



# The Friendship Force of Wisconsin

Changing the Way You See the World  
*August 2015*



## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is the last official note from me as your President the past 2 years. I want to thank you so much for your support and the many kindnesses extended to me during my term. Mary Babula will be taking over in September and with you, I welcome her to this position and offer her encouragement for continued success. Sandi Wysock is our newly elected Vice President and along with Mary and the rest of the board will be coming up with exciting possibilities for us. Change is good for any organization to stay vital and interesting. New people can bring in a new perspective and novel ideas that can enhance our programs. This is an invitation to each of you to consider serving your club in a new way as all of our standing committees could benefit from some fresh faces and renewed energy.

Most recently we hosted Arizona and Donna Hussin, ED, shared the ambassador evaluations with the Board this past week. Many, many superlatives and as one of the hosts, I can only say it was over the top in terms of variety, interest, and fun. The last week of July our Club hosted Guadeloupe and this too was an exceptional experience for our guests. However, with both of these exchanges, the ED's struggled to find enough members willing to host. Because of this great difficulty, we very recently denied Montreal's request to visit Madison this October. In 2016 we have 2 international exchanges to host and we need to come up with a plan to accommodate our ambassadors. Home hosting is central to the Friendship Force mission. Perhaps we could increase the number of our members available to host, if we offered more day hosting for them or if we split the duration of the exchange with another home? Another option is to ask your neighbor or friend, if they would be willing to home host. The board has elected to give complimentary memberships to community members who host during an exchange and this can be another great way to add new members as well as to fill out an exchange.

In friendship,

**Helen Ann Rugowski, President**

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## 2015 CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

**NOTE: August Board Meeting moved to August 14, same location and time.**

**August 29-31—FFI World Conference, Vancouver**

**September 14—Crafter's Group Meeting\***

### **2016**

**May 2016—Cleveland County, UK Outbound Exchange\***

**July 2016—Nashik Riverside Club India Inbound Exchange**

**September 2016—San Jose, Costa Rica Inbound Exchange**

\* Information in this newsletter

☺ Information previously announced (Month in Newsletter)

✍ Information to be announced later



Looking for a way to be involved that offers flexibility and no meetings? If you are familiar with Facebook, can collect photos from members and Exchange Directors and are willing to write and post announcements, this may be the opportunity for you. Contact Sandi Wysock at 608 833 5326 or [sandrawysock@msn.com](mailto:sandrawysock@msn.com).

## International Outbound Exchange to UK in 2016



**England is calling!**  
**APPLY BY AUGUST 31**  
**Arrival Date in England**  
**Approximately May 10, 2015**

We have been in contact with the ED in Cleveland Co, UK, located in the Northeast part of England, hosts for our 2016 international outbound exchange. This club is able to host 12 ambassadors - which means 10 plus the two ED's. If you are interested in traveling to England and participating in this exchange, we would like you to apply with your \$25 deposit by Aug. 31, 2016. You can find an application form at: <http://www.ffwis.org/images/Forms/2014Ambapp.pdf>

We are currently exploring add-on options in England, Scotland and Ireland. If you have a strong preference for one or the other of these add-on options, or believe you do not want to participate in an extension to any particular place, please add a note on your application. We need some indication of the minimum number of ambassadors interested to do a tour extension. Individual ambassadors also have the option to arrange their own extensions.

We anticipate the cost for this exchange to be \$425 to \$475 for the week. Airfare is currently just under \$1,000. Estimated costs for an extension are somewhere between \$2000 (for about a week basic tour) to \$4000 (2 weeks more extensive) which includes 2 meals per day, lodging, guide, and admissions. Ireland is less costly than England/Scotland due to the currency differences - but both are down from prior years as the dollar is stronger.

Applications are needed by August 31 to allow us to select ambassadors and determine whether there will be an official extension before Stephanie leaves town in late September. We will inform you of your acceptance following interviews and request a trip deposit.

The trip is planned to arrive in Durham Valley Tees Airport on May 10, 2016. If you wish to check current airfares and

options, the least expensive we have found is to book a flight from Chicago to Amsterdam and purchase a separate ticket from Amsterdam to Durham Valley Tees. Please **DO NOT** book anything until you have been confirmed as an ambassador. **Mail your application and \$25 deposit to:**

Nancy Brown  
908 Harrington Drive  
Madison, WI 53718

**Stephanie Sorensen and Nancy Brown Co-EDs**  
stevels@charter.net or ncbrown48@gmail.com

### **San Diego Exchange-April 2015** **Club-to-Club Gifts**

In the course of an exchange, it is customary that the participating clubs give a present to each other. During the recent exchange between FFW-Madison and FF of San Diego County we observed this tradition. I

The monetary gift that our club gave to San Diego was contributed to Father Joe's Village (FJV). This organization is Southern California's largest residential homeless services provider. FJV and its partners prepare up to 4,000 meals and provide a continuum of care to nearly 1,500 individuals every day. Their services include housing, healthcare, food, clothing, education, job training and child development programs. During the exchange, the ambassadors toured the facilities and learned about the wide range of services that are provided.

The monetary gift that San Diego gave to our club was donated to Madison Friends of International Students (MDIS). The mission of MDIS is to connect Madison-area international university and college students, scholars, and any accompanying family with local residents to provide support and assistance as well as to foster cultural exchange, global goodwill, and friendships around the world. FFW-Madison and its members have partnered with this organization in a variety of ways over the years.

We were all very happy to know that our gifts to each other are supporting causes that are so consistent with the values of Friendship Force.

**Nancy Brown, Exchange Director**



**FATHER JOE'S**  
**VILLAGES**  
and partner agencies

## Guadeloupe Incoming Exchange July 24-31, 2015

Below is a photo of some of our ambassadors taken in Guadeloupe during their pre-travel workshop. They were still smiling after our busy week in Madison, having seen the Circus World Parade of Wagons, a cheese factory, the New Glarus Brewery, the Cave of the Mounds, the University campus and Union Terrace. They enjoyed a pontoon boat ride on our lakes and some rode bikes around Lake Monona. We went to Opera in the Park and picnicked at the Concert on the Square. We provided opportunities for them to improve their English language skills with games, trivia quizzes, and conversational gambits. We formed pairs to discuss art works in the Chazen Museum. Above all, we made friends with these smiling Guadelopeans and we hope to see them again soon. A hearty thank you to all the members and members' friends who hosted, chauffeured, guided, provided meals, and in so many ways welcomed our Guadeloupean friends in this, our first-ever English-language exchange.

Lise Skofronick and Maureen Kind Co-EDs



Front Row: Mylene, Exchange Director, and Liliane Baden

Right to Left: Yvelise Dellian, Huguette Rosan, Odile Lin, Niva Lubeth, Franck Guimese, Micheline Dollin, Marga Vala, Marie Noelle Arconte, Leslie Rosan, Nadine Thales, Christine Virtuouse, Marina Moutou, Annette Barbot, Nelly Nibert, karim Vilovar  
Missing: Madly Marignan

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Dear Members of Friendship Force Wisconsin-Madison

The ambassadors from Central Arizona thank you for a very interesting and organized week in Madison and area. Each day's activities were well-planned, new friends were made and many old friendships from previous exchanges renewed.

The activities made the ambassadors aware of Wisconsin's historical Capitol, University system, and gave them information about our rich farming heritage and beautiful rural area. Old World Wisconsin was a great summary for the exchange.

**In friendship,  
Pat Forsythe, Arizona ED**







## Book Club

The Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison met on June 30 at the home of Sandi and George Wysock to discuss Seventh Generation Earth Ethics: Native Voices of Wisconsin by Patti Loew. We were honored to have Patti join us.



Patti is a member of the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Ojibwe. She shared memories of her childhood growing up in Milwaukee. Despite growing up with little financial means, she had many memories of spending time with relatives on the Bad River Ojibwe reservation and the large extended family that provided support. She said that there were times when her family and extended family would fill the first three rows for her school events in Milwaukee. She didn't have a strong sense of being Native American as she was growing up but became more connected and aware during the 1960's. Patti spoke of the events of those years and some of the events that occurred on the boat landings as Native Americans in Wisconsin asserted their treaty rights.

Seventh Generation Earth Ethics contains biographical information about tribal leaders and respected elders in Wisconsin, one from each of the twelve Native American tribes in Wisconsin. Walter Bresette (Red Cliff) was an environmental activist. Hilary Waukau (Menomonie) was known as an environmental warrior. Frances Van Zile (Mole Lake Sokaogan Ojibwe) successfully helped battle the proposed open pit copper mine near Crandon. Joe Rose (Bad River Ojibwe) was a leader in promoting treaty rights. Thomas St. Germaine (Lac du Flambeau Ojibwe) and Jim Schlender (Lac Courtes Oreilles) were lawyers who championed treaty rights in the court system. Jenny and Mary Thunder (Forest County Potawatomi) were medicine women who treated both whites and Native Americans in areas where there was minimal health care, often walking miles to treat patients. Truman Lowe (Ho Chunk) is a celebrated organic sculpture artist but is so modest that people often don't realize that his work is in places like the Smithsonian. Dorothy Davids (Stockbridge--Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians) was a lifelong educator, author, and activist. William Gollnick (Oneida) is respected as a culture keeper and tribal leader. Wanda McFaggen (St. Croix Ojibwe) is known as their tribal historic preservationist. And then there was the story of Caroline Andler's attempt to collect the history of the Brothertown Nation who are still seeking re-recognition as

a tribe. The Brothertown people had roots in several tribes in the eastern U.S. who came together as a community and called themselves the Brothertown in the 1700's. Senator Tammy Baldwin is currently carrying their cause forward in the U.S. Senate to help them become re-recognized as a tribe, giving their members access to the benefits that other Native Americans receive.

Our discussion covered a diverse number of topics ranging from how Patti was motivated to write the book, additional stories about the tribal leaders featured in the book, both the tragedies brought about by the Indian boarding schools, some of the benefits of those schools, the importance of land and place to Native Americans, the violence on the docks and lakes in Northern Wisconsin as tribes asserted their treaty rights, the current status of the tribes, and the fights to protect the environment. We were all captivated by Patti's extensive knowledge of Native American history and personal knowledge of the tribal leaders and elders, and honored that she chose to join us for our book discussion.

## Mary Babula, Co-chair



The Friendship Force of Wisconsin – Madison (FFW-M) Board passed a motion to provide a complimentary membership to individuals and families who are not members and significantly help with an exchange. The complimentary membership is good for the remainder of the year they participate. This gives them a change to see what FFW-M is all about and they are already involved.

All you need to do is contact Membership. Please contact:

## Mary Lindquist, Membership Chair

608-233-9351

marylindquist@[charter.net](mailto:marylindquist@charter.net)



## Crafter's Group

The "Crafters" will be re-grouping to plan an itinerary for our future. If you have ever wondered what this group is all about, please join us. We will meet on Monday, September 14th at 1:00 o'clock at Margo McKnight's. 321 N Midvale Blvd. Apt 1, Madison WI 53705. (608) 345-6827.

Please mark your calendar. Hope to see all of you so we can plan our strategy.

## Margo McKnight

## Informing Membership of a Past or Current Member's Death

Just publishing the death of a past or current member in the newsletter doesn't help those who would like to attend the memorial service or send condolences at the time of the death. Following a discussion involving, our president, Helen Ann, membership chair, Mary Lindquist, communications chair, Dave Doehler and myself, we have arrived at the following process to report a person's death to membership.

1. Upon hearing of a person's death or seeing it in the newspaper, call Mary Lindquist (608-233-9353) or email her ([marylindquist@charter.net](mailto:marylindquist@charter.net)). Provide her with your source, i.e., WSJ (date and funeral home).
2. Mary will verify membership and relative information and send the death announcement to Dave Dohler.
3. Dave will send a general announcement to the membership.
4. As newsletter editor, I will capture that information to include in the next newsletter.
5. Lois Schulz upon seeing the electronic notice will send a card on behalf of the membership.

This should expedite communicating this information to our membership and eliminate the delay that occurs when the information is sent to me and I need to forward on to Mary for more details.

**Donna Hussin, Newsletter Editor**

## In Loving Memory



Thelma Rasmussen

Death: July 11, 2015

Thelma and her husband were members of FFW-Madison from 1982-86. Harold passed away 07/04/12. Both loved to travel and experience making friends through FF.

Full Obituary:  
WSJ Thursday, July 18, 2015  
[www.CressFuneralService.com](http://www.CressFuneralService.com)



Joan Shropshire

Death: July 18, 2015

Joan and Shrop joined FFW-Madison in 1989. They participated throughout the years in many exchanges. Joan had a special gift of conversation and will be missed.

WSJ Wednesday, July 22, 2015  
[www.gundersonfh.com](http://www.gundersonfh.com)

**WISCONSIN FRIENDSHIP**  
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**5809 Julia ST**  
**Madison, WI 53705**  
**[www.ffwis.org](http://www.ffwis.org)**

**August 2015**  
**International Outbound Exchange to UK in 2016**

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