



YOURS IN FRIENDSHIP

FROM THE CEDAR RAPIDS/IOWA CITY
FRIENDSHIP FORCE CLUB

June 20, 2015

June

2015

In this Issue:

Presidents'
Message 1

State Fair Trip 2
Open World

Freedom Festival 3
Chiapas Exchange
Kirkwood Mentors

Lansing Exchange 4

Iowa Club Activities 5
Oregon/Washington
Exchange
2016 Exchanges

New Members 6
Niagara Exchange

Calendar 7

Board Members 8

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

Sixteen of our club members are just returning from a great exchange week with Niagara Canada from the St. Catherine's area of Ontario. Thanks to our ED, Mary Stull, and the Niagara folks for making our time extra enjoyable and special. Our club puts on great exchanges, but one can always learn from others. Here are a few of our observations:

- Niagara does an excellent job of getting many people involved during exchanges such as day hosting, activity coordination, and dinner hosting. Club members receive "credit" for participation. Their outgoing exchanges are in high demand, so they use credits to help determine who gets to fill outgoing ambassador slots.
- We participated in two planned home hosted dinners and two "spontaneous" home hosted dinners. This allowed us to get to know many more of the Niagara club members plus we were introduced to a lot of great food.
- Each day had a single theme with start time about 9:30 AM and ending time about 4:00 PM. This allowed for a nice leisure breakfast with home hosts and time to relax and freshen up before evening events.

Again, a great exchange! Great job, Mary Stull!

Just prior to the Niagara exchange, Steve Williams planned and hosted a great Open World with agri-business persons from Azerbaijan. I (Dale) was able to participate in the Cedar Rapids day when we visited the staff members from Grassley, Ernst, and Blum's offices; the Marion Rotary; Diamond V Mills; and Kirkwood Agricultural College. This was a fun day. My biggest take away was a better appreciation for the work that Steve Williams and Vic Klopfenstein do on these Open Worlds. I was tired after one big day, but Steve had a whole week of action packed days. In addition, Steve and Vic have the knowledge and connections to get the delegates into just about any organization or company. We are fortunate to have Steve and Vic in our club!

But the year is not yet over. As we are writing this article, Co-ED's Audrey Bradford and Lynette Nuehring got back from Niagara just in time for the Lansing Exchange starting Sunday, June 21. They have a great exchange planned, so take the opportunity to participate. Ironically, we drove right past Lansing on the way to Niagara.

continued on page 2

Presidents Message (continued)

Keep your eyes on the calendar for the list of the activities for the remainder of the year, as there are many other exchanges and events to come. We encourage you to stay connected, stay involved, and invite persons to “check-out” Friendship Force.

Be connected, involved, and inviting!

In friendship,

Dale and Cheryl Moore

Iowa State Fair Bus Trip—August 20—Last Call

Esther Hudson is taking reservations for a one-day bus trip to the State Fair on Thursday, August 20. The cost is \$40 per person which includes motor coach transportation directly to the State Fair Grounds and admission to the Fair.

26 persons have signed up to go. We need about 37 persons to make this trip an official go. If you are interested please call **Esther at 319-393-4839 TODAY!** This opportunity is open until July 1 at which time a go or no go decision will be made depending on the number of participants.



Open World from Azerbaijan—May 15-23

Steve Williams led week-long activities related to agri-business development for an Open World delegation from Azerbaijan. Activities included a visit with local representatives to the Iowa legislature and in Congress, a day at Iowa State, a visit to the John Deere plant in Waterloo and the multiple locations in the Cedar Rapids area. This was a great opportunity to showcase Iowa's expertise in these areas. The group includes 5 delegates, 1 interpreter and 1 facilitator.

More than 50 club members joined the delegation and their host families for a Let's Eat Out at the General Store, Stone City.



Open World group with Diamond V President Jeff Cannon



With Grassley, Ernst, Blum legislative staff



Kirkwood Tour by Ag Dean Scott Emer



At Marion Rotary Club Meeting

Freedom Festival Volunteers Needed



It's time for the Freedom Festival. Our club will have a team of 10 volunteers at only one event this year. We will be working on **July 4 from 3:30 pm to 7:30 pm** in the downtown fireworks area. Our team may be selling beverages and/or handling cleanup. Those who have worked previous events know there may be some downtime, which enables us to visit and get to know each other better.

Our club will receive \$250 making it one of our club's major fundraisers. **So volunteer workers are needed!** You can work 4 hours in the afternoon and stay for the fireworks or be out of downtown before the fireworks crowd arrives. Each team member will receive a snazzy red Freedom Festival volunteer t-shirt.

Please let me know by e-mail at mcdsull@aol.com or phone: 319 393-6254, if you can participate. I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Incoming—Chiapas, Mexico Exchange—October 2015



We're delighted to announce that we have confirmed an incoming exchange from Chiapas, Mexico in October. We are still working with the Chiapas club and Friendship Force International to finalize the dates.

The next step is to appoint an exchange director for our club. Connie Williams is now accepting applications. Applications are available on the club website: www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org in the member section, under Governance.

Volunteer Mentor Families Needed for Kirkwood International Students

Kirkwood International Programs is excited to be welcoming several new international students from Tunisia, Turkey, Egypt, Pakistan and Indonesia beginning this summer (2015). These students are sponsored by the U.S. Department of State Community College Initiative and Tunisian Scholarship programs.



Program requirements include spending time getting to know the local community and local families. Your family can participate and have an opportunity to learn about the world through an international student's eyes. Email [Gayle Glick](#) or [Jane Ann Rix](#) for an application to be an international mentor family. Call 319-398-5443 with questions. The program is in need of 10-15 families and look forward to getting you involved in Kirkwood's international activities. Our club members have participated in this program and found it to be a rewarding experience. **Dawn Wood**, International Programs

Incoming—Lansing, Michigan—June 21-28

There are still opportunities to be involved in the Lansing, Michigan exchange! Fourteen ambassadors will arrive the evening of June 21 and leave early on June 28, 2015.

Join us for a day's activities. **Serving as a day host is a great way for new members to experience an exchange and meet other club members.** The program includes:

- Monday, June 22 check out Cedar Rapids' charm, including the Paramount Theater, Public Library and the Mother Mosque.
- Tuesday, June 23, see the Hoover library and check out Old Capitol in Iowa City
- Wednesday, June 24, visit the Matchstick Museum in Gladbrook and then go on to the Mesquaki Settlement, Tama, to learn about Mesquaki Indian history and eat Tressa Youngbear's delicious tacos.
- Thursday, May 25—Turner Alley, The National Czech and Slovak Museum and more sites in the Cedar Rapids area
- Friday, June 26, Kalona museum and Mennonite dinner, cooked and served in a private home at noon.
- Saturday, June 27, all members are encouraged to attend the farewell dinner at Naso's in Marion. Say goodbye and bid our guests safe travels.
- To volunteer or check out your options, contact Audrey Bradford, audrey.b@mchsi.com, 319-365-5749 or Lynette Nuehring, lnuehring66@gmail.com 319-560-1659



Reservations for Lansing Activities

Number attending and payment needed by Wednesday, June 10.

June 22 Paramount Theater Tour \$5.00 x ____ (# attending) = \$_____

June 24 Lunch at Gladbrook \$8.00 x ____ (# attending) = \$_____

Matchstick Museum \$5.00 x ____ (# attending) = \$_____

Taco Supper \$4.00 x ____ (# attending) = \$_____

June 26 Kalona Museums & Mennonite Dinner \$27.00 x ____ (# attending) = \$_____

June 27 Farewell Buffet at Nasos, Marion. \$17.50 x ____ (# attending) = \$_____

Total: \$_____

Please send your number for each event and payment to:

Lynette Nuehring 920 Boyson Rd NE Cedar Rapids, 52402

Phone 319-560-1659 lnuehring66@gmail.com

Iowa Club Activities—Save the Dates

To get acquainted with Friendship Force members with other clubs, the four Iowa clubs—Cedar Rapids-Iowa City, Des Moines, Central Iowa and Quad Cities—are initiating weekend exchanges with each other and an annual all-Iowa Club Picnic. The main objective of this initiative is to get our club members better acquainted and to promote working together on our exchanges.



Weekend Exchange with the QC Club August 6 – 8: We will host members of the Quad City Club for a short exchange. Dale and Cheryl Moore will be the exchange directors for this exchange. A small committee is being formed to plan activities. HOME HOSTS will be needed for Thursday and Friday nights, August 6 and 7. Please contact Cheryl and Dale, 319-362-6252, to volunteer your services. If you have little experience in hosting or have not hosted for a while, this is an excellent opportunity to gain or regain experience in just two nights.

All Iowa Club Picnic on August 8

This will be held at the Noelridge Pavilion on the Pond. There will be a catered lunch and activities. This event will also serve as a farewell event for the Quad Cities exchange. More details to come.

Week-end Exchange with Central Iowa Club (Ames area) - October 23-25

Also, the Central Iowa Club has extended an invitation to host our club for a weekend exchange in Ames! Ames is a great place to visit so please consider this opportunities. Details to follow. An exchange director is needed to coordinate plans with the Central Iowa Club. Contact Connie Williams, 319 377-4747 or cmw1226@yahoo.com.

Outgoing—Exchanges—2015

Mid Willamette Valley, Oregon, July 15-21, 2015 and an optional second week in **Lower Columbia, Washington**. Marian Wetjen is exchange director.

2016 Exchanges

Outgoing exchange to Wessex, England—May, June 2016

Connie Williams has been in contact with Penny Slade of the Wessex UK Club regarding possible dates for our May or June 2016 exchange. The Wessex Club will be able to accommodate 16 Ambassadors. Please contact Connie if you might be interested in the Wessex exchange, either as the exchange director or an ambassador. Details need to be worked out for the dates, accommodations and an optional second week. It will be a wonderful exchange! Contact Connie Williams at 396-4747 or cmw1226@yahoo.com

Incoming exchange from Nashika Riverside, India, tentative slated for fall 2016.

Welcome—New Members

Carol and Jerry Burke are sponsored by Cheryl and Dale Moore

The Moore's met Carol and Jerry Burke this winter during a trip to South America. They stayed connected after the trip and through conversation and a visit to the March General meeting, the Burke's decided to give Friendship Force a try. The Burke's are longtime residents of Manchester and have just recently retired. They enjoy family, community involvement, and travel. Welcome our newest members - - Carol and Jerry Burke.

Niagara Canada Exchange

From June 3-10, 18 ambassadors experience outstanding hospitality from the Niagara, Canada club. Many ambassadors were able to reconnect with friends they made when the Niagara club visited our area in 2012. We also made many new connections and friendships.

Ambassadors from our club included Audrey Bradford, Dave & Patty Detwiler, Jocko Hinderks & Rosie Russell, Dale & Cheryl Moore, Lynette Nuehring, Bob & Bernita Pruess, Frank & Mary Stull, Myron & Connie Williams, Steve & Nancy Williams. Steve & Sharon Lavenberg from the Los Angeles club also joined the group.

Each ambassador had unique experiences as well as activities shared with the group.

Highlights included:

Niagara Falls —a boat ride let us feel the spray of the Falls

Shaw Festival —after a backstage tour and a lesson in stage fighting, we saw the musical *Sweet Charity*.

Crawford Lake—a hike in the wood on a gorgeous spring morning and lunch in the park

A historical tour by car of St. Catharines, (where most of us stayed) and a quiz on the area. Ask us about the war of 1812.

Welland Canal—an engineering marvel shows how to move freight between Lake Ontario and Lake Erie and avoid the Falls and the escarpment.



Jocko & Rosie on Hornblower Ride



Audrey and her host Carol at Crawford Lake



Searching for answers at a St. Catharine park

2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 21 to 28	Incoming Lansing Michigan	EDs: Lynette Nuehring/ Audrey Bradford
July 4	Freedom Festival Volunteer Event	Mary Stull, coordinator
July 15 to 25	Outgoing Exchange to Mid-Willamette Valley Oregon 2nd week at Lower Columbia, Washington	ED—Marian Wetjen
July 30	Let's Eat Out	place to be determined
August 3	Board Meeting	Dale/Cheryl Moore's home
August 6-8	Quad City Incoming Exchange	EDs: Dale/Cheryl Moore'
August 8	All Iowa Picnic	Noelridge Park, Cedar Rapids
August 20	Let's Eat Out (LEO)	State Fair Trip
August 29 to 31	FFI World Conference	Vancouver BC Canada
September 13	General Meeting	Shueyville United Methodist Church
October date TBD	Incoming Chiapas Mexico	ED—Taking Applications
October 2 to 10	Open World—Small Town Mayors from Moldova	Vic Klopfenstein
October 5	Board Meeting	Dale/Cheryl Moore's home
October (TBD)	Let's Eat Out (LEO)	Place to be determine Vic Klopfenstein/Connie Williams
October 23-25	Outgoing Exchange to Central Iowa (Ames)	ED—Taking Applications
November 15	Annual Meeting	Touch of Class, Cedar Rapids

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 sarosencrans@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