



YOURS IN FRIENDSHIP

FROM THE CEDAR RAPIDS/IOWA CITY

FRIENDSHIP FORCE CLUB

www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org

Nov. 4, 2017

November

2017

In this Issue:

**President's
Message** 1

**Annual Meeting
Nominations** 2

Membership Info 3

**New Member Profile
Des Moines 40th** 4

Journey Calendar 5

Global Journey 6

**2018 Super Confer-
ence** 7

**Calendar of Events 8
Board Member Con-
tact Info** 9

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE....

Greetings friends,

As I am writing we have 21 people beginning a two-week journey to Taiwan, November 1 to 15. We look forward to hearing about their experiences at our annual meeting December 3. If you have not sent in your reservations, please do as soon as possible.

Details:

Sunday, December 3

5:00 social, 5:30 dinner with short program to follow

Buffet with 2 meats, salad bar, roasted red potatoes, green beans al-mandine, dessert

Longbranch Hotel and Conference Center, 90 Twixt Town Rd NE, CR
\$29.00 per person

Opportunity to pay your dues for 2018, \$30 per person

RSVP to Jean Thomas at [319 830-5092](tel:3198305092) or email, jeanthomas521@gmail.com

Also at this meeting you will meet your new board for 2018 and have an opportunity to see photos from past journeys and keep any you wish for your own records. The club will not be maintaining photos from the past, so this will be your opportunity to do so.

This will be the last newsletter for this club year. We would like to thank all of you for your commitment to the Friendship Force's mission to "*Experience Different Views, Discover Common Grounds*".

In Friendship,

Jean and Dean Thomas, Co Presidents

Jim and Barb Steggall, Co Presidents Elect

Annual Meeting— December 3, 2017

It's time to celebrate another successful year for our Friendship Force club. Mark your calendar and **make your reservation for the Friendship Force annual meeting**. We will elect officers for 2018, recap the past year, and discuss up-coming activities in 2017.

Place: Longbranch/Best Western Plus, 90 Twixt Town Road, Cedar Rapids

Date: Sunday, December 3, 2017

Time: Social hour: 5 pm

Dinner: 5:30 pm with program to follow.

Buffet Menu: Buffet with 2 meats, salad bar, roasted red potatoes, green beans almandine, dessert, coffee, tea or milk. Cash bar available

Cost: \$ 29 per person,

This will be a night to sit back, relax and enjoy great Friendship Force comradery. Send reservations checks to: Jean Thomas, 3185 Edgebrook Dr, Marion, IA 52302 319 830-5092. jeanthomas521@gmail.com by Sunday, November 19.



Nominations

The nominating committee presents the following slate of officers for 2018.

President: Jim & Barb Steggall have served as co-presidents-elect and will become Presidents

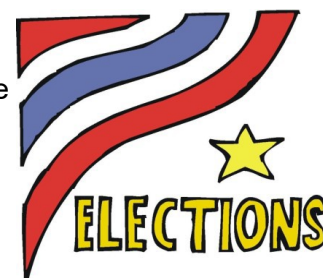
President-elect: To Be Determined

Secretary: Larry & MaryAnn Nelson

Treasurer: Jerry Burke

Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the Annual Meeting with the permission of the person being nominated.

The position of president-elect is yet to be filled. If you are interested, we encourage you to contact Jim or Barb Steggall at (319) 447-1147 for more information. We hope to fill this position prior to January 1, 2018 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.



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/>

2018 Membership Dues

Our new club year starts December 1 so it's time to renew your membership by 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.

Club Facebook Page

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.

Our Mission

Our mission is to promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people. Each individual can make a contribution to global goodwill. The Friendship Force worldwide network of clubs and individuals seeks to overcome differences among people and nations.

Friendship Force programs bring diverse people together into each other's cultures and homes to share one-of-a-kind experiences not available to regular tourists.

- **60** countries
- **6** continents
- **15,000** active members
- **300** journeys



New Member Profile



Barb and Erv Mussman have lived in the Cedar Rapids/Marion area since 1979. Erv was born and raised in Vinton and graduated from ISU. Erv moved to CR to work as an engineer for IDOT. After leaving the DOT he worked as City Engineer for the city of Marion for 16 years, and has worked for the past 17 years at Shive-Hattery Engineers and Architects. Barb was born and raised in Webster City and graduated from ISU. Barb moved to CR to take a job at Kirkwood Community College. She worked for Kirkwood for 20 years, left KCC to work at Mount Mercy for 8 years, then returned to work at Kirkwood. Her work has involved a variety of positions in the student support services area. Barb and Erv are currently enjoying semi-retirement by working on a part time basis. They have two married children, Erika and Alex, who both live in Cedar Rapids, and one 2-year old granddaughter (with twin grandsons due in January!).

Erv sings with a local group called Chorale Midwest. He is also a beekeeper and harvests the honey every summer. This past summer he completed the entire RAGBRAI route. Barb enjoys working in their flower beds, reading, and Grandma duties. Barb and Erv are members of Lovely Lane United Methodist Church. They enjoy travelling and playing cards. Barb and Erv joined Friendship Force because of their interest in traveling and learning about other cultures in the USA and abroad, and have enjoyed getting to know FF members at the LEO's.

Greater Des Moines Club 40th Anniversary

The Greater Des Moines Club celebrated its 40-year anniversary on October 29 at the Des Moines Country Club. The program recognized the dedication of all the members past and present, starting with former Governor Robert Ray. Friendship Force COO Jeremi Snook delivered the keynote address. He recognized that while FF must change with the times and evolving technology, we must remain true to our purpose and recognize the importance of home hosting. This is what truly sets FF apart.

Adrienne Moen is ending her term as the Midwest Region Field Representative effective at the end of the calendar year. It was officially announced that our own Dale Moore will succeed Adrienne as the Field Representative. Dale is our current Communications Director and has previously held several leadership positions in the CR/IC Club. Dale will begin the two-year term on January 1. We all know that this is a great choice for Friendship Force and know that Dale will do a great job. Good luck Dale!



Journey Calendar by Connie Williams

Thanks to Marian Wetjen for leading our ambassadors to the Quad Cities mini-journey before the All Iowa Club Picnic. Sounds like you had a great time!

Pull out your calendars and prepare for a wonderful 2018! Planning to travel? Please give a look at traveling with clubs who have open seats. Milwaukee to Mexico has seats open for late January 2018, contact Donna and John Haut at djhaut2006@sbcglobal.net for details. Quilters are invited to Western North Carolina for 'Quilting Mountain Style' in May 2018, contact Joan Manfre at jcmanfre310@gmail.com for info and application. Joan came here in Oct 2016 for our 'Crazy for Quilting' journey.

See the FF website catalog <https://friendshipforce.org/journeys/> and watch your email.

Planning has begun for 3 HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES! It's no secret that our Midwest hospitality is above & beyond, so I hope all of our club members embrace the opportunity to share our part of the world with Brazil, New Zealand and Albuquerque. The dates are below, please say yes when you are called. Or better yet, become involved as a host coordinator or committee member! Call me at 396-4747 for details!

As hosting often leads to travel options, prepare for Brazil, New Zealand, Kosovo and/or Albuquerque adventures in our future!

Ribeirao Preto, Brazil - July 10-16, 2018

Incoming international journey to arrive for a 5-7 day journey, then traveling on to Chicago. I was fortunate to make contact with Simone Lanzoni, wife of Helcio Lanzoni, ambassador coordinator and Kathy Coyner from the Chicago FF. (See photo) Simone is a member of the Friendship Force Board of Directors and was excited to chat about their journey. We can expect 14-16 ambassadors, including some teenage family members, as this is during a school break. This will truly be a great opportunity to show off the best of the Midwest! Interested? Please say yes to helping on the committee or becoming the Host Coordinator.

Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty, New Zealand - Sept. 27-Oct. 3, 2018

Incoming international journey to Wichita, Cedar Rapids/Iowa City and Las Vegas. There are a few quilters in this group, so they plan to begin their trip in Des Moines for the Quilt Show on Sept. 25-27. The journey to CR/IC will begin Sept. 27 (what a beautiful time of year to visit!), then on to Wichita and Las Vegas. Ambassador Host, Brian Grimwood, has collected the names of 28 interested members. No worries, he knows all four host cities plan to host 20 ambassadors, and anticipates the numbers to be in line with our hosting capacity by the journey dates. Again, a committee and Host Coordinator is needed.

Albuquerque, NM - tentative for 2018

Incoming domestic journey. Late May thru mid-June? August? We're waiting to hear back from them.

Kosovo - no dates selected for what may be a Pioneer or Discovery journey. (These are not the typical journeys, may include hotel stays and meetings to help establish the new club.) There is not a club in Kosovo currently, but there is interest to connect with the Open World participants who had visited Cedar Rapids/Iowa City in September 2017. Please consider joining a newly established committee to explore mentoring options.

Connie Williams, Journey Chair



Moonfall Over Oregon: A Global Journey

Moonfall Over Oregon: A Global Journey

Hosted by the Friendship Force of Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley and the Columbia Cascade Friendship Force club August 16-25, 2017

What began as a way to share the Great American Solar Eclipse with the world turned into an adventure for the planners as well due to the large number of anticipated visitors to Oregon for the 2017 eclipse. Every event planned by Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley Host Coordinators, Marilyn Peterson, Mary Ellen Lind, and Dennis Murphy had to be changed in some respect, whether it was the time, date, or even menu. Nineteen ambassadors from several US states and Canada participated in this Journey, arriving on August 16, and staying in the Salem/Corvallis/Albany, Oregon area until the day of the eclipse. One of the ambassadors was our own CR/IC Club member Marty Novak.

Marty met several of the people who visited our club. The Powells, who hosted everyone for the sleepover were hosted by George and Stephanie Schulte.

Even the weather cooperated for this spectacular event. The sky had been very smoky for several days due to forest fires, but the morning of August 21 was a beautiful sunny day. Perfect eclipse weather. Over 70 people participated in the watch party, which was followed by a spaghetti dinner prepared by the Powells and the Columbia Cascade hosts.

For more information go to <https://friendshipforce.org/moonfall-over-oregon-a-global-journey-story/>



Origami Box



Multnomah Falls



Moonfall Over Oregon Ambassadors and Hosts

Friendship Force 2018 Super Conference

The Friendship Force 2018 Super Conference will be held on April 20-22, 2018 at the Radisson Hotel Cincinnati Riverfront, 668 W. 5th Street, Covington, KY 41011.

Please join the Friendship Force of Greater Cincinnati for the Great Lakes 2018 Super Conference. The Conference will include the Great Lakes, Midwest, and Southwest regions.

Arrive at 2:00 pm on Friday for the "Executive Board" meeting and depart on Sunday at 11:00 am after the "Farewell Breakfast." The clubs of Kentucky, Ohio and Michigan are planning many special activities. Louisville and Dayton will have home hosting before and Cincinnati is planning home hosting after. Cincinnati was once called the "Queen City of the West." Come and see all the special attractions in both Cincinnati, Ohio and Covington, Kentucky.

40th Anniversary World Conference

Have a few minutes? When you do, please click on the 40th Anniversary World Conference link and check out the photos, fun and follow up. It's great to see how we're regarded world wide, as FFI received well wishes from many notable people. If you're curious as to history of the first exchanges, you must read it! Much different than now!

<https://www.friendshipforce.org/recap-of-40th-anniversary-world-conference-in-manchester-u-k/>

Page down to the links for conference materials, photos and workshops. The ones I attended were worthwhile and useful. I'm so glad FFI shared this info for all.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/pp4liovdoxzvjx0/AAD0tiRxbPVe9K3d4CKthWQMa?dl=0>

In recognition of the 40th Anniversary, our CR/IC FF Club will be making a donation to FFI as part of a show of support and collaboration from the Midwest Region. At its October 26 meeting the Board approved a donation in the amount of \$400 which was included in this year's program budget for a contribution to FFI.



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SEE THE WORLD

thefriendshipforce.org

2017-2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 1-15, 2017	Outbound Journey to Kaohsiung and Taipei, Taiwan	Ambassador Coordinator: Mary Stull mcdstull@aol.com; 393-6254
December 3, 2017 5:00pm Social 5:30pm Dinner/Program	Annual Meeting—Longbranch Hotel & Convention Center, Cedar Rapids, IA	RSVP to Jean Thomas at 319 830-5092 or email, jeanthomas521@gmail.com
April 20-22, 2018	Super Regional Conference Including Midwest, Great Lakes and South-west Clubs	Greater Cincinnati Area Contact Dale Moore (319)362-6252
July 10-16, 2018	Ribeirao Preto-Brazil Inbound Journey	Taking applications for Host Coordinator*
Sept. 27-Oct. 3, 2018	Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty-New Zealand Inbound Journey	Taking applications for Host Coordinator*

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

BOARD MEMBERS 2017



Jim & Barb Steggall,
Co-Secretaries &
President-elect
319 447-1147
bjifs@mchsi.com



Jean & Dean Thomas,
Co-Presidents
jeanthomas521@gmail.com
319 830-5092



Stephanie Schulte
Treasurer
319 350-5279
sschulte08@gmail.com



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



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



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



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



Dale Moore,
Communications
319 362-6252
mooredale@imonmail.com



Rosie Russell,
1st Year Director at Large
319 354-2422
rosiearussell@aol.com



Larry & Mary Ann Nelson,
2nd Year Director at Large
319 362-8078
mrlwnelson@gmail.com;
mrsmanelson@gmail.com