



The Friendship Force of Wisconsin

Changing the Way You See the World

June 2015



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The April exchange to San Diego was a big success for the 19 Ambassadors. Thank you Nancy Brown, ED, for the planning and efforts involved in making this enjoyable for everyone who participated! Look on our club website under Photo Gallery for pictures of this exchange and ask the travelers when you see them about their experiences.

A committee has been working diligently on updating the Exchange Director Manual. New to inbound exchanges is a policy for reimbursing the host ED expenses. These efforts, along with the addition of an exchange coordinator position on the Board, should make it more inviting for members to come forward to serve as exchange directors. We have three international exchanges assigned us for 2016 (India, England, and Costa Rica) so these efforts made by our board are timely.

The Regional Leadership Conference was held this past month in Cedar Rapids, IA. Participating were 31 delegates representing the eleven clubs of the Midwest Region. This conference is held in alternate years and provides an opportunity for club leaders to exchange information and share new ideas, as well as, hear the news from Atlanta. It was a privilege for Stephanie Sorensen, Mary Babula and I to represent our club and expect we will be sharing the ideas we gained with you during the coming year. Matt Nidek, FFI Atlanta Department of Program Services, led workshops along with Adrienne Moen our Regional Representative.

June is a busy month and I hope you will choose to participate in one or more of the offered activities. Bike or Walk the Drive on June 7, participate in one or more of the exchange activities involving Arizona June 18-25, and come to Book Club the evening of June 30.

Last month's newsletter contained the program for our Guadeloupe exchange in July. I cannot recall a less expensive activity exchange over the period my membership and it looks to be a lot of fun for all! This makes it possible for most everyone to participate to some degree so I hope you will take up the opportunity to show a warm welcome to our visitors. Deadline for this signup is June 20.



2015 CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

NOTE: June Board meeting moved to June 12, same location and time to avoid conflict with Arizona Exchange on the third Friday.

June 7—Ride the Drive*

June 18-25—Arizona Inbound Exchange*

June 30—Book Cub*

July 24-31—Guadeloupe Inbound Exchange*

July 30—Annual Picnic*

August 29-31—FFI World Conference, Vancouver

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

Lastly with passage of our new Club by-laws at the Annual Meeting, there are two new positions on the board. These positions are Exchange Director Coordinator and Board Member at Large. It would be ideal, if we could have these two named for the Board to approve at the next Board Meeting on June 12. Please contact me with your interest or questions.

In friendship,

Helen Ann Rugowski, President

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International Crane Foundation

Arizona Inbound Exchange June 18-25, 2015

In 18 days, we welcome our first group of ambassadors for 2015 from the greater metropolitan Phoenix, AZ, area known as the Valley of the Sun. While Madison can claim being the only capitol located on an isthmus, Phoenix is the most populous state capitol in the U.S.

The 11 ambassadors are looking to escape for a short time the desert heat and maybe experience a touch of rain as their annual average is a mere seven inches. Our hope is none will be in the forecast for any of our daytime activities.

Hosting the ambassadors are Ivan & Jan Gruetzmacher and Lisa Simon, Gail Holmes, Sarah Rankin and Kay Kinney, Dr. William & Donna Knickmeyer, Robert & Lucy Lasseter, Helen Ann Rugowski, Stephanie Sorensen, Judith Taylor, and Ernie Thieding. Joining in the activities serving as day hosts are Nancy Brown, Sandra Drew, Dan Eggerding, Betty & Jerry Fuller, Margie Groom, Mary Lindquist, Janet Lonergan, Mary Lou Martino, and Sandi Wysock. Our ambassadors and invited FFWI-Madison members and other guests will be hosted for dinner on Monday, June 22 by Jan Gruetzmacher & Lisa Simon, Betty & Jerry Fuller, Maggie Dohm, Ken & Carol Koscik, Jane Kessnich, and Dr. William & Donna Knickmeyer. Thank you to all 28 and those doing double duty for volunteering for this exchange.

The activities listed in the April newsletter are open to all. Those of you who have chosen to join us, in addition to the volunteers, thank you for continuing the mission of building friendships across borders and cultures for FFI. Each day will provide all with lasting memories.

My contact information is djhussin@yahoo.com or 608.845.3393.

Donna Hussin, Exchange Director

New Members

Mary Ann Preston
1008 Pasadena Pkwy
Waunakee WI 53597-1920
608-849-5687
msp53704@aol.com

Andrea Urban
2659 High Ridge Trail #4
Fitchburg WI 537133658
608-298-7933, 608-215-9799 (cell)
orangerind64@gmail.com



Alp & Dell Cheese, Monroe

Guadeloupe Incoming Exchange July 24-31, 2015

Plans to welcome 20 ambassadors from Guadeloupe, an overseas department of France, have been finalized. The sign-up sheet to participate in activities is in the May newsletter. **Sign-ups are due June 20.** We are still seeking hosts and day hosts for this exchange. Since this is an English language learning exchange, the first for our club, all our English speaking members are invited to help converse with our ambassadors as we introduce them to our region. Please contact Maureen Kind dmkind@sbcglobal.net 608-274-6754.

Maureen Kind, Exchange Director



There were just four of us trash pickers on Tuesday, May 12, to clean up the one mile section of Highway 12 out of Middleton. New member, Sarah Rankin, joined the Wysocks and myself to complete the dirty deed. With only four of us, it took longer, so thank you Sarah, George and Sandi for hanging in there on a cool and windy morning. Net result: 14 bags. I believe that's a record. The next clean-up will be in the fall, late September or early October. I am seeking a volunteer to lead the next clean-up; the leader can choose the date that suits their schedule.

Helen Ann Rugowski

Bicycle Enthusiasts....Join Us for Ride the Drive June 7

Mark your calendars now for Sunday, June 7, when Friendship Force members who like to ride their bicycles will meet to participate in "Ride the Drive" in downtown Madison.

Those who are interested in riding as a group from Friendship Force should plan to meet at the corner of Lakeside Street and John Nolan Drive, on the lake side, at 10:30 AM. Please call or e-mail Mary Mastaglio or Mary Babula, if you plan to participate: 608-241-0212 or mcbabula@hotmail.com.



Outreach

Book Club

Next meeting of the book club will be 7:00PM, Tuesday June 30, at the home of Sandi and George Wysock, 102 Acadia Drive. We will be reading Seventh Generation Earth Ethics by Patty Loew.



If we were to consider the impact of our decisions on the next seven generations (or 240 years) how would it affect our business and environmental decisions? Join us as we discuss the Native American biographies from each of Wisconsin's twelve Indian nations. The Native people whose lives are depicted in Patti Loew's Seventh Generation Earth Ethics understand the cultural gravity that keeps their people rooted to their ancestral lands and they consider the impact that their actions today have on the success and growth of future generations.

There are copies available in the library system as well as copies available for purchase from Amazon and the State Historical Society. Read some, none or all of the chapters and come willing to explore these issues with us. We always have interesting discussions.

Please e-mail Sandi at: sandrawysock@msn.com or call 608.833.5326, if you intend to participate in this discussion.

L.E.O. (Let's Eat Out)

14 members gathered at Bandung, 600 Williamson St on Monday, May 18 to enjoy traditional Indonesian food. Among the appetizer options, Panqsit Keju (cream cheese wonton) proved to be the most popular and of the three main entrees, Udang Goreng Mentega (shrimp, mushrooms, green & red pepper, onion and potato in creamy garlic sauce) was the choice of most.



A lively discussion for where the next L.E.O. should be in August followed the meal. Look for the information in the July newsletter.

During the month of June we suggest you eat out with FFWI members at one of the Arizona exchange dinners and in July join in saying farewell to our Guadeloupe ambassadors at the annual picnic on July 30. Remember **bring a friend!**

Outreach Committee

We are always looking for members interested in participating or leading activities. These are some of our current ones:

- If you are a bike rider, join us for Ride the Drive or help us include a biking activity in an exchange.
- If you love exploring a culture through its cuisine, help us set up a L.E.O. (let's eat out) at a local international restaurant. We are open to suggestions for future LEO's.
- If you like to read and discuss books with cultural themes, join our book club.. We are always welcoming new members and looking for suggestions for new books. Since the book club started, we have explored the world of the North Korean work camps, the life of a child of Hmong heritage in the Madison schools and issues illegal children immigrants encounter as told in the story of one child making the perilous journey across Mexico on the train they call the Beast to reach the American Border.
- If you are interested in speaking to groups about the Friendship Force or would like us to speak to a group that you belong to, let us know. Do you have connections to other cultural organizations such as Sister Cities, Returned Peace Corp Volunteers, etc., that have a mission similar to ours that might be interested in joint activities?

We are open to any and all new ideas or suggestions that promote our mission. We are waiting to hear from you.

Sandi Wysock sandrawysock@msn.com and Mary Babula mcbabula@hotmail.com, Outreach Committee Co-chairs



Global Themed Exchange Opportunity in 2016

"The Prairies to the Rockies"

August 18-August 30, 2016

Hosted by the Friendship Force Club of Edmonton, Canada

Estimated cost is \$2150 USD based on the current exchange rate and a minimum of 20 ambassadors. Exchange has capacity for 40. Price Includes FFI and host fees, admission to attractions and activities, and for the seven-day Rockies tour hotel accommodations, transportation during exchange, and 12 meals.

http://catalog.thefriendshipforce.org/index.php/catalog/all_more/the_prairies_to_the_rockies/



Minutes--April 26, 2015 Coliseum Bar & Banquet, Madison WI

President, Helen Ann Rugowski, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Each person received a program along with a copy of the treasurer's report and a copy of the revised bylaws.

Secretary's Report - Lois Schulz was absent and Mary Lindquist filled in for her. Mary Lindquist moved to accept the secretary's report as published in the newsletter. Motion seconded and carried by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report - George Wysock moved that the treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Motion seconded and carried by voice vote.

Annual Report - Helen Ann Rugowski introduced the committee chair persons and thanked them for their service to the club. Committee chairs are:

- **Fannie Hicklin, Activities**--Plans annual meeting, summer picnic, fall festival, christmas & valentines socials.
- **Mary Lindquist, Membership**--Handles the database for membership, renewal notices and notices to prospective members.
- **Dave Dohler, Communications**--Maintains our website where you find your newsletters, activities & photos.
- **Mary Babula & Sandi Wysock, Outreach**—Maintain Facebook, developed and coordinate ride the drive, book club, LEO's and the craft group.
- **Donna Hussin, Newsletter Editor**—Takes information received from FFI, Board and members and creates the monthly document distributed to the membership.
- **Janet Lonergan, Historian**--Maintains all of our records to document activities and exchanges.
- **George Wysock, Recruitment**--Enlists members to be ED's and helps with the training.

Additional Appointed Committees

- **Highway & WHA:** Moved to Outreach. Reta Haring coordinates WHA.
- **Bylaws Committee:** Kay Babcock, Sandy Drew, Fannie Hicklin, Margo McKnight & Helen Ann Rugowski
- **Exchange Manual Update:** Mary Lindquist. Chair—Work continues on the individual chapters with completion by the end of the year.

Helen Ann thanked the 2014-15 officers for their service: Mary Babula, VP; Lois Schulz, Secretary, and Judy Taylor, Treasurer

Recognition for ED's in last 12 months:

- Lise Skofronick & Stephanie Sorensen, directed outbound to Berlin/Poland in May 2014
- Donna Hussin directed inbound from Utah, in July 2014
- Donna Calvert directed inbound Global Arts & Architecture with Milwaukee & Northern IL in August 2014

- Gail Holmes directed inbound from United Kingdom/Costa Rica/Chiapas, Mexico & USA in September, 2014, almost a Global Exchange with ambassadors from many clubs involved
- Nancy Brown directed outbound domestic to San Diego in April 2015.

Election of Officers:

Mary Lindquist, Nominating Committee Chairperson, presented the slate of officers for the term September 18, 2015 to September 16, 2016.

- Mary Babula, President
- Sandi Wysock, Vice-president
- Lois Schulz, Secretary
- Judy Taylor, Treasurer.

Gail Holmes moved to accept the slate of officers. Motion seconded and carried with a voice vote.

Remembrances:

The following individuals have passed away over the past year:

- Roger Wiese-1987
- Don Gostomski-2001
- Georgiann Ganser-charter member
- Hugh Ganser-charter member
- James Pearson-1976
- Eloise Beatty-1985
- Cecilia Coyle-1980
- Viola Kaltenberg-1980

Together, this group represents 259 years of membership in this club.

New Members - We welcomed the following individuals as new members over the past year:

- Dan Eggerding
- Terri Maiola
- Maggie & Tom Washa
- Cigden Unal
- Mary Obligato
- Larry Goulding
- Jane Ellen Donovan
- Shirley Daskow
- Sarah Rankin
- Mary Bohen.

2016 Exchange Announcements: Outbound to UK (Cleveland County), Inbound from Nashik Riverside, India, and San Jose, Costa Rica. Exchange Directors are needed for each of these exchanges.

2015 Exchange Updates: ED's would like some help. Inbound June 18-25 is Phoenix/Tuscon, Donna Hussin, ED and Inbound July 24-31 is Guadeloupe, Maureen Kind & Lise Skofronick, EDs

Club Bylaws - The changes to the bylaws were posted on the website. There was discussion of the name change. The change was needed because of confusion between FFW and the Greater Milwaukee Club. FFI already had "Madison" on their documents to distinguish us from Milwaukee. Wyn Davies made a motion to change the name to The Friendship Force of Greater Madison. The motion was seconded and voted down by a show of hands. Mary Lindquist made a motion to accept the bylaws as originally presented. The motion was seconded and carried by a voice vote. The name is officially changed to The Friendship Force of Wisconsin - Madison.

Club News

The Outreach Committee: They have been busy with new and fun activities. We can look forward to something in almost every month. Anticipate before the end of this year there will be a second new member orientation meeting and an exchange director workshop when the ED manual update is completed that includes new incentives for inbound ED's.

Website & Facebook: Website has current and archived copies of the newsletter; Photo Gallery is constantly updated and Facebook has current pictures taken in San Diego.

Store-Gail Holmes: Luggage tags for \$1 and FFW pins for \$2. New club shirts were ordered; has one women's XL shirt remaining for \$16.

Business Cards: Available to all members; first 10 are free. Do you have yours?

International Institute Dinners: This is fun and we need to know if you would be interested in hosting or attending one of these dinners. It's usually not known to us until a couple weeks beforehand, therefore it is wise to tell Stephanie Sorensen your interest.

501(c)(3) Status - Many of our members give donations above and beyond paying dues. This new status means donations are deductible for tax purposes. It will be announced in the newsletter when all is finalized.

Midwest Leadership Conference: April 30, May 1 & 2 in Cedar Rapids, IA--Stephanie Sorensen, Mary Babula, and Helen Ann Rugowski are participating. Homestays will cover lodging and the club is paying for their registrations and travel to Cedar Rapids.

Upcoming Events:

- Adopt-a-Highway, May 5, Helen Ann Rugowski
- LEO, May 18, Donna Hussin and Gail Holmes
- WHA, May 31, Reta Harring
- Ride the Drive, June 7
- Book Club, June 30, Sandi Wysock or Mary Babula

New Board Positions - There are two new board positions available for application. With the passing of the bylaws today, EXCHANGE DIRECTORS are no longer obligated to stay on the board for 2-3 years. The new position of **ED Coordinator** is a board member and will be the mentor and support person for the clubs EDs. The Coordinator may also be an ED. Obviously this coordinator will be an experienced ED. The second board position is **Member at Large**. This person has no defined role beyond representing the general membership.

Adjourn - Loree Davies moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted
Mary Lindquist

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June 2015
April Annual Meeting Minutes
Annual Summer Club Picnic Reservation Form

President: Helen Rugowski 238-9731
Vice Pres: Mary Babula 241-0212
Secretary: Lois Schulz 223-1287
Treasurer: Judith Taylor 345-6827
Newsletter: Donna Hussin 845-3393

The Friendship Force of Wisconsin
Annual Summer Club Picnic
Pig Roast
Thursday, July 30, 2015

Guests from Guadeloupe




Marshall Park (Along Lake Mendota) Park reserved at 4:30 PM
2120 Allen Boulevard, Madison Dinner at 5:30 PM

Cost: \$15- (Includes meal of pork, barbecued chicken, baked beans, macaroni salad, cole slaw, potato salad, dessert, lemonade and tableware)

Bring a friend!

Your reservation and payment are due no later than Thursday, July 23.

-----cut and return with payment 

_____ # attending x \$15 = \$ _____

_____ I need a ride _____ I can provide a ride

Names: _____

Make check payable to: The Friendship Force
Mail to: Fannie Hicklin, 3814 University Avenue, Madison WI 53705 Questions? 608-233-5748