



YOURS IN FRIENDSHIP

FROM THE CEDAR RAPIDS/IOWA CITY
FRIENDSHIP FORCE CLUB

April 1, 2014

April

2014

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...



A big thank-you to Vic Klopfenstein and all of those who helped Vic with the Open World Program and World Friendship Day Celebration. They both were outstanding events enjoyed by the Russian ambassadors, exchange students and our members. (See the article on page 2 for more.)

We were sad to learn that Bob Palmer from the Niagara FF Club passed away suddenly in mid-March while shoveling snow. You may recall that Bob "caught a fly ball in the face" at the Field of Dreams. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bob's family and the Niagara Club.

Our 501c3 (tax exempt status) has been reinstated by the IRS and we are good to go for donations and working the Freedom Festival activities. Thanks to Dale, Mike and Beth for seeing that we jumped threw all the loops that needed jumping.

As Mother Nature is teasing us with the promise of spring, we are looking forward to all the activities for the next few months - L.E.O., Midwest Regional Conference, board meeting, general meeting and Mid-Willamette Valley exchange. I encourage every member to attend these club activities to make our visitors welcome, to make new friends, to socialize with other members, and enjoy the wonderful food our club is known for.

The end of March is a time to start your seeds in the house so they will be strong and big enough to plant outside when it is warmer. I encourage you to continue to sow seeds of new friendships to make our club grow and be strong in the future.

Tressa

OPEN WORLD & WORLD FRIENDSHIP DAY

Again, a big thank-you to Vic Klopfenstein and all of those who helped Vic make the Russian Open World Program and World Friendship Day Celebration another success. A special thanks goes to those that hosted the Russian delegates: Shirley Rosencrans, Karen & Will Mickelson, Alice & Tom Wilkinson, Pat & Vic Klopfenstein, and Tressa & Irvin Youngbear.

This year's Open World Program was focused on accountable governance and democratic values. The Russian delegation consisted of 2 from the Rostov Region (150 miles from Sochi near the Black Sea), 2 from the Ryazan Region (about 100 miles from Moscow), and the facilitator, Alexander, from St. Petersburg. Alexander holds a Master's Degree from Iowa State University. With what is going on in the world today, this may be our last Open World Program from Russia.

Exchange students from Tunisia (see page 1), Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras attended the World Friendship Day Celebration. The students and our club members enjoyed the presentations by the Russian delegates about each of their home regions.



Article that appeared in the Marion Times.

Open World Delegation Arrives



— Photo Submitted
Another Open World Russian Delegation has arrived in eastern Iowa to gain first-hand experience with American community life, accountable governance, and democratic values. These emerging civic leaders will work with American counterparts during their 10-day professional visit. Since 1999 nearly 19,000 Eurasian Leaders have been involved with this program says Vic Klopfenstein, local program director. These five delegates are home hosted by the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Area Friendship Force Club and will visit various government and community facilities around the state this week.

ARRIL 10th L.E.O.



The April L.E.O. will be held at Whitey's Bar & Grill in Lisbon on Thursday, April 10 beginning at 5:30 pm. Whitey's is on Highway 30 across the street from the Casey's Convenience Store.

Contact Shirley Rosencrans at 319-462-4132 or at arosencrans@yahoo.com to make a reservation.

Let's have a big turn-out!!

INCOMING OREGON EXCHANGE

Don't miss out on the Mid-Willamette Valley Oregon Exchange from May 14 through 20! A summary of the planned activities include:

May 14, Arrival and welcoming

May 15, Cedar Rapids—Library, Grant Wood Studio, Czech Museum, & Trolley Tour.

May 16, Dubuque—Eagle Point Park & Mississippi River Museum.

May 17, West Branch—Free morning, Hoover Library, home hosted dinners.

May 18, Cedar Rapids—Free morning & CR/IC General Meeting at Wickiup Hill

May 19, Kalona—Kalona Museum and Mennonite lunch.

May 20, Farewell

You can join in on any of the activities or be a day guest host. There will be limited seating on the trolley tour of Cedar Rapids lead by Mark Hunter at 4:00 on Thursday the 15th. You must make a reservation and pay in advance to join the Kalona lunch on the 19th. Any of the other activities are open for you. Hosts are still needed for dinners on Saturday night the 17th.

Be sure NOT TOO MISS the General Meeting on Sunday at Wickiup Hill Center. You can hike the trails in the afternoon and about 3:30 Marty Novak and Marian Wetjen will host a olympian-esque challenge between the west coasters and mid-westerners. Stay turned for more details. Please bring either a salad or a dessert for the meal that will follow. Meat, drinks and serving ware will be provided.

Contact Audrey Bradford at audrey.b@mchsi.com or 319-365-5746, or contact Jean Thomas at jeanthomas521@gmail.com or 319-830-5091 with questions and/or to volunteer to be a day guest host or to host a dinner group on the 17th.

Audrey

2014 Midwest Regional Conference

It is still not too late to register for the Midwest Conference being held in Milwaukee, WI on May 1 through 4. Let Tressa know if you need conference information sent to you and/or if you would like to carpool.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Incoming Exchange

Incoming Willamette Valley Oregon exchange needs dinner hosts for small groups on Saturday May 17th and for day hosts. Please let Audrey know at audrey.b@mchsi.com or 365-5746 if you can volunteer for any of these opportunities.

Leadership Conference Committee

Tressa Youngbear is chair of the planning committee for the Leadership Conference in 2015 and is looking for members to help make this a great experience for all Midwest leaders. Contact ityoungbear@gmail.com or call 319-350-4143 to volunteer!

Freedom Festival Workers Needed

We are planning to work again at the Cedar Rapids Freedom Festival for a fund raiser. We will not have work dates until closer to the Festival; however, please do not hesitate to contact mooredale@imonmail.com to tentatively volunteer today!

QUESTION FOR YOU?

If you had only half a day to show off our community what would you show them? Email Tressa at ityoungbear@gmail.com to let us know your ideas.



2014 L.E.O. at the Iowa State Fair

Esther Hudson is tentatively planning a L.E.O. at the Iowa State Fair. Sounds like fun! If you would like to help with this contact Esther_Hudson@msn.com.

Hosts are set (see the calendar page) for all other L.E.O.'s for 2014. Some dates and locations need finalized. We are going to some interesting places!



CALENDAR of EVENTS - (print this page as a reminder)

April 10	L.E.O. Whitey's Bar & Grill, Lisbon at 5:30	Host Shirley Rosencrans
May 1-4	Midwest Regional Conference	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
May 18	1:00 Board Meeting 2:30 General Meeting with Mid-Willamette Valley Oregon	Wickiup Hill Learning Center
May 14 – 20	Incoming Mid-Willamette Valley Oregon	ED - Audrey Bradford
June (TBD)	L.E.O. at Sutliff Bridge Tavern	Host Vic Klopfenstein
July 13	1:00 Board Meeting - 2:30 General Meeting	Marion Heritage Center
July 21-27	Outgoing Cincinnati (Theme Underground Railroad)	ED - Steve Williams
August (TBD)	L.E.O. (Tentative Bus Trip to State Fair)	Esther Hudson Planning
September (TBD)	Incoming UK Clubs	ED - TBD
September 14	Road Rally	Committee: Mike Karal,, Nancy Miller, and Shirley Rosencrans
October	L.E.O, (TBD)	Host Mary Stull
October 15 -21	Outgoing Sacramento, California	ED - Marian Wetjen
November 16	Annual Meeting	

BOARD MEMBERS 2014

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In friendship

Tressa Youngbear

Dale & Cheryl Moore