

Yours In Friendship March 2008

Thank You

To Vic and his committee for putting on a very successful Irish Celebration for World Friendship Day. Guest and members alike enjoyed the socializing, silent auction, and great food. The club raised \$678.50 for the World Friendship fund, which our club will match with \$500. Great Job! A thanks also go out to Stephanie and her by-laws committee. They did a great job of making a not so fun project into a pretty painless process of getting our by-laws updated for the club.

Mark Your Calendars

Margaret Miller will host LEO on **April 22** at 6:00 at the Rugger's Café (420 Community Drive, North Liberty) in the party room. Menu includes a sandwich buffet for \$7.95 (add soup \$1 more); dinner buffet is \$12.95, which includes 2 entrees, 1 salad, 1 potato, 1 veggie, roll and drink. Plan on coming and enjoying great company and good food.

The next general meeting will be **May 4**. The Activities Committee, with a new position of Program Chair, is planning out the year's general meetings and entertainment for you. Look for their booklet at the May meeting to help you track the activities of the club so you can be involved when you can. Watch for a flyer coming out soon with more detail for May 4.

Volunteer Needed

The Historian position is open and we need a volunteer to fill it. This position is responsible for taking & collecting pictures, documents, etc. of activities done by the members over the year and arrange them in a book. Other members would be willing to help out taking pictures if you could not make an event. Email ityoungbear@iowatelecom.net if you are interested. Would be a great job for someone who likes scrapbooking.

Board Meeting

We had a very productive board meeting on March 9. The following are items of interest to the membership:

1. A budget was passed with each committee allotted a budget for the year.
2. Our representative to the international conference will be reimbursed, airfare, hotel and conference fee.
3. A club fee of \$25 will be charged to each ambassador going on an exchange to offset ED expenses and the remainder will stay in the exchange account.
4. Board goals for 2008 were passed. The goals the board will try to accomplish this year for you are:
 - Increase membership by 10%
 - Offer an outgoing international exchange
 - Offer an outgoing domestic exchange or mystery weekend
 - Host an incoming international exchange
 - Host an incoming domestic exchange and/or Open World
 - Update by-laws
 - Develop complete guideline for club to base operations on, including:

- o Travel and reimbursement guidelines
- o Committee descriptions and scope of responsibilities
- o Guidelines for filling exchanges
- o Membership promotion guidelines
- o Provide at least 6 social events for members to get acquainted with other members, which also includes diversity & culturing learning experience.
- o Develop a budget for the club to allot monies for the betterment of the club.

General Meeting

The new revised by-laws were adopted. One of the changes in the by-laws is the dues are \$10 per adult instead of \$10 for individual and \$15 for families. A copy of these by-laws will be sent to all members.

Exchanges

May 14-21. Outgoing to Berlin-Brandenburg is close to being full. We have for sure 12 members from our club, 6 members from the Grand Junction, Colorado club and 1 member from the LA, California club. It should be a great trip.

August 15 –22. Incoming from Berlin is in need of host families. If you would like to host ambassadors please contact Steve Williams who is our ED. swill1234@msn.com

Mystery Weekend is in the process of being planned and we will get you the information as soon as it is finalized. Where do you think we will go?

Membership

If you were a guest at a recent meeting and would like to join, go to our website: www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org. You can fill out a membership form and send your form and check (\$26 single; \$40 family) to: Marty Novak, 1253 Belmont Parkway NW, Cedar Rapids IA 52405.

Member Update:

Please send condolences to Mary Stull whose 93-year old aunt passed away in Kansas City. She was the last of Mary's dad's generation and Mary's godmother.

Congratulations to Mary Lucas who became a grandmother to little Vera who lives in New York State.

If you have an update you would like added next month please email ityoungbear@iowatelecom.net

Web Address

www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org – find membership application and other club information and links.