

CEDAR RAPIDS/IOWA CITY FRIENDSHIP FORCE
GENERAL MEETING
January 11, 2009
St. Andrew's Church

Meeting was called to order by President Darby Anderson. The meeting had a Peruvian theme with two Peruvian desserts and numerous items on display from Peru and some interesting information about the sites the group will visit in Peru on the June 2009 exchange.

MINUTES FROM ANNUAL MEETING: Were read and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dick Hansen reported that as of 12/31/08 we have \$7,763.36 in the Exchange Fund and \$9,571.66 in the General Fund. He expressed that he is going to change the format for his report as he is not happy with how he has been doing it. Tressa made a motion that we approve the treasurer's report. Motion seconded. Motion carried. A 2009 budget is presently being worked on and will be handed out when it is completed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MEMBERSHIP: Marty reported that we started the year with 108 members. To date, 74 have paid their dues, 29 unpaid, 6 members quit, and 1 member gained. The six members we lost are: Berneda Schnoebelen, Bill & Margaret Diedrichsen, Jeannie Slauson, and Joe & Janice Trammell.

Darby was notified by International that the magazine will NOT be printed any longer and members will have to read it online.

NEW MEMBER MENTOR: Margaret Miller reported that a new member orientation was going to be scheduled for March 8th but with the Silent Auction it would be too busy so she will reschedule this orientation at another time.

COMMUNICATIONS: Vic Klopfenstein reported that he and Pat were working with Methwick and Rockwell. Vic said he would put an ad on the radio to promote our World Friendship Day auction and dinner.

BROCHURE: Since the brochure is complete, the name of this committee will now change to **PROMOTIONS** which is more appropriate to what they are doing. Dianne Karal would like the members to look over some catalogs she has and choose 5 items for her to price out. Then we can narrow it down to maybe 2 items that we will have made up for sale to our members and other club members at the Midwest Conference. Vic K. still has approximately 20 green FF shirts for sale.

ACTIVITIES: March 8th will be our World Friendship Day and Silent Auction. There will be a dinner (\$15 per person) and possibly a guest speaker.

The June LEO will be held at The Lighthouse Restaurant.

FUND RAISING: Tressa reported that she will be requesting a \$5,000 grant from Rockwell-Collins to cover the cost of sending 2 members to the International Conference in Japan.

EXCHANGES:

LA Incoming (May 2009). The Exchange Director is Margaret Miller. If anyone would like to host or help in other areas for this 5 day exchange, please contact Margaret.

SW Florida Incoming (August 2009) Betty Emrich has accepted the position of Exchange Director. Please contact Betty if you would like to help with this exchange.

Peru (June 2009) Dianne Karal reported 19 people will go to Peru but she is waiting for initial contact from the club in Peru.

The following exchanges need Exchange Directors: Grand Junction Incoming, Gifu City, Japan – Incoming, New Zealand – Outgoing, and the 2009 Mystery Weekend.

Please contact Steve Williams if you are interested. (The application is online).

Steve invited members to attend the outgoing Sandhill Crane Excursion scheduled for March 11 – 13. Deadline for sign-up is Feb. 1 and the cost is \$300

Steve said he and Vic K. will be working on an Open World and a Tokoyo exchange to see if there were any possibilities for these in 2009.

OLD BUSINESS: Darby handed out a copy of her 2009 goals.

She would like to have a 10% net increase in membership and to also get a better understanding about why members are dropping out or going inactive. She wants to continue recruitment measures in the Iowa City area. She expressed that she would like to continue our relationship with IRIS but we want to make sure that we understand the finances before we agree to anything.

She is working on a budget and will share with the members later.

NEW BUSINESS: Tressa handed out a copy of the new by-laws with the changes made by the committee. Attached to the by-laws is an overview to show the 8 revisions that were made. Tressa went through each of the 8 items and explained the reasoning behind the change.

Dianne Karal made a motion that we approve the by-laws with the exception of Article 7, Section III regarding the travel of the Exchange Coordinator. This will be rewritten and will be voted on at the March meeting. Motion seconded by Vic K. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Sauer