

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

Explore, Understand and Serve....you see this tagline on the Friendship Force International (FFI) website. We have the marvelous opportunity to promote it, right here, right now, in our Iowa communities. I cannot express how thrilled I am for our club to be chosen to live it.....by our **service**, our guests will **explore** and **understand** our language, our blend of rural and urban culture and our educational system.

In October, the Legacy Fund is sponsoring the educational component of the Indonesian Teacher exchange we are hosting. This will be the first educational exchange where a college professor will travel to a host city (Cedar Rapids) to teach an English program to the ambassadors. We are the pilot program. It is an honor to serve Friendship Force International and the incoming Friendship Force of Indonesia in this manner. And we will explore and understand more of the Indonesian culture. This is truly a reason to be proud as a member of Friendship Force.

Our club has contributed to this fund for several years including a donation of \$1,000 in 2010. In lieu of a 2011 donation, our board has agreed to use this money, with Friendship Force International's blessing, to host this teacher exchange.

The Legacy Fund, created in 2005, has been successful in launching 25 new clubs around the world and expanding the impact of the Friendship Force with new themed exchanges in educational, humanitarian and cultural fields.

Next club meeting: Our next general meeting is on Sunday at the Iowa City Public Library. Please come to hear Jane Cranston speak on an Iowa City-based project to build a school in Pakistan. FF member Gayle Bray has heard this presentation and highly recommends it to all. In honor of the 9/11 anniversary, let's consider this presentation a fitting tribute toward peace in a conflicted world. Hope to see you there!

from Connie Williams, president

Calendar

September 11, Sunday at 2 - 4pm: General meeting at the Iowa City Library, 123 S. Linn St Meeting Room A. Jane Cranston will give a presentation about an Iowa City-based project to build a boarding school for impoverished girls in Pasrur, Pakistan. She will show a video of her visit to the school and discuss the challenges many girls in Pakistan face in obtaining an education. This event is free and open to the public, refreshments included.

Directions to the Iowa City Public Library: Take I-380 to I-80. Go east on I-80 until exit 244 (Dubuque St). Go south on Dubuque St into downtown Iowa City. Turn left (east) on Washington St, go 1 block. Turn right (south) on Linn St, library will be on your right

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(west side of street). There is a city parking ramp just south of the library in the same long block.

October 17-23: Indonesian Teacher Exchange Thank you to all members who have agreed to home host! The exchange will involve 16 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.

We are also looking for members who would be willing and available to be a day host or a day driver during the exchange. Day drivers may only need to pick up and drop off if the home host is unable to do so. If you can help, please contact Steve Williams at swill1234@q.com

October 21, Friday: Save the date for dinner with the Indonesian Teachers at Wickiup Hill. Details to be announced.

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

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.

Updates

Please join me in congratulating Dick and Veryl Hansen on the upcoming occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Some notes from Dave Detwiler and the New Club mentoring committee with FFI

New Club Mentoring has come about because Friendship Force International (FFI) believes that FFI will be more successful in establishing new clubs by pairing an established club (mentor) with a new club. Or linking a strong club like our club with a

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club that FFI believes has potential but for various reasons is having difficulty. Not only is the concept an enhanced method of establishing new clubs, but also the mentoring club can use it to provide new energy within itself. New members from the community may be attracted because they have an interest in the region of the new/mentored club.

George Brown, President of FFI, states that over the past 6 years FFI has established about 6 new clubs a year. They would like to double that in the next few years.

FFI is looking for possibilities in the following countries: Russia (2-4 Cities), Brazil (3-5 cities), Columbia (1 or 2 clubs), China (partnership with international cultural center – maybe 2-4 night homestay opportunities), Poland (re-establish – will need more research/background work), East Africa (combine 4 day homestay with a humanitarian project), Jordan (another re-establish situation) and Western Europe (expansion).

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

Consider inviting a friend or acquaintance to our meetings and make the invitation distinctive with a 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