

Friendship Force of Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Yours in Friendship October 2011

Many thanks to Jane Cranston for her presentation of the Student Sponsorship Initiative for the Christian Girls' School in Pasrur, Pakistan. If you are interested in supporting this worthwhile scholarship program, please contact Jane at jane-cranston@mchsi.com My personal thanks to Gayle Bray, our FF member, who arranged for this wonderful presentation.

It's great to know that many details have fallen into place for the Indonesian Teacher Exchange later this month. Please feel free to join the host families to welcome our guests at the airport or any of the club events listed in the calendar below. What a great opportunity for all of us!

Hope to see many of you at the LEO next week!

from Connie Williams, president

Calendar

October 11, Tuesday at 6 PM: Let's Eat Out (LEO)

See you at **Napoli's**, 500 Marion Blvd., Marion. Please RSVP to Darby and Matt Winger at darbywinger@gmail.com or call 319-431-7424 by Sunday, October 9th.

October 17-23: Indonesian Teacher Exchange Thank you to all members who have agreed to home host! The exchange will involve 15 educators and an exchange director from Indonesia, as well as a Consortium for Global Education professor provided by Friendship Force International to teach the course.

Exchange events to put on your calendar, feel free to join us! RSVP to Jan Thulin at 393-8550 or ecthulin@mwci.net for any events where RSVP is noted.

October 17, Monday 4:50 PM Teachers arrive at Airport from Singapore and meet their hosts with photos to follow. Club members are invited to welcome them.

October 18, Tuesday 5:30 PM Dinner and program at the Islamic Center of Cedar Rapids, 2999 1st Ave SW, Cedar Rapids. Please RSVP by October 11. Cost yet to be finalized, probably at \$6.

October 21, Friday 5:00 PM: Dinner, program and pumpkin carving with the Indonesian Teachers at Wickiup Hill. Cost \$5.00 RSVP by October 11.

Directions to Wickiup: From I-380 northbound - go west on Blairs Ferry Road. Turn north (right) on Feather Ridge Road; **From I-380 southbound** – Exit west (right) on the E-34, Toddville/Robins exit, follow WHOLC signs through Toddville to

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Feather Ridge Road, turn south (left); go to Morris Hills Road, turn west. Proceed approx. 1.2 miles to Wickiup Hill Outdoor Learning Center

October 23, Sunday We will be taking the Indonesian ambassadors to Dodgeville, WI to transfer to the Friendship Force Club of Milwaukee, where they will spend the next week. The trip will include a stop in Dubuque. If you are interested in traveling with the group, please RSVP by October 11th. Mode of transportation, bus or vans. \$10 fee, plus lunch costs.

November 6-18: Outgoing Exchange to Costa Rica

Vic Klopfenstein, Exchange Director: vpklopfenstein@msn.com 360-2776. We have 20 ambassadors going to San Jose, Costa Rica.

December 4, Sunday at 5pm: Election of Officers, Silent Auction and Dinner Meeting at the Clarion Hotel

David & Patty Detwiler's Report on 2011 FFI World Conference, Hamburg, Germany

We attended the 34th FFI World Conference in Hamburg, Germany at Bergedorf a local municipality of Hamburg. There were 285 Friendship Force delegates representing 22 countries. David had breakfast with Martin Sebesta from Bratislava Club in Slovakia, Dianne Mason from Central Arizona Club Phoenix and Lesley Pratt from Hertfordshire Club UK one morning. Patty took advantage of meal times to sell our club to Canada, Australia, Austria, UK and others. The 35th FFI World Conference will be at Hiroshima, Japan October 30 through Nov .

Did you know that there are 92 clubs in the US representing 41 states but there were only 52 requests for exchanges in the US? Italy has 1 club and 39 requests for exchanges. Australia 52 possible exchanges but only 31 requests. Canada has the same problem. Germany has 19 clubs to visit not just Hamburg or Berlin. Berlin is still interested in exchanging with us.

Central USA has a problem getting exchanges. Therefore "Themed Exchanges" have arrived. For instance our club has been personally invited by the Halliburton Highlands FF in Canada to enjoy a Winter Wonderland Experience with them Feb 4 to 11 2012! Ride a dogsled, a snowmobile, and a horse-drawn sleigh. Club Belem from Para, Brazil invites our club to come to the Amazon Region to visit the States of Para and Amazonas Jul 27 until Aug 8 2012. Iowa's first themed exchange (Mississippi River) involved one club from Minnesota, two clubs from Iowa and one club from Missouri. It is over and filled quickly.

We are currently getting ready to host Iowa's second themed exchange with Greater Milwaukee by special request from George Brown, President of FFI. The theme is Indonesian Teachers Education. We are working on it right now with little prep time. Originally, the exchange was supposed to be next year which would have given us

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more time to prepare. Patty and David are impressed with our club members, who can do something like this on very short notice. Thanks to Tressa and Steve for their leadership and all the rest of our club members who are carrying this out to reality. Central Iowa (Ames) has expressed interest in doing a themed exchange with CR/IC as well as several other clubs. Welcome to the era of specialized or themed exchanges.

FFI (George Brown) again asked for clubs to sponsor new clubs, which our club is interested in. Setting up an exchange between the sponsor and the new club is of course another way of getting international exchanges for each club.

Belem, Sao Paulo, and Tere-Rio clubs represented Brazil at the conference. Adelaide, Gold Coast, Perth, Sydney clubs represented Australia. Eight clubs represented Canada and one represented Israel. They are interested in us.

Would anyone be interested in domestic exchanges with Phoenix, Austin, Dallas, or Oregon's Columbia Cascade? Those are possibilities. From our previous domestic exchanges, Eva Hain from LA said hello.

Following the conference Patty, David, and 25 FF participants enjoyed a Rhine Valley Tour lead by Hermann and Dr Jutta Ganchow of FF Rheinhessen.

Friendship Force International Offerings

Friendship Force of the Quad Cities has been invited to Indonesia in March or April of 2012, exact dates yet to be determined. Two weeks of home hosting will be in Jakarta and Solo-Surakarta, with a few days of Bali as an add-on option. The cost of the two-week home stay will be between \$700 to \$800. Ambassadors will arrange their own air travel with a meeting place and date given by the Exchange Director, Judy Greiman. Please contact Judy at 563-289-3132 or jgreiman@gmail.com if you are interested or have questions about this exchange.

Friendship Force of Greater Harrisburg, USA has been invited to Berlin, Germany October 2012 – Exchange 11008. Feel free to contact Lisa Cordell, exchange director at lisacordell@embarqmail.com to see if there are still spots available on the exchange.

Updates

Continuing notes from the New Club mentoring committee with FFI.

Here is how it would work according to George Brown FFI President:

We would look at some of the various options and decide on your top picks. We could then do some follow up to determine which is the best to use (possibilities & methods mentioned in previous letter). We would then set in motion a process for your club to conduct the first exchange with the new community. In other words, we would use the

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exchange as the means to establish a club. The planning process would be similar to a regular exchange except your ED would need to be able to do a lot more in the way of helping the host ED, who we would help identify, with the planning. FFI staff would be available as well. In some cases we would be able to pay for experienced leaders in the host region to visit the targeted city and provide training -- or, in some cases these funds could be used for your ED to make such a visit. Once all is ready, you would recruit for the exchange as a regular exchange with regular fees, etc. We would, however, like for the recruiting to be done so that the ambassadors are able to see the experience as one that is designed to introduce the Friendship Force to a new community.

As part of the planning, we would want you to see the exchange as a two-way exchange so that your planning would also include the opportunity to host the new club. This is a nice way of making the connection a little stronger; and also is how the mentoring can continue.

Somewhere along the way it would be the plan for the new exchange committee to become the basis for a new club. But that should be the result of a great exchange connection.

Stay tuned for more notes from FFI on options and requirements as our committee explores further what it takes to be a new club mentor with FFI President, George Brown.

Friendship Force Merchandise –

Please see Dave Detwiler, daviddetwiler@msn.com for the following items:

New Item: Green Tote Bags, 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 2011

Connie Williams, President
Dave Detwiler, President-Elect
John Haack, Secretary
Dale Moore, Treasurer
Audrey Bradford, Past President
Steve Williams, Exchange Coordinator
Marty Novak, Membership
Vic & Pat Klopfenstein, Communications
Jill Rinkenberger, Activities
Marian Wetjen & Lynette Nuehring, Directors At Large

In friendship,
Connie Williams & Dave Detwiler