



The Friendship Force of Wisconsin

Changing the Way You See the World
December 2014



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The holiday season is upon us. Our club luncheon is December 6 at the Radisson Hotel where I hope to see many of you. My family gathering is in January so we manage to make this season last even longer.

This month marks the last mailing of the newsletter to all our members. If you indicated in your club renewal that you wanted to continue to receive the mailed newsletter, of course, you will. This change helped us avoid increasing your dues and will result in our saving the approximate annual newsletter cost of \$1,700. Current and back issues continue to be archived on our club website along with photo galleries and other news about our club. The editor and webmaster jobs haven't changed. We are so fortunate to have Donna Hussin and Dave Dohler manage these functions for our club.

Thank you to Mary Lou Martino, Nancy Brown and Mary Lindquist for hosting our new member meeting held recently. I was delighted to meet our newest members and for them to learn how to get involved in our activities.

We now have three exchange commitments lined up for 2015. The latest addition is an incoming exchange from Phoenix, AZ with Donna Hussin as the ED. Nancy Brown, San Diego Outbound, and Maureen Kind, Guadeloupe Inbound, are somewhat new members and first time exchange directors for our club. They all would welcome your participation in our exchanges and this is the best way to meet other members and to learn more about The Friendship Force.

The Midwest Leadership Conference will be held April 30, May 1-2 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. This conference is for club leaders and I would be happy to hear of your interest. Anyone wishing to get further involved in the leadership of our club should consider participating. Our board has agreed to financially support up to three attendees and Cedar Rapids is planning to offer home hosting. This is an exciting opportunity for new, and old, members of our club who wish to get involved in leadership and decision making.

In friendship,

Helen Ann Rugowski, President

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2014 CLUB ACTIVITIES

Monthly Board Meeting – Third Friday – 11:30 AM
Everyone welcome - 615 E. Washington Ave., 2ndfl.
No meeting in December.

December 6--Holiday Luncheon, Radisson Hotel☺ (November)

December 10—San Diego Interviews*

December 15—Membership Renewal Deadline*

December 16--Crafter's Group*

2015

January 12—Book Discussion, Escape from Camp 14☺ (November)

February 8—Valentine Luncheon, Fitzgerald's ✍

February 21—International Festival, Overture Center.✍

April 7-14—San Diego Outbound Exchange*

April 26—Annual Meeting & Luncheon, Coliseum Bar✍

April 30, May 1-2—Midwest Leadership Conf, Cedar Rapids, IA✍

July 25-31—Guadeloupe Inbound Exchange*

July 30—Annual Picnic ✍

August 29-31—FFI World Conference, Vancouver✍

* Information in this newsletter

☺ Information previously announced (Month in Newsletter)

✍ Information to be announced later



WORLD CONFERENCE **2015**
Vancouver, Canada
FRIENDSHIP FORCE INTERNATIONAL

“Building Bridges”
August 28-31, 2015
Renaissance Vancouver
Harbourside Hotel

Hosted by the Friendship
Force of Vancouver, British
Columbia, Canada

Registration will open in
December 2014



San Diego Outbound Exchange, April 7-14, 2015

Winter weather has arrived in Wisconsin!
Doesn't a week in San Diego sound wonderful?

We have a really interesting itinerary planned. Have you visited the San Diego Zoo or Balboa Park? How about the USS Midway museum or Father Joe's Village? In addition to these and other highlights in San Diego, we will be visiting a local winery and taking a daytrip to Tecate, Mexico where we will have the opportunity to tour the Tecate Brewery and learn about small-town Mexican culture.

The interview session for potential ambassadors for this exchange was scheduled for November 24. However, as you may recall, this was also the day that our first blizzard of the winter arrived in Madison. As a result, we have rescheduled the interview date and location.

If you would like to join us for a fabulous week in San Diego contact Nancy Brown at ncbrown48@gmail.com or 608.283.9040.

Ambassador Interviews
December 10, 2014
5:00 - 7:00 PM
At Mary Mastiglio's home
1818 Jenifer St, Madison 53704

Nancy Brown, Exchange Director



Crafter's Group

Lucy Lasseter is hosting the next gathering of this group, 2913 Walnut Wood Ct, Fitchburg, on Tuesday, December 16 at 1:30 PM. We will be making winter hats from fleece. All are welcome. Please call 608-274-7114 or email her, if you will be joining us.



Guadeloupe Inbound Exchange July 25-31, 2015

Where in the World is Guadeloupe?

Ambassadors from Guadeloupe, one of the overseas departments of France, will be coming to Madison July 25-31, 2015. Guadeloupe is a butterfly-shaped island in the Caribbean with beautiful beaches, inland waterfalls, plantations of bananas and sugar cane, and a volcano! Google it to see the beauty of Guadeloupe and its outlying dependent islands, Les Saintes Marie-Galante and La Desirade. You might even tune into the PBS show Death in Paradise to catch the atmosphere of the French Caribbean (minus the murders).

The ambassadors are hoping to improve their English while visiting us so we will be looking for hosts, day hosts and dinner hosts who will enjoy chatting with them in English. Our farewell party coincides with our club picnic but we will be seeking help planning the welcome dinner and the week of activities.

Maureen Kind and Lise Skofronick, Exchange Co-Directors



Club members cleaned our assigned portion of Hwy 12 from the Parmenter Park & Ride lot to Cty Hwy K on Saturday, November 1. We collected 14 full bags of trash from our one mile section in just one hour! Thank you to the totally awesome group of trash pickers: Ed Reid, Jan and Bob Weber, Sandi and George Wysock, Pete Marion, Lois Schulz, Mary Lindquist, Lucy Lasseter, and Pat Fleming. Mary sent us all home with her home baked loaves of cinnamon bread.

Our commitment is to clean up this section of the highway twice a year, usually in May and October. I would like to hear from someone who will take over this project for 2015.

Helen Ann Rugowski, President



Fall Festival Luncheon

The FFW annual Fall Festival Luncheon took place Sunday, October 26, 2014 at the Coliseum Bar/Banquet, Madison. The restaurant provided Fall florals, attractive table settings and tasty food. Delicious homemade sweets of mini cupcakes and cookies were generously donated by President Helen Rugowski and member Nancy Denton, respectively. President Rugowski welcomed the group and spoke briefly on the FFW's history, mission, exchanges and projects. She challenged members to serve on the highway cleanup team. Eight people volunteered.

Ariel Ford introduced guests: Marlene Duffield and Terry Walton-Callaghan, David and Thuy-Pham Remmele. and Donald VanderVelden. Fannie Hicklin introduced Activities Committee members hosting the event: Paul Buckalew, Maggie Dohm, Ginger Gostomski, Gary Lindquist, Lois Statz, and Virginia Zwickey. Sandra Wysock led the group in singing, "Let There Be Peace", the "Table Grace" and "The More We Get Together". Ginger Gostomski and Gary Lindquist conducted the Halloween costume parade. Paul Buckalew and Maggie Dohm were the costume judges. Attractive renewal membership vouchers, designed by Mary Lindquist were presented to prize winners: Joan Calkins (also a winner in 2013), Lisa Simon and Lise Skofronick.

'Twas a happy occasion, on a sunny day.

Fannie Hicklin, Activities chair



Exchange Opportunities

These clubs invite you to participate in their exchanges:

Turrialba, Costa Rica Outbound Exchange

February 2-9, 2015

Estimated costs: \$315 club/host fees, add'l travel and hotels in Costa Rica \$600-1000; airfare on your own,

Hosted by St Louis Friendship Force

Contact information: Sue Williams, ED, 314-521-8415 or sjwillia43@att.net.

Taipei, Taiwan Outbound Exchange

April 8-22, 2015

Hosted by The Friendship Force of Lincoln

Contact Carolyn Kitterer, ED at ckitterer@gmail.com for additional information and questions

Taming America's Great Plains

Cowboys, Native Americans and Homesteaders
(Themed Global Exchange)

April 22-May 9, 2015

\$1100 for this 17-day exchange includes FFI & all fees plus transportation between clubs; does not include airfare
Hosted by Lincoln & Greater Omaha Nebraska clubs, Kansas and Oklahoma

Contact information: Geneva Hancock, ED, FF Oklahoma, 1, 405-250-1118 (c), wagonswest2015@gmail.com
Application at www.thefriendshipforce.org

Membership Renewal Time Renewals Due December 15, 2014

It is renewal time again. As you have read in previous newsletters, the printing and mailing of hardcopy newsletters ends with this December newsletter. **Be sure we have your email address correct** to notify you when the newsletter is on line. You may always check www.ffwis.org website around the first of the month for the current newsletter. If you would like to continue the hardcopy newsletter being mailed to you, there is a \$10 fee you must submit with your renewal.

NEW on this renewal document: Please help support your club by choosing what you would like to participate in. You do not have to travel or home host, although that is also fun. There are many things you can do to help support your club. Please review the list at the bottom of the renewal form and think about checking at least a couple of items you like to do. Of course you can check more than a couple, all the way up to 25 items.

We appreciate all you do to help support the Friendship Force of Wisconsin. We look forward to working with you in 2015.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 608-233-9351 or marylindquist@charter.net.

Mary Lindquist, Membership

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.

THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WISCONSIN 2015 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

(Please Print)



Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____ + _____

Phone _____ Cell _____ E-Mail _____

Please provide email to receive notice when newsletter is on line and for other short notices.

Individual Membership	\$30.00	\$ _____
Family membership	\$38.00	\$ _____
Hard Copy Newsletter	\$10.00	\$ _____
General Operating Fund Donation		\$ _____
Other Donation - Specify _____		\$ _____
Name Badge	\$15.00 each	\$ _____
Total		\$ _____

**CHANGING THE WAY
YOU SEE THE WORLD
EXPLORE
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SERVE**

If ordering – Name(s) for Badge _____ Type: Pin, Bulldog Clip, Magnet Circle One



 Make check payable to: **The Friendship Force of Wisconsin**
 Mail to: 5809 Julia Street, Madison WI 53705

Questions? Call 608-233-9351 or e-mail ff-wis@charter.net

WILL YOU PLEASE ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS?

How did you hear about the Friendship Force? _____

What languages do you speak other than English? _____ (You do not need to be fluent.)

Countries of Interest for an exchange: _____

Liaison with other organizations? **Sister Cities, Other** _____

Will you serve on a committee? *Check at least one or as many as you like.*

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Driver for Exchanges |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt-A-Highway | <input type="checkbox"/> WHA TV Fund Raisers | <input type="checkbox"/> Driver for Meetings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications/Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> Translator | <input type="checkbox"/> Providing Treats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Convention | <input type="checkbox"/> Hosting | <input type="checkbox"/> Host a Dinner or Tea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Ambassador | <input type="checkbox"/> Musical Instrument/Singer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exchanges | <input type="checkbox"/> Interviewing | <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Arts/Website |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Day Host/Co Host | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Store | <input type="checkbox"/> Photographer | Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exchange Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Committee | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach/Speaker | <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome/Departures | |

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December 2014
Renewal Form
San Diego Outbound Exchange April 2015
Guadeloupe Inbound Exchange July 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

Christmas Time

Christmas Time is finally here,
It only comes but once a year.
And it's a time to spread good cheer,
To those we love and hold so dear.

Christmas Time is a time of glee,
A time when peace and love run free.
A time for those like you and me,
To sit beneath the Christmas Tree.
Christmas Time is a time of joy,
A time to sit back and enjoy.
The smile on each girl and boy,
As they play with a Christmas Toy.

Christmas Time is a time to share,
The passing of another year.
Birth of Jesus, a joyful prayer,
To show loved ones how much we care.

Christmas Time is a time for song,
A time for us to get along.
To make us feel Lord Jesus strong,
Forgive all those who did us wrong.

Christmas Time is a time to pray,
Put love and kindness on display.
Show compassion along the way,
Christmas Time should be everyday

