



The Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison

Changing the Way You See the World

August 2016



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

“As a member of the Friendship Force, I recognize that I can make a difference. I recognize that I have a mission. That mission is to be a friend to the people of the world. As I embark upon this adventure, I know that others will be watching me. I know that through my example to my fellow citizens and the people of other countries, the cause of friendship and peace can be furthered.”

- The Friendship Force Pledge

For the past 40 years, the Friendship Force has helped people around the world build lasting friendships. Each of us who has been an ambassador, host or day host has a story to tell. We would like to include your stories in our newsletters. Is there someone or something that stands out for you? What was your experience on your most recent exchange? These stories don't have to be long but for all of us who share this mission, the people and our experiences are what keep us coming back. The Friendship Force provides a unique opportunity to share who we are and what we do and to experience the same in other countries and communities. As a result it does change how you read the headlines. Please take a minute and write your story. Send it to our newsletter editor, Donna Hussin. Donna will include your stories in upcoming newsletters as space permits. As Jeremi Snook said in his recent blog. **“You are part of a movement to write a counter-narrative to the fear, prejudice, violence and injustice that the news industry causes us to believe is now commonplace. Your stories of friendship and your everyday work of overcoming the barriers that separate us are testaments to that. Thank you for continuing to stand for the power of friendship.”**

We have an ice cream social planned for August 14 at my home, 102 Acadia Drive, Madison. At the social we will seek your input relating to our 2018 outbound exchange requests. Details can be found under Social Activities in this newsletter. Please come!!! Your input is important.

Finally, we are looking to expand many of our committees. Activities, Membership, Outreach, and Exchanges can always use additional help. We are writing “job descriptions” for various volunteer activities so you know what is needed and how much time is involved. Help us keep our club strong by playing an active role.

In peace and friendship,

Sandi Wysock
President



2016 CLUB ACTIVITIES

Monthly Board Meeting -Bridge Point Waunona Community Center, 1917 Lake Point Dr, third Wednesday of the month, 1:15 p.m.

August 5—Orientation Meeting, Winnipeg, Canada/Santa Barbara, CA Inbound Exchange*

August 14—Ice Cream Social*

August 17—Board Meeting

August 24—Newsletter Deadline

September 13-20—Winnipeg, Canada/Santa Barbara CA Inbound Exchange*

September 16-19—FFI World Conference☺ (Feb)

2017

February 22-March 1—Guadeloupe Outbound Exchange

May TBD—Noumea, New Caledonia Inbound Exchange

June TBD--San Diego, CA Inbound Exchange

August 8-14—Medicine Hat, Canada Outbound Exchange

August 15-22—Vancouver, Canada Outbound Exchange

* Information in this newsletter

☺ Information previously announced (Month in ☺Newsletter)

✍ Information to be announced later



Please welcome new members, Mary & Tom Payton. They are interested in hosting, day/dinner/tea hosting, welcome and departures, and one of them plays the piano.

Mary & Tom Payton
823 N Gammon Rd
Madison, WI 53717-1150
608-831-6961 (H) 608-698-2605 (C)
marypay@tds.net

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Strategic Planning



Board members spent a day developing a strategic plan for the club. Our objective was to identify 3-5 goals for the upcoming year. We started by looking at our strengths, weaknesses and opportunities. After some discussion, we narrowed our objectives to a few general areas. We still have work to do in defining goals, developing initiatives and specific measures but the initial work is completed. Our goal is to have a long range plan to provide us with a roadmap going into the future. Each year, we will re-evaluate and make adjustments as needed but the plan will allow us to focus on top priorities. If you are interested in helping us move any of these initiatives forward, please contact Sandi Wysock.

1. Increase Membership and Membership Participation.
 - Develop a mentoring program for new members
 - Identify opportunities for involving more members in our exchanges and exchange activities
 - Develop job descriptions for the various volunteer opportunities so members know what they are volunteering for, how long it takes, and how to do the task.
 - Develop a leadership program
 - Develop a survey and conduct a survey of the membership that will identify skills as well as interests
2. Identify resources within the community that offer opportunities for enriching exchanges, that are potential sources of new members, and that offer opportunities for cross cultural education and activities.
3. Develop a marketing plan
4. Develop more effective and efficient methods for communicating

Sandi Wysock
President



Reta Harring
New email address: r.harring@yahoo.com

ARE YOU MISSING A PLATE?

After finishing the clean-up at the conclusion of a wonderful and well attended picnic on July 14 to say farewell to our India exchange ambassadors, I came home with a plate that does not belong to me. It is a very interesting commemorative plate of Mount Rushmore National Memorial.



Please contact me if this is your plate. I am sure you must be missing it.

Stephanie Sorensen (608) 819-6646

SUMMER TIME IS ICE CREAM TIME



On Sunday, August 14, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., the Activities Committee invites everyone to come to Sandi and George Wysock's home, 102 Acadia Dr, Madison, for an old-fashioned ice cream social.

We will have ice cream and a variety of toppings available and hope to have a beautiful summer day to socialize and receive your input related to our 2018 outbound exchange requests.

We are asking for a small donation that day to cover costs. We NEED to know if you are coming so that we can make sure we have sufficient supplies. Please email me by **August 10** at: stevils@charter.net or sign up on Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ice-cream-social-tickets-26201040016>

Stephanie Sorensen, Activities Co-Chair

In Loving Memory



Nancy Shermo-Denton
Death: June 28, 2016

Nancy was a current member with her husband Neil. Both had great times traveling worldwide with the Friendship Force and staying with local families during those travels.

Services were held July 1, 2016. Donations can be made to Agrace Hospice in her name or a charitable organization for the blind. Online condolences may be made at www.gundersonfh.com

Exchange Coordinator Report

A rather young fun-loving group interested in learning and experiencing as much as possible was with us from **July 8-15, 2016**. The 22 ambassadors from the Nashik Riverside Club in India participated in an interesting and enjoyable exchange provided by ED Helen Ann Rugowski and Asst. ED Jerry Fuller. Their report will be forthcoming.

Co-Eds Patrick Fleming and George Wysock and their planning committee have prepared an itinerary for the inbound Winnipeg, Canada and Santa Barbara, CA exchange from **September 13-20, 2016**. The 13 ambassadors from Winnipeg will spend the previous week in Northern Illinois and the 10 ambassadors from Santa Barbara will have been in Minneapolis. Both groups will be driving to Madison. Winnipeg has six couples and a single woman, and the older but active Santa Barbara ambassadors have two couples and six single women. Home hosts and a home dinner coordinator are in place. The registration form for club members to participate in the activities will be in the August newsletter. The planning committee is meeting for the third time on Thursday, July 21, to finalize arrangements. Day hosts and dinner hosts are needed.

Some progress has been made in finalizing schedules for **2017** exchanges. The outbound international exchange to **Guadeloupe** is now **February 22-March 1, 2017**. Co-Eds Lise Skofronick and Maureen Kind have an overflowing number of interested ambassadors from our club and will be holding interviews. Our FFI contact is Laura Romero.

Dates for the outbound exchange to Medicine Hat and Metro Vancouver in Canada have now been agreed upon. We will be with **Medicine Hat** from **August 8-14**, and **Metro Vancouver** **August 15-22, 2017**. I will now advertise for an exchange director or two. One person could handle the entire exchange or two people could share with each one being responsible for just one of the weeks. Suggestions of potential EDs for all our exchanges are always welcome.

The Exchange Coordinator for the **San Diego** club has requested we host them in **early June rather than July 2017**. Their club has Austin, Texas coming August 1-8 and Leuven, Belgium in late September. It seems that all of us are juggling exchange dates. I told him we need to wait until the dates for the New Caledonia exchange have been determined.

Finally, we have received an email on July 1 from the **Noumea, New Caledonia** past president while she was in Japan. She wrote she'd be home July 5 and would send the list of ambassadors and the dates for their inbound international exchange to Chicago and Wisconsin. There has been no reply to my July 6 email requesting this information before the Board meeting. Our FFI contact, Maryam Jordan, also hasn't heard from them. Currently, they are scheduled for **May 2017**.

Gail Holmes, Exchange Coordinator

Exchange Director Opportunity Canadian Exchange, August 2017

Our club has received an invitation to spend two weeks in Canada. The first week with the Medicine Hat club from August 8-14, 2016. Medicine Hat is located in Alberta province. On August 15, we will travel to Vancouver, BC to spend a second week from August 15-22. Both clubs are excited that we are coming and both already have exchange directors in place! It's only a year away!

We need one or two members of our club to volunteer to lead this great exchange. One person could coordinate both weeks or another option is for two exchange directors to share--each being responsible for just one of the weeks. Outbound exchanges are easier because the host clubs plan the activities for our ambassadors. To assist you is a newly revised detailed Exchange Director's Manual, scads of helpful prior exchange directors, board members, and a supportive exchange coordinator.

All members, especially newer ones, are encouraged to apply. Questions about being an exchange director are welcomed. Just contact me. Leadership of an exchange provides an opportunity to meet other Friendship Force leaders and members, spread our message of peace and goodwill, and gives you a warm sense of satisfaction plus deep appreciation from your own club. Take this opportunity to step up and become an exchange director. Hoping to hear from you soon.

Gail L. Holmes, Exchange Coordinator
608 249-1846 glholmes@wisc.edu

Winnipeg/Santa Barbara Exchange September 13-20, 2016



On behalf of Patrick Fleming, myself, and our hard working committee of Gail Holmes, Lois Schulz, Margo McKnight, and Sandi Wysock, I would like to invite everyone in the Friendship Force of Wisconsin to participate in the incoming exchange from Winnipeg and Santa Barbara. There is a signup sheet and itinerary in this issue. Please review them and plan on attending as many events as possible. We are still looking for day hosts for the events and reserve hosts in case of an emergency. If you have the time during the week of September 13-20, 2016, please call Patrick Fleming at 249-5592 or George Wysock at 833-5326. Everyone is also invited to the host orientation meeting August 5, 10:00 AM, Pinney Library, 204 Cottage Grove Rd, Madison where there will be more information about the planned events which will be different from the normal.

George Wysock, Co-Exchange Director
georgewysock@msn.com

**Winnipeg/Santa
Barbara Exchange
Welcome Potluck**



**September 13, 2016
4:00 P.M.
Vilas Park**

Come join the fun at Vilas Park shelter, 1602 Vilas Park Dr, Madison on Lake Wingra to welcome our ambassadors. **Eating commences at 5:00 P.M.** Please bring main dishes, salads, side dishes, deserts, etc. Plates, silverware and beverage will be provided.

Please use the registration form included in this newsletter to let us know you are coming.



Park Shelter Location

Easy directions: Drive west on Monroe Street to Edgewood Avenue. **Turn left.** Continue on Edgewood Avenue which becomes Vilas Park Drive and is one-way going east. Turn left into the parking area near the shelter. Can also Google using this address: 1602 Vilas Park Drive, Madison.

**Lois Schulz
608-243-9761, loisschulz1942@gmail.com**



**Hinchley Dairy Farm
Nashik Riverside, India Exchange**

**Nashik Riverside, India Inbound
Exchange Summary
July 8-15, 2016**

We just completed a seven day exchange with 22 ambassadors from Nashik Riverside, India that ran from July 8-July 15, 2016. It was a full week of activities and fortunately for all of us, beautiful weather. We met up in Dubuque at Eagle Point Park with 17 members of their group, who had spent the previous week with the Cedar Rapids Iowa club, for a picnic and the transfer. The other 5 arrived in Madison traveling on their own.

The exchange began Friday night with a traditional Wisconsin Fish Fry at the Elks Lodge enjoyed by hosts, ambassadors and guests; 56 people in all. Because Indians do not consume beef or pork, and because many in the group were vegetarian, there was a vegetarian option offered, as well in all the meals planned for our guests during the week. Saturday was the traditional downtown Madison Day with State Capitol and Overture Center tours after which many stayed on for a look at the Annual Art Fair on the Square. Sunday, ambassadors and their hosts/day hosts were treated to a horse training exhibition with Kay Kinney and a few accepted the opportunity to ride the horses. This was particularly enjoyed by the 11 and 15 year-old girls from India. Later, all enjoyed a pontoon sunset cruise on Lake Mendota with a box picnic supper at Lake Mendota County Park.

Monday was an early and full day via chartered school bus transport for an American Breeders Service tour, visit to Harley Davidson Cycles in Sauk City, lunch at Blue Spoon in Prairie du Sac, ending with a tour and tasting at Wollersheim Winery. Tuesday, ambassadors visited the International Crane Foundation, Baraboo for docent tours, lunched at the Wintergreen in Lake Delton followed by an Upper Dells boat ride. A small number opted to do the Original Duck Ride. Some then took the option of returning home via the Merrimac Ferry. Dinner hosting took place Monday and Tuesday evenings alternating with dinner out or a meal prepared at home by the ambassadors.

Wednesday morning was centered on community services and arranged by Lucy Lasseter with tours and talks from representatives of the Meadowood Neighborhood Center, Meadowridge Public Library and Leopold Elementary School. The afternoon was a Hinchley Dairy Farm tour in Cambridge, complete with hayride and an opportunity to milk a cow. Thursday was the flexible day for time with their hosts and activities of personal interest and most had a trip to Costco on their list. Many also came to the ice cream social arranged by Joe Elder at the South Asia Studies Department to learn about the center and speak their native Marathi language with the students. The day and the exchange activities ended with the annual club picnic/farewell party at Burrows Park. Food was from the Willy Street Coop and enthusiastic dancing and music was provided by the ambassadors. Photos from the exchange activities can be found on our club website photo gallery listed under Events Menu.

Special thanks to our hosts, day hosts and dinner hosts as they are the ones who truly made this time special for the ambassadors in sharing their homes, time, resources and themselves

Home hosts--Ivan & Jan Gruetzmacher, Lisa Simon, Gabor & Kathy Speck Kemeny, Dorothy & John Baldwin, Margo McKnight, Sandy Drew, Marian Ehrenberg, Stephanie Kessenich & Tom Christensen, Richard Shropshire, Peg Hutnick, Sarah Rankin, Sandi & George Wysock, Lucy & Bob Lasseter.

Day hosts--Dan Eggerding, Betty & Jerry Fuller, Gail Holmes, Donna Hussin, Chris Manke, Mary Lou Martino and Martha McGregor.

Dinner hosts--Doug & Kathy Johnson, Patty Kexel & Tom Herman, Donna & Tom Miller, Betty & Jerry Fuller, Stephanie & Dean Vanden Bush, Jane Kessenich, Lise Skofronick, Maggie Dohm, Margy & Dick Walker and Mary Lou McBride.

Additional thanks to the planning committee of Donna Hussin, Jane Kessenich, Gail Holmes, Paul Buckalew, Tom Christensen, Chris Manke, Margo McKnight, Kathy Speck Kemeny and Kay Kinney; interviewing committee of Betty Fuller, Joan Calkins, Ginger Gostomski and Mary Mastaglio; Dubuque drivers--Lisa Simon, Audrey Liimatainen, Martha McGregor, Gail Holmes and Margo McKnight; treasurer, Janet Lonergan; dinner coordinator, Jane Kessenich; Amber Restaurant workshop, Chris Manke; Professor Joe Elder, workshop presentation and ice cream social; farewell picnic, Stephanie Sorensen and Nancy Brown; Mary Lindquist, computer assistance; and Dave Dohler, web postings.

Special recognition and gratitude goes to Jerry Fuller, the assistant exchange director, who led me through my first attempt as ED and was much more than an assistant.

Helen Ann Rugowski, Exchange Director

Irish Fest –August 18-21
Henry W. Maier Festival Park
200 N. Harbor Dr, Milwaukee

The world's largest Irish cultural festival brings the Emerald Isle to the shore of Lake Michigan! Listen to traditional music, admire the dancers jigging to heart-pounding beats, enjoy roaming performers in traditional costumes and experience Ireland's folklore through cultural exhibits, theater and craft demonstrations.

<http://irishfest.com/Irishfest.htm>

Mexican Fest--August 26-28
Henry W. Maier Festival Park
200 N. Harbor Dr, Milwaukee

This authentic south-of-the-border experience features mouth-watering food, rousing mariachi bands, foot-stomping rhythms and a swirl of traditional dancers. Walk through the cultural pavilion and learn about the history of Mexican and Latin cultures from ancient civilizations to the present.

<http://www.mexicanfiesta.org/home.php>

William Tell Festival--September 2-4
W5199 Hwy W New Glarus

Play set near the end of the 13th Century tells the story of freeing Switzerland from Austrian rule.

<http://www.wilhelmtell.org/>

Indian Summer Festival--September 9-11
Henry W. Maier Festival Park
200 N. Harbor Dr, Milwaukee

The largest Native American fest in the country, showcasing ethnic art, music, history and food. Browse handcrafted pieces of artwork at the "Circle of Art" exhibit, listen to native storytellers and entertainers, and experience the diversity of tribal dance styles and regalia at a traditional pow-wow.

<http://www.indiansummer.org/>

Cultural Experiences to Enjoy



Unable to travel to other countries but still want to enjoy cultural experiences this summer? Here are a few that might interest you in the months of August, and September 2016

**Winnipeg, Canada & Santa Barbara, CA Exchange Activities Reservation Form
September 13-20, 2016**

For all FFWI-Madison members, family and friends.

PLEASE enter **YES** and number of participants or **NO** for FREE events.

Indicate MENU CHOICES for WEDNESDAY and MONDAY meals!

Form and payment due by **September 7, 2016.**

Date	Activity	Cost/Person	# Persons	Total Cost
Tuesday, Sept. 13	Welcome potluck dinner, Vilas Park shelter, on Lake Wingra 4:30 p.m. Dining begins at 5:00 p.m. Club members requested to bring main dishes, salads, side dishes, deserts.	___ Yes ___ No		
Wednesday, Sept. 14	International Crane Foundation, Baraboo, 9:15 a.m. Lunch, Wintergreen Resort, Lake Delton, 11:50 a.m. Includes beverage and tip. ___ Two half sandwiches (ham & turkey) w/tomato rice soup ___ Large chef salad with roll ___ Vegetarian sandwich with soup Upper Dells 2-hour boat tour, WI Dells, 1:15 p.m. Home hosted dinners	\$7.00 \$9.00 \$21.00		
Thursday, Sept. 15	Am Breeder's Service tour, DeForest, 8:00 a.m. Hinchley's Dairy Farm tour, Cambridge, 11:00 a.m. Catered picnic lunch at farm, 11:30 a.m. Horse demonstration by Kay Kinney, Fitchburg, 3:30 p.m.	Free ___ Yes ___ No \$8.00 \$10.00 Free ___ Yes ___ No		
Friday, Sept. 16	Discovery Center tour, including Atmospheric, Oceanic & Space Sciences bldg., 9:00 a.m. Optional walk to Babcock Hall for ice cream and Allen Centennial Garden Lunch OYO First Unitarian Society tour, 2:00 p.m. Capital Brewery tour, Middleton, 4:00 p.m. Optional barbecue dinner, drinks not included, free entertainment (Moon Gypsies) in beer garden	Free ___ Yes ___ No Free ___ Yes ___ No \$7.00 \$7.00 \$10.00		
SUB-TOTAL FRONT SIDE				

CONTINUED ON BACK SIDE

Date	Activity	Cost/Person	# Persons	Total Cost
Saturday, Sept. 17	Farmer's Market, Capitol Square, Madison, 9:00 a.m.	Free ___ Yes ___ No		
	State of Wisconsin Capitol tour, 11:00 a.m.	Free ___ Yes ___ No		
Sunday, Sept. 18	Optional Mt. Zion Baptist Church Women's Day services at 8:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. or your own worship service.	Free ___ Yes ___ No		
	Ambassadors take hosts out to dinner			
Monday, Sept. 19	Pendarvis tour, Mineral Point, 10:00 a.m.	\$8.00		
	Lunch at the Walker House, Mineral Point, Noon Authentic Cornish Pasty with Walker House sauce ___ Beef ___ Chicken ___ Veggie	\$13.00		
	Afternoon free			
	Farewell dinner at Bunky's, Madison, 6:00 p.m. "Spaghetti on the Board" plus goodies!	\$22.00		
Sub-total Back Side				
Sub-total Front Side				
GRAND TOTAL				

Name of Participants: _____ Phone: _____

_____ Phone: _____

Make check payable to **The Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison**
 Send form with payment to **Lois Schulz, 5555 Tancho Drive #407, Madison, WI 53718-1932** (608-243-9761)
 Questions: Patrick Fleming (608-249-5992) pfleming@edgewood.edu or
 George Wysock (608-833-5326) georgewysock@msn.com

WISCONSIN FRIENDSHIP
Official Publication of
The Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison
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August 2016
Strategic Planning
Ice cream Social
Winnipeg, Canada & Santa Barbara, CA Exchange Activities Reservation Form
Nashik Riverside, India Exchange Summary

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