

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

Spring will be here soon. Even though we have been more fortunate than other parts of the country this year, I think everyone in Iowa is tired of snow and winter. Spring and early summer will be busy times for Friendship Force and we'll be ready to get out there hosting Gifu, working the Farmer's Market and Freedom Festival events as well as regular meetings.

Notice in this issue reports of the World Friendship Day video conference with Christchurch, New Zealand and the Tenth Anniversary of Open World and World Friendship Day celebration in Lincoln, Nebraska.

If you noticed that the Newsletter is a little late this month it's because Connie, Audrey and Mary were all part of an exchange to Los Angeles from February 19 to the 27<sup>th</sup>. It was a beautiful change in weather and they will include a short report of the trip in next month's newsletter.

### **Calendar of Events:**

**Sunday, March 7: World Friendship Day Celebration Ethnic Potluck, 4pm at the Lowe Park Arts and Environment Center, 4500 N 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Marion.** Dinner and dialog with international students and their host families. Members and their guests, please RSVP to Sandy Colton 378-8971 or [sandy1008@live.com](mailto:sandy1008@live.com) by Saturday, March 6. Students and host families, please RSVP to Vic Klopfenstein 377-5502 or [vpklopfensten@msn.com](mailto:vpklopfensten@msn.com) Members, please bring an ethnic dish (serving 8+) to share. Table service and drinks provided, meeting fee of \$5 for members.

**Wednesday, April 7: LEO – Let's Eat Out** 6 p.m. at Sushi House (2665 Edgewood Pkwy SW Cedar Rapids.) Darby encourages everyone to take a look at their menu of Chinese and Japanese entrees, as well as their extensive sushi menu online- <http://sushihouse.org/> . She will take RSVPs at [darbyanderson1@gmail.com](mailto:darbyanderson1@gmail.com) or 319-431-8417 until Sunday, April 4th.

**April 14 - 30 : CR/IC to New Zealand Exchange**

**Sunday, May 16: General Meeting.**

**June 15-22: Gifu Japan to CR/IC**

**Saturday, June 19 and August 21: Farmer's Market**

## **Exchanges:**

**Los Angeles:** Nine ambassadors from CR/IC joined ten from New Jersey for a successful exchange in Los Angeles last week.

**Tucson, AZ to Cedar Rapids, July 27:** This exchange is on hold, pending a Tucson ED.

### **Cedar Rapids to New Zealand, Apr 14-30**

**Gifu, Japan to Cedar Rapids, June 15-22.** The committee has planned a week full of events and activities. There will be lots of opportunities for all CR/IC FF members to take part in. Tentative events to put on your calendars: Welcome Potluck on Tuesday, June 15, location to be announced later and Farewell Party on Monday, July 21 at Red Cedar Lodge at Squaw Creek. Dianne Karal and Tressa Youngbear, co-chairs

**International group to Baku, Azerbaijan, August 30-Sept. 14:** Cedar Rapids will lead this exchange of two weeks on the Caspian Sea. Contact Steve Williams for more information.

## **Updates:**

### **World Friendship Day in New Zealand February 28 with Cedar Rapids.**

On Sunday eighteen of the CR/IC ambassadors headed to New Zealand in April joined about a dozen Friendship Force members of Christchurch, New Zealand via video conference. About a month ago the Christchurch club invited us to share in their World Friendship Day celebration this way. It was 3:00 Sunday afternoon at Kirkwood and 10:00 AM Monday morning, March 1 when the Christchurch president sent us greetings for a happy World Friendship Day. Several ambassadors also met their prospective hosts. Phyllis Seidl, ED of the New Zealand exchange coordinated the video conference with technical help from John Haack.

### **Open World Tenth Anniversary**

Vic and Pat Klopfenstein and Steve and Nancy Williams represented our club at the tenth anniversary of Open World in Lincoln, Nebraska on February 28. Ambassador John O'Keefe, Executive Director of the Open World Leadership Program at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC spoke on the future of Open World.

**Membership Renewal:** Dues are \$20 for single, \$40 per couple/family. Contact Marty Novak, [martynovak@mchsi.com](mailto:martynovak@mchsi.com) or 396-0848

**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.

**Website:**

If you have website skills, and would like to help with this on going project, please contact Darby Anderson, 431-8417 or [darbyanderson1@gmail.com](mailto:darbyanderson1@gmail.com)

*There is no limit to what a man can do  
or where he can go  
if he doesn't mind who gets the credit.*

– From Ronald Reagan's desk at the Presidential Library,  
Simi Valley, CA