



YOURS IN FRIENDSHIP

FROM THE CEDAR RAPIDS/IOWA CITY
FRIENDSHIP FORCE CLUB

December 11, 2014

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2014

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

First, we extend a big thank-you to Tressa Youngbear for leading a very successful year for our club. Tressa put a lot of effort into exchanges, general meetings, improving the by-laws and several other initiatives. She deserves everyone's thanks and recognition.

We also wish to recognize Dick and Veta Hildebrand, Will and Karen Michelson, Dianne Karal, and Steve Williams who are all leaving the Board after several years of service. But don't worry these talented and active persons will find ways to continue to serve our club through open world's, exchanges, etc.

We are privileged to be your presidents for 2015. While we know we have tough acts to follow, we take great comfort in knowing we are surrounded by an experienced and talented group of Board Members including 7 former presidents of our club. We are delighted to work with Mary, Alice, Stephanie, Tressa, Connie, Marian, Vic, Pat, Shirley, Esther, Dean and Jean this year. (See the last page for a complete list.)

On December 6, your Board met to plan the coming year. Get ready to be active as this year is packed with events. The calendar currently includes the following:

- 3 International Exchanges
- 3 Domestic Exchanges
- 2 Open World's
- 4 General Meetings
- 5 LEO's
- Hosting the Regional Leadership Conference Annual Meeting

In addition, the Iowa Clubs are working on initiating weekend exchanges with each other and holding an all Iowa Club picnic - - all beginning in 2015. Watch for more on this in future newsletters.

Our first General Meeting is scheduled for January 18 at the Marion Library conference room beginning at 2:30 PM. Club members Caroline and Ron Larson will present a program on their recent trip to Bhutan and Burma (Myanmar). Ron and Caroline are very adventurous travelers, so don't miss their program.

Wishing everyone a great Holiday Season!

Dale and Cheryl Moore

Exchanges for 2015

We have lots of exciting opportunities for travel and hosting in the first half of 2015.

Feb 21-28, 2015	Open World Group of Small Town Mayors from Moldova	Contact: Vic Klopfenstein
May 8- 15, 2015	Open World Group of Public Health Officials from Azerbaijan	Contact: Steve Williams
June 3-10, 2015	Outgoing Exchange to Niagara Canada	ED: Mary Stull
June 22-28	Incoming Exchange from Lansing Michigan	<i>Taking applications for exchange director</i>
July 15-21 & July 21-25, 2015	Outgoing Exchange to Mid-Willamette Valley, Oregon plus Lower Columbia Washington	ED: Marian Wetjen

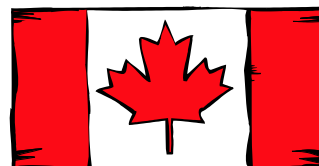
Details on exchanges:

Open World Groups:

Each group experience lectures, tours and interaction with lowans who work in their area during the day. Our club will be hosting two groups with seven people in each group. To help with this exchange or host contact Vic Klopfenstein (Moldova), vpklopfenstein@msn.com, 319 377-5502; or Steve Williams (Azerbaijan), swill820@gmail.com, 319 465-3942

Outgoing to **Niagara, Canada:** June 3-10, 2015

Niagara club is looking forward to our visit and has planned interesting activities for us to learn about their area, meet their club members and experience Niagara Falls, Historic St. Catherines, the Shaw Festival Theatre and other features of their area.



Fill out an ambassador application and submit with \$100 deposit to Mary Stull, 3000 27th Street SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404, mcdstull@aol.com, 319 393-6254. After January 1, we will be opening the exchange to other Friendship Force clubs so sign up soon. Applications are available on the club website: www.friendshipforceccr-ic.org in the member section, under Governance.

Incoming from **Lansing, Michigan,** June 22-28, 2015

The dates for this exchange have been set, but an exchange director (ED) is needed. Please contact Connie Williams, 396-4747 or cmw1226@yahoo.com with questions. ED applications are available on the club website: www.friendshipforceccr-ic.org in the member section, under Governance.

Outgoing to **Mid Willamette Valley, Oregon,** July 15-21, 2015 (with optional second week in Lower Columbia, Oregon or Washington). Marian Wetjen has been named exchange director. For further details contact Marian at mjwetjen27@yahoo.com, 319 363-0586

We have the opportunity to host two incoming international exchanges from Moscow, Russia (spring/summer, 2015) and Chaipas, Mexico (fall, 2015). Dates yet to be set, but contacts from these clubs have been in touch. Now accepting applications for exchange director. ED applications are available on the club website: www.friendshipforceccr-ic.org in the member section, under Governance.

More info: exchange coordinator, Connie Williams, 319 396-4747 or cmw1226@yahoo.com

Home Hosts Needed for Leadership Conference

Our club is hosting the Midwest Region Leadership Conference in Cedar Rapids on April 30 through May 2. **We need home hosts for about 40 persons— many will be singles!** This will involve hosting for only two nights, Thursday and Friday. All day activities will be through the conference. We anticipate there will be a welcome party on April 30 and an entertainment event on May 1. Contact Dale or Cheryl Moore (319 362-6252), mooredale@imonmail.com, today and volunteer!!

2015 Membership Dues Notice

The 2015 club membership dues are \$30 per person.

If you haven't had a chance to pay 2015 dues, you can send them to Marian Wetjen, Club Membership Chair, 2009 Linmar Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Annual Meeting Recap –November 16

New website unveiled: The featured program at the annual meeting was the unveiling of a new look for our club's website, www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org. The website has an inviting graphic approach to navigation. It features photos from club exchanges and activities and serves as a resource for club history, membership applications and much more information on upcoming activities. Special thanks went to Darby & Matt Winger, for their dedication to this project.

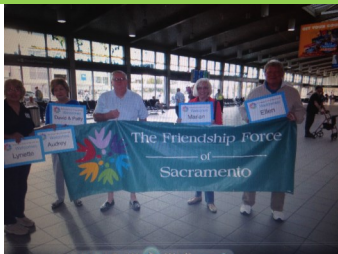


Club receives international recognition: Tressa Youngbear shared an honor she received as "Volunteer of Year, Honorable Mention" at the Friendship Force international conference. The citation read: "Tressa Youngbear who revitalized her club's hosting program with unique and fun activities including a city wide scavenger hunt for ambassadors and hosts which increased enthusiasm for hosting in her club." Tressa commented that the honor was shared with all the club members who work hard to make our exchanges successful.

2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 5	Board Meeting, 6:30 pm	Moore home, 3508 River Ridge Ct NE
January 18	General Meeting, 2:30 pm	Marion Public Library
February 21 to 28	Open World—Small Town Mayors from Moldova	Vic Klopfenstein
February 24	Let's Eat Out (LEO) - will include guests from Moldova	Jean Thomas
March 2	Board Meeting	Place to be determined
March 22	General Meeting	Place to be determined
April 13	Board Meeting	Place to be determined
April 30 to May 2	Regional Leadership Conference	Human Services Center, CR
May 8 to 15	Open World—Public Health Group from Azerbaijan	Steve Williams
June 3 to 10	Outgoing Exchange to Niagara Canada	ED —Mary Stull—Taking applications
June 22 to 30	Incoming Lansing Michigan	ED—Taking Applications
July 15 to 21	Outgoing Exchange to Mid-Willamette Valley Oregon 2nd week at Lower Columbia, Washington	ED—Marian Wetjen
August 3	Board Meeting	Place to be determined
August 20	Let's Eat Out (LEO)	State Fair Trip
August 29 to 31	FFI World Conference	Vancouver BC Canada
September 13	General Meeting	Place to be determined
Spring/Summer	Incoming Moscow, Russia	ED—Taking Applications
Sept-Oct (TBD)	Incoming Chiapas Mexico	ED—Taking Applications

Sacramento Exchange—October 2014



Twelve ambassadors including Audrey Bradford, Lynette Nuehring, Ellen McVey, Dave & Patty Detwiler, Bob & Bernita Pruess, Will & Karen Mickelson, Irvin & Tressa Youngbear and Marian Wetjen enjoyed an exchange with the Sacramento, CA club. Activities included sites in Sacramento, Lake Tahoe and Coloma, where gold was first discovered. We enjoyed meeting new friends at home hosted dinners.

After six days our visit was over and we said goodbye to our gracious hosts and thanked them for their warm hospitality with invitations to visit us in Iowa. Most of the group took Amtrak to San Francisco for three days of touring. I want to thank this fine group of ambassadors for a great exchange. Marian Wetjen, exchange director.



BOARD MEMBERS 2015

Dale & Cheryl Moore, Co-President
319-362-6252 mooredale@imonmail.com

Mary Stull, President Elect
319-393-6254 mcdstull@aol.com

Alice Wilkinson, Secretary
319-366-0625 alicew.memaw@gmail.com

Stephanie Schulte, Treasurer
319-350-5279(cell) sschulte08@gmail.com

Tressa Youngbear, Past President
641-484-5239, 319-350-4143 (cell) ityoungbear@gmail.com

Connie Williams, Exchange Coordinator
319-396-4747 cmw1226@yahoo.com

Marian Wetjen, Membership
319-363-0586 mjwetjen27@yahoo.com

Vic & Pat Klopfenstein, Communications
319-377-5502 vpklopfenstein@msn.com

Shirley Rosencrans, Activities Coordinator
319-462-4132 arosencrans@yahoo.com

Esther Hudson – 2nd Year Director At Large
319-393-4839 Esther_Hudson@msn.com

Dean & Jean Thomas, 1st Year Co-Director At Large
319-830-5092 jeanthomas521@gmail.com

In friendship
Dale & Cheryl Moore
Mary Stull