



# The Friendship Force of Wisconsin

Changing The Way You See The World

*March 2012*



## A Message from the President

It has been an eventful January. Sandi and I lucked out and managed to fly down to the Caribbean for a two-week cruise just before the first snowstorm. Our only problem was that we both managed to contract colds in the last few days of the trip. Our travel companions however were not so lucky. The heat in their house went out causing the pipes to freeze. They came home to a house full of water. We really felt sorry for them.

I would like to thank Helen Ann Rugowski for presiding over the January board meeting.

The Friendship force of Wisconsin will have a very busy summer, which will include an **incoming exchange from Oregon in June, an incoming exchange from Trujillo, Peru in July, and an incoming Global food exchange in August.** With all these exchanges we will need all the help we can get in hosting, day hosting, and serving on committees to make these exchanges successful. I would like to request that everyone in the club be as generous with their time as possible when the EDs call for help. The selection committee is currently interviewing potential ambassadors for the **outbound September Russian Exchange.**

The 2013 request we made to FFI were for exchanges to Argentina, Cyprus, and Sweden. FFI could not meet these requests. Instead they have offered us Vilnius, Lithuania or Manado, Indonesia. Either one would probably be a good exchange. I will try to get a feeling for which the membership would prefer during the Valentine day party. I have been told that Manado is on the coast and professes to have a great reef with many fish. This may make an excellent winter trip. Vilnius is going to be old-world Europe.

Yours in Friendship,  
George Wysock



## 2012 CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

March 10 – St. Patrick Luncheon \*

March 16 – Monthly Board Meeting

April 17 – 23 FF Regional Presidents' Meeting  
Ames, Iowa \*

April 22– Annual Business Meeting & Election \*

April 28 – Interviews Global Food Exchange \*

April 28 – Oregon & St Louis Workshop \*

April 30 – Interviews Global Food Exchange \*

May 26 – Russia Workshop \*\*

June 2 – Oregon & St Louis Workshop \*

June 14 – 20 Oregon & St Louis to Wisconsin \*

June 23 – Russia Workshop \*\*

July 9 - 15 – Trujillo Peru to Wisconsin \*

July 12 – Annual FFW Picnic \*\*

August 10 – 14, Global Food Exchange \*

August 25 – Russia Workshop \*\*

September 2012 – Wisconsin to Moscow/Vyborg \*

Oct 31 – Nov 2, Hiroshima Japan FFI Conference

\* Information in this newsletter

\*\* Information to be announced

## MIDWEST EXCHANGE OPORTUNITIES, 2012

Can't join your home club's exchange? *OR* Want to enjoy more weeks of international friendship? Here are great exchanges from our sister Midwestern FF clubs that you can join.

### WINTER

The Quad Cities and Lincoln exchanges are both full!

### SPRING

**ST. LOUIS TO** Limburg, Belgium, May 26-June

1. ED: Maureen McGrath, [mrnmcgrth@yahoo.com.sg](mailto:mrnmcgrth@yahoo.com.sg)

**DUBUQUE TO** Medicine Hat, Canada, June 6-19. ED: Gail Noel, [gmnoel65@gmail.com](mailto:gmnoel65@gmail.com)

### SUMMER

**MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES TO** Greater Hamilton & Burlington, CAN, June. ED: Unknown. Contact President: Blaine McCutchan, [helloblaine@yahoo.com](mailto:helloblaine@yahoo.com)

**DES MOINES TO** Mt. Barker & Queanbeyan-Canberra, AUS, late June. ED: Beverly Lytle, [bdlytle@gmail.com](mailto:bdlytle@gmail.com)

**AMES (CENTRAL IOWA) TO** Recife & Belem, Brazil, August or September. ED: Joan Herwig, [jherwig@iastate.edu](mailto:jherwig@iastate.edu)

### FALL

**WISCONSIN/MADISON TO** Moscow & Vyborg, Russia, September. ED: Sandy Wysock. [sandrawysock@msn.com](mailto:sandrawysock@msn.com)

**CHICAGO TO** Lima, Peru, October. ED: Unknown. Contact President: Larisa Sorkin, [sork8@aol.com](mailto:sork8@aol.com)

**OMAHA (EASTERN NEBRASKA) TO** Semarang & Malang, Indonesia, October. ED: Shirley Siebler, [shirleykjs@cox.net](mailto:shirleykjs@cox.net)

**MILWAUKEE TO** Prague, Czech Republic, October. CO-EDs: Dave Kalan [davekalan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:davekalan@sbcglobal.net) & Suzanne Sullivan [ssul28@gmail.com](mailto:ssul28@gmail.com)

**NORTHERN ILLINOIS TO** Taichung, Taiwan, 10/23-29, ED: Karen Li, [kslitseng@yahoo.com](mailto:kslitseng@yahoo.com) **NOTE: This exchange is coordinated so Ambassadors can continue to the Friendship Force World Conference in Hiroshima.**

**FRIENDSHIP FORCE WORLD CONFERENCE, October 30-November 2, PLUS OPTIONAL post-conference home stays. For information go to [http://www.friendshipforce.org/index.php/conference\\_2012](http://www.friendshipforce.org/index.php/conference_2012) We hope to have a strong Midwestern representation. Last year in Hamburg 30 Midwesterners attended!**

Unfortunately Cedar Rapids/Iowa City has no outbound exchange for 2012.

**When contacting EDs for further information, be sure to identify yourself as a member of your home club.**

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## Russia September 2012

Still thinking about Russia? The itinerary is falling into place; we are building a list of ambassadors. If you are still thinking of applying, now is the time. We still have room for a few more ambassadors. Call or Email me and I will send you an application.

We plan to depart the first week in September 2012. Our package includes the bus to/from Chicago, the flight to and from Europe and transfer to Moscow. We will be home hosted seven nights in Moscow where Natalia Guskova, the Moscow Exchange Director is preparing a very busy itinerary. We will travel by metro to visit sites throughout Moscow and the surrounding area. We will then hop the train for St. Petersburg where we will be met by an English speaking guide. We will tour the famous sites in the city including the Hermitage, St. Isaacs's cathedral, and the Peter Paul fortress and we are planning a boat tour on the river Neva through the center of St. Petersburg. It offers wonderful views of the city. The trip to St. Petersburg will also offer two days touring by motor coach where we will visit, among other things, the beautiful Peterhof palace which is often referred to as the Russian equivalent of Versailles. You will be amazed at its ornate beauty. After we complete our tour in St. Petersburg, we will be transported by bus to Vyborg. Plans include a boat tour, tour of the castle, Peters Hill, an excursion to the park, great food and entertainment. We will stay in Vyborg two nights and then transfer to the airport for our return home. English speaking guides are planned throughout. We are still negotiating with tour companies and making adjustments to the itinerary but at the present time, it appears that the trip will include breakfast each day and most if not all dinners. Tips are being built into the pricing and the \$200-\$250 cost of the Russian visa is included.

I am estimating that the cost will be \$4,200. Because of currency exchange fluctuations, the exact prices for some items will not be available until we are closer to departure. Members of the Dubuque club that visited this area last year said we are in for a real treat. So don't let this one pass you by. If you have ever considered traveling to Russia, this is your opportunity.

**SANDI WY SOCK, Russia Exchange Director**  
608 833 5326 [sandrawysock@msn.com](mailto:sandrawysock@msn.com)

## **INTERVIEWS SCHEDULED FOR THREE INBOUND EXCHANGES**

### **TRUJILLO PERU**

**Hosting dates are July 9th to July 15th**

### **WILLAMETTE OREGON TOGETHER WITH ST LOUIS**

**Hosting dates are June 14th to June 20th**

Have you thought about Hosting for an Exchange? We have 3 wonderful exchanges coming up this summer. There is an exchange for every level of member in our club. You can also host for every exchange if you wish. The interviews for the Global Food Exchange are listed below.

The first Exchange is a Domestic Exchange with Willamette Oregon and St. Louis Missouri. This is an excellent time to find out what hosting is all about. A Domestic Exchange is usually a shorter exchange than the International inbound Exchange. There is not a language barrier that might make you think twice. We will need about 20 host families for this exchange.

The second Exchange is an inbound Exchange from Trujillo Peru. They are very excited about visiting us here in Madison. Many of the Ambassadors speak some English.

With each exchange, many activities are planned. You don't need to come up with your own itinerary. If you are able to host, now is the time to complete an application. If you would like, you can save time by printing and completing the form ahead of time. The form can be found at:

[http://www2.thefriendshipforce.org/forms/exchanges/Host\\_Application\\_and\\_Agreement.pdf](http://www2.thefriendshipforce.org/forms/exchanges/Host_Application_and_Agreement.pdf) Bring this form with you, otherwise you will be provided with the form at the interview.

### **Interview dates for Peru and Oregon/St. Louis are as follows:**

When – Wednesday March 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Location – Lakeview Library, 2845 N Sherman Ave, Madison WI

When – Saturday March 31<sup>st</sup> from 9:30 – 11:30 AM

Location – Alicia Ashman Library, 733 N High Point Road, Madison WI

If you are not able to make these dates or have any questions, please give me a call.

Mary Lindquist – Interviewing Committee Chair

608-233-9351

### **Hosting interview dates for the Global Food Exchange August 10-14, 2012**

When – Saturday, April 28 at Pinney Library – 9:30- 11:30 A.M.

Where – 204 Cottage Grove Road (next to the Walgreen's on the corner of Monona Drive and Cottage Grove).

Go to the meeting room in the middle of the back wall.

When – Monday, April 30 at Sequoya Library - 6:30-8:30 P.M.

Where – 4340 Tokay Blvd (corner of Midvale Blvd and Tokay). Go to Meeting Room A.

Kay Babcock – Interview Chairman

608-222-2111

## Getting to Know You

### Oregon & St Louis Coming to Wisconsin

Did you know that the Friendship Force of Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley has 78 members? And a dozen or more of them will be on the incoming exchange this summer from June 14 to 20! They're hoping a few ambassadors from the Columbia Cascade Club near Portland will be joining them when they fly to Madison. Also joining this exchange are 18 ambassadors from St. Louis, Missouri. This promises to be a lively and interesting multi-club exchange as we get to know each other and build friendships.

Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley was organized in 1992 and was named Club of the Year in 2000. In 2009, they held the Asia Pacific Festival - the first time it has taken place on the eastern side of the Pacific. Because the home towns of their members are scattered throughout the valley in five counties, their meetings for social, cultural and community events are held in different towns each month.

Please contact me if you'd be interested in being a home host, a day host, sharing your talents on a committee, or other activity.

**GAIL L. HOLMES,**  
Exchange Director, Oregon & St. Louis  
608 249-1846 [glholmes@wisc.edu](mailto:glholmes@wisc.edu)

## Ambassadors From Trujillo, Peru Coming to Wisconsin July 9-15, 2012!

Join the fun the week of July 9-15th meeting and greeting over a dozen ambassadors from Trujillo, Peru, here in Madison. We still have opportunities for Friendship Force members and friends to be day hosts, dinner hosts, plan the arrival and departure parties as well as other ways to meet our guests. You can meet them at the annual picnic on Thursday, July 12th also. It is a great honor for Madison and Wisconsin to host our Peruvian visitors because their city is very beautiful. They will be coming to us on Monday, July 9th after a visiting Edmonton, Canada. We are holding interviews for hosts the evening of Wednesday March 28th and Saturday, March 31st from 9:00 a.m. until noon. If you can speak Spanish or love to dance, this will be a great opportunity to learn more about a very old and rich culture!

**PATRICK FLEMING,** Peru Exchange Director  
(608) 249-5992 [pfleming@edgewood.edu](mailto:pfleming@edgewood.edu)

## Fun Adventures with Food Exchange

Thanks to a hard working committee, plans for the Global Exchange August 10-14. are being made.

Friday after we have dessert with the Ambassadors and their FF Greater Milwaukee hosts, our hosts will bring their guests home. We will go to a fish fry that evening. Saturday we will go to the Farmers' Market with an introduction by Director Larry Johnson. Food Explorers will guide us as we eat our way from Monona Terrace to the UW Student Union. Later we will meet at the State Historical Society for a native American dinner along with a tour.

Sunday morning hosts can entertain as is appropriate, church, sight seeing, luxuriating over brunch etc. Then we will gather at the UW Arlington Research Farm, complete with a wagon ride. For dinner the Ambassadors will help prepare a regional meal at Whole Foods; the number is limited so hosts can elect to do as they wish for dinner.

Monday starts with an introduction and tour of Second Harvest followed by a visit to a food pantry. For lunch we plan to have a beer/cheese pairing along with a Wisconsin type meal. That evening we plan to meet at Christ Presbyterian Church for the farewell dinner. The ambassadors will prepare the foods. FFW members will be welcome to add to the pot-luck. Entertainment will conclude the evening and conclude the two-week exchange. Tuesday hosts will transport their guests to the bus at the appropriate time. Four people from Canada will be driving here so need no help.

We have a full exchange, 21 people to be exact. They will be coming from Canada, Japan, Australia, Arkansas, and Sacramento. There is a waiting list so I am anticipating we will have 21 people visiting us.

Interviews for hosting will be Saturday, April 28 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Pinney Library and Monday April 30 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Sequoya Library. If you are unable to attend, please contact Kay Babcock at 222-2111.

I want to thank the committee for sharing their ideas, making many efforts, and using a lot of time. They include Kay Babcock, Dorothy Baldwin, Susan Becker, Jane Dohler, Ariel Ford, Janet Lonergan, Helen Ann Rugowski, Lise Skofronick, and Lois Statz,

If you have any other questions contact me.

**DONNA CALVERT,**  
Exchange Director for Madison Hosting  
608-233-7536 [DOLLYCAL@aol.com](mailto:DOLLYCAL@aol.com)

## 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 2012, Election to be conducted April 22, 2012.

**President:** George Wysock  
**Vice President:** Helen Ann Rugowski  
**Secretary:** Mary Lou Martino  
**Treasurer:** Margo McKnight

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: Mary Lindquist, Chairperson  
Committee: Jerry Fuller, Patrick Fleming**

### NOMINEES:

#### PRESIDENT: GEORGE WYSOCK

I graduated from the University of Iowa in Accounting and Economics, and have worked as a corporate accountant with General Electric Co. and Honeywell Co. and as a governmental accountant with the state of Wisconsin. I retired in June 2007 to pursue other interests such as photography and woodworking. I am married to Sandi and have two grown sons. For hobbies I enjoy camping, hiking, travel and golf. Since retirement we have taken two trips with the Friendship Force. Our first trip was a local exchange to Great Falls Montana, and the second was an international exchange to Costa Rica. We are looking forward to participating in the October international exchange to Turkey.

#### VICE PRESIDENT: HELEN ANN RUGOWSKI

I have been a member of the Friendship Force since 2000 and have served as secretary for the past two years. 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 vice president.

#### SECRETARY: MARY LOU MARTINO

I am the daughter of French Canadian immigrant parents. I was born and raised in Ann Arbor, MI. I lived in Madison 30 years ago and returned after retirement from being a Waukesha County Public Health Nurse. My son, daughter in law and two grandchildren who live in McFarland are the magnets that have brought me back to the Madison area. I have a daughter who lives in Brookfield, WI and a second son in Washington, D.C.

I have been a member of FF for about 3-4 years after meeting up with the club at a Farmer's Market. My first trip was the mystery trip to St. Louis and the second to Costa Rica last year. I served on the board of my neighborhood association. I belong to Who's New in Madison and PLATO. I'm looking forward to becoming more actively involved with FF and have agreed to run for secretary in the next term. If I haven't met you yet, then I am looking forward to meeting you soon!

#### TREASURER: MARGO MCKNIGHT

I have been a member of the Friendship Force since 1983. 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.

### **FARMERS' MARKET**

#### **SPRING AND SUMMER ARE ON THE WAY**

"We are looking forward to again being at the Farmers' Market on the Square to inform interested persons about Friendship Force and our activities. Mary Ann Fahl will be coordinating the FFW members willing to give a Saturday morning (or 2 or 3) to the effort. We do not yet know the location for this year, but should by the next Newsletter. Please let me know ([fahlmab@msn.com](mailto:fahlmab@msn.com)) of your interest and willingness, by telling me if you have a preferred month to volunteer so I can begin building a roster, and any time you may be unavailable. Months when we will be at the Market are May through October, and if the weather is inclement, we don't go. When our location is known I will put further information in the April Newsletter and/or directly to the volunteers. You can also phone me at 249-4158 if you prefer with your comments or questions. Thanks for considering this.

**MARY ANN FAHL, Chairperson**  
**608-249-4158** [fahlmab@msn.com](mailto:fahlmab@msn.com)



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**March 2012**  
**Reservation for St. Patrick Party**  
**Nominations for 2012 Officers**

President: George Wysock 833-5326  
Vice Pres: Helen Rugowski 238-9731  
Secretary: Mary Lou Martino 467-2966  
Treasurer: Margo McKnight 345-6827  
Newsletter: Janet Lonergan 592-3336



## **St. Patrick's Luncheon**

**Saturday, 10 March 2012**

**12:00 NOON**

**Kavanaugh's Esquire Club**  
**1025 North Sherman Avenue**

**Cost: \$12.00 per person**

**Reservation Deadline: 3 March 2012**

**Sorry if you do not receive his in time for the deadline**

**Check (payable to the Friendship Force of Wisconsin)**  
**Sent to: Fannie Hicklin, 3814 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53705**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number attending @ \$12.00** \_\_\_\_\_