



The Friendship Force of Wisconsin-Madison

Experience Different Views. Discover Common Ground.

September 2017



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

There are so many things to share, but I would like to highlight one event that is coming soon. Our club will welcome an Open World delegation from Ukraine on September 8, 2017.

The Open World Leadership Center administers the Open World Program. It is described as one of the most effective U.S. exchange programs for countries of the post-Soviet era. The program has enabled more than 25,000 current and future leaders from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan to meaningfully engage and interact with members of Congress, congressional staff, and thousands of other Americans, many of whom are the delegates' direct professional counterparts.

The Open World delegations are highly sought after. We often have less than a day to make a decision to accept or decline an opportunity to host a delegation. If we do not accept quickly all of the opportunities are taken. This year we were fortunate enough to be offered a delegation and to receive an assignment. The topic we were given was Media Literacy and Countering False information. The program differs from our typical journeys in that there are fewer opportunities for our membership as a whole to participate. We are required to provide 32 hours of programming around the assigned topic which leaves limited time for cultural and social activities.

Our delegates arrive in less than one month. The committee has worked very hard to develop a program. There will be two opportunities for you to engage with the group. First, we are having an ice cream social on Sunday, September 10. It is an opportunity for you to meet all of the members of the delegation. Please come. Second, there will be a round table sponsored by CREECA (Center for Russian, Eastern Europe and Central Asia) in Ingraham Hall on Tuesday, September 12, from 4-5:30 p.m.. I will send you the official CREECA announcement with the time and room. I encourage all of you to come to the ice cream social and consider attending the CREECA discussion.

Finally, I want to thank the dedicated committee, Sandy Drew, Judy Taylor, Martha McGregor and Helen Ann Rugowski. In addition, thanks to those that are home hosting dinners, driving and hosting our delegates. We couldn't do this without you!

Sandi Wysock
President



2017 CLUB ACTIVITIES

Monthly Board Meeting - Bridge Point Waunona Community Center, 1917 Lake Point Dr, third Wednesday of the month, 1:30 p.m.

***Note: Meeting place change for September 20th:
Landmark Club House, 5335 Caddis Bend, Fitchburg,
1:15 p.m.***

**September 8-16, Friday-Saturday---Open World ☺
(August)**

September 10, Sunday—Ice Cream Social *

**September 12-17, Tuesday-Sunday—Medicine Hat,
Canada Outbound Journey**

October 2, Monday—L.E.O. *

October 18, Wednesday—Book Club *

**October 19, Thursday—Bus Day Tour, Anderson Japanese
Gardens, Rockford, IL ***

**October 29, Sunday—FF Greater Des Moines 40th Birthday Bash
☺ (August)**

2018

**April 20-22, Friday-Sunday—Great Lakes, Midwest, and
Southwest Regions FF Combined Super Conference,
Cincinnati, OH ***

* Information in this newsletter

☺ Information previously announced (Month in ☺Newsletter)

✍ Information to be announced later

Explore • Understand • Serve®

Activities

BOOK CLUB

Wednesday, October 18, 6:30 p.m.
Helen Ann Rugowski's Home
7359 Tree Lane, Madison 53717



Book: Putin Country: A Journey into the Real Russia
Author: Anne Garrels, former foreign correspondent for NPR

Many of us have traveled to Russia. We have caught a glimpse of a large and fascinating country. Have we ever had any real understanding of the culture and society of that vast, beautiful place? Reading and discussing this book will stimulate some thoughts and more questions.

One of the saddest historic comments that I have read was about Russia in the autumn of 1611. "There was neither government of any kind, only a land laid waste and an abandoned people. Endurance is a part of the Russian character, and at the extreme of endurance lies the capacity for recovery".

Stepping into that void was 305 years of the Romanov dynasty, followed by 74 years of the Soviet Union. On Jan. 1, 1992 the Soviet Union was no more and Boris Yeltsin was president of Russia. At the end of 1999 Vladimir Putin was named president. We will talk about Putin's Russia.

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.

Bernie Long

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Sunday, September 10, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Location: Tamarack Club House
110 S. Westfield Road, Madison, 53717



We are welcoming our Open World Delegates from Ukraine. There are five delegates, a facilitator, an interpreter and probably 4-5 other guests that will assist with translating. All club members are welcome! There is no cost, but there will be a donation jar!

We will be serving two, perhaps more, flavors of ice cream with toppings, and beverages.

Please respond by September 6, 2017 to:
jpkessenich@charter.net or 608-836-0324

Jane Kessenich
Activities Co-chair

Let's Go Out For...

OCTOBER 2, 2017

Historic Walking Tour and Lunch

Changing things up for the October L.E.O! You may choose both or only one of the events.

10:00 – 11:45 a.m.

Forest Hill Cemetery, 1 Speedway Rd., Madison, 53705
Guided one and a half hour walking tour of historic gravesites. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Estimated cost \$5. Actual cost depends on number of people participating and will be collected at the cemetery prior to the tour.

12:30 p.m. Lunch—Freiburg Gastropub

2616 Monroe Street, Madison 53711

You may select one of the following menu choices:

1. *Weiner schnitzel*, with red cabbage and heaven and earth potatoes--\$18
2. *Huhn*, roasted chicken with spätzle and seasonal vegetables--\$18
3. *Beet Salad*, with hazelnuts, gorgonzola, arugula, and citrus vinaigrette \$15

Price includes beverage, tax and 20% tip. Alcoholic beverages are at your expense.

Bring correct cash for both tour and lunch. Please indicate if attending one or both events and your menu choice by September 25 to Lois Schulz:
loisschulz1942@gmail.com or 608-243-9761

Jane Kessenich
Activities Co-chair

SAVE THE DATE

Friendship Force 2018 Super Conference
Great Lakes, Midwest, Southwest
April 20-22, 2018

Radisson Hotel Cincinnati Riverfront
668 W 5th St, Covington, KY 41011

Please join the Friendship Force of Greater Cincinnati for the Great Lakes 2018 Super Conference. Arrive at 2:00 p.m. on Friday for the "Executive Board" meeting and depart on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. after the "Farewell Breakfast." The clubs of Kentucky, Ohio and Michigan are planning many special activities. Louisville and Dayton will have home hosting before and Cincinnati is planning home hosting after. Cincinnati was once called the "Queen City of the West." Come and see all the special attractions in both Cincinnati, Ohio and Covington, Kentucky.

2017-2018 BOARD MEMBER NEWS

I am pleased to announce that the following members have accepted leadership responsibilities for the year beginning in September. They were approved by the Board at the August board meeting.

Tom and Donna Miller will co-chair the Outreach Committee. This committee is charged with raising our profile in the community, maintaining our Facebook page and web page, and setting up our booth at the International Festival.

Lois Schulz and Mary Mastaglio will lead the Activities Committee. They are responsible for LEO's, the annual picnic, events such as the ice cream social, the book club, highway clean up, and the WPT auction.

Kathy Speck will lead the Membership Committee. They are responsible for membership records, renewals, and programs to attract and mentor new members.

Continuing on as board members are: Janet Lonergan, Historian; Gail Holmes, Journey Coordinator; Martha McGregor and Audrey Liimatainen, Member at Large, and Donna Hussin, Newsletter Editor

All of these members will join the officers that were elected at our April Meeting. Please join me in thanking them for sharing their time and talents.

A special thank you to the following outgoing chairs: Lise Skofronick, Outreach; Jane Kessenich, Activities; and Mary Lindquist, Membership.

They have given freely of their time and talent and we have all benefited.

Sandi Wysock
President

2019 CLUB JOURNEY REQUEST

In September each year Friendship Force International begins the process that will ultimately determine what our journey assignments will be more than one year into the future. We send an inbound hosting request to FFI indicating how many weeks of hosting we can provide and how many ambassadors we are willing to host. Several weeks later an outbound request form arrives asking where we would like to travel. Many of you voted at the picnic and others have sent me their preferences via email. Based on your input, the club has indicated that our first choice would be New Caledonia, followed by New Zealand, Australia and Brazil. There isn't any guarantee that we will receive our first choice. Journey assignments will be announced in February 2018.

Sandy Wysock
President

Journey Ambassador Co-coordinator Needed for 2018 Japan

We have one person who expressed an interest in being a co-coordinator and are in need of a second person for our 2018 two-week outbound journey to Japan. One week will be with the Aichi club on the island of Honshu and the other with the Oita club on the island of Kyushu. Tentatively they are suggesting late October/first week of November when the fall foliage is in its prime. Each ambassador co-coordinator would coordinate just one week and would be supportive of each other. The host clubs plan the activities for our ambassadors. Preferred is someone who has been on an outbound journey.

Gail L. Holmes, Exchange Coordinator
608 249-1846, glholmes@wisc.edu

INTRODUCING CLUB MEMBERS WHO HOSTED NEW CALEDONIA AMBASSADORS JUNE 23-29, 2017



Lise Skofronick, Asst. Host Coordinator and her ambassadors Marie-Aimee & Jacky Martin



Sandra Drew and her ambassadors Jean Pierre & Françoise Poulain

Others will appear in future newsletters as space allows.

OCTOBER MOTOR COACH DAY TOUR

Thursday, October 19, 2017

Anderson Japanese Gardens - Rockford, IL



Join us as we set the stage for our 2018 outbound journey to Japan for a sneak preview of fall foliage in a Japanese garden. Anderson Japanese Gardens has a reputation as one of the highest quality Japanese gardens in North America. The 12 acre award winning landscape is comprised of koi-filled ponds, winding paths, gentle streams, cascading waterfalls, raked gravel gardens, beautifully trained pines, and more. Master craftsmanship and 16th century traditional architecture is found throughout the garden. Good mobility is essential as one will be crossing small streams on stepping stones where there are no handrails. Wear comfortable shoes and be prepared to walk for about 1 ½ to 2 hours for our guided tour.

Our lunch will be at JMK Nippon restaurant, the largest Japanese restaurant in the Midwest. The dining atmosphere includes beautiful Japanese outdoor rock gardens, koi ponds, and unique architecture. The staff will even provide its guests with complimentary food to feed the fish.

Departure time: 9:00 a.m. South Towne Mall near MacDonald's; return approximately 4:00 p.m.

Cost \$51, if choosing chicken entrée; \$52, if choosing steak or salmon entrée. Includes transportation, driver gratuity, garden admission, lunch, tax and tip.

Reservation deadline is Wednesday, October 11, 2017. Group size is limited to 30 people. There are no refunds after the deadline date. The reciprocal admission program for gardens, i.e., Olbrich Gardens, is not honored on group tours.

Any questions, please contact tour coordinator, Donna Hussin, djhussin@yahoo.com or 608-845-3393.

Reservation Form—DEADLINE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2017

Anderson Japanese Garden, Day Tour, October 19, 2017

Entrée Choice: # _____ Sesame Chicken @ total cost **\$51.00 equals** _____
_____ Sukiyaki Steak OR # _____ Salmon Steak @ total cost **\$52.00 equals** _____ -

All lunches include entrée, vegetables, and rice, choice of soup or salad and water. All other beverages are at your expense.

Amount enclosed _____

Name(s): _____ Email Address _____
_____ Email Address _____

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

Mail to: Donna Hussin, 406 Lucille St., Verona WI 53593



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

September 2017

Ice Cream Social, September 10

L.E.O., October 2

Book Club, October 18

Anderson Japanese Garden Day Tour, October 19

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Secretary	Stephanie Sorensen	819-6646
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