



The Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison

Experience Different Views; Discover Common Ground.

March 2017



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope you have been receiving the messages relating to changes at the national level. Exchanges will now be called Journeys. Our outgoing EDs will be referred to as Ambassador Coordinators and our incoming EDs will be referred to as Host Coordinators. The changes accurately affect our operations today.

We also have a new Tagline: Experience Different Views; Discover Common Ground. You will begin to see this new tagline pop up in our advertising, our local web site and newsletter. I am sure there are more changes to come! As International adjusts programs, we will also be adapting our bylaws and procedures to reflect new practices.

Thanks to our Nominations Committee (Donna Hussin, Helen Ann Rugowski and Mary Lou Martino) for developing a proposed slate of officers. Please read the bios in the newsletter. If you cannot attend the annual meeting on April 23, there will be an opportunity to vote by absentee ballot.

I am busy packing for our club's journey to Guadeloupe February 22-March 1, so I will keep this short. Hope to see you at the annual meeting!

Sandi Wysock
President

It's a Match!

We were informed by FFI that we have a two week outbound journey to Aichi and Oita Japan. The journey is proposed for October 2018.

No information on an inbound journey was included. We are still hoping as all assignments are finalized in March. We will keep you posted.

Explore • Understand • Serve®



2017 CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

March 20, Monday—Informational Meeting *

March 22, Wednesday—Informational Meeting *

March 25, Saturday—Book Club *

March 31, Friday—L.E.O., Dorf Haus, Roxbury (Fish & Turtle) *

April 23, Sunday—Annual Meeting *

May 7, Sunday—L.E.O., Breakfast at Dobhan Restaurant *

May 10, Wednesday—Book Club ✍

May 19-26, Friday-Friday—San Diego Inbound Journey *

June 23-30, Friday-Friday—Noumea, New Caledonia Inbound Journey *

June 28, Wednesday, Annual Picnic ✍

August 8-14, Tuesday-Monday—Medicine Hat, Canada Outbound Journey *

August 15-22, Tuesday-Tuesday—Vancouver, Canada Outbound Journey *

August 25-28, Saturday-Tuesday—FFI 40th Anniversary World Conference, Manchester, UK ☺ (February)

September 8-13, Saturday-Thursday--Open World ☺ (January)

* Information in this newsletter

☺ Information previously announced (Month in ☺Newsletter)

✍ Information to be announced later



New Tagline and New Terminology For FFI

What is a tagline?

It's a short description or often-repeated phrase associated with an organization that describes its over-all benefit or distinctive feature. FFI developed this new tagline to build a stronger brand for the future of the organization.

FFI members have said "that the most impactful and lasting aspect of the Friendship Force experience is the increased understanding gained through personal relationships. By hosting or being an ambassador, your ultimate goal is not to see new locales or take beautiful photos, but rather experience different perspectives and gain understanding of the lives of others, towards the shared goal of peace and global goodwill."

The new tagline is "Experience different views; Discover common ground." Our March 2017 newsletter, will be the first to use the new tagline to describe the over-all benefits of FFI.

Exchanges will now be called Journeys. Although we are certainly involved in cultural exchange, we no longer directly exchange reciprocal visits between two clubs, as was done in the early days of FFI. Using the term "exchange" is sometimes confusing to newcomers and prospective members. It's also felt that the term "journey" translates more correctly into other languages to convey the concept of our programs and activities.

Exchange directors will be "ambassador coordinators" and "host coordinators" as appropriate. The term "coordinator" translate well into the many languages spoken by our members worldwide, and we also believe it reflects the variety of work that our dedicated ambassador and host leaders undertake in planning a Friendship Force Journey.

The new promotional materials and other communications from FFI will all use the new terminology, so we need to understand what they mean. Just remember, everything we do and stand for remains the same



Informational Meetings Scheduled Join Us!

New and prospective members are invited to two information meetings scheduled for:

Monday, March 20, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Both meetings will be held at the **Landmark Club House, 5335 Caddis Bend, Fitchburg**, located one block north of the front entrance of the Great Dane Pub in Fitchburg on the corner of

Coachman and Caddis Bend off of Fish Hatchery Rd. Abundant parking is accessible from either street.

Current Friendship Force members are invited to come and share their experiences and help to answer questions about Friendship Force. Light refreshments will be served.

Help with set up, clean up and cookie donations are requested.

Please let me know if you can come to join the fun and provide a friendly welcome to new people.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Mary Lou Martino, Membership Committee
608-467-2966

Activities

BOOK CLUB

Saturday, March 25, 2017
2:00 p.m.
Stephanie Sorensen's Home
1624 C North Golf Glen, Madison



Book: One Child: The Story of China's Most Radical Experiment, Mei Fong, author

This is a startling story about government policy and the impact it can have on individuals, families, nations, and the world. Mei Fong is Chinese, knows the language and tells the story from a personal, in home, on the street perspective. This book can make you *feel* the effects of the program on a young woman with an "out-of-plan" pregnancy when the population police come to force an abortion. But it can also help us think about the care that must be given to any government policy and the side effects and unintended consequences that may appear.

Come to the Book Club meeting even if you haven't read the book. It will be an enjoyable discussion, and a reminder of how important it is that those being governed have a voice. This book plus four others previously read and discussed have been written by journalists; a reminder of how we get informed about the world.

Please RSVP to Stephanie Sorensen, stevils@charter.net or 608-819-6646.

Bernie Long

**For each petal on the shamrock
this brings a wish your way.
Good health, good luck, and happiness
for today and every day.**

Let's Go Out For...

March L.E.O.

Friday Fish Fry and Turtle

5:00 p.m.

Dorf Haus – Roxbury, WI

8931 Highway Y

Friday, March 31, 2017

Reservations are **REQUIRED** to know how many people are ordering turtle. We are limited to 20 people for our group. The roast turtle meal is served with mashed potatoes, gravy, carrots, coleslaw and Dorf Haus's signature fritters. Cost including gratuity and tax is \$21.00. The family style fish fry is breaded haddock and served with fries, tartar sauce, coleslaw and the fritters. Cost with gratuity and tax is \$16.00.

RSVP by March 15 to Donna Hussin, djhussin@yahoo.com or 608-845-3393 and indicate your meal choice. Also indicate if you wish to car pool, can be a driver and number of passengers.

Donna Hussin

May L.E.O.

Breakfast at Dobhan Restaurant

2110 Atwood Ave., Madison

Sunday, May 7, 2017

Come join us!

The name Dobhan means the confluence of two rivers in Nepali and conveys the essence of styles, flavors and the foods cooked to perfection. Organic eggs and locally-sourced organic ingredients are used whenever possible.

You may select from the following menu:

Dobhan Red Eggs--Two eggs/black beans/flour tortillas/spiced potatoes/house-made tomato sauce

Phull Dosa--Eggs/spinach/manchego cheese wrapped in rice and urad bean crispy crepe

Cuban Jerk Pork--Braised pork in house-made jerk sauce/two eggs/black beans/spiced potatoes/toast

Look for additional information on cost and sign-up in the April newsletter. Hope you will join us.

Margo McKnight



Overture Center International Festival

On Saturday, February 27, 2017, our club participated in the International Festival held each year at Overture and attended by thousands of people. The festival is an annual celebration of

cultures throughout the world through music, art, dance, crafts and food. It's a wonderful day of fun and opportunity for expanding cultural awareness and understanding, therefore making it a perfect venue for promoting the mission of Friendship Force and informing the community that we are here!

Many thanks go to Dorothy & John Baldwin, Marian Ehrenberg, Dan Eggerding, Reta Haring, Donna Hussin, Martha McGregor, Margo McKnight, and Virginia Zwickley, for staffing our table and sharing their experiences of membership.

Helen Ann Rugowski, Coordinator

Journey Information

San Diego Inbound Journey

May 19-26, 2017



Horicon Marsh

The planning committee has met and put together a week with a few of the standards and several new venues that showcase Wisconsin. We will tour the State Capitol as it is celebrating its 100th birthday in 2017 and visit Hinchley's to experience a working dairy farm. New are a scavenger hunt to acquaint our ambassadors with downtown Madison followed by three events that show our visitors our beautiful Wisconsin countryside: House on the Rock, Horicon Marsh, and a day in New Glarus. **Look for the reservation form in the April newsletter** which will also include the specific lunches/dinners that require registration. We are still seeking members to come forward and be home, dinner, and day hosts. Our contact information is listed below.

Co-Host Coordinator

Gail Holmes

608-249-1846

glholmes@wisc.edu

Co-Host Coordinator

Donna Hussin

608-845-3393

djhussin@yahoo.com

Volunteers Needed

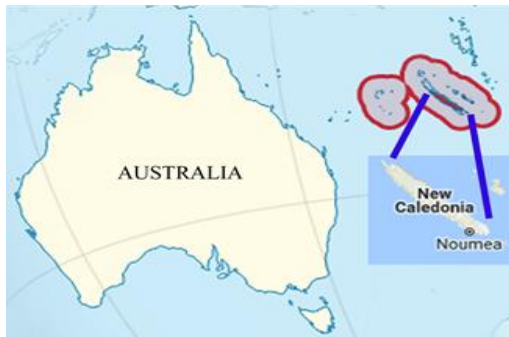
May 25th San Diego Journey Luncheon

Looking for members to volunteer to make crock pot soup for the luncheon at the Hinchley Dairy Farm on Thursday, May 25, 2017.

Call Lois Schulz at 608-243-9761 or 608-333-9012.



New Caledonia Inbound Journey June 23-29, 2017



We have not yet received the list of names of 20 potential ambassadors from the club in New Caledonia, but we are expecting them shortly. They will arrive in Madison on June 23 and depart June 29. The Chicago club is hosting them the week before they come to Madison. Marie-Aimée, New Caledonia ambassador coordinator, will also be sending a list telling who are bilingual. She assures me most of them can communicate well in English.

New Caledonia is a French territory comprising dozens of islands in the South Pacific, located east of Australia. It's known for its palm-lined beaches and marine-life-rich lagoon, which, at 24,000-sq.-km, is among the world's largest. A massive barrier reef surrounds the main island, Grand Terre, a major scuba-diving destination. The capital, Nouméa, is home to French-influenced restaurants and luxury boutiques selling Parisian fashions.

Planning committee members Dorothy Baldwin, Peg Hutnik, Audrey Liimatainen, Chris Manke, Helen Rugowski, Sandi Wysock, along with Lise Skofronick, assistant host coordinator and myself are working on the itinerary. Included will be an exciting trip to Dubuque, Iowa, to visit the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium and ride the Paddle Boat Steamer "Spirit of Dubuque." Should be a great time!

We need home hosts, day hosts and dinner hosts. Join in the fun! If you would like to be a home or day host, please email me, Dan Eggerding at de_news@hotmail.com or call me at 408 583-7021. If you want to be a dinner host, on Tuesday, June 17, please contact Lucy Lasseter at 608-274-7114 or lucy.lasseter@gmail.com.

Dan Eggerding, Host Coordinator

Medicine Hat AB/Vancouver BC Canada Outbound Journeys August 8-14 and August 15-22, 2017

Are you interested in just Medicine Hat? Just Vancouver? Or Both? If there isn't sufficient interest among our club members we need to inform FFI. **Please call or email me by Wednesday, March 15 to let me know your interest.**

Peg Hutnik, Journey Ambassador Coordinator
609-334-4647 benhut@att.net

Introducing Our Ambassadors to Guadeloupe

In February we introduced you to 15 of the 21 ambassadors who were going to Guadeloupe February 22-March 1. Here are the remaining six.

Mary Mastaglio Madison, WI



Mary a member since 2006 got the travel bug while in college touring with a musical group and doing a semester abroad in London, England. After college graduation, she volunteered for the Peace Corps and worked for the Ministry of Education as a physical education trainer and facilitator in Costa Rica. Upon returning to Wisconsin she earned a bilingual studies degree and taught in Kenosha and Madison, retiring in 2005. I enjoy spending time with my family, especially great nieces and nephews. My interests are many: travel, music, swimming, biking, camping, canoeing, skiing, snowshoeing, board games, puzzles and reading. I had planned to travel with my life partner of 29 years, Mary Babula, however, she passed away unexpectedly in 2015. She and Mary Babula were co-exchange directors for our inbound 2013 Urla Turkey exchange. As of now, I am learning how to survive and hoping to someday thrive without her

Donna Ulteig Madison, WI



Donna a member since 1989 is an ambassador for the first-time on this FFI journey to Guadeloupe. She worked as a clinical social worker, primarily in mental health for 50 years. She and her husband, Rod have been married for 50 years. They live in a 1933 Sears & Roebuck English Cottage home, where she maintains a garden that includes perennials, raspberries, herbs and roses. She is active in a book group, gourmet club, fitness club, and church groups. She loves experiencing new places and new people. Rod and she camped across the US and Canada, visiting national parks. For 20 years we coped with Wisconsin cold by snorkeling in the Cayman Islands. We have enjoyed trips to at least 30 countries, mostly in Europe.

Mary & John Witte Madison, WI



Mary & John joined in 2015 and are experiencing their first journey to Guadeloupe with the club. John is professor emeritus from the University of Wisconsin-Madison after 35 years as a professor in the Political Science Department and the Robert La Follette School of Public Policy. He enjoys reading, watching sports and playing golf. Mary, his willing sidekick of 48 years, loves to read, cook and volunteer. They have two children and three wonderful grandchildren.

Sandi ^ George Wysock
Madison, WI



Sandi & George have been members since 2007. Sandi is our current president and George has also served as president. Both have been exchange coordinators. Sand for our 2012 exchange to Moscow/Vyborg Russia and again when Vyborg came here in 2013. Their other exchanges with Friendship Force have been to Montana, Costa Rica, Turkey, and England. George was a co-exchange director for our 2016 inbound Winnipeg/Santa Barbara journey. George graduated from the University of Iowa in Accounting and worked as a corporate and governmental accountant. Sandi was a manager for a large local insurance company. They have two sons Matthew and Nathan. Both enjoy camping, hiking, travel, and golf. Sandi is also very artistic and enjoys gardening.

2018 Officer Nominations

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 2018. Elections to be conducted April 23, 2017. The term of office begins at the September 20 Board Meeting

President	Sandi Wysock
Vice President	Peg Hutnik
Secretary	Stephanie Sorensen
Treasurer	Judith Taylor

Respectively submitted: Nomination Committee
Donna Hussin, Chair, Mary Lou Martino and Helen Ann Rugowski

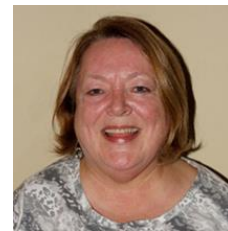
President: Sandi Wysock

I am currently your president. I have been a member of the Friendship Force of Wisconsin since 2007. My husband George and I joined shortly after we retired. In my previous life, I was an Area Operations Manager for American Family Insurance. I originally learned about the Friendship Force from a friend who was a member. We didn't join right away but I loved the concept and kept it in my mind for several years. My first exchange was to Great Falls Montana. Since then we have been part of outgoing exchanges to Russia, Turkey, Costa Rica, Germany, England and Guadeloupe. We have hosted or day hosted for Australia, England, Turkey, Moscow and Vyborg, Russia, Global Exchanges, Guadeloupe, Winnipeg and India. I have attended World Conferences in Hamburg, New Orleans, and Vancouver. I was an Exchange Director for a trip to Russia and for an incoming exchange from Russia. I was the co-chair of the Outreach Committee for two years and have been on several exchange committees and ad-hoc committees. I truly believe that the Friendship Force's message of peace through friendship is as



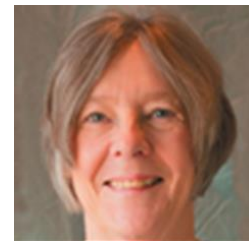
relevant today as it was in 1977. If elected, I will continue to work with fellow board members to promote the Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison, promote our programs and build our membership for a sustainable future.

Vice-President: Peg Hutnik



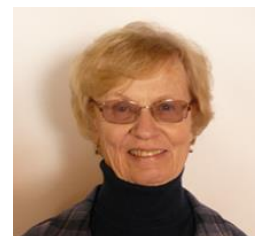
I had my first exchange experience hosting a couple from India in 2015 and became a member in 2016. I recently went on my first ambassador experience to Guadeloupe with the club. After college I was a Vista volunteer which profoundly changed my life for the better. I have been a Real Estate broker, taught at the Ethan Allen School for Boys in Wales, WI, and have held various jobs with the WI Department of Transportation. It was while I lived in the Milwaukee area that I learned about Friendship Force but was too busy to join their club. My job brought me to Madison in 2002 and I now consider myself semi-retired as I continue to do consulting work. I have been the President of my Condo Board, volunteered in Milwaukee at the Performing Arts Center, was a long time member of the Ski Patrol, both in Northern Wisconsin and in SE Wisconsin. In the late 90's, I sponsored an AFS student from Thailand, and we have maintained our friendship. My interests include traveling, hiking, water aerobics, reading, knitting, theatre and Scottish Terriers. I am the proud owner of one. I am a Wisconsin native.

Secretary: Stephanie Sorensen



I grew up in Racine, WI; graduated from UW-Madison and lived in Minnesota, Pittsburgh, PA and Morgantown, WV prior to moving to California for 32 years. I returned to Madison about 6 1/2 years ago and learned about Friendship Force within the first year. I enjoy a wide variety of travel experiences - on my own, with groups, and more recently with Friendship Force. I've been to many fascinating countries. I served on my condo association board in California, the AAUW Monona Branch Board and the Madison Civics Club Board. I was a co-exchange director to Berlin and Poland in 2014 and also to the UK in 2016. I've worked on the Activities Committee and am your current Secretary. My professional life was mainly in student services administration at Stanford University. I also worked for five years in the medical school where I took minutes for both faculty and administrative manager meetings.

Treasurer: Judith Taylor



I am currently your treasurer. I have lived in Madison for over 65 years, attended East High School and graduated from UW-Madison with a bachelor's degree. For 26 years I worked at the university, mainly in public information, publications, and legislative relations. For 15 years I was treasurer of the Wisconsin Women's Network, a nonprofit coalition of organizations and individuals that promotes the welfare of women and girls. I enjoy traveling, have been to every continent except Antarctica, and took two trips around the world in the 1990s. In 2009, I participated in the Wisconsin Friendship Force exchange

to Azerbaijan, in 2010 I went on a global exchange to Perth, Australia, and in 2013 I was on the Wisconsin/Oregon-Washington exchange. I golf in a nine-hole and an 18-hole league from spring through fall and stay indoors through the coldest of winter



Annual Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2016
Great Dane Pub & Brewing Co. East
Madison, WI

President Sandi Wysock called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. with the singing of “Let There be Peace on earth, a table grace, the welcoming of everyone, introduction of new members, the Board, and lunch before the business meeting. Copies of the program, 2015 annual meeting minutes, and treasurer’s report were on the tables – one per individual and one per couple.

Secretary’s Report: Motion made and seconded by Mary Lou Martino and George Winsock to approve the report as presented in the April newsletter. Passed

Treasurers Report: Motion made and seconded by Mary Lindquist and Donna Hussin to approve the report as presented in the April newsletter. Passed

Presidents Annual Report

Building Bridges: Building Bridges has been a theme for both international and regional conferences this year. The theme refers to other cultures and also to building bridges toward the future and the next generations. It’s a theme that honors our mission while finding ways to link our past and to the future generations and realities.

Board News: The Board has been exceptional this year in the face of many changes and challenges. New officers were installed in September 2015 with Mary Babula as President. We never anticipated that she would not be able to fulfill her responsibility. In December, the board appointed me as president to fill Mary’s term. Final standing committee chairs were selected in January. Sandy Drew agreed to fill the position of Vice President for the balance of the year.

New By- Laws approved last year created new board positions of Member at Large (Maggie Dohm) and Exchange Coordinator (Gail Holmes) and changed how we elect the officers for the Board to ballot voting allowing for absentee ballots. The board also updated Standing Committee responsibilities which is covered later.

A significant accomplishment for the club in 2016 was being designated a 501(c) (3) organization. We received our letter from the IRS making it official on February 11, 2016. This means that donations made to the club will be tax deductible. We also learned that donations that are designated for FFI and are passed through our club are also tax deductible. Those of you who made a donation to the “I’m In Campaign” have received letters from FFI acknowledging your tax deductible contribution.

Historian: Janet Lonergan, with the help of Donna Hussin and Mary Lindquist are organizing past records from when we organized in 1980 through 2012

Newsletter: Donna Hussin continues to do a fabulous job. Our newsletter is routinely recognized as one of the better organized and most interesting newsletters in the region. We are currently looking for a volunteer to back up Donna in this position in case she would not be available to create and publish it.

New Board Members: Members in new positions are Sandy Drew, Vice President; Nancy Brown, Activities; Stephanie Sorensen, Activities; Lise Skofronick, Outreach; and Maggie Dohm, Member at Large. Board Members leaving positions with the reorganization of the board and changing of committee responsibilities were Fannie Hicklin, Activities, and Maureen Kind, Exchange Director. Completing terms in September and leaving the Board will be Lois Schulz, second term as secretary and Helen Ann Rugowski as past president.

We wish to acknowledge Fannie Hicklin with a certificate of appreciation for her many years as chairmen of the activities committee.

Leadership: Thank you for supporting our Leadership Training Programs. Building strong local leadership and keeping our leaders current and informed is critical to our success. Three members attended the Midwest Leadership Conference in Cedar Rapids and nine of our members attended the Vancouver International Conference. The club supported the president’s travel to Vancouver. We will have at least three leaders at the upcoming Regional Conference in the Quad Cities. Lise Skofronick and I are honored that we have been asked to be presenters. We have a new FFI president, Jeremi Snook. We will meet Jeremi at the upcoming conference. I can tell you that the focus internationally is very much on growing, revitalizing, re-focusing on our mission and re-energizing clubs. Clubs are being strongly encouraged to develop strategic plans to provide a roadmap for future development. Clubs that survive into the next 10 years will be those that find a way to attract and retain new members, develop new leadership, and provide exchange programs that are attractive to the baby boomer generations. In short, expect many changes in how we operate.

Our board is making a commitment to provide at least one general meeting in addition to the annual meeting to keep you informed. The general meeting in November was well attended with 37 members present. Adrienne Moen, our Regional Representative was our guest. We received positive feedback from many members and encouragement to provide similar informational meetings in the future.

Exchanges

This was our first year having an exchange -coordinator. Gail Holmes has worked very hard to stay connected to all exchanges and coach new ED’s. In 2015, we received an international incoming but no outgoing exchange assignment: The incoming international exchange was an English language immersion exchange with Guadeloupe in partnership with Milwaukee. Midwest connections and past contacts provided us with two domestic opportunities. In April we went to San Diego and in June we hosted the Phoenix, AZ club. Many members took advantage of global exchanges and opportunities to travel with other clubs such as biking in Iowa, traveling to Estonia, Romania, Hungary and Costa Rica to name a few. These opportunities are especially popular with members who want the Friendship Force home stay experience but whose travel window is different than our club exchanges, or who want to visit particular countries or who seek more active experiences. FFI adopted a fill the seat policy and as a result we are sending you many opportunities to join in exchanges with open seats. Filling all exchanges helps FFI cover their expenses without raising our dues.

Activities Standing Committee led by Nancy Brown and Stephanie Sorensen is responsible for the annual picnic, WHA (Reta Haring), Highway Clean Up (Sarah Rankin), International Institute of Wisconsin hosted dinners (Stephanie Sorensen), LEO’s (Chris Manke), Ride the Drive, Book Club, potlucks and other special events— basically any activity/function that involve membership participation. Marian Ehrenburg is also serving on the committee. Activities focus on

providing social connections for our members and providing opportunities for our members to have educational opportunities within the club. This year we donated personal toiletry items to the Catholic Multicultural Center. Book Club consistently has from 7 - 14 attendees. Books were Patti Loewe's, Seventh Generation Earth Ethics, Underground Girls of Kabul (Pete Marion shared his experiences in Kabul.), Cuba Diaries, Daughters of the Samauri, and several selections related to India to prepare us for our upcoming India exchange. International Institute of Wisconsin hosted guests from around the world here to study Youth Development, Financial Literacy, and Social Justice. 35 people attended the Mary Bergen "Wisconsin Supper Clubs" event to hear her speak on Wisconsin's unique supper club culture. Members volunteered to make some of the recipes in the book and were enjoyed by those in attendance after the presentation. New activities are attracting a mixture of older and newer members and allowing people to get to know each other in smaller group settings.

Outreach Standing Committee: Led by Lise Skofronick, Sandy Drew, and Lucy Lasseter are renewing efforts to connect to community, build our presence in the community, build partnerships with like-minded groups, and hopefully along the way attract new members. They are working hard to get us on the programs for various groups in the community. There are opportunities for anyone who is willing to provide short presentations. The committee has talking points prepared.

Technology & Social Media: Under the Outreach committee, Dave Dohler manages the web site and keeps email lists. Added Alan Rieland as back up this year. Facebook continues to add followers. Mary Lindquist and Julie Pretell are taking photos and updating Facebook. Eventbrite was added in September 2016 to allow electronic registration for free activities. Our more tech savvy members simply expect to be able to sign up online.

Membership: Standing Committee chair, Mary Lindquist assisted by Mary Lou Martino are holding events for new & potential new members several times during the year. As the Outreach and Activities committees identify potential new members, we take their contact information and invite them to the membership events. We have added 38 names to our contacts and six new members since January. We have another event scheduled for this coming June. If you are talking to people about the Friendship Force and they simply want to learn more, give Mary their contact information and we will invite them to a meeting.

Challenges: We will continue to experience changes as FFI and FFWI-Madison make, add, and transition new generations. We are competing in a world where technology offers easy access to many travel options and that alone drives us to change how we communicate and travel. FFWI-Madison's goal is to increase our membership by 20% this year. As we add new members, we will also need to provide exchange activities as well as social activities that our newer members find attractive and of course, we will need to develop new leaders.

Finally, thanks to all of you for sharing your wisdom, your passion for our mission, your support of our programs, and your financial support.

Exchange Recognition:

We completed the following exchanges since our last meeting:

- *June 2014 Arizona inbound*, Donna Hussin ED
- *July 2015 Guadeloupe Inbound*, Exchange Directors, Maureen Kind & Lise Skofronick
- *2016 Orland Outbound*, Nancy Brown ED

Certificates of appreciation were given to each exchange director.

All members involved with inbound exchanges in any capacity in 2015 were asked to stand and be recognized.

Exchange Directors for Exchanges to be completed in 2016 are:

- *May 11-18 Cleveland County, England*, Nancy Brown and Stephani Sorensen Co- ED's

- *July 8-15 Nashik Riverside India*, Jerry Fuller and Helen Ann Rugowski Co-Ed's--They still need home and day hosts.

Ambassadors in 2016 for Orlando and Cleveland County. UK were asked to stand and be recognized.

Exchange Announcements:

- 2016 Costa Rica incoming cancelled. In its place the Board has approved an incoming Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada and Santa Barbara, CA September 13-20 exchange. Patrick Fleming and George Wysock were approved as CO-ED's for this exchange.
- January/February 2017 Outbound Guadeloupe, Maureen Kind and Lise Skofronick were approved as CO-ED's.
- May 2017 Inbound Noumea New Caledonia, ED or CO-EDs open.
- August/September 2017 Outbound Medicine Hat, Alberta Canada and Vancouver, British Columbia Canada (1 week each) ED or CO-EDs open.
- Possibilities: San Diego, Denver, and Orlando--TBA depending on calendar and hosting capacity.

Election of Officers:

Nominating Committee: Chair, Margo McKnight, announced the slate of officers: Sandi Wysock president, Gail Holmes vice president, Judi Taylor treasurer, Stephanie Sorensen secretary. After the ballots were counted, all were voted into these positions starting in September 2016.

REMEMBRANCES:

We acknowledged 10 members who passed away from May 2015 – April 2016:

Kenneth Barr
Thelma Rasmussen
Joan Shropshire
Jane Dohler
Marilyn Lindau
Don Kind
Ben Sowaske
Mary Babula
Bill Knickmeyer
Margo Lindi

The Remembrance pictures were displayed with yellow roses of honor next to the tables with voting, exchange signups, club pins, luggage tag sales, and registration.

53 members were in attendance. Menu selections were New London Bridge fish fry, Mad City Mama's BBQ meatloaf, and Inner Warmth peanut stew.

To complete our British theme for the event, prior to adjournment, those present participated in a mixer and the singing of the Beatles song "A Little Help from my Friends."

Motion made and seconded by George Wysock and Mary Lindquist to adjourn. Passed!

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Schulz, Secretary

WISCONSIN FRIENDSHIP
Official Publication of
The Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison
5809 Julia St
Madison, WI 53705
www.ffwis.org

March 2017

2018 Officer Nominations
2016 Annual Meeting Minutes
March Book Club
March and May L.E.Os

President:	Sandi Wysock	833-5326
Vice Pres:	Sandy Drew	833-5811
Secretary	Stephanie Sorensen	819-6646
Treasurer:	Judith Taylor	345-6827
Newsletter:	Donna Hussin	845-3393

Email Accounts:

ffwis.general@gmail.com
ffwis.meeting@gmail.com
ffwis.membership@gmail.com
ffwis.outreach@gmail.com

The Friendship Force of Wisconsin
Annual Meeting and Luncheon
Sunday, April 23, 2017

The Coliseum Bar and Banquet	12:00 PM Social Hour
232 East Olin Avenue	12:30 PM Seated Luncheon
Madison, WI	Cost: \$17.00



Non-registered members welcome for business meeting only at 1:15PM
Donation of bars and cookies is greatly appreciated.

Please: Your reservation and payment are due no later than Monday, April 17, 2017.

-----cut and return with payment

Choice of entre: _____ **Pork Roast** (served with mushroom sauce, wild rice pilaf, maple-glazed baby carrots)
_____ **Vegetarian Lasagna** (served with marinara sauce and a bread stick)

Both meals include a salad of mixed greens with garden vegetables/choice of dressing, fresh baked rolls/butter and beverages of coffee, milk, soda and water.

Special dietary needs _____

_____ **# attending x \$17 = \$** _____

_____ **I need a ride** _____ **I can provide a ride**

Names: _____ **Email Address** _____

Make check payable to: The Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison

Mail to: Lois Schulz, 5555 Tancho Dr, #407, Madison WI 53718 Questions? 608-243-9761

