



YOURS IN FRIENDSHIP

FROM THE CEDAR RAPIDS/IOWA CITY
FRIENDSHIP FORCE CLUB

www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org

Find us on Facebook: Cedar Rapids-Iowa City Friendship Force

February 2017

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2017

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE....

Greetings friends,

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our January events!

At our January 15 meeting 165 pounds of food was donated to our area food reservoir, HACAP. Angie Albright spoke to us about HACAP's programs to feed members of our community. On January 28, twenty-five of us met at a special Riley's dining room to share in breakfast and conversation. We were happy to meet our newest member, Deb Cunningham there.

The fun will continue into February. On Sunday, February 26 we will be celebrating World Friendship Day and Friendship Force's 40th anniversary. All members are encouraged to attend and participate in an international potluck to mark the occasion. Please see details on page 2.

In March eleven of our members will be traveling to Santa Fe, New Mexico to enjoy camaraderie and sunshine on our first Road Scholar fundraising trip!

Our next general meeting will be April 2 at Coralville Public Library. We will share details regarding this meeting soon.

May 1-7 we will enjoy meeting ambassadors visiting from Sacramento, CA. There will be an extension tour May 8 & 9 to Springfield, IL open to members. See details on page 4.

You can see we have a busy spring! Please enjoy the fun by participating in any way you can. Strong members make for a strong club. Looking forward to seeing you!

In Friendship,
Jean and Dean Thomas



General Meeting—February 26, 2017

You're Invited to Celebrate Friendship Force International 40th Anniversary & World Friendship Day

Sunday, February 26, The Friendship Force of Cedar Rapids-Iowa City will celebrate Friendship Force International's 40th anniversary and World Friendship Day.

International themed potluck and presentations by area international students.

Place: Shueyville United Methodist Church, 1195 Steeple Ln NE,
Swisher
(just east of I-380 at Exit 10)

Date & Time: Sunday, February 26, 1 pm to 3 pm.

- ⇒ Enjoy an international potluck dinner. **Bring a dish to share. Table service & beverages provided.**
- ⇒ Celebrate Friendship Force's 40th anniversary with **birthday cake and ice cream**
- ⇒ Meet international students from area colleges and high schools
- ⇒ Meet club members and learn more about upcoming club activities



This event honors the 40th anniversary of the founding of Friendship Force International. The Friendship Force of Cedar Rapids-Iowa City is part of Friendship Force International, a global network of citizen ambassadors in 360 clubs who travel the world in the name of friendship and goodwill. The signature program of FFI is home hospitality, where travelers are hosted in the home of someone in another country in order to experience the culture from the inside. It is truly a powerful experience that creates strong bonds as well as lifelong friendships.

More Information:

Contact: Connie Williams, 319 396-4747; cmw1226@yahoo.com

<http://www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org/>



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Experience different views.
Discover common ground.

Outgoing Exchange to Taiwan—2017

Have you always wanted to experience Chinese culture? Here is your chance. We've been invited by two clubs in Taiwan to visit them in early November. The first exchange will be with the **Kaohsiung club** for one week beginning on November 1. Then we will travel to Taipei for a week with the **Greater Taipei club**.

During the first week we'll be in Kaohsiung. Activities will include a visit to City Hall, a ferry ride to CiJin offshore island, bus trip to Tainan National History Museum and Buddha Memorial Center; bus trip to Kenting National Park and Marine Biology Aquarium, a morning at I-Sou University and afternoon at Mei Nung Haka Village with pottery and paper umbrellas. See our club's Facebook page **Cedar Rapids-Iowa City Friendship Force** for a video on Kaohsiung.

Applications are coming in from members from our club and other clubs. We estimate the cost to be \$900 to \$1,000 plus air fare and travel insurance. You are encouraged to invite Friendship Force friends to join this trip. Soon this exchange will be posted on the Friendship Force International website.

Mary Stull, exchange director, mcdstull@aol.com,
319 393-6254.



Scenes from Kaohsiung

FFI's New Tagline

As our organization celebrates its 40th Anniversary this year, we continue to serve the mission of global understanding through friendship. To help ensure the Friendship Force mission continues for years to come, we've been working to better define our branding and messaging. Through this work, we've developed a new tagline to build a stronger brand for the future of the organization.

What is a tagline?

It's a short description or often-repeated phrase associated with an organization that describes its overall benefit or distinctive feature.

Over the years, FFI has had several different taglines, from "Changing the way you see the world" to "Be more than a tourist. Travel for good." We have heard from you, our cherished members, that the most impactful and lasting aspect of the Friendship Force experience is the increased understanding gained through personal relationships. By hosting or being an ambassador, your ultimate goal is not to see new locales or take beautiful photos, but rather experience different perspectives and gain understanding of the lives of others, towards the shared goal of peace and global goodwill.

Drum roll...here's the new tagline: Experience different views. Discover common ground.



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Exchanges Recap

Sacramento Incoming Exchange – May, 2017 So excited to welcome our friends from Sacramento . Dave & Patty Detwiler, at daviddetwiler@msn.com, are the exchange directors.

If you traveled to Sacramento or know members of that club, please reconnect with our friends by home hosting, day hosting, dinner hosting or attending the group functions.

Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum Trip:

This is an extension of Sacramento tour, and is open to members. Interested in Lincoln?



Spend Sunday & Monday touring the Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, the Lincoln Tomb, Lincoln's Springfield home and New Salem, a reconstructed village set in the time when Abe Lincoln worked as a clerk. Travel by charter bus, leaving early May 7, overnight at the Drury Inn of Springfield and return trip late on May 8. Cost is estimated between \$175 and \$190 per person, per double occupancy, with bus, admissions, hotel and two meals included. Final cost to be determined by seats filled. Please contact Connie Williams at cmw1226@yahoo.com, if interested.

Calendar of Additional Exchanges

Incoming domestic exchange from Columbia, Washington, September 5-12, 2017.

Yvonne Pecha is the Washington exchange director (ED). She and her husband, Herb, hosted when our club visited and they are VERY excited about this return exchange. Please contact Connie Williams, cmw1226@yahoo.com if you were on the Oregon/Washington State exchange, your help will be appreciated. ED and committee needed. *

Open World to Cedar Rapids, September 15-23, 2017 Journalists from Turkmenistan

Steve Williams and Dale Moore have begun planning with their committee.

Outgoing in-state exchange to Davenport, tentative dates Sept 28 - 30, 2017

Linda Shearer of the QC club has begun planning. Please contact Connie Williams, cmw1226@yahoo.com, if you wish to sign up as an ambassador or ED.

Outgoing international 2 week exchange to Kaohsiung and Taipei, Taiwan. November 1-14 (est) 2017.

Our club's exchange director, Mary Stull, is working with the Taiwan clubs to finalize plans for this exchange. Open seats will be posted in the Friendship Force International catalog nine months before the exchange. If you know friends from other clubs who may be interested, encourage them to join us. Application links below. Contact Mary Stull, mcdstull@aol.com, 319 393-6254 if you are interested in this exchange.

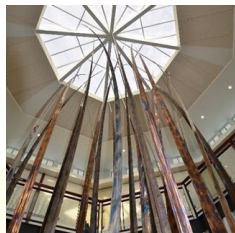


*link to ED application: <http://www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/EDapplication.pdf>

***link for ambassador applica-

tion: <http://www3.thefriendshipforce.org/downloads/AMBASSADOR%20APPLICATION%20AND%20AGREEMENT2.16.pdf>

Upcoming Events —April

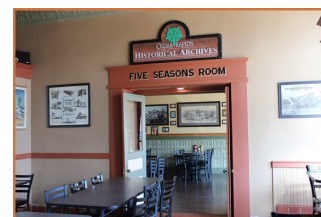


A general meeting will be on April 2 from 1-3 pm at the Coralville Public Library, 1401 5th Street, Coralville, IA 52241. There will be a program on Taiwan.

Details in future newsletters.



The next Let's Eat Out will be April 20 at 5:30 pm at the Parlor City Pub & Eatery in the Five Seasons Room, 1125 3rd Street SE, Cedar Rapids. Order off the menu and enjoy an evening of casual camaraderie. Reservations to Jim or Barb Steggall, 319 447-1147 or bjfs@mchsi.com



Leadership for 2017-2018

The position of president-elect is still open. If you are interested, we encourage you to contact Jean Thomas (319 830-5092) for more information. You can be involved in the direction of our club. Without leadership for 2018, our club may not be sustainable. We hope to fill this position sometime during the year so the individual(s) can become familiar with the work of the board. If you know someone who can serve in this role, please encourage them to volunteer. The position can be shared by two members. Also experienced leaders are willing to mentor future leaders.

FFI 40th Anniversary International Conference

In August, FFI will be holding its 40th Anniversary World Conference in Manchester, UK. The celebration begins at 6 pm on August 24 and ends at Noon on August 28. **You are invited to the celebration. Go to: <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/index.php?eventid=209170&> to read more about it and to make your reservation.**

For nearly forty years, the Friendship Force has grown from being a dream of world peace to an international movement of friend-building overcoming the many cultural barriers that often separate people. The power of this movement isn't to be underestimated, and it is now the time to reintroduce the Friendship Force to a world in need of solutions. The conference will include:

Keynote speaker: Benedict Allen, TV Presenter, explorer and author. Benedict is best known for being the first to record his arduous and treacherous exploits without a TV crew. His technique has been to sink into remote communities, placing himself in the hands of these people and their environment, learning to survive from them alone.

Opening Night Party with 1970s theme—music, costumes, dancers, décor, food and atmosphere

Optional activities include: day tours in Manchester and beyond including a Beatles tour, indoor skydiving, the Imperial War Museum, The National Football Museum, a private canal cruise, city walking tours, an English Manor House and gardens, the BBC headquarters and a local brewery.

Headquarters Hotel: Our conference will be held in what is arguably Manchester's most iconic building, The Midland Hotel, a grand Edwardian hotel, which opened in 1903 and has played host to kings, queens, presidents, prime ministers and rock stars. The decor is opulent and the restaurants are award winning.



Board Member Profiles

In each newsletter, we will include a couple of profiles on board members

Barb & Jim Steggall



Jim and Barb Steggall share the job of secretary on the 2017 board. They joined Friendship Force in 2015 after being invited by Dale and Cheryl Moore. Jim is retired from Rockwell Collins and Barb from Real Estate. They enjoy travelling, grandchildren's activities, biking and golfing. Jim likes following sporting events, especially the Iowa Hawkeyes and Chicago Cubs. Barb enjoys cooking gourmet meals, entertaining guests and reading. In 2017 they had their first experiences as ambassadors on an exchange to Wessex, England. A couple of months later, they hosted a couple from India so they've had the complete Friendship Force experience.

Mary Ann and Larry Nelson are in the second year of a two-year term serving as Directors at Large. For years they have had an interest in Friendship Force and joined in July of 2014 after friends invited them to a LEO at Suttlif Tavern. They are glad they joined as they have met wonderful people in the club and on exchanges while experiencing other places and cultures.

Soon after the LEO, Larry retired from a long career as a Manufacturing Engineer with Highway Equipment Co. then allowing time for travel. Besides traveling, Larry now spends most of his time trying to maintain their 100+ year-old house.

Mary Ann is a retired Cedar Rapids fifth grade and art teacher who spent her entire career at Nixon School. She commits what spare time she has to the League of Women Voters, other social engagements, and a little glass work.

They have a daughter with her husband and two children in Denver, Co, a son in Brooklyn NY with his wife and three children, and a son with his wife in Alexandria, VA. They are all great locations to visit, which they do as often as possible. The children make it back to Iowa a couple of times a year and that time is dearly cherished.

They feel fortunate to have gone on several exchanges including Washington and Oregon as well as Wessex England with our club. Last year they experienced New Zealand and Australia with a Minneapolis club. They encourage others to experience exchanges with other clubs since it was a very positive experience. Taking advantage of day and dinner hosting has provided opportunities to meet people from around the world when hosting is not feasible. Mary Ann and Larry are looking forward to the opportunity to host in the future and experiencing more friendship opportunities.



Mary Ann & Larry with Wessex friend.

Want to Join the Club?

If you are not yet a member, you'll want to join the Cedar Rapids-Iowa City Friendship Force club. It's as easy as sending dues (\$30 per person) to **Marian Wetjen, 2009 Linmar Drive NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402**. Then you'll be all set to enjoy fun Friendship Force activities, meetings and exchanges. An application is also available on our website: <http://www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org/join-us/>

2017-2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 18, 2017, 10:30 am	Board Meeting	Marion Public Library Conference Room, 195 6th Ave, Marion
February 26, 2017, 1 pm	General Meeting International Potluck Buffet Celebration of FFI 40th Anniversary and World Friendship Day	Shueyville United Methodist Church, 1195 Steeple Ln NE, Swisher
April 2, 2017	General Meeting & Program on Taiwan	Coralville Public Library, 1401 5th Street, Coralville, IA 52241
April 20, 2017, 5:30 pm	Let's Eat Out (LEO) Parlor City Pub & Eatery in the Five Seasons Room. 1125 3rd Street SE, Cedar Rapids.	Reservations to Jim & Barb Steggall, 319 447-1147
May 1-7, 2017	Inbound domestic exchange from Sacramento, CA	ED—Dave & Patty Detwiler, Exchange Directors, 319 364-6120, daviddetwiler@msn.com
May 7-8	Overnight Bus Trip to Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, Museum and other historical sites with Sacramento Ambassadors—open to all club members	Connie Williams, 319 396-4747 cmw1226@yahoo.com
June—details later	Let's Eat Out (LEO)	Marian Wetjen, 319 363-0586 mjwetjen27@yahoo.com
July—details later	General Meeting Potluck Picnic	
July 18	Justice for our Neighbors—Outreach to immigrant families at Lovely Lane United Methodist Church—provide meal	Margaret Nelson, 319 393-1209 ronmargnelson@gmail.com
August 24-28 2017	International Conference, Manchester, England—celebrating 40 years of Friendship Force Online registration is open (see details page 5)	Go to: https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/index.php?eventid=209170& to read more and to make your reservation.
September 5-12, 2017	Incoming Exchange from Lower Columbia, Washington	ED—Taking applications for Exchange Director*
September 15-23, 2017	Open World—Journalism Theme for Delegates from Turkmenistan	Exchange Directors: Dale Moore & Steve Williams
September 21-23, 2017	Outgoing to Quad Cities	ED—Taking applications for Exchange Director*
November 1-14	Outbound exchange to Kaohsiung and Taipei, Taiwan	Exchange Director: Mary Stull mcdstull@aol.com ; 319 393-6254
December 3	Annual Meeting—Details later	
2017, dates to be determined	Incoming from Central Iowa, Ames	ED—Taking applications for Exchange Director*

*link to ED application: <http://www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/EDapplication.pdf>

*link for ambassador application:
<http://www3.thefriendshipforce.org/downloads/AMBASSADOR%20APPLICATION%20AND%20AGREEMENT%202.16.pdf>

BOARD MEMBERS 2017



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Co-Secretaries

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Jean & Dean Thomas, Co-Presidents

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319 830-5092

President Elect, Open



Stephanie Schulte, Treasurer

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Mary Stull, Past
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Larry & Mary Ann Nelson, 2nd
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