



The Friendship Force of Wisconsin

Changing The Way You See The World

March 2009



Spring IS Around the Corner!

The birds are beginning to sing and the days are longer. May spring bring good health and good times your way! We are disappointed that the Mundo Maya Mexico FF club will not be coming to Wisconsin, due primarily to economic considerations. Our outbound exchange to Baku, Azerbaijan is moving forward with two workshops scheduled. Twenty-two ambassadors will leave on August 31, returning September 14.

Coming up soon is the Midwest Friendship Force Regional Conference on April 17 and 18. Please make time for all or some of the planned activities. And volunteer to home host on Thursday evening! It will be our opportunity to make new friends in our own backyard.

If you opened the Friendship Force International website you will have seen FFI's "new look." All FF clubs will incorporate the multicolored circle into their own material. Our newsletter is sporting a new header, albeit in black/white as four-color printing is beyond our means at this time. We are having multicolored decals made to adhere to our current nametags, because the old clasped hands logo is no longer the logo of the FFI. We hope to have the decals at the Annual Meeting in late April and at events after that.

Lastly, please remember the outreach presentations on March 24, 25, and 31, outlined in the February Newsletter. Come to one yourself and bring a friend or two!

Mary Ann Fahl, President, 2007-09

Wisconsin to Azerbaijan

Twenty-two ambassadors are ready for this exciting experience. The first workshop was held February 28 for the exchange to Azerbaijan. The second one will be **Monday, May 4, at the Pinney Library, 204 Cottage Grove Road (near intersection with Monona Drive) 6:30-8:30 p.m.** To learn about this fascinating exchange come and join us.

**DONNA CALVERT, Azerbaijan Exchange
Director 608-233-7536 dollycal@aol.com**

Home Hosting Anyone?

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!! Or should the article be opened with HELP, HELP? Each phrase is of equal importance so I'll start with THANK YOU, THANK YOU. And I do mean thank you to each person who has called or sent an email offering to host Midwest Regional Conference guests for one night, Thursday, April 16th, before our conference itself begins. We have had a number of applicants for the Conference who wish to come one day early to see our city and acquaint themselves with our hospitality. Already I have a list of volunteers who are ready to open their homes to these guests.

But then again, maybe I should begin with HELP, HELP as we need more of our Friendship Force members to volunteer to take in our visitors. These visitors would arrive on Thursday afternoon, April 16th, be with you for dinner and evening visiting, stay at your house overnight, and have breakfast with you. You might wish to show them our city, our beautiful Capitol building, our lakes, our University, the list goes on and on, and then bring them to the Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel, 3841 E. Washington Avenue, in time for our beginning program between 3 pm registration and 6 pm formal dinner on Friday, April 17th.

If you can't host someone for an overnight, could you open your home for a potluck dinner or put on a dinner yourself on that Thursday evening? We have a volunteer for an eastside Madison dinner put on by two of our members. But a potluck is easy. It would be nice to have at least two on the near west side and more scattered throughout the city. Your help in any way would be so welcomed!

I will be available to be of as much help as possible. I have lists of things to do, places to go, beautiful spring sights to see (and, yes, spring is coming!!) and I can even send you some good dinner or breakfast recipes if you are in a quandary. It will be such fun and you will so enjoy being involved.

Please call or send me an email and I'll get right back to you.

**JUDY ENDLE, Hosting Chairperson, 608-238-4606
or 608-445-0889 billend@charter.net**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

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 2009, Election to be conducted April 26, 2007.

President: - Mary Lindquist
Vice President: Margo McKnight
Secretary: Helen Ann Rugowski
Treasurer: Diana Long

Article VI of the by-laws:

Section 3 - Only Members who are present may vote.

Section 4 The Chairperson shall receive further nominations from the floor with the written consent of the nominee.

Respectively submitted: Margo McKnight, chairperson
Committee: Nancy Mueller, Lois Parsons

NOMINEES:

PRESIDENT: MARY LINDQUIST

I have been a member of Friendship Force since 1982. I worked at CUNA Mutual for 30 years in various areas always seeming to coordinate activities. In 2004 I took the jump from corporate life at CUNA Mutual to the life of leisure, more time to enjoy life. One of them is traveling especially participating in FF.

My experience with Friendship Force is numerous. I have been an active member participating in many exchanges. I have also served on the Board since 1994 when becoming the ED for inbound Rio de Janeiro Brazil Exchange. Since then I have led two exchanges to New Zealand and Australia and a Domestic Exchange to Central Montana. Currently I am the Membership Chair. I have participated in many additional activities of the Friendship Force of Wisconsin including participating in the International Conference held here and in London England along with a couple of other Regional Conferences held here in Madison.

I would like to give back to the club by representing and leading the club as President for a year. Thank you for the opportunity to apply for this position.

VICE PRESIDENT: MARGO MCKNIGHT

I have been a member of the Friendship Force since 1983 and am currently serving as vice president.

Over the years I have served two terms as vice president as well as two terms as treasurer. Had the privilege of being the exchange director for the Sweden Exchange. Attended Regional Conferences as well as International Conventions both abroad and domestic. Besides traveling to such areas as Russia, Asia and Europe as an ambassador I have home hosted and been involved with several exchanges as a support person.

Traveling with the Friendship Force as an Ambassador, or hosting, creates unforgettable experiences, by sharing of our self, our homes, our families and helps to dispel fears of each other.

SECRETARY: HELEN RUGOWSKI

I have been a member of the Friendship Force since 2000. During this period, I have traveled with our club members to Scotland, South Korea, Sherbrooke/Quebec, Canada and most recently to Trujillo, Peru on a mystery trip exchange. I home hosted in November 2000 when the FF International Conference was held in Madison and was thrilled for the opportunity to shake hands and go jogging with Jimmy Carter. I retired in 2008 and now wish to become more involved in hosting as well as continuing to be a FF ambassador. As it's evident I have received far more than I've given over the years, I am submitting my name for secretary."

TREASURER: DIANA LONG

Diana served 15 years as the Accounting Director for the State Bar of Wisconsin. She and her husband Bernie have been members since 1980 participating in many inbound and outbound exchanges, attended 6 International Conferences, was assistant exchange director three times and was the exchange director for the Jenna, Germany (inbound and outbound) exchanges.

Diana currently is treasurer, has previously held the Treasurer's position for FFW, as well as for several other organizations.

NEW MEMBERS

Dr. Charles & Anne Nahn	2409 Middleton Beach Rd
Middleton WI 53562	608-831-3390
Lee & Don Grubb	308 W Third St.
Waunakee WI 53597-1352	608-849-4418

In Memoriam

Pat Earl recently past away. She was a long time member of Friendship Force, along with her husband. Pat and John traveled extensively and hosted many times. We extend our sympathy to her family. She will be greatly missed.

St. Patrick's Luncheon
Saturday, March 14, 2009 12:00 Noon
Esquire Club 1025 North Sherman Madison, WI

Menu Choices

Swiss Steak, mashed potatoes, vegetable, cole slaw, _bread and beverage \$11.00

Southern Fried Chicken, mashed potatoes, vegetables. cole slaw, bread / beverage \$11.00

Vegetarian Plate, bread and beverage \$11.00

NAME: _____ Entree choice _____

NAME: _____ Entree choice _____

Send check (**payable to the Friendship Force of Wisconsin**) and reservation to

REACH Fannie Hicklin no later than **7 MARCH 2009.**
Fannie Hicklin, 3814 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53705



2009 CLUB ACTIVITIES

Monthly Board Meeting - Third Friday -11:30 am
Everyone welcome - 615 E. Washington Ave., 2nd fl.

March 20 - Board Meeting & Newsletter Deadline

March 14 - St Patrick's Luncheon *

FFW Presentations:

Tues. March 24 - McFarland Public Library 7-8:30 PM

Wed. March 25 - Middleton Com. Center 10-11:30 AM

Tues. March 31 - Madison Senior Center 12:30-1:30 PM

April 16 - Hosting for Regional Conference *

April 17-18 - Regional Conference Madison *

April 26 - Annual Business Meeting & Luncheon *

May 4 - Azerbaijan Workshop *

July 18 - Annual Summer Picnic **

Aug 31- Sept 15 - Wisconsin to Azerbaijan *

* Information in this newsletter

** Information to be announced later, or prev. announced

**A final report for the Mundo Maya
Exchange that was cancelled:**

As reported by the president of the Mundo Maya club, she said that the ambassadors that had been enlisted last year for this trip to the three destinations were distressed by the unforeseen additional cost. As recently as October, the peso was valued at 10 to the US dollar. Now (Jan 30) it is 14.47. In addition to the known additional cost, the economical situation is very uncertain and it is anticipated that the peso may lose even more value. They are very sorry that they had to cancel. She thanks very much for the efforts of our members and myself.

Jerry Fuller, Director

**Friendship Force of Wisconsin
BYLAWS Review**

Vice President Margo McKnight is chairing a committee to review the club bylaws. This is to have our bylaws in compliance with FFI. If anyone would like to make a comment for consideration, please contact Margo at 608-345-6827.

MYSTERY EXCHANGE TO EUROPE

June 17 - 27, 2009

WILL YOU COMMIT TO A TRIP AND NOT KNOW

WHERE

YOU ARE GOING?

7-days home hosting & 3-days tour

Approximately \$1445 land only (U.S. Dollars)

\$200.00 Deposit

Application Deadline March 20, 2009

(Destination notification March 30, 2009 or earlier)

Ellen M. Simmonds, Exchange, Director

ellen@icofmaine.com (NH) 603-436-0079 P.O. Box 375,

Rye, New Hampshire, 03780

WISCONSIN FRIENDSHIP

The Friendship Force of Wisconsin

P. O. Box 56223

Madison, WI 53705

www.madison.com/communities/friendshipforcewi

Non-Profit Org
U. S. Postage Paid
Madison, WI
Permit Number 1309

March 2009

St. Patrick Lunch March. 14

Home Hosting Information

Midwest Regional Conference

President: Mary Ann Fahl 249-4158
Vice Pres: Margo McKnight 345-6827
Secretary: Margaret Ann Miller 831-0652
Treasurer: Diana Long 849-5592
Newsletter: Janet Loneragan 592-3336

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WISCONSIN

ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTION OF OFFICERS, LUNCHEON, AND PROGRAM

Sunday, April 26, 2009 Time 12:30

Knights of Columbus Clubhouse 5256 Verona Rd. Madison



Cost \$15.00

Edith's Catering Roast pork/Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, spinach/strawberries, fruit & more
RESERVATION DEADLINE: APRIL 20, 2009

Reservations for lunch can not be accepted after April 20, but after April 20 persons will still be welcome to attend the meeting. REMEMBER YOUR NAME BADGES

Enclose a check payable to the Friendship Force of WI
to: Fannie Hicklin, 3814 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53705 608 233 5748

Send

Reservation Deadline April 20

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cut

NAMES ATTENDING: _____

Note if you have any dietary restrictions -----

\$15:00 per person _____ #attending x \$15.00 = \$ _____

If you do not wish to cut your newsletter, please copy this information to another sheet of paper and include with your check.