



YOURS IN FRIENDSHIP

FROM THE CEDAR RAPIDS/IOWA CITY
FRIENDSHIP FORCE CLUB

January 11, 2015

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2015

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

Do you recall how you first became a member of our Friendship Force Club? Your Board explored this question at its December meeting. One at a time, we went around the room and shared our story. Almost everyone became a member because he or she was invited by a member of the club to first come to visit and then encouraged to join. This story is not unique to our club. It doesn't matter whether you are talking about church, a club or other organization the answer is the same - - people join because they were invited by another person.

You, the members, are the heart and soul of our club. Without motivated members who are engaged in the activities of the club, the club's mission cannot be sustained. We ended last year with 89 members. Several members have decided not to renew their membership this year making our current membership at 75. While there are many reasons that persons decide to move on, it is always sad to lose persons from any organization.

So our challenge to the membership of our club is to invite persons to first visit our club and then invite them to join. General meetings, LEOs or group events during exchanges provide opportunities to invite persons to attend. The March 22 General Meeting will be focused on World Friendship Day and again we are inviting foreign students to join us and share their stories. *We also challenge every member to bring a guest (potential member) to that meeting!*

Several activities are coming up, so put them on your calendar.
January 18 – General meeting at the Marion Library, 2:30 PM. Club members Caroline and Ron Larson will present a program on their recent trip to Bhutan and Myanmar. *Bring a guest!*

February 24 – LEO at Louie's Scoreboard in Marion, 6:00 PM, 7th Ave & 10th Street, hosted by Jean and Dean Thomas.

And finally, it is never too late to plan ahead. Please, plan to get involved in the Midwest Leadership Conference hosted by our club on April 30 through May 2. Club leaders from all 12 Midwest Region Clubs will come to Cedar Rapids for two days of training. You can get involved by hosting participants in your home, attending a welcoming party on April 30 and a special event on the evening of May 1.

Encouraging you to stay involved and to invite friends to visit our club,
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 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	EDs: Audrey Bradford & Lynette Nuehring
July 15-21 & July 21-25, 2015	Outgoing Exchange to Mid-Willamette Valley, Oregon plus Lower Columbia Washington	ED: Marian Wetjen

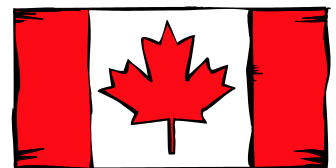
Details on exchanges:

Open World Groups:

Each group experiences 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.



There are a couple openings for this exchange. 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. Applications are available on the club website: www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org in the member section, under Governance.

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

Lynette Nuehring and Audrey Bradford are the exchange directors and are beginning planning. If you would like to assist with this exchange or would like to host, please contact Audrey at Audrey.b@mchsi.com or 365-5746.

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.friendshipforcecr-ic.org in the member section, under Governance.

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

General Meeting—January 18

Beat cabin fever by joining us at the first general meeting of 2015. We'll meet at the Location: Marion Public Library at 2:30 pm.

Club members Caroline and Ron Larson will present a program on their recent trip to Bhutan and Myanmar. Ron and Caroline are adventurous travelers and perhaps travel in different ways than you. So don't miss this program. *And bring a guest!*

Get updates on the incoming and outgoing exchanges for 2015. Learn more about the Midwest Conference in April. Sign up for the February Let's Eat Out (LEO). There are lots of ways to get involved in club activi-

Open World—February 21-28

Our club will be hosting an Open World seminar for small town mayors from Moldova. We expect 5 mayors, 1 interpreter and 1 facilitator.

They will be attending activities related to local government coordinated by Vic Klopfenstein during the day. They will spend the evenings with their host family.



Let's Eat Out—February 24

On Tuesday evening, February 24, we will have a club Let's Eat Out event at Louie's Scoreboard, 7th Ave & 10th Street in Marion. LEO reservations to Jean/Dean Thomas, jeanthomas521@gmail.com, 319 830-5092

Our Open World small town mayors visiting from Moldova will join us. Let's show them a warm Iowa welcome.

Club to Host Midwest Leadership Conference

Our club is hosting the Midwest Region Leadership Conference in Cedar Rapids on April 30 through May 2. Each club will be sending three representatives—club president, president elect and another club leader.

We need home hosts for about 40 persons— many will be singles! This will involve hosting for only two nights, Thursday and Friday. To home host, contact Marian Wetjen, 319 363-0586, mjwetjen27@yahoo.com

Conference Activities will include:

Thursday, April 30, Welcome Potluck at Prairie Oaks Lodge, Squaw Creek Park. **All club members welcome**

Friday, May 1, representatives attend conference sessions

Friday evening, reception for conference attendees and club members at Bruce more.

Saturday, May 2, representatives attend conference sessions; then depart for home.

2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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, 6 pm	Let's Eat Out (LEO) hosted by Jean & Dean Thomas. Will include guests from Moldova	Louie's Scoreboard, Marion 7th Avenue and 10th Street
March 2	Board Meeting	Place to be determined
March 22, 1:30 pm	General Meeting—Celebrating World Friendship Day	Shueyville United Methodist Church Exit 10 off I-380, then 1 mile east.
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 Group from Azerbaijan	Steve Williams
June 3 to 10	Outgoing Exchange to Niagara Canada	ED—Mary Stull—Taking applications
June 22 to 30 ford	Incoming Lansing Michigan	EDs: Lynette Nuehring/Audrey Brad-
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
To be determined	Incoming Moscow, Russia	ED—Taking Applications
To be determined	Incoming Chiapas Mexico	ED—Taking Applications
November 15	Annual Meeting, Touch of Class, Cedar Rapids	

BOARD MEMBERS 2015

Dale & Cheryl Moore, Co-President
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Mary Stull, President Elect
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Alice Wilkinson, Secretary
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Stephanie Schulte, Treasurer
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Marian Wetjen, Membership
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Dean & Jean Thomas, 1st Year Co-Director At Large
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In friendship
Dale & Cheryl Moore
Mary Stull