



® The Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison

Experience Different Views. Discover Common Ground.

March 2018



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

If there were a theme for this year it would be "Honoring our Past, Building our Future." As we look back at the 162 exchanges (now journeys) that we have completed and thank the many members that have served as ambassadors, hosts, day hosts, dinner hosts, committee members, officers, drivers, and board members, we are also inviting many guests to join us, learn about our mission and vision. I truly believe that we have a story to tell that is as relevant today as it was 40 years ago.

On March 11, 2018 all of us will have an opportunity to celebrate a little and welcome the many guests that are joining us. If you are attending, I am asking you to share your stories with these guests. Why did you become a member? Do you have stories of lifelong friendships? What has it meant to live with families? Has it changed your perspective? What insights have you gained? Point out that we are part of a worldwide network of over 350 clubs and over 15,000 ambassadors that host or serve as ambassadors each year. We are people that really believe that one person can make a difference. Personally, I can't imagine the world without my dear friend Katy from England or my friends Sabri, Nerriman, and Ezgi in Turkey or Vivian and Nuria from Costa Rica or Olga and Dimi from Moscow. I have learned so much about their culture, their countries and their histories and we have worked to continue our friendships. Meeting them has truly changed the way I see and understand the world. I know that each and every one of you can point to the same kinds of experiences and that you have wonderful stories to tell. And don't forget your hosting experiences! After all, we also bring the world to your door step. Those of us who have just hosted Indonesia will be able to talk about what it was like watching people experience winter and all of the winter activities. So think about your stories and please share them.

April 29, 2018 is our annual meeting. We have invited the West High Okinawa Taiko Drummers to entertain us. Of course, we will also elect our officers for 2018-2019. Their biographies are in this newsletter. It is a great group of new leaders. I think you will be thrilled to be working with them. Registration information is on the back cover of this newsletter.

Thank you for all that you do.

Sandi Wysock
President

Explore • Understand • Serve®



2018 CLUB ACTIVITIES

Monthly Board Meeting – Bridge Point
Waunona Community Center, 1917
Lake Point Dr, Monona, second Wednesday
of the month, 12:30 p.m.

March 11, Sunday—40th Anniversary Event ☺

March 21, Wednesday—L.E.O. *

March 25, Sunday—Japan Outbound Journey Workshop *

April 20-22, Friday-Sunday—FF Super Regional
Conference, Cincinnati, OH ☺

April 24, Tuesday—Book Club *

April 29, Sunday—Annual Meeting *

May 23, Wednesday—Day Trip *

June 3, Sunday—Wisconsin Public Television Auction ✍

June 9-15, Saturday-Friday—Niagara, Canada Inbound
Journey*

June 14, Thursday—Annual Picnic and Dance ✍

October 27-November 3, Saturday-Saturday—Aichi
Prefecture Japan Outbound Journey *

November 3-10, Saturday-Saturday—Oita Prefecture,
Japan Outbound Journey *

* Information in this newsletter

☺ Information previously announced (Month in ☺Newsletter)

✍ Information to be announced later

WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS

Susan Quale
4329 Rolla La
Madison, WI 53711
608-780-43289
quales@gmail.com

Her interests are Book Club, Picnic, LEO, Day Host and provide food at club events

2019 Officer Nominations

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 2019. Elections to be conducted April 29, 2018. The term of office begins at the September 12, 2018 Board Meeting.

Respectively submitted: Nomination Committee
Sandi Wysock, Lise Skofronick, Mary Lou Martino, Sandy Drew

President: Peg Hutnik

I became a member in 2016 and had my first exchange experience hosting a couple from India the same year. In 2017, I went on my first ambassador experience to Guadeloupe with the club. After college I was a Vista volunteer which profoundly changed my life for the better. I have been a Real Estate broker, taught at the Ethan Allen School for Boys in Wales, WI, and have held various jobs with the WI Department of Transportation. It was while I lived in the Milwaukee area that I learned about Friendship Force but was too busy to join their club. My job brought me to Madison in 2002 and I now consider myself semi-retired as I continue to do consulting work. I have been the President of my Condo Board, volunteered in Milwaukee at the Performing Arts Center, was a long time member of the Ski Patrol, both in Northern Wisconsin and in SE Wisconsin. In the late 90's, I sponsored an AFS student from Thailand, and we have maintained our friendship. My interests include traveling, hiking, water aerobics, reading, knitting, theatre and Scottish terriers. I am the proud owner of one. I am a Wisconsin native.



Vice-President: Kathy Speck

I have been a member of Friendship Force for the past 3 years along with my husband Gabor. We have enjoyed home hosting numerous clubs including India, New Caledonia, Winnipeg and Indonesia. We also participated in the outbound journey to Guadeloupe last year. I currently chair the Membership Committee and have been on the board for the past year. Previously I worked as a consultant, as well as, in managerial and leadership positions in healthcare organizations.



Secretary: Martha McGregor

I have been a member of FFWI-Madison for almost 3 years and have been your member-at-large representative for the past two years. I have been a home host, day host, and travelled to Charlotte with the Quad Cities club. I have enjoyed my activities with the club.



I am retired from the University of Wisconsin-Madison after 33 years working in a biology research lab. I am a widow and take care of my home including shoveling snow. I'm looking forward to many trips with the club and serving in whatever capacity I can.

Treasurer: Mary Juckem

I am a true Wisconsinite, born and raised on a dairy farm, and living here my entire life except for four years in the Chicago area. I have both a bachelor's and master's degree in social work from UW-Madison and retired in 2014 from a career in medical social work. In November 2017, I joined Friendship Force and look forward to developing friendships with members here in Madison and throughout the world.



I had an elected position for 12 years as treasurer for the rural township in which I resided. In addition to providing a monthly report of receipts and payments, annually I was responsible for collecting approximately \$300,000 worth of real estate taxes and balancing all accounts with the banks, county treasurer, and other board members.

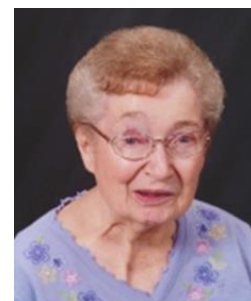
I volunteer as an usher for the Overture Center and American Players Theater, and also for Lakeview Library's book sales and the Madison Children's Museum refurbishing dolls for their annual American Girl Doll sale each July. I enjoy gardening, reading, playing mahjong, and a variety of active outdoor activities.

I have two adult children and four young grandchildren. We were fortunate as a family to travel to visit national and state parks. Internationally, I have been to Scotland, Mexico and Guatemala. I hope to travel more extensively in retirement.

In Loving Memory

Lois Hindhede **Death: February 16, 2018**

Lois was a member since 1982. Over the years Lois and her sister, Reta Haring participated in many journeys. She also helped with various activities in our club.



A celebration of her life will be held at a later date at Gunderson East Funeral and Cremation Care, [5203 Monona Dr., Madison, WI](http://www.monona-madison-wi.aauw.net). Memorials may be made to the American Chestnut Foundation at www.acf.org or the AAUWMadison/Monona at www.monona-madison-wi.aauw.net. Online condolences may be made at www.gundersonfh.com

Activities

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, April 24, 2018
7:00 p.m.
Stephanie Sorensen's Home
1624 C North Golf Glen, Madison



Book: Kickboxing Geishas, Veronica Chambers, author

She writes how today's Japanese women are breaking the bonds of tradition and dramatically transforming their culture. The author was an editor for the New York Times Magazine and writes from the perspective of interviewing legions of Japanese women over her years of extended return stays in Japan. As always, it is not necessary to have finished, or even started the book, to join us and to gain some new insights into a different culture.

The South Central Library System owns two copies and Bernie Long has some copies he has offered to loan. Used copies for under \$10 are available through Amazon and also offers Kindle copies for \$9.99.

Please RSVP Stephanie at stevila@charter.net or 608-819-6646.

Let's Go Out For...

March L.E.O.

Japanese Foods

12:30 p.m.

Edo Garden Restaurant
6309 Monona Dr, Monona
Wednesday, March 21, 2018

In honor of our Japanese outbound journey this coming fall, we will gather for lunch to enjoy some traditional or contemporary style Japanese food and perhaps some sushi, as well. Payment will be individual checks allowing each person to order from the lunch menu, which offers a variety of choices ranging from \$10 to \$17.

The restaurant does need an accurate count. If joining us, please let me know by Monday, March 19, 2018.

Thanks.

Bobby Vrooman
bobbiesque@gmail.com
864-905-2268 (phone or text)



MAY 23, 2018
MOTOR COACH DAY TOUR



Yerkes Observatory – Williams Bay

SAVE the DATE. Join us for a spring adventure.

This adventure travels to eastern Wisconsin for a one-hour tour of Yerkes Observatory in Williams Bay followed by a two-hour ride on the East Troy Electric Railroad that includes lunch. The guides at the Observatory will provide a fascinating program covering the Observatory's history, architectural detail, astronomical research, and a look inside the 90-foot dome of the 40-inch refractor, still the largest lens-type telescope in the world. On the East Troy Electric Railroad, we will take a leisurely ride down to Lower Phantom Lake while dining in the luxury of a dinner car with white tablecloths, china, silverware, and glassware reminiscent of the elegance of yesteryear. We will stop to stretch our legs and get some pictures at Indianhead Park in Mukwonago. Dessert is served on the return to East Troy.

The cars were designed and built long before the ADA and therefore do not meet current standards for accessibility. Passengers must be able to walk up/down steps to get on/off cars. The car is heated and air conditioned and has a restroom.

Full details on menu and departure/return time along with reservation form will be in the April newsletter. There will be one departure point at South Towne Mall, Monona. Cost is \$85.00 per person and includes admission, train ride with meal plus gratuity, motor coach fee and driver gratuity. 30 people are needed for the tour to go. Questions, please contact:

Donna Hussin
djhussin@yahoo.com
608-770-0980 (c)

Gail Holmes
glholmes@wisc.edu
608-249-1846 (H)



2018 CLUB JOURNEYS

Niagara Inbound Journey June 9-15, 2018

Now that we have completed a successful winter journey with Indonesia, we are looking forward to the next one. Twenty ambassadors will be coming from Niagara, Ontario, Canada. As journey coordinators, we are in search of volunteers to be home hosts, day or dinner hosts, and drivers. Any help you can give will be appreciated.

This journey promises to have some different and interesting events at the university and other places in the area. Please call us so we won't have to call you.

Journey Host Co-Coordinator

George Wysock (608)833-5326 georgewysock@msn.com
or

Lise Skofronick (608)274-7732 lrparadis@yahoo.com

Japan Outbound Journeys October 27 - November 3, 2018 - Aichi Prefecture November 3-10, 2018 - Oita Prefecture



Hiking in the Kuju Highlands

Space still remains for our back-to-back journeys to Japan. Applications are still being accepted and/or to create a waiting list for potential cancellations. Our first informational workshop is Sunday, March 25, 2:00-4:30 p.m., Fitchburg Public Library, 5530 Lacy Rd, Fitchburg, 53711. Ideally, we would like to have all ambassadors selected by then, so we encourage you to apply soon. The Ambassador Application and Agreement Form is on the FFI website: (<https://friendshipforce.azurewebsites.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Ambassador-Application-and-Agreement.pdf>), or contact us. Our contact information is below.

Information about itinerary options was published in the January and February Newsletters. If you have questions, or need assistance with the application process, please let us know.

Journey Ambassador Co-Coordinator

Kathy Speck Kemeny,
kspeckemeny@gmail.com 608-836-0272 (home)
608-577-4885 (cell)

Magdi Sebestyen,
magdi.sebestyen@gmail.com 608-213-5768 (cell)

Indonesia Inbound Journey Summary February 12-17, 2018

Monday, February 12, ten Indonesian ambassadors arrived at the Madison airport, 28 hours after leaving the tropics to experience winter in Wisconsin. They were met by members of the Friendship Force and a banner welcoming them to Madison. Their luggage also arrived to the relief of everyone.

Members of the club were able to meet and greet the ambassadors in the evening at a welcome dinner at Imperial Gardens. Mary Mastaglio gave an entertaining "show and tell" on the different kinds of snow devices you need in Wisconsin to remove snow from your sidewalk, driveway, and vehicle.. The ambassadors had a chance later at their host families to chip ice, and shovel.

Winter activities during the week included playing in the snow, a sleigh ride given by members Jane and Wes Licht, learning how to curl at the Madison Curling Club and tubing at Cascade Ski Mountain, Portage. At the farewell dinner, Thursday, February 15, at Rex's Innkeeper, Waunakee, the ambassadors entertained us with Indonesian music and dancing. Club members joined in the happy celebration of a wonderful week together.

All ten ambassadors departed at various times on Saturday, February 17. Some to sightsee in New York and other eastern cities, Las Vegas, Los Angeles and San Francisco or to return home.

It takes a village to have a great journey and this was no exception. Thanks to our day hosts: John & Dorothy Baldwin, Mary Juckem, Audrey Liimatainen, Mike Lambert, Lois Schulz, Magdi Sebestyen, Lise Skofronick, and Judy Taylor and also to our dinner hosts: Jane Kessenich, Helen Ann Rugowski, Lise Skofronick, Stephanie Sorenson, Bobbie & Roger Vrooman. Dan Eggerding was a master in producing the booklet for us. Maureen Kind made it possible to experience curling. Lois Schulz made it possible to see some hockey, courtesy of her grandson and three teammates giving a demonstration at the McFarland Ice Arena. Pat Fleming led us on a tour of Edgewood College. The delicious soups for lunch on Tuesday were provided by Gail Holmes, Kathy Johnson, Mary Juckem, and Lois Schulz, The desserts for lunch were courtesy of Rita Bloomfield, Reta Herring, Gail Holmes, and Kathy Johnson. Lastly, we couldn't have done this without our treasurer and chief advisor, Gail Holmes

Doug and Kathy Johnson

Journey Host Co-Coordinator

kjohnson44@ameritech.net or 608-238-1785

Enjoy the following photos of our Winter Experience Journey with the ambassadors from Indonesia. Future newsletters will include photos of the hosts with their ambassadors and other activities.



Indonesian ambassadors left to right: Ari Kartadipura, Aida Muslimah, Ari Noorlimayanti, Mahda Fachrurrazie, Yenny Yustan, Handriani Sentonno, Ninuk Kartadipura Jeanne Syariffudin; Lies Erning and Prio Hutomo



WISCONSIN FRIENDSHIP
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5809 Julia St
Madison, WI 53705
www.ffwis.org

March 2018

2019 Officer Nominations
Book Club and Let's Eat Out Events
May Motor Coach Day Tour

President:	Sandi Wysock	833-5326
Vice-Pres:	Peg Hutnik	334-4647
Secretary	Stephanie Sorensen	819-6646
Treasurer:	Judith Taylor	238-9474
Newsletter:	Donna Hussin	845-3393

Email Accounts:

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ffwis.outreach@gmail.com

The Friendship Force of Wisconsin
Annual Meeting and Luncheon
Entertainment -- West High Okinawa Taiko Drummers
Sunday, April 29, 2018

Radisson Hotel Grand Canyon Ballroom
517 Grand Canyon Dr
Madison, WI, 53719

12:00 PM Social Hour
12:30 PM Luncheon served Buffet Style
Cost: \$19.50



Menu:
Baked Chicken marinated in buttermilk, (*Hand breaded in a blend of herbs and spices and fired crispy*)
Fettuccine Alfredo with Asparagus, (*Made with fresh Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese and fat-free milk tossed with fettuccine and grilled asparagus*)
House Salad with Toppings/Dressings, Chef's choice of vegetables and starch
Rolls and butter, Regular & Decaf Coffee, Ice Tea and Milk

Non-registered members welcome for business meeting only at 1:15PM

Please: Your reservation and payment are due no later than Saturday, April 14, 2018.

-----cut and return with payment

Special dietary needs _____

_____ # attending x \$19.50 = \$ _____

_____ I need a ride _____ I can provide a ride

Names: _____ **Email Address** _____

Make check payable to: The Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison

Mail to: Peg Hutnik, 13 Hickory Hollow Dr., Madison, WI 53705 Questions? 608-334-4647 or mhutnik13@gmail.com

