



The Friendship Force of Wisconsin

Changing The Way You See The World

November 2011



A Report from the President

Since I last wrote for the newsletter many things have happened including the columniation of the incoming friendship force exchange from Norderstedt Germany. They enjoyed attending practice sessions of the University of Wisconsin band, and going to the Wisconsin vs. South Dakota football game. It was mentioned that U W band and games are something that are extraordinary and special in this area. It sounds like they had a very interesting exchange, tailored for their enjoyment.

Twenty-eight members of the FF of Wisconsin enjoyed an exchange with Urla, Turkey. We had the opportunity to view sites mentioned in the Bible such as Ephesus and other ancient cities such as Hierapolis, and Perge. Turkey has more Greek and Roman ruins than Greece or Italy. At Konya we viewed the tomb of Rumi. Rumi was an Islamic mystic philosopher who developed whirling as a form of meditation. We had an opportunity to attend a performance of the whirling Dervishes in Cappadocia. Cappadocia itself is an amazing area of cave homes and cave cities used by the early Christians as hiding places. The whole country is like a layer cake of civilization from the Hittites through Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, and Ottomans to the present day. We also had a great exposure to the Mediterranean Diet, olives at every meal with little meat and baklava for dessert. It was great for us! I wonder if we will be able to continue with the diet? We returned to Wisconsin tired but with the great feeling that we had made new friends.

Back at home U. W. and Packer football were still on a roll. Neither team had a loss. The Brewers however, unfortunately lost and did not appear in the World Series. Those of us on exchanges tried to keep up with the sporting news through the internet. Immediately after our return the Badgers managed to lose two heartbreaking games in a row. Perhaps we should have stayed in Turkey their luck may have been better. We

returned to find the leaves had fallen, a gift of nature after the trip. Now all the autumn chores have begun in earnest from raking to putting away the fountain and getting the snow-blower ready. Our surprise snow fall delayed the final clean-up.

The Fall Festival was held with about sixty people attending. The best costume prizes went to Shirley Lake for the women and Paul Buckalew for the men. Their prizes were a year's membership fee.

I would like to thank Fannie Hicklin for organizing the party at the K of C. The meal was great! After dinner the local Lithuanian dance group performed their folk dances and showed examples of crafts from the country.

In friendship,
GEORGE WY SOCK

CONGRATULATIONS

Susan and Rad Becker, two long time members of the Friendship Force of Wisconsin, have had their volunteer activities recognized in the Madison Friends of International Students Newsletter Fall edition.

The newsletter thanked Susan Becker for working for 25 years as office supervisor, and having served as newsletter editor, Thanksgiving coordinator, and co-president. Both Susan and Rad have enjoyed hosting students during many holidays. The complete article can be viewed on WWW.ISS.WIS.EDU/MFIS.

Turkey Part I

On September 27, the initial group of Ambassadors assembled at the Madison Bus P&R pickup and were treated to caramel departure kisses by Chairperson Maggie Dohm, along with other members that came out to wish us "bon voyage".

At Chicago O'Hare, 5 more people joined us to complete the group of 28 Ambassadors. They included George and Sandi Wysock, Neil and Nancy Denton, Don and Ginger Gostomski, Mary Mastaglio and Mary Babula, Dave and Meg Vermillion, Jerry and Betty Fuller, Ann Dolderer, Lisa Sveum, Helen Ann Rugowski, Fay Schoenemann, Milly Pearson, Janet Harvey, Marion Ehrenberg, Reta Haring, Jane Kessenich, Gail Holmes, Larry Goulding, Ed Reid, new member Anne Rugowski and from the Denver FF Club, Sharon Buczak, and from the Dayton FF Club, Victor and Louise Iseli.

The Planning Committee played an important part in putting together pieces needed for the exchange. They included Margo McKnight who gathered, put together and in some cases even delivered, loads of materials and very useful information on Turkey, Helen Ann Rugowski, Mary Mastaglio and Mary Babula who put together the bio booklets for Ambassadors and Hosts, Kay Kinney, Sandi Wysock who produced FF business cards for all and will put together the Ambassadors daily journals, Don Gostomski, Patty Kexel who produced a DVD slide show to both give to each of the Urla Hosts, as well as to show at the farewell party and Virginia Zwickley whose idea prompted us to give our club gift of English books to the Urla Public Library.

Look for more on the Turkey Exchange next month.

JERRY FULLER, Turkey Exchange Director
608-846-5533

NEW MEMBERS

Komala & Bob Rao
579 Fargo Trail
Middleton WI 53562

608-237-6233
sakthibob@charter.net

Maureen & Don Kind
5901 Mayhill Dr
Madison WI 53711

608-274-6754
dmkind@sbcglobal.com

Shirley Lakes
Email Update: leylake@hotmail.com

Please look for these new members and introduce yourself at the Christmas Party.

Pictures on the Web Site

Over the past few years, I have put a good number of photos on our web site. I hope many of you have enjoyed viewing them. I can easily add more, but I need your help. If you take pictures of a Friendship Force activity such as an exchange or the recent Fall Festival, I would like to have a few of your best shots to add to our site.

The easiest way is to email them to me. I also have a photo scanner if you have prints or slides. I can upload them off a USB flash drive, CD, DVD or even an old diskette. Get in touch with me if you have any questions. Please help me share our activities with our friends in Madison and around the world.

Thank you,

Dave Dohler dedohler@tds.net
(608) 222-3794



2011-2012 CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

November 18 – Board Meeting & Newsletter Deadline

December 3, 2011 – Holiday Party **

December 16 – Board Meeting and Newsletter Deadline

April – Annual Business Meeting **

June 2012 – Trujillo Peru to Wisconsin **

July – Annual FFW Picnic **

August 10 – 14, 2012, Food Exchange **

September 2012 – Wisconsin to Moscow *

* Information in this newsletter

** Information to be announced

ALL CLUB HOLIDAY PARTY

December 3 – Noon to 2 PM

The special event of the Holiday Party is a contribution for St. Vincent De Paul's Food Pantry on Fish Hatchery Road.

Please bring non-perishable items such as canned goods, paper products, soap, etc. Let's make this a meaningful contribution from Friendship Force of Wisconsin.

The reservation form is on the last page.
This is your only chance to sign up for the party so do not delay.

FANNIE HICKLIN, Activities Committee
608-233-5748

Adopt - A - Highway

Saturday October 22 was a beautiful Fall day to be out in the sunshine and fresh air.

Two couples, the Denton's Neal & Nancy, and Richard & Bea Hayden and I picked up 8 bags of trash in two hours. Richard found a dollar and I wonder how a pickup tailgate wound up on the side of the road.

I really appreciate their help. Hopefully we can have 10 of us out next year for Friendship Force Adopt-A-Highway clean-up days.

DON GOSTOMSKI, Chairperson
608-249-8250

Wisconsin Exchanges for 2012

Exchange Directors **Sandi Wysock** for Moscow in September and **Patrick Fleming** for Peru in June are busy getting their committees organized for their exchanges. Be sure to let them know that you are available to help them.

Look for information about their up coming interview dates soon.

SANDI WYSOCK: 608-833-5326
PATRICK FLEMING: 608-249-5992



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November 2011
All Club Holiday Party Reservations

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

ALL CLUB HOLIDAY PARTY
Saturday, December 3 Noon - 2 PM
Cost \$16.00
Edgewater Hotel
666 Wisconsin Avenue, Madison



Please bring non-perishable items (canned goods, paper products, soup, etc.)
for contribution to St. Vincent De Paul's Food Pantry, Fish Hatchery Road.

Payment to Fannie Hicklin by November 28.

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

Names: _____

Number of Reservations: _____ @ \$16.00 = \$ _____