



# YOURS IN FRIENDSHIP

FROM THE CEDAR RAPIDS/IOWA CITY  
FRIENDSHIP FORCE CLUB

[www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org](http://www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org)

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

April 12, 2017

April

2017

## In this Issue:

President's  
Message 1

April Meeting 2  
Let's Eat Out-April  
June Meeting  
How to join our club

Sacramento 3  
Incoming  
Taiwan Outgoing

Journey Updates 4  
New Members

International 5  
Conference  
New FFI Terminology

Board Member 6  
Profile  
Road Scholar Trip

Calendar 7

Board Members' 8  
Contact Information

## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE....***

Greetings friends,

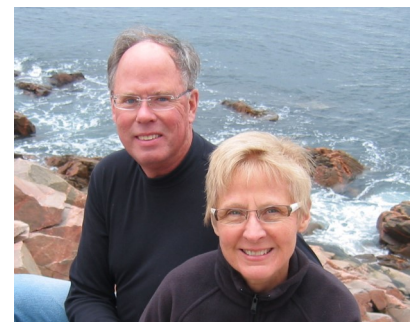
At our last general meeting we had a wonderful presentation on Taiwan by two U of Iowa students. We learned about best sights to see, foods, everyday life, education system and money. It looks like it will be a wonderful journey! If you've been thinking about traveling there, please contact Mary Stull to get your name on the list. See more details on page 3.

The weekend of April 29/30 ambassadors begin arriving from Sacramento. We will have a full week of experiences with them followed by an optional bus trip to Springfield, Illinois. There are still seats available for the bus trip and travelers do not need to be Friendship Force members. If you are interested please contact Connie Williams, 396-4747 or cmw1226@yahoo.com. If you get a call to help with hosting our new friends, please say "yes". Please see details on page 3.

We recently had a committee put in long hours to update our bylaws. The changes were to update FFI's new language changes, to clarify some of the language and to make some parts easier to read. You will be sent a working copy showing changes and have an opportunity to vote on the changes at our next general meeting on June 4. Watch your email for this document.

Wishing you a wonderful spring!

In friendship,  
Jean and Dean Thomas



**Are we friends—on Facebook—yet?** Follow us on Facebook at *Cedar Rapids-Iowa City Friendship Force*. See notices of future activities and photos and information on past events.

## General Meeting—April 2, 2017



This meeting at the Coralville Public Library featured a presentation on Taiwan by Alice and Vivian, University of Iowa students from Taiwan.

They enthusiastically shared information on their country including its culture, evening markets and going out for breakfast.

Their enthusiasm was contagious—both to the club members who had signed up to go on the Taiwan journey in November and to another club member who signed up the next day.



Our presenters asked for a photo with board members to post on the Taiwanese students Facebook page.

## Let's Eat Out—Parlor City, April 20



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. Parlor City is at 1125 3rd Street SE, Cedar Rapids across from the Newbo Market. The Newbo Market will be open on Thursday evening so stop by there before or after dinner.

Order off the menu and enjoy an evening of casual camaraderie. Reservations to Mary Stull, 319 393-6254 or [mcdstull@aol.com](mailto:mcdstull@aol.com).

## June 4 Potluck General Meeting

The next general meeting will be a potluck on June 4 from 2-4 pm at the Salem United Methodist Church, 3715 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404. The church is west of Target, Edgewood Road. A potluck will begin at 1 pm. Meat, buns and beverages will be provided.

The business meeting will include voting on the club's revised by-laws. Each members will receive a copy of the proposed by-laws by e-mail about two weeks before the meeting. The bylaws committee updated the verbiage to include the new terminology for trips as well as other adjustment to reflect changes in FFI and club processes.



## 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 journeys. An application is also available on our website: <http://www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org/join-us/>

## Hosting Sacramento—April 30 to May 7

We're ready to welcome ambassadors from Sacramento on Sunday, April 30. Dave and Patty Detwiler are the host coordinators.

**Sunday**, the journey will start with a welcome party in the Red Oak Room at Lowe Park Pavilion, 4500 N. 10th Street, Marion. Social time at 5 pm and catered buffet dinner at 6 pm. This will give all members an opportunity to meet the ambassadors.

**Cost is \$20 per member. Reservations required. See below.**

**Monday**, the group will spend a day in Kalona. Activities will include a stop at the horse auction and a bountiful lunch at a Conservative Mennonite home. All members are invited to attend this day. **Lunch reservations required by April 14. See below.**

**Tuesday activities** will include a guided tour of the Old Capitol museum in downtown Iowa City, lunch on your own and then a tour of the Herbert Hoover Museum and Archives in West Branch.

**Wednesday** will start with a walking tour of downtown including a stop at the Grant Wood window at Veterans Memorial Building; lunch at 350 First (for a birdseye view of downtown) and then a tour of the Paramount theater. Hosts and ambassadors will enjoy home hosted dinner in the evening.

**Thursday** will include a tour of Grant Wood's Studio, the Cedar Rapids Public Library, lunch on your own and a self-guided visit to the National Czech and Slovak Museum.



**Friday** has the group visiting Anamosa and Stone City to see the National Motorcycle Museum, Penitentiary Museum and a late lunch at the Stone City General Store.

**Saturday** will be a free day with hosts or day hosts. Sunday ambassadors leave for Springfield, IL to see Lincoln sites.

### Make your reservations

Welcome dinner, catered buffet, Sunday, April 30 at Lowe Park: Cost is \$20 per member. Reservations by **April 24** to [daviddetwiler@msn.com](mailto:daviddetwiler@msn.com) or call 319-364-6120. Checks should be made out to CR/IC FF and mailed to CR/IC Friendship Force, PO BOX 705, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401

Kalona lunch, Monday, May 1. Cost is \$27 per person. Reservations by **April 14** to [daviddetwiler@msn.com](mailto:daviddetwiler@msn.com) or call 319-364-6120. Checks should be made out to CR/IC FF and mailed to CR/IC Friendship Force, PO BOX 705, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401

If you are interested in joining the daytime activities on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, contact Dave or Patty Detwiler, 319 364-6120, [daviddetwiler@msn.com](mailto:daviddetwiler@msn.com) on where to meet the group.



## Outgoing Journey to Taiwan—2017

Our club will be visiting Taiwan for two weeks in early November. Ambassador slots are filled however, we are taking names for a waiting list. If you have always wanted to experience Chinese culture, here is your chance. The first week will be with the **Kaohsiung club** beginning on November 1. Then we will travel by train to Taipei for a week with the **Greater Taipei club**.

The journey will include ambassadors from our club as well as Canada, North Carolina, Australia, Des Moines and the Quad Cities. We estimate the cost to be \$900 to \$1,000 plus air fare and travel insurance. Contact Mary Stull, ambassador coordinator, [mcdstull@aol.com](mailto:mcdstull@aol.com), 319 393-6254.





## Upcoming Journeys—Incoming & Outgoing



**Sacramento Incoming Journey – April 30- May 7, 2017.** We are so excited to welcome our friends from Sacramento. Dave & Patty Detwiler, 319 364-6120, at [daviddetwiler@msn.com](mailto:daviddetwiler@msn.com), are the host coordinators.

See page 3 for details on the journey activities. We encourage everyone to attend the welcome dinner on Sunday, April 30 to meet our guests. Reservations required.

### Calendar of Additional Journeys

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

If you were on the Oregon/Washington State exchange, this is a great way to reconnect with this club. Stephanie Schulte is the host coordinator. Contact her at 319 350-5279 or [sschulte08@gmail.com](mailto:sschulte08@gmail.com) to serve on the host committee. Yvonne Pecha is the Washington ambassador coordinator. She and her husband, Herb, hosted when our club visited and they are VERY excited about this return journey.

**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 journey to Quad Cities, September 28-30, 2017

Linda Shearer of the QC club has begun planning. Please contact Connie Williams, [cmw1226@yahoo.com](mailto:cmw1226@yahoo.com), if you wish to sign up as an ambassador or ambassador coordinator. The journey will conclude at the All Iowa Picnic on Saturday, September 30.

#### Outgoing international 2 week journey to Kaohsiung and Taipei, Taiwan. November 1-15, 2017.

Our club's ambassador coordinator, Mary Stull, is working with the Taiwan clubs to finalize plans for this journey. We have a full journey with 20 people; however, we have a wait list in the event that someone cannot go. Application link is below.\*\*\* Contact Mary Stull, [mcdstull@aol.com](mailto:mcdstull@aol.com), 319 393-6254 if you are interested in this journey.

**Looking ahead to 2018:** Our club has been given the honor to host ambassadors from Ribeirao Preto, Brazil in 2018. Dates are being discussed, but we hope summer time, possibly over the July 4th holidays. If you have any connections with or interests in Brazil, please volunteer to begin the hosting process!

\*link to host coordinator application:

<http://www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/EDapplication.pdf>

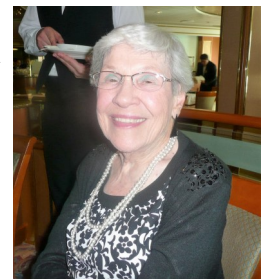
\*\*\*link for ambassador application:

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

## New Members

**Betty Emrich** is happy to be returning to club activities. She is a past club president, traveled and hosted with Friendship Force, as well. She has also been active with Partners for the Americas. Betty is a retired educator and is a life-long learner who has participated in Road Scholar programs.

**Dolores Reger** is a lifelong resident of the St. Louis area. After traveling with our club on a journey to Lansing, Michigan, Dolores joined Friendship Force. She is also known as George Schulte's mom. She has four children, 13 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. Her travel experiences have included Hawaii, Europe and Mexico as well as many states and several cruises. She is signed up for the Taiwan journey in November. Dolores says, "I love to meet people as I find they have so many interesting stories to tell."



**Marlene and George Milligan**—returning members. Their profiles will be in a future issue.

## FFI 40th Anniversary International Conference fees reduced



**Breaking News:** The fees for the Manchester England International Friendship Force conference and the gala have been reduced. The celebration begins at 6 pm on August 24 and ends at Noon on August 28. Several club members have reservations. Join the fun.

**Go to:** <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/index.php?eventid=209170&> to read more about it and to make your reservation.

## New Terminology – or – what is a journey?

Friendship Force International (FFI) has made some minor changes in the terms used to describe some FFI program experiences. With the goal of opening our mission to more potential members around the world, we want to use terms that more accurately describe and reflect the FFI experience. Don't worry - it's still the same FFI you know and love, but now you'll be able to explain it better!

### Journey

We often heard that calling our travel and hosting programs “exchanges” is confusing, since the word no longer directly explains the programs we offer. While they are *cultural* exchanges, our programs are rarely reciprocal trips as originally developed, where one group directly “exchanges” with another. A more transformational term - “journey” - is better suited to the amazing programs our members plan and experience. Additionally, market research conducted on FFI's behalf in eight countries revealed that the phrase “journey” best described Friendship Force programs and activities. You will see this new term (planning a “Journey” instead of an “Exchange”) used throughout our new website and in FFI communications and materials from here on out!

### Ambassador Coordinator and Host Coordinator

In line with incorporation of the word “journey,” the term Exchange Director will now be called “Ambassador Coordinator” (traveling club) and “Host Coordinator” (hosting club). Not only does the term “coordinator” translate well into the many languages spoken by our members worldwide, but also reflects the variety of work that our dedicated ambassador and host leaders undertake in planning a Friendship Force Journey.

### Mission-Focused Itineraries

For each Journey listed on the catalog, there will be an expanded Itinerary section highlighting the mission of FFI and especially our people-to-people focus of travel and hosting. We want to encourage new members to participate by giving them more clarity about what to expect on a Friendship Force Journey. These itineraries are not meant to be exceedingly detailed or sightseeing-focused, but to indicate the time our ambassadors have with hosts, with the group in general, and possibly on their own. In order to overcome the misconception that we might be “just another travel club,” we want to demonstrate how our hosts and ambassadors have ample time to share meals, make connections, and go off the beaten tourist path together. These itineraries will all have a caveat that they are subject to change, as flexibility is an important part of being a good FF ambassador. Overall, we strongly believe this will allow for more effective recruiting, clearer communication, and a continued focus on our mission throughout each Friendship Force Journey.

As we enter our 40th year, we know that some change and growth is necessary for the health and future of our organization. We hope that you, our members, will embrace these small adjustments in terminology in order to highlight and continue supporting the mission of promoting global understanding across the barriers that separate people.

## Board Member Profile

### Shirley Rosencrans, Activities Coordinator

Shirley helps plan, organize and orchestrate all the details for a successful event for incoming journeys, general meetings and other club activities. She was first introduced to Friendship Force through a newspaper article which she had filed away for years. One day while working at the National Czech and Slovak Museum, she was talking with one of the volunteers, Delores Kaiden. Dolores talked about hosting for Friendship Force and that there was an exchange going to Germany and Belgium. Shirley went to her first meeting with Delores and signed up for the outgoing exchange. She has also traveled to New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Ukraine and on US exchanges. Also, she has hosted many ambassadors from several countries. Shirley likes meeting people from other countries to learn about their customs, traditions, foods and their daily lifestyle.



Living in Anamosa most of her life, she has worked for the school system, as a parish bookkeeper, was Chamber of Commerce office manger, sold advertising, managed the museum store at the National Czech & Slovak Museum and in sales and front desk at three different hotels. She is currently working at the local AmericInn Hotel. She has three wonderful, married children, six grandchildren and one great-grandson, all living in the area. She loves to have them come home so she can cook and bake their favorite things.

## Road Scholar-Friendship Force Collaboration

Exploring a new collaboration, 11 club members participated in the Road Scholar program, a Tale of Two Cities, Santa Fe and Taos, New Mexico in March. The adventure began with 10 members enjoying dinner with the New Mexico club in Albuquerque. We shared travel and hosting experiences and hope to welcome them to Iowa sometime in the future.

The Road Scholar program included lectures and field trips throughout north east New Mexico. We learned about the history and culture of the area and enjoyed visits to artist Georgia O'Keefe's museum, a Native American Pueblo (village), a walking tour of downtown Santa Fe, free time in Taos and delicious New Mexico cuisine. Free time enabled us to explore personal interests.

We met a lady who was involved in Friendship Force in Oregon. Because we provided a group of 11, our club received a rebate of \$585, which became part of our fundraising for 2017. For more photos, check out the Cedar Rapids-Iowa City Friendship Force Facebook page.



Carol and Jerry with Albuquerque club



Tour of Pueblo



Break at LaFonda Hotel



Enjoying New Mexico cuisine



Native American Weavings



Museum Hill, Santa Fe



Learning about Georgia O'Keefe



## 2017-2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 20, 2017, 5:30 pm	Let's Eat Out (LEO), Parlor City Pub & Eatery, (Five Seasons Room), 1125 3rd Street SE, Cedar Rapids	Mary Stull, 393-6254, mcdstull@aol.com
April 30—May 7, 2017	Inbound domestic journey from Sacramento, CA	Host coordinators—Dave & Patty Detwiler, 319 364-6120, daviddetwiler@msn.com
May 7-8, 2017	Overnight Bus Trip to Springfield, IL to see the 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 4, 2017, 2 pm	General Meeting Potluck Picnic	Salem United Methodist Church 3715 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids
June 14, 2017 5:30 pm	Let's Eat Out (LEO) Cedar Ridge Winery, 1441 Marak Road, Swisher, IA	Marian Wetjen, 319 363-0586 mjwetjen27@yahoo.com
July 18, 2017	Justice for our Neighbors—Outreach to immigrant fam- ilies 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. <b>New reduced rates!</b>	Go to: <a href="https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/index.php?eventid=209170&amp;">https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/index.php?eventid=209170&amp;</a> to read more and to make your reservation.
September 5-12, 2017	Incoming Journey from Lower Columbia, Washington	Host coordinator: Taking applications*
September 15-23, 2017	Open World—Journalism Theme for Delegates from Turkmenistan	Host coordinators: Dale Moore & Steve Williams
September 28-30, 2017	Outgoing to Quad Cities	Ambassador coordinator: Taking applica- tions*
September 30, 2017	Annual All-Iowa Club Picnic, Quad Cities	Reservations to:
November 1-15, 2017	Outbound Journey to Kaohsiung and Taipei, Taiwan	Ambassador Coordinator: Mary Stull mcdstull@aol.com; 319 393-6254
December 3, 2017	Annual Meeting—Details later	
2017, dates to be determined	Incoming from Central Iowa, Ames	Ambassador Coordinator—Taking applica- tions*
July, 2018 (tentative date)	Incoming from Ribeirao Preto, Brazil	Host Coordinator—Taking applications*

### New terminology:

**Journey**—formerly an exchange

**Ambassador Coordinator**—formerly outgoing exchange director

**Host Coordinator**—formerly incoming exchange director

# BOARD MEMBERS 2017



Jim & Barb Steggall,  
Co-Secretaries  
319 447-1147  
[bjfs@mchsi.com](mailto:bjfs@mchsi.com)



Jean & Dean Thomas,  
Co-Presidents  
[jeanthomas521@gmail.com](mailto:jeanthomas521@gmail.com)  
319 830-5092

President Elect, Open



Stephanie Schulte  
Treasurer  
319 350-5279  
[sschulte08@gmail.com](mailto:sschulte08@gmail.com)



Mary Stull, Past  
President  
319 393-6254  
[mcdstull@aol.com](mailto:mcdstull@aol.com)



Connie Williams,  
Journey Coordinator  
319 396-4747  
[cmw1226@yahoo.com](mailto:cmw1226@yahoo.com)



Marian Wetjen,  
Membership  
319 363-0586  
[mjwetjen27@yahoo.com](mailto:mjwetjen27@yahoo.com)



Shirley Rosencrans,  
Activities Coordinator  
319 462-4132  
[sarosencrans@yahoo.com](mailto:sarosencrans@yahoo.com)



Dale Moore,  
Communications  
319 362-6252  
[mooredale@imonmail.com](mailto:mooredale@imonmail.com)



Rosie Russell,  
1<sup>st</sup> Year Director at Large  
319 354-2422  
[rosiearussell@aol.com](mailto:rosiearussell@aol.com)



Larry & Mary Ann Nelson,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Year Director at Large  
319 362-8078  
[mrlwnelson@gmail.com](mailto:mrlwnelson@gmail.com);  
[mrsmanelson@gmail.com](mailto:mrsmanelson@gmail.com)