

The Friendship Force of Wisconsin

Changing The Way You See The World

May 2012

A Note from the President

It has been an eventful week at the Friendship Force of Wisconsin. We had our annual business meeting Sunday April 23.

A formal announcement was made that our outgoing exchange in 2013 would be to Manado, Indonesia. This looks to be a beautiful area near the sea on the north end of the island of Celebes. From what I understand the island has some beautiful coral reefs and is home to a large variety of fish.

Our incoming exchange will be a reciprocal visit from Urla, Turkey. Last year's outgoing exchange was such a success they wanted to return the visit. We really look forward to seeing our friends from Turkey again as we really had a great time with them.

Sandi and I were interviewed last week by Mary Bergin who is a free lance reporter in the Madison area. Mary writes travel articles about Wisconsin. She has made herself into a Charles Karolt type of writer investigating the highways and the byways of Wisconsin. She asked us to do an interview about the Friendship Force, which of course we were very happy to do. The article has since been written and has appeared in the Green Bay Press Gazette. It would really be great if we could get a local paper to pick up and publish the story. It would give us some nice publicity. After a few weeks you can view the article at WWW.ROADSTRAVELED.COM/WORDPRESS. Look for it on the web.

On Thursday April 26 I will travel to Ames Iowa for the annual Midwest Leadership Conference. I am really looking forward to going back to Ames. I spent my freshman year of college there and it will be interesting to see how the campus has changed.

As for FF activities we will be developing theme exchanges for our clubs, get an insight regarding the expansion plans put in place by FFI, and develop ways our Midwest clubs can work co-operatively. This should be fun and will tell you more after the meeting.

Yours in Friendship
GEORGE WY SOCK

WHA - TV WISCONSIN PUBLIC TELEVISION AUCTION Sunday June 3, 2012

This is a great opportunity to help Wisconsin Public Television and also get some publicity for the Friendship Force as well as having fun with others in our group.

If you have not already signed up and wish to help, contact Reta at 241-2248 or email her.

RETA HARRING, Chairperson
608-241-2248 retaharring@yahoo.com

GOOD JOB – ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY VOLUNTEERS

Saturday May 5 turned out to be a nice day for us, no rain, overcast and temperature in the 50's. We collected 11 bags of stuff, nothing of interest that I know of.

We were done and back at the Parking Lot by 10:15am. I want to thank Neil Denton and Helen Rugowski, they volunteered at the annual dinner; Paul Buckalew and Dick Hayden and especially Susan Becker who called me to volunteer.

I don't like to ask for help. Seems that a lot of us skip town or have other commitments on weekends! Once again I want to thank the volunteers for fulfilling the Friendship Force of Wisconsin commitment.

DON GOSTOMSKI
Adopt –A - Highway Chair

**THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WISCONSIN, INC.
MINUTES ANNUAL MEETING April 22, 2012
Knights of Columbus Hall, Verona, WI**

George Wysock, President of The Friendship Force of Wisconsin, welcomed everyone present. Members joined hands to sing 'Let There Be Peace On Earth' as a blessing then proceeded to the buffet line for lunch.

Programs had been placed on each table listing the Meeting Agenda and Treasurer's Report. Minutes of the previous annual meeting of May 1, 2011 had been published in the April, 2012 newsletter.

BUSINESS MEETING: George Wysock called the meeting to order at 1:15pm. A quorum of the membership was present.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Patrick Fleming moved that the secretary's report of the annual meeting May 1, 2011 be approved as written. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gene Dewey moved to accept the Treasurer's report as written. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Nominating Committee Chair, Mary Lindquist, presented the slate of officers for the 2012-2013 year. The slate remains the same as the currently serving officers:

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

A request was made for additional nominations from the floor. There were none. Richard Shropshire moved that the nominations be closed. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Mary Ann Fahl moved to accept the slate of officers as presented. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

PRESIDENTS ANNUAL REPORT:

George introduced committee chairpersons and thanked them for their service:

Dave Dohler, Communications Chairperson, continues to actively maintain our website, www.ffwis.org. He welcomes your contributions. You can find the current newsletter, current activities and photos on the website.

Janet Lonergan, Newsletter Chairperson, continues to keep us informed with the monthly newsletter. She welcomes your contributions of new material. The newsletter is available by mail and on the website.

Mary Lindquist, Membership Chairperson, maintains the current directory, sends out renewals and welcome packets to prospective and new members.

Margie Groom, Outreach Chairperson seeks out opportunities for our ambassadors to offer presentations to area groups and organizations.

Mary Ann Fahl, Farmer's Market Chairperson, maintains the list of volunteers at the Saturday Capitol Square markets from May to October. She thanked Bea Dewey for her years of dedicated service as chair of this committee. Mary Ann seeks volunteers and requested that they sign up after the meeting.

Don Gostomski, Highway Cleanup Chairperson, reminded members that this spring cleanup is in Middleton on May 5th. He gave details regarding the time, meeting place and requested that volunteers sign up after the meeting.

Reta Harring, WHA Auction Chairperson, made a signup sheet for this year's auction on June 3rd available for volunteers and

announced that she will assist members to choose various assignments.

Fanny Hicklin, Activities Chairperson, introduced members of her committee in order to thank them for their service to the club: Margo McKnight, Gary Lindquist, Paul Buckalew, Ginger Gostomski, Donna Calvert, Lois Statz, Maggie Dohm stood to be acknowledged. She meets regularly with this group to plan activities throughout the year. Fannie announced that the activity for this meeting is the silent auction and encouraged members to bid generously.

CURRENT OFFICERS and the Past President, Mary Lindquist, were acknowledged and thanked by President, George Wysock.

FORMER EXCHANGE DIRECTORS were acknowledged, thanked for their hard work and dedication. Presented with certificates of appreciation were:

- Maggie Dohm - Northern Illinois '11
- Jerry Fuller - Urla Turkey '11
- Richard Mueller - Germany '11

INTRODUCTION OF 2012 EDs

Gail Holmes, ED of the Domestic Inbound Willamette OR and St. Louis, MO exchange in June, reported on the planned itinerary for 28 incoming ambassadors. Copies of the detailed itinerary and activities signup sheets for members to participate along with ambassadors were available on the sign up table. Gail announced that hosting workshops will be held April 28th and June 2nd.

Sandi Wysock, ED for the International Outbound Moscow, Vyborg and St. Petersburg, Russia exchange in September, gave a planning and progress report. There are 19 ambassadors chosen so far. All are from our club except two from Lincoln, NB. She needs more committee members and assistance with biographies and workshops. Signup sheets were available. A planning committee meeting is scheduled for May 9th at the Wysock home. **Patrick Fleming,** ED for the International Inbound from Trujillo, Peru in July reported that 16 ambassadors will be hosted by our club. The itinerary has been planned. Details were in the April newsletter. Patrick seeks assistance with host dinners. Signup sheet was available. His treasurer is Nancy Mueller.

Donna Calvert, ED for the first Global Inbound Exchange is sharing ED duties with Northern IL and Milwaukee clubs. 21 ambassadors from Japan, Australia, Canada and the US will be hosted. Donna shared the itinerary for the Fun Adventures With Food exchange. Kay Babcock is her host workshop coordinator and treasurer for the exchange is Janet Lonergan. Hosting interviews are April 28th and 30th

OLD BUSINESS:

Janet Lonergan announced that refund checks for ambassadors who had travelled to Turkey were available from her.

NEW BUSINESS:

2013 EXCHANGE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Outbound International will be to Monago Indonesia which is on the coast and equator. Exchange director is needed.
- Inbound International will be from Urla, Turkey. They liked our visit so much that they have requested a return exchange. Exchange director is needed.
- Dates of both exchanges are undecided.

Gail Holmes moved that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried by voice vote at 1:50pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Lou Martino, Secretary

OREGON AND ST. LOUIS ACTIVITIES

June 14 - 20

The exchange committee has a fantastic and interesting itinerary planned for our St. Louis and Oregon ambassadors. We also have room for Friendship Force members to join in the fun. We will be traveling by a comfortable bus on three of the tours and have space for you to come along on all our activities. This is your opportunity to see a wide variety of places in our state if you haven't been there before or it was a long time ago. You're warmly welcomed to participate and visit with our ambassadors.

Our Welcome Dinner will be an all-you-can-eat Friday night fish fry at Kavanaugh's Esquire Club. Of course, it will be on Friday, June 15, and you are invited to meet and welcome our 28 ambassadors and enjoy platters of good food.

The Farewell Dinner will be held in the Admiralty Room of The Edgewater on Tuesday, June 19. Entrees are roast beef chasseur or breast of duckling for your selection.

See our detailed itinerary at the workshop. Everyone is welcome to join us for any of the activities. Needless to say, reservations will be handled on a first-come basis. Make your decisions now, using the enclosed form in this issue of the newsletter, prepare your check for payment, and mail it right away. The deadline is June 2.

You have a Friendship Force guarantee of memorable times with old and new friends from Oregon and St. Louis. Come on along!

GAIL L. HOLMES, Oregon/St. Louis Exch. Director
(608) 249-1846 glholmes@wisc.edu

Trujillo, Peru to Wisconsin July 9 - 15, 2012

The workshops to prepare for our ambassadors are:
Monday June 4 - Pinney Library at 6-7:30 pm at
204 Cottage Grove Road

Thursday June 7 - Alicia Ashman Library 6 - 7:30 pm
733 N. High Point Road

Hosts, day hosts and committee members should attend as we will be finalizing all the plans for our exchange and assigning our ambassadors.

PATRICK FLEMING, Peru Exchange Director
608-249-5992 pfleming@edgewood.edu

Friendship Force of Wisconsin to Moscow and Vyborg, Russia Sept 4 - Sept 19, 2012

The days are ticking by. We are in the process of ordering our visas and of course the system changed this week. I am glad we are using a full visa service that knows the ropes! We have a group of 19 ambassadors ready to take on the challenges of traveling through Russia. My Russian instructor says the country-side should be beautiful in September so the train ride from Moscow to St. Petersburg should give us beautiful views.

I need a few committee members to help me us with departure, and welcome, workshop minutes, ambassador biographies, etc. If you are interested, please call or send me an Email.

Our first meeting is May 9th at 7:00 pm. Several of us are taking Russian language classes. Once you get past the confusion of the Cyrillic alphabet there are words that are quite familiar and of course there are some Russian words that all of us have heard and will find familiar. до свидания is on one. Give up? It is Da svidaniya or goodbye.

Try your hand at these keeping in mind that:

п is our P, С is our S, Н is our N, г is a G, Р is an R, б is a B, б is a soft sign and is not pronounced, ф is an F, Д is a D, и is a long e, y is an oo.

Мама	папа	сестра	брат
банк	магазин	Спасибо	сын
суп	такси	театр	парк
Да	нет	кофе	метро

I am betting you can figure many of these out.

до свидания

SANDI WY SOCK, Exchange Director Russia
608-833-5326 Sandrawysock@msn.com

Answers: Mama, papa, sister, brat or brother, bank, magazine which is a store, spasibo... ok, Russian but thank you is an important word, syn or son, soup, taxi, theater, park, da or yes, nyet or no, coffee, and metro.

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May 2012
Workshops for Peru
WHA – TV Auction

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

2012 CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

May 5 – Adopt-A-Highway *

May 9 – Workshop Russia *

May 16 – Workshop Global Food Exchange **

May 18 – Board Meeting & Newsletter Deadline

June 2 – Oregon & St Louis Workshop *

June 3 – WHA_TV *

June 4 – Peru Workshop *

June 7 – Peru 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 4-19, 2012 – Wisconsin to Moscow/Vyborg *

October 28 – Fall Festival **

Oct 31 – Nov 2, Hiroshima Japan FFI Conference

* Information in this newsletter

** Information to be announced

Willamette Oregon and St. Louis Missouri Exchange
June 14th to June 20th, 2012
Let's join them for the Welcome Dinner and Farewell Dinner
Let's Fill the Bus – Enjoy not driving to these places

There will be room for additional people besides the hosts.
Everyone is welcome to join us for any of these activities.

The Ambassadors have already paid their money. This is for hosts, day hosts, members & friends

Date	Activity	Price per Person	# Persons	Total Cost
Friday, June 15 th	Monona Terrace, WI Historical Museum	\$5.00		
Friday, June 15 th	Welcome Dinner - Esquire Club – Fish Fry	\$15.80		
Saturday, June 16 th	Bus Tour – Dubuque – Mississippi River Museum, River Cruise and Lunch Bus Pick up at: ____ Shopko East Towne or ____ Sears West Towne	\$56.50		
Sunday, June 17 th	Olbrich Botanical Gardens Tour	\$3.00		
Sunday, June 17 th	MSCR Pontoon Boat Tour – Monona & Mendota	\$6.25		
Monday, June 18 th	Bus Tour – Int'l Crane Foundation, Circus World & Dells Upper Boat Ride Bus Pick up at: ____ Shopko East Towne or ____ Sears West Towne	\$52.50		
Tuesday, June 19 th	Bus Tour – Old World Wisconsin Bus Pick up at: ____ Shopko East Towne or ____ Sears West Towne	\$38.50		
Tuesday, June 19 th	Farewell Dinner at the Edgewater Dinner Choice: # ____ Roast Beef Chasseur or # ____ Breast of Duckling	\$25.00		
		Total		

Due by June 2nd 2012 at the Workshop or send to Joan Calkins

Reservations for: _____

Check payable to Friendship Force of Wisconsin for: \$ _____

Send this slip and money to **Joan Calkins, 3216 Waunona Way, Madison WI 53713-2276**