver✍

* Information in this newsletter

☺ Information previously announced (Month in Newsletter)

✍ Information to be announced later

Exchange Director Needed

We have accepted a request from the Phoenix Arizona Friendship Force Club to visit us in July 2015. If you would be interested in serving as exchange director Please call George Wysock at 608-833-5326 before October 24, 2014.

NOTICE

If your preferred method to contact any FFWI member, who has an article in this newsletter, is via email, please refer to your 2014 Membership List for the email address.



San Diego Outbound Exchange April 7-14, 2015

We have confirmed the date for our outbound exchange to San Diego and are now in the process of

working out ALL of the other details.

The ED in San Diego will be providing us with a list of options to consider as we develop the itinerary. If you are interested in this exchange, we hope that you will get on-board early to help us customize our time in California. There are so many possibilities: Balboa Park and the San Diego Zoo, the Maritime Museum, La Jolla Caves, wine tours and white sand beaches, to name just a few.

We wanted to get these dates to you early so that you can start planning your independent pre or post-exchange activities.

Please contact Nancy Brown if you would be willing to serve on the exchange committee.

**Nancy Brown, Exchange Director
608-283-9040**



NEW -- Book Discussion

Join us on **Monday, October 20 at 7:00 PM at Sandi and George Wysock's home, 102 Acadia Drive, Madison 53717** to discuss **Mai Ya's Long Journey**, by Shelia Cohen. This is the story of a Hmong girl, Mai Ya Xiong, who came to Madison with her family in 1987, attended school here, and has since graduated from UW Milwaukee. Sheila Cohen was one of her teachers, and worked with Mai Ya and her family to tell their story in this book. Sheila will be joining us for this book discussion. Copies of the book are available in Madison Public Libraries, or ask to borrow one from Mary Babula. This is a book written for young readers and can be read in a short time. Join us for a discussion and help us launch book discussions as an outreach activity sponsored by Friendship Force of Wisconsin.

To participate in the discussion, please RSVP to Mary Babula, 241-0212.



Winter Exchange Opportunity

January 2015



Crafter's Group

Margy Walker is hosting the next gathering of this group, 34 Cherokee Cir, Apt 102, Madison, on Monday, October 13, at 1:30 PM. Please call 608-242-4411, if you will be joining us.

It was just announced from Atlanta that the Mundo Maya de Tuxtla Gutierrez FF Club in Mexico hopes to host an exchange in January, 2015. Does the thought of another harsh winter get you to thinking of getting away to a warmer climate and making new friends? Interested members should contact Kristin Harrison ASAP at FFI at 404-965-4328 or email to kharrison@thefriendshipforce.org



International Institutes of Wisconsin Indonesians Are Labor Day Weekend Visitors in Madison

What incredible table conversation we had the first evening of the Labor Day weekend with four Indonesians and five FF of Wisconsin hosts gathered around a dining room table. The weekend was for rest and relaxation during a three week, seven US city tour for three nationally known journalists meeting other professionals in the field of investigative reporting. They were sponsored by the USA Department of State and their travel was coordinated by the International Institute of Wisconsin. A fourth native born Indonesian interpreter, now living in New York City, joined in the discussion. We talked about education, politics, travel, media, religion, family, vocations.

The remaining two days were just pure fun. They toured Olbrich and EPIC gardens, biked around Lake Monona, made apple pies from apples they picked, boated Lake Kegonsa by pontoon, played a game now known fondly as the Mueller dice game, sampled Culver's menu, had leisurely breakfasts and abundant dinners. We became friends and learned much about each other's world.

Helen Rugowski hosted Ms. Fifi Yahya, program owner & producer, Metro TV (and former Miss Jakarta)
Richard and Nancy Mueller hosted Mr. Hotli Simanjuntak, photographer and correspondent for The Jakarta Post
Andrea Urbon hosted Ms. Dewi Sukhrani, aka 'Rani', radio journalist with Public Radio in Medan.
Charles Ariwijaya was the Indonesian language translator, chauffeur, and problem solver.
Stephanie Sorenson and the Muellers provided evening dinners. Mary Obligato piloted her pontoon boat. Caitlin O'Brien, International Institute of Wisconsin, coordinated logistics.

Nancy and Richard Mueller



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October 2014
FF World Conference, New Zealand, October 2014
San Diego Outbound Exchange April 2015

President: Helen Rugowski 238-9731
Vice Pres: Mary Babula 241-0212
Secretary: Lois Schulz 243-9761
Treasurer: Judith Taylor 238-9474
Newsletter: Donna Hussin 845-3393

The Friendship Force of Wisconsin
Fall Festival Buffet Luncheon
Sunday, October 26, 2014
12:00-2:00PM

Coliseum Bar/Banquet
232 East Olin Avenue

Cost: \$18

Bring a Friend!
Halloween Attire, Parade, Prizes



*Reservation and payment are due **no later than Saturday, October 18.***

-----cut and return with payment 

_____ # attending x \$18= _____

_____ I need a ride _____ I can provide a ride

Name(s) _____

Make check payable to: The Friendship Force
Mail to: Fannie Hicklin, 3814 University Avenue, Madison WI 53705 Questions? 608-233-5748