

**Friendship Force of Cedar Rapids/Iowa City**  
**Yours in Friendship**  
**June 2010**

This is that Iowa summer weather we were expecting in July, it just started early this year. Who doesn't love Iowa in June! June is a great month to be in Friendship Force Cedar Rapids/Iowa City because we have a lot of fun activities.

Be sure to check out the Gifu exchange events. If you aren't hosting you'll want to come to any events you can to meet our guests.

On June 19, we will have our first booth at the downtown Farmers' Market. The booth is on the crosswalk in Green Square Park. This is a location manned by local non-profit agencies and after waiting for over a year we were able to get two dates for this summer. We will be there on the 19<sup>th</sup> and August 21. If you want to represent our club Saturday shoppers, contact Audrey or Connie right away or if you are shopping the market, be sure to stop by and visit.

July 4<sup>th</sup> will be a busy day with about 30 of you working at the Freedom Festival activities. Thanks for volunteering to help and a special thanks to John and Cheryl Elliot for calling to ask everyone to work.

We were privileged to represent our club at the recent Midwest presidents meeting hosted by FF of North Chicago. We were proud to be the only club who could report a totally electronic mailing list for this newsletter. We realize you don't get a pretty format and pictures, but this method saves trees, time and money. FF/IC has a good history of getting international exchanges and we're doing a good job of adding domestic exchanges to offer another option for those who can't invest the time for a longer trip. Most of the clubs face similar challenges like membership and we hope to try out some of the ideas that other clubs have found successful.

See you soon at a Gifu exchange event!

## **Calendar of Events:**

### **June 15-22: Exchange with Gifu, Japan to Cedar Rapids**

We are so excited that our guest will arrive soon and are pleased with the great response from the members participating in each event. There are still seats available on the bus to Dubuque on Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, so if you would like to invite a friend to spend the day with us, call Dianne Karal (378-0084) to check on availability. We know all of you will make our guests feel welcome and hope everyone will enjoy the events planned for the week. Dianne & Tressa

Tuesday, June 15: 6:30 pm potluck dinner, Square Dance entertainment  
Table service & beverages provided  
American Legion Post 298, 625 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Marion, IA

Wednesday, June 16: Day Tour of Cedar Rapids  
5:30 pm tour of Wickiup, 6 pm dinner – potluck salads & desserts  
Indian tacos, table service & beverages provided  
Meskwaki Tribe dancers following dinner  
Wickiup Outdoor Learning Center, Toddville

Thursday, June 17: Bus trip to Des Moines  
Home hosted dinners in evening

Friday, June 18: Day trip of Kalona, Kernels baseball game in evening

Saturday, June 19: Bus trip to Dubuque

Sunday, June 20: Free day

Monday, June 21: Day trip to Amana

Farewell Event 5:30 pm social time, dinner at 6 pm, program to follow

Potluck dinner with pulled pork sandwiches, beverages & table service provided

Red Cedar Lodge in Squaw Creek Park, Marion

**June 19 and August 21: Farmer's Market, 7:30 am to noon.**

**July 4: Freedom Festival Events.** We would like 2 more people for the 1:30pm shift and would take any additional names as back up replacements, if needed. Call Connie Williams, 396-4747.

**7am-11am: Pancake Breakfast & Good Clean Fun**

**9:30 am-1pm: Buster T's Tailgate & Beach Party**

**1:30pm-5:30pm: Good Clean Fun (recycling station)**

If you have volunteered for one of these shifts, please review the information below:

All volunteers will need to complete and sign a waiver of liability form before working

All volunteers will get a Freedom Festival shirt to wear for their shift

Please arrive 10 min. before your shift begins

Check in for the Pancake Breakfast is at Breakfast Admission Tent - 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave Bridge

Check in for other shifts is at Freedom Festival Merchandise Tent - 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave Bridge

If you have questions about any Freedom Festival event, click on this website

<http://www.freedomfestival.com> for general information.

**Tri-Club picnic:** Date and location TBD. The Quad City club is hosting this year and says they will have information for us in the next two weeks.

**September 26:** General Meeting at the Marion Heritage Center at 2 pm

Program will be 'Animals Around the World'.

**August 30-Sept. 14: International group to Baku, Azerbaijan:** Cedar Rapids will lead this exchange of two weeks on the Caspian Sea. Steve Williams has a full exchange for this exciting trip.

**October 16-18: International Conference at Washington, D.C**

This is open to any Friendship Force member. The conference gives the opportunity to see old friends, make new friends and to network with clubs from around the world.

To register, go to <http://thefriendshipforce.org/> website for additional information and registration link.

**November 7: Annual Dinner Meeting at the Clarion Hotel at 5 pm**

Election of officers, Silent Auction

## Updates:

**Upcoming Exchanges:** An Exchange Director is needed for an outgoing exchange to Costa Rica in 2011. If you have an interest, the ED application is on line. Please send application to Steve Williams [swill1234@msn.com](mailto:swill1234@msn.com) by July 15. Preferred travel time to Costa Rica is anytime it is cold in Iowa, the dates are negotiable.

### Website:

There are new links on our Website <http://www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org/> Thank you Darby! A great way for prospective ambassadors to find out about Eastern Iowa. If you know of additional links that showcase Iowa, please contact Darby Anderson or email her at [darbyanderson1@gmail.com](mailto:darbyanderson1@gmail.com)

If you want a current membership list you can get it at any time by going to our website [www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org](http://www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org) Under Member Login enter: friendshipforcecric the password : ff2008. You can look at old newsletters here and well as access the directory.

**Friendship Force Merchandise:** Call or email Connie Williams at 396-4747 and [cmw1226@yahoo.com](mailto:cmw1226@yahoo.com) to order.

**Board Contacts:** Audrey Bradford, Connie Williams, Liz Sauer, Dale Moore, Marty Novak, Margaret Nelson, Steve Williams, Marian Wetjen, Vic and Pat Klopfenstein, Bernita Walker, Janice Schmitz, Darby Anderson

Please contact any board member if you have questions, discussion or items to be addressed. These can be added to the next Board meeting agenda.

*Enjoy the wonderful June weather!*

*Yours in Friendship, Audrey & Connie*

“Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness.” - Mark Twain

“Why does Sea World have a seafood restaurant? I am halfway through my fish burger and I realize, I could be eating a slow learner.” - Lyndon B Johnson