

Yours in Friendship

December 2008

<http://www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org>

Seasons greetings from your new Club president! I am very excited about the upcoming year and the opportunities we have ahead of us. The difficult economic times and competition among clubs for international exchanges pose new challenges for us but I am confident that our Club will rise above them. Our Board is working on innovative solutions to these issues, while keeping the Friendship Force mission close at heart.

I'd like to personally thank outgoing co-presidents Tressa Youngbear and Stephanie Schulte for their wonderful leadership in 2008. I appreciate all your hard work and continued guidance to the Board. Thank you!

-- Darby Anderson

New Business

The Board of Directors held a planning meeting for 2009 on December 7th at the Hiawatha Public Library. The Board discussed programming, fundraising, meeting venues, and membership recruitment and retention.

The Bylaw Committee is reviewing the current bylaws, specifically length of terms, international conference travel and changes to the fiscal year. Watch for the bylaw changes to be sent out to you for a vote at the January meeting.

Two new standing committees were created – “Exchange” and “Fundraising.” A new Board position was also created, “Exchange Coordinator/Chair.” Steve Williams has accepted the Exchange Coordinator/Chair position. The Board is working out the details/duties for this role.

Calendar of Events

January 11th – Board & General Meeting – Peru exchange presentation, location and time to be determined.

Exchanges 2009

Domestic Incoming Exchange from LA – The LA Club would like to come in May 2009.

Exchange Director Needed!! If you are interested in being the Exchange Director for the Los Angeles Incoming Exchange in May 2009 please contact Steve Williams or Darby Anderson for an application, or download one from the club Web site. The new guidelines require us to take applications, then submit the applications to the Board for a decision. Applications are due prior to the January Board Meeting.

Peru Outbound Exchange – June 8-27, 2009. Nineteen people are signed up for the exchange. Dianne Karal is the ED.

Exchanges 2010

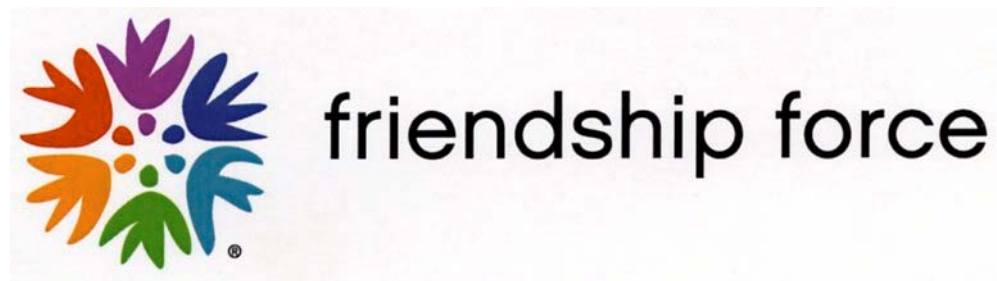
Outbound Domestic Exchange – Los Angeles has invited our club for a return exchange in Feb/March of 2010.

Incoming International Exchange – We have invited Gifu City, Japan for a return exchange in August 2010.

Outbound International Exchange – Members voted on their top choices for an outbound international exchange in 2010. They were: Three weeks to New Zealand north island, south island and Australia or two weeks to Scotland and England or two weeks to Holland and Belgium. We submitted our request. FFI expects to notify clubs of their matches in January.

Great Christmas Gifts or for Writing that Special Note

Our club is selling a note card with the new FF logo on the front (see below.) These cards make a great gift for fellow FF members or ambassadors around the world. Ten cards for \$6.00 for local club members and \$7.50 for other interested people. Contact Tressa Youngbear to purchase your cards. ityoungbear@iowatelecom.net



Fun Fact

The army of Andorra, a small principality in the Pyrenees between France and Spain, consists entirely of officers. Its duties are mostly of a ceremonial nature.