

Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Friendship Force

General Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2009

Present: Tressa & Irvin Youngbear, Cheryl & Dale More, Dianne & Mike Karal, Marty Novak, Phyllis & Jerry Seidl, Bernita Walker, Dick & Veryl Hansen, Darby Anderson, Pat & Vic Klopfenstein, Steve & Nancy Williams, Connie Williams, Shirley Gibb, Sandy Colton, Nancy & Steve Miller, Dixie and Dick Fowler, Lisa & John Peloquin, Joan Jacobs, John Haack, Cheryl & John Elliott, Veta & Richard Hildebrand, Jeanne & Jack Knopp, Janet & Charles Thulin, Margaret Nelson, Mary Lucas, Ed Junkins, and Janis Schmitz.

Guest: Patricia Kaiser, John Giegenicht, and two other guests who did not sign in.

President, Darby Anderson, brought the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Thank you to the Activities Committee for the planning and setting up for the meeting.

M/S/C Pat K/Nancy M motioned to accept minutes as written.

Treasurer's Report – Dick H.

Report was reviewed (see attached.)

M/S/C Steve M/Janis S motioned to approve report as given.

Membership Report – Marty N.

There are currently 96 members: 4 new members and lost 16 members this year.

Communications – Pat K. & Vic K.

Presentations will be given to Methwick Manor and a church group in the fall.

Website – Darby A.

675-700 people have visited our website with 2100 hits per quarter. This includes the times Darby is updating the site.

Promotions – Dianne K.

The items for sale were presented so members would know what was available.

It was decided to keep merchandise items in stock and sell at stated cost except for incoming exchanges and speaker gifts would be charged actual cost.

Activities – Connie W.

The committee would like to use some of the Rockwell grant to bring diversity/cultural speakers and/or entertainment in for our meetings. Members are asked to fill out cards with recommendations of diversity/cultural speakers and/or entertainment.

August 20th – Let's Eat Out, 6:00 p.m., Stone City General Store and Pub in Stone City and is being hosted by Jeanne & Jack Knopp.

September 20th – Tri-Club Picnic, 4:00 p.m., Monticello City Park at 800 N. Maple St.

The Jones County Pork Producers will be cooking pork burgers and ice cream will be provided from the Jones County Dairy Producers for \$5 /person. Condiments for the sandwiches and ice cream will be provided.

Participants are asked to bring a salad or vegetable to share. Plates, napkins and utensils will be provided. CR/IC members.

A canoe ride down the Maquoketa River at noon for only \$30 for a two- person canoe will be available for participants who are interested.

LEO (Let's Eat Out) October – Date to be confirmed – Tatyana's Kitchen, 224 1st West St. in Mt. Vernon. Bernita Walker and Shirley Gibb will be hosting.

November meeting will be the annual meeting.

Fundraising – Darby A.

Our club received a \$5000 grant from Rockwell Collins to enhance our exchanges and meetings with cultural entertainment/education and to promote our club to the other clubs worldwide.

The fundraising committee will have a meeting to determine how the \$5000 will be allotted to insure that the money is used to meet the grant intentions.

Members who worked the Freedom Festival earned the club \$500 and it is recommended we do this again next year.

Exchanges – Steve W.

Reminder to all ED's that documentation is needed for the historian book. Give to Janis S.

- 1) Mystery weekend still has openings. Contact Sally Fairchild.
- 2) SW Florida has been cancelled.
- 3) International Conference has been cancelled. Thank you, Ron Swanson, for volunteering to represent us at the conference.
- 4) Our club will host IRIS group again. Just two people need to be hosted.
- 5) Tucson, AZ has invited us on an exchange in November 2009.
M/S/C Steve W/Jack K to accept Tucson's invitation for an outgoing exchange. Steve will let membership know that an ED is needed and he is accepting applications.
- 6) Gifu City, Japan will be coming for an exchange in June 2010. Karals and Youngbears are co- EDs so contact them if you are interested in hosting or being on the planning committee.
- 7) New Zealand – April 14-30, 2010 Kapiti Coast and Christchurch, New Zealand. Phyllis Seidl is the Exchange Director. The week at Kapiti Coast will have the additional interest of being a joint

exchange with a group from Tasmania visiting at the same time. The possibility of an optional third week touring the interior of the south island is being explored.

- 8) Baku, Azerbaijan – Sept 1 -15th 2010, cost will be from \$2500 to \$3000. Steve W. and Tressa YB are co-EDs if you have questions or want to be put on the ambassador list.
- 9) Dianne K gave an overview of the Peru exchange.
- 10) Because of the economy, there has been a 20% decrease in exchanges and it is hurting FFI funds.

Other Information – Darby A.

Audrey B will be the chair of the nominating committee for new board members in 2010. Volunteers are needed to be on this committee. Contact Audrey if you are interested.

Lee Rockwell, our Field Rep for International, is asking for our input on the following questions:

1. What is the best activity, or site visit, that you offer your incoming international exchange visitors? What is it, and why is it so popular?
2. What negative reactions have you received from incoming clubs about being assigned a visit to your club in the mid-section of America?

John H. announced that Kirkwood is looking for hosts for international students for 9 months. If you are interested contact Gail Gilch at Kirkwood.

M/S/C John E/John H to adjourn the meeting.