

Friendship Force of Cedar Rapids/Iowa City

Yours in Friendship

April 2012

If you did not attend any of the Open World Russian Physicians Events – you missed meeting some very congenial and interesting individuals. Normally we see some of our physicians as in the upper sphere of our social food chain- aloof. These folks were not that way. Though some of our visitors were a bit scared a first, they soon became comfortable with their hosts and our leaders. During the week their opinions of us changed while our opinions of them changed. We are now friends. Our friends appreciated the program developed by Vic Klopfenstein and Steve Williams and were very active in discussions and questions. Thank you host families, Vic and Steve, and medical hosts for a very interesting and successful event! More information on this activity, see the Updates section below.

Have you read Dianne Karal's Flyer on our "once in a lifetime" trip to Uganda? You should! Be part of the first Friendship Force Exchange to Kampala and Kalungu! Join the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City FF Club in September/October 2012 in this unique opportunity. Each Ambassador



will be helping mentor the new clubs and will be participating in their on-going humanitarian efforts. Our tasks might include helping at a school, an orphanage, adult education, gardening, construction, feeding programs, picking coffee, making crafts, etc. (Not your boring everyday activities, huh?)



Based on the level of interest, an optional 10-12 day extension will be planned that may include additional locations, attractions, game drives, etc. (You can't do this at home either.) If you are interested in this unique opportunity, please call Dianne Karal at 396-6820 (work) or 378-0084 (home) or send an e-mail to toy4di@msn.com. Grab a friend, spouse, child, cousin or other relative and make you plans with Dianne now! Make some new friends in Uganda, "The Pearl of Africa."

We will be offering this unique exchange to other clubs to fill the exchange at the end of April, so please don't delay in signing up. Exact dates and additional information will be available soon.

Check out our other exchanges and activities in the Calendar section. Our May 6 meeting will be at the Marion Heritage Center with our Regional Representative, Pat Meyer, speaking on "Themed Exchanges" Please note the location change.

See you at Let's Eat Out (LEO) on Thursday.

From Dave Detwiler, president

Calendar

April 19 LEO: Popular Heights Supper Club, 21592 Bus. Highway 151, Monticello, 6:30 p.m. RSVP to Steve Williams at swill820@gmail.com or 319 465-3942.

April 26, 27, 28: Midwest Leadership Meeting, Ames, Iowa (For designated Officers) “Themed Exchanges = Growth...Growth = Themed Exchanges: Illustrating Theme Development Using Midwest Art and Agriculture”

April 28 & 29: Exchange Director Classes: The Exchange Director classes are for members who would, at some point, like to be an exchange director or at least learn what is involved. Dianne Karal and Tressa Youngbear will lead this training for interested members. Domestic exchange training is scheduled for April 28 and International training is scheduled for April 29. Please contact Dianne Karal if you plan to attend: toydi@msn.com or 378-0084.

May 6 General Meeting 2:00 PM— Heritage Center, 590 10th St., Marion. Pat Meyer, Friendship Force Regional Representative will be speaking on “Themed Exchanges.”

May 7-11, 2012: Income Connecticut Exchange: Sadly, they have cancelled.

June 21-July 4: Freedom Festival: Volunteer work groups to be sought.

June 22-25: Incoming Mystery Exchange. Exchange Director is Phyllis Seidl.

July 15: General Meeting 2:00 PM: At the Marion Heritage Center, 590 10th St., Marion. Program to be announced.

September 27-Oct 1 Outgoing St. Louis, Missouri, Exchange: Tressa Youngbear, ityoungbear@windstream.net or 319-350-4143, will be the exchange director; St. Louis exchange director is Milton Z.

Sept. 15-Oct. 2 (approx), Outbound International Exchange to Uganda. This is our new club initiative with Kalungu and Kampala clubs. Dianne Karal will be the exchange director.

October 21-28 Incoming Niagara Canada Exchange: Exchange director: to be determined; Niagara exchange director is Martha Abra

October 30, 31, and November 1, 2: World Conference in Hiroshima, Japan. Home stays available.

Updates

World Fellowship Day on March 25 was well attended with over 60 people present. Vic Klopfenstein, organizer and moderator, introduced 12 international students, their host families, and the speaker Sherrie Nisly, Wellman, IA, who told of her work finding host families for exchange students through World Link Inc. Students from Pakistan, Egypt, Australia, Indonesia, Germany, Korea, Vietnam, and India were well-spoken and entertaining. The potluck provided many delicious foreign foods for sampling.

Open World Russian Physician's Group that arrived on March 30 was made up of five physicians, 1 facilitator and 1 interpreter. The doctors' agenda included visits to Mercy Care



Sergey and Dmitry enjoy leftovers at 10:30 p.m.

Clinic in Marion, Mercy Medical Center and hospice; St. Luke's Family Medicine and Urgent Care in Marion, and St. Luke's Hospital and Surgery Center. In addition, they visited rural facilities at the Jones County Regional Hospital in Anamosa where they observed Steve Williams' cardiac rehab. The doctor who works in a prison hospital in Russia was impressed by his visit to the Anamosa Penitentiary.

University Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City came next followed by visits to Congressional offices and a Marion City Council meeting. And, of course, lots of shopping was squeezed in prior to the farewell program at the Metro Buffet on Friday, April 6. The guests were impressed with this extensive program put together and led by Vic Klopfenstein and Steve Williams.

New Item: Green Tote Bags (great hostess gifts), Polo Shirts, Notebooks, Luggage Tags, Table Blessings and Note Cards-Invite a friend or acquaintance to our meetings with a distinctive hand-written note card displaying the friendship force logo.

Board Members 2012

Dave Detwiler, President

Richard & Veta Hildebrand, Co-President-Elect

Steve Williams, Secretary

Dale Moore, Treasurer

Connie Williams, Past President

Dianne Karal & Tressa Youngbear, Co-Exchange Coordinators

Marian Wetjen, Membership

Vic Klopfenstein, Communications

Will & Karen Mickelson, Meeting Hosts

Lynette Nuehring, & John Sauer, Directors At Large

In friendship

Dave Detwiler & Richard & Veta Hildebrand