



The Friendship Force of Wisconsin

Changing the Way You See the World

September 2014



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By the time you read this, they will be gone! Our club hosted 19 ambassadors from Brazil, the Canadian cities of Ottawa, Quebec, Toronto and Winnipeg, California, Oregon, Tennessee and Texas as part of The Global Art and Architecture Exchange August 23-28. Donna Calvert and the exchange committee did a great job of planning for this three-club Global with the N. Illinois and Milwaukee clubs. I hope that many of you participated in some way in this exchange to greet our guests and share our Midwest hospitality. This is the foundation of the Friendship Force mission.

Next up is the inbound exchange with the Wessex, UK and Costa Rica clubs. You have been reading about this in our past two newsletters and I encourage you to participate in some way, large or small, in this exchange. Again there are some new activities being offered. Not interested in any of that? Consider offering a breakfast in your home to one of the home hosts!

At our last board meeting Donna Hussin shared with us the Utah Ambassador evaluations of their July exchange and I was most struck by the majority of comments made about the “faces” versus the “places.” We hope you are one of the faces in all the exchanges we host.

Also at the last Board meeting we have accepted an exchange from Guadeloupe in 2015, for July 24-31. They are a new club and will be in Milwaukee for a second week of home hosting. Some of us met a few of their members at the World Conference in New Orleans and at the Leadership Exchange last month in Milwaukee and were impressed with their enthusiasm for our organization. Guadeloupe is an overseas region of France, located in the Caribbean and its official language is French. We have lots of time to plan another exceptional experience for our guests and to offer you another opportunity to get involved. Stay tuned for more about this exchange.

As a board, we have the responsibility to plan ahead, not just in months but years, for exchanges. Most recently you have received an email message asking “Where do you want to go in **2016?**” This is a serious request and needs your response. If you want to travel with our club in 2016, send your reply to Sandi Wysock, either by email or telephone.

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.

NOTE: September Meeting has been rescheduled to Friday, September 26.

September 4—Wessex UK/Costa Rica Inbound Exchange Workshop, Lakeview Library*

September 6—MFIS Welcome to WI Picnic☺ (August)

September 6—Fiesta Hispana*

September 8—Deadline for Reservations for Wessex UK/Costa Rica Exchange ☺ (August)

September 15—Deadline for Business Cards*

September 18-25--Wessex Club, United Kingdom/Costa Rica Inbound Exchange *

October 4—Adopt a Highway *

October 11—Festival of India*

October 13—Crafter’s Group Meeting*

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

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

- * Information in this newsletter
- ☺ Information previously announced (Month in Newsletter)
- ✍ Information to be announced later

2014 Membership List Correction on Front Page only:

Treasurer: Judy Taylor 238-9474
judytaylor@charater.net

CHANGE TO:
Treasurer: Judith Taylor 238-9474
judithtaylor@charter.net





**England &
Costa Rica
Exchange**



September 18-25, 2014

In less than a month, our club will be welcoming 20 ambassadors on an inbound international exchange to Madison. There are four ambassadors from Wessex, England, nine from the City of Flores in Heredia, Costa Rica, two couples from Mexico, one woman from Santa Rosa, California, and two women from Washington, D.C. We will be picking them up in Dubuque, Iowa because they are spending the prior week with the Friendship Force of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

On Thursday, September 4, at 6:30 PM there will be a workshop for home hosts, day hosts, and dinner hosts at the Lakeview Library, 2845 North Sherman Avenue. Dan Eggerding volunteered to prepare our exchange booklet of pictures and personal information on our ambassadors and hosts. Margo McKnight will be the exchange treasurer. If you would like to participate in some way, please let me know. Soon I will be contacting folks who can assist in translation services for our Spanish-speaking ambassadors.

The August newsletter contained a sign-up sheet for you to join in our many day trips and other activities planned for you and the ambassadors. Make your selections now and mail the form and your check to Margo McKnight by September 8. Come along and join in the fellowship, fun and adventure! Let's show them our club's warm Friendship Force of Wisconsin welcome.

Please let me know if you would like a copy of the two-page detailed itinerary of activities.

Gail L. Holmes, Exchange Director 608-249-1846



The date for Fall Clean-Up of HWY 12 is October 4. In the past the start time has been 8:30 am picking up road side litter between the Park and Ride lot at Exit 249 (Middleton) north to CTH K a distance of 1 mile. If you have never noticed it before, there is a sign on the south bound lane displaying our clubs name.

Our dear member Don is not around to cajole you to help out this time around. I have been a trash picker upper in the past but cannot do so this time. It's my daughter's wedding day. If you can help out, pick up the phone and call me, ideally before September 15. And, like Don, I would prefer not to make a lot of phone calls. Thank You!

Helen Ann Rugowski, 608-238-9731

Friendship Force Business Cards



Do you find yourself fumbling for a card or a brochure when you speak to others about the Friendship Force? We have developed a new business card format that has personal contact information on the front and information about the Friendship Force including our web sites on the back. These can easily be carried in your wallet or purse and given to people who are interested in the Friendship Force.

The board has agreed to fund the cost of providing 10 cards to members who would like a small supply. If you would like to take advantage of this offer, please contact me by **September 15** either by email sandrawysock@msn.com (Preferred method)) or phone 608-833-5326. In your instructions to me include the name(s) that you would like listed on the card. I will use the address and contact information in our membership directory. If the directory information is not correct, please provide me with your new contact information.

Sandi Wysock

Summer Club Picnic



The club's annual summer picnic was on July 17 at Marshall Park along Lake Mendota. Attending were 63 members, 11 Utah ambassadors and two local guests. The group enjoyed good fellowship, a very tasty meal, and the lively music of the Mad-City Jug Band. The Activities Committee deeply appreciated the support of the members who donated items for the silent auction.

Fannie Hicklin, Activities Chair



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. There is no September meeting.

Two Exchange Directors Needed

We have accepted an invitation for a domestic exchange to San Diego in April of 2015, and we invited the Guadeloupe club from the Caribbean to visit us in July 2015. The outbound San Diego trip would give an opportunity to connect with other Clubs in the California area. The Guadeloupe exchange would give us connections for a possible winter getaway in a future year. If you have an interest in either of these ED positions please call me.

George Wysock, 608-833-5326

International Institutes of Wisconsin--Dinner Guests from Uzbekistan



On Sunday, July 20, 2014 Kaye and I hosted a dinner for two fellow educators from Uzbekistan and their Russian translator. We invited our good friends, Bill and Sharon Stickford,, because we have found it is helpful, if our American friends can entertain our guests while we are busy putting the meal on the table. The theme for our dinner menu was Wisconsin foods so we had venison sausage, assorted Wisconsin cheeses, beers brewed locally, Wollersheim wines, corn fed Angus beef burgers, corn on the cob, fresh peas from the Farmer's Market, American potato salad, apple pie ala mode or with cheddar cheese slices. We also had vanilla ice cream with fresh raspberries from our garden but ran out of time to serve S'mores at our backyard fire pit. We gathered around the grill on the patio and deck for many pictures and light conversation.

I picked them up at the Hyatt on West Washington Avenue a little before 6PM. On the way to our home, I drove by the St. Paul Community Gardens, where I have a garden plot. They were very interested in the concept of cooperatives as practiced here in Wisconsin. The dinner conversation was lively talking about their children and grandchildren and how children learn best. They were both interested in teaching/learning English as a Second Language (ESL). Since our granddaughter goes to Nuestro Mundo in the Madison Metropolitan School District, they had a lot of questions on the curriculum and the program itself. Language was not an issue because Shahobiddin spoke excellent English and Roman did an outstanding job translating for them.

Dr. Abdikarimov is with the Ministry of Education for the Republic of Uzbekistan and is the Department Head for the General Directorate of Higher Education Institutes. Mr. Ashurov is the Head of the English language teaching Methodology and Practice Department for the Samarkand State Institute of Foreign Languages. Their translator, Mr. Roman Borukhov, has lived in San Francisco, California since just before the fall of the Soviet Union where he has taught English at a local college. Their whirlwind tour of Wisconsin from July 17-23 included tours of the Beloit Area School District, Beloit College, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison Metropolitan School District, MESLS, WESLI, and the Farmers' Market on Saturday. They also were able to spend a day in Chicago. When they leave the hot and humid weather of Wisconsin, they were going to the 100 degree plus temperatures of Phoenix, Arizona.

We enjoyed the evening very much and learned a great deal about Uzbekistan and will look into opportunities to visit it one day. We want to thank Caitlin O'Brien and the International Institute of Wisconsin for the opportunity to host visitors on tour with the Department of State. We would encourage others to do the same if the opportunity arises.

Patrick Fleming

International Institutes of Wisconsin--Dinner Guests from Uzbekistan



At 6PM July 20, 2014 my three guests from Uzbekistan-- Mr. Sokhibjon Misirov, Director of Department of Philology, Namangan State University, Mr. Abdurakhim Nasirov, Head of Department of Secondary and Specialized Schools Ministry of Education, Mr. Ural Yariev, Head of Educational Department, Uzbek State University of World Languages-- were collected at the Hyatt Hotel in Downtown Madison. They were accompanied by Ms. Varvara Olson, born in Siberia and now living in Los Angeles, CA, serving as interpreter. My guests were Bob & Jeanne Tabachnick, my daughter, Stephanie and her husband, Tom Christensen, Edward Wellin and his daughter, Susan.

Over local cheeses, raw veggies and local beers we learned about our guests' families, all had three children, Ural also has two grandchildren. I had been told the guests would not be adhering to Ramadan fasting. Typical Wisconsin July Picnic food was served using as much local food as possible. We had bison burgers, which Stephanie prepared on the grill, her homemade potato salad, and three bean salad. Ed and Susan brought wine. gelatto and cookies from Bob & Jeanne were served for dessert! After dinner, talk led to Bob & Jeanne, and Stephanie sharing their experiences with "home schooling". Home schooling is unheard of in Uzbekistan, and our guests were extremely interested in learning more about it. Education through 12th grade is mandatory in Uzbekistan, with all students learning at least two other languages. Businesses tell the schools what they will want their new workers to know, and graduates finish school ready to go to work immediately. There is no youth unemployment in Uzbekistan.

A colorful Uzbek hat was presented to Ed and a scarf using Uzbek National colors, blue & white, was presented to Jane. As always, the evening ended too soon.

Jane Kessenich



In Loving Memory

Don Gostomski
Death: August 11, 2014

Joined FF in 2001. He and his wife Ginger participated in many exchanges, both inbound and outbound, and served as Exchange Director for the 2008 inbound from Derbyshire/Manchester England. He helped with Adopt-a-Highway for many years before becoming its chair in 2008.

Full Obituary: WSJ August 13, 2014 or Ryan & Joyce-Ryan Funeral Home and Cremation Services,
www.ryanfuneralservice.com

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September 2014
England & Costa Rica Exchange September 18-25
Friendship Force Business Cards
FF World Conference, New Zealand, October 2014

President: Helen Rugowski 238-9731
Vice Pres: Mary Babula 241-0212
Secretary: Jan Weber 223-1287
Treasurer: Margo McKnight 345-6827
Newsletter: Donna Hussin 845-3393



Fiesta Hispana

Centro Hispano, 810 W. Badger Rd., Madison 53713
Saturday, September 6, 10AM-6PM

The event will be an outdoor festival filled with music, dancing, kids' activities, food, a dunk tank and a chance to celebrate our wonderful community

<http://www.micentro.org/events--eventos.html>

Source: Sandi Wysock

Festival of India

Stevens Point High School, 1201 N Point Dr.,
Stevens Point 54481
Saturday, October 11, 3PM-8PM

Workshops and performances are free. Examples of some of the workshops are yoga, Kirtan, henna painting, and Indian cooking. The classical and folk dances include Kathak, Bharat Natyam, Bollywood, Dandia, Bhangra.

A ticket is needed for the Indian buffet and advance registration is advised. <http://www4.uwsp.edu/multicultural/shama/>

Source: Lise Skofronick:

New Members

Shirley Daskow
110 S Henry St #1107
Madison WI 53703
608-819-8311

Jane Ellen Donovan
3306 Glacier Ridge Rd
Middleton WI 53562
608-824-9403

Larry Goulding
1043 Marvelle Lane A-2
Green Bay WI 54304
920-471-5742



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.