



YOURS IN FRIENDSHIP

FROM THE CEDAR RAPIDS/IOWA CITY

FRIENDSHIP FORCE CLUB

www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org

April 2, 2018

April

2018

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Greetings!

We hope you have had an enjoyable winter and are looking forward to Spring. We had quite a few Club members travelling this winter and welcome everyone back home. The summer and fall will be quite busy with activities hosting Clubs from Albuquerque, NM, Ribeirao Preto, Brazil and Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty, New Zealand. You can participate by volunteering to home host, dinner host or simply by saying "yes" when asked by the Host Coordinator.

We have received some exciting news about Journeys assigned in 2019. We look forward to being ambassadors to Brazil, a week each in Ribeirao Preto and Salvador-Bahia in June 2019. In September 2019, we welcome the Friendship Force of Aichi, Japan. Please plan to attend the General Meeting on April 29 to learn more about the upcoming Journeys and the Regional Conference that will be held April 19-21 in Cincinnati. This would be a great meeting to invite a friend to learn more about Friendship Force.

In Friendship,

Jim and Barb Steggall
Co-Presidents



Save the Date

All-Iowa Friendship Force Picnic June 2

The all Iowa Friendship Force annual picnic will be **June 2** in **Ames** this year. Roger Bertelsen, Co-president of the Friendship Force of Central Iowa wants you to save the date for this day of great conversation, good food, fun activities and friendship. Registration forms and additional information will be coming out closer to the date.

MAY 8th LEO AT HYVEE MARKET GRILL

The next LEO will be May 8th at the HyVee Market Grill, 5050 Edgewood RD NE, Cedar Rapids at 5:00pm. Come join your friends for an evening of food and conversation.

Please contact Nancy Miller, 319-393-3580 by Friday May 4th.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

2019 FF World Conference in USA

FFI is working on the next World Conference, 2019 in the USA. Expect official announcements soon when enough details are firmed up. In the meantime, we expect you are working on 2019 Journeys. So we are giving you an “unofficial” range of dates to save - - July 21 thru 28, 2019. The conference will, of course, not be this long, but these are the range of dates in current discussions.

This is all we can share at this time. Please keep in mind when planning your 2019 FF adventures.

General Meeting April 29

A general meeting of the Cedar Rapids / Iowa City Friendship Force Club will be held Sunday April 29 at the Hiawatha Public Library at 2:00PM. Information about our upcoming busy year of incoming journeys will be shared along with information from the 2018 Super Conference that was held in Cincinnati .

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

Annual Club Fundraiser

Everyone loves Fireworks and Parades

Be a part of the club's annual fundraiser. Again we will be volunteering with the Freedom Festival. We need 10 volunteers each to help with 2 shifts that last around 4 hours each, June 30 at 10 AM for the parade and July 4th at 3:30 PM. **Please contact Judy or John Miner at 319-540-1701.** Volunteers receive a free t-shirt and the Club receives a cash donation. This is the only fundraiser for our club so please come out and help support our club.



Chicago Mini Journey: Theater, Food and Tours

Would you like to join us as we take our Brazilian friends to the Chicago area for their next adventure? Twelve members are already signed up. Hope you can join us.

We are planning a two day mini trip to the Windy City, leaving Sunday July 15 around 9 am and returning home the next day. On Sunday, we'll enjoy a picnic lunch in Clinton at the **Eagle Ridge Park** with views of the mighty Mississippi river. In Naperville we'll say goodbye to our Brazilian friends and then attend a 3 pm theatre performance of the comedy, **"Sugar, Some Like it Hot"**. Then off to a restaurant for our evening meal and later to our hotel.

On Monday we have tentative plans for guided tours of **Frank Lloyd Wrights Home and Studio** and also the **Unity Temple** in Oak Park that was designed by him. As we head west towards home, we will stop in Aurora for a self guided tour of a beautiful **Hindu Temple**, the Sri Venkateswara Swami Temple. Later in La Salle, we'll "step back in time as we enjoy a **mule-pulled 1840's replica canal boat** as it coasts gently up and down the I&M Canal. Mary Todd Lincoln had been known to ride the boat, knitting in the corner and telling fantastic stories of her time in the Nation's capitol with Mr. Lincoln."

Our evening meal will be in the QC area and we plan to return to CR around 9 or 10 pm.

Our tentative cost for this adventure is around \$225 per person, depending on how many sign up.

Contact Marian Wetjen at 319-3630586 if interested.

Journey Calendar by Connie Williams

JOURNEY CALENDAR

Albuquerque, NM - June 13-19, 2018

Incoming domestic journey with 11 ambassadors from Albuquerque. On Saturday night, June 16, all members and guests are welcome to join the ambassadors and hosts at the National Motorcycle Museum for dinner and a tour. Please contact Host Coordinator, Audrey Bradford at 319-365-5746. This journey will be opened to add ambassadors from other clubs, so contact friends and family to join in the fun!

Ribeirao Preto, Brazil - July 9-15, 2018

Incoming international journey to arrive in Cedar Rapids, then traveling on to Chicago. 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 by contacting Connie Williams, 319-396-4747, Host Coordinator.

Want to spend a bit of time in the Windy City? Plans are being made to secure a bus to transport our Brazilian friends to their second week hosts. Ride along on the bus! After drop off, the CR/IC group will stay a day and tour sites around town. Price will be approximately \$210, which will include some meals, theater admission, a tour of Frank Lloyd Wright studios and hotel (double occupancy). Contact Marian Wetjen at 319-363-0586 for questions or sign up.

Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty, New Zealand - Sept. 29-Oct. 6, 2018

Incoming international journey to Des Moines, Cedar Rapids/Iowa City, Wichita 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. The journey to CR/IC will begin Sept. 29, then on to Wichita and Las Vegas. Put these dates on your calendar and call Host Coordinator, Jerry Burke at 563-929-0190 or Mary Ann Nelson at 319-362-8078.

EXCITING NEWS FOR 2019!

We can look forward to being ambassadors

to **Brazil**, a week each in Ribeirao Preto

and Salvador-Bahia, tentatively set for June 2019.



In August 2019, we welcome

the Friendship Force of Aichi, **Japan**.



Board Member Profile



Jim & Barb Steggall

Jim & Barb are serving as Co-Presidents this year. Jim is retired from Rockwell Collins and Barb from Real Estate. We 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. We were invited to join Friendship Force in 2015 by Dale & Cheryl Moore. We have enjoyed getting to know people from other cultures and welcoming them to Cedar Rapids-Iowa City.

Friendship Force 2018 Super Conference

RADISSON HOTEL CINCINNATI RIVERFRONT

668 W. 5th Street, Covington, KY 41011

The Friendship Force of Greater Cincinnati is hosting the 2018 Super Regional Conference with the theme of “Unlocking the Future of Friendship Force”. The Cincinnati club encourages us to join them with this message,

“You don’t want to miss this opportunity to explore the heritage of Cincinnati in the huge underground caverns used for beer making, the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood where thousands of German immigrants settled or our beautiful Music Hall, built for use by German singing clubs”.

Cincinnati club is offering a 3-day “bed and breakfast” style home stay following the conference to facilitate exploring more of the Cincinnati area. Dayton and Louisville will offer home hosting before the conference.

Program:

Friday April 20 2:00-4:00 PM Leadership discussion of club strengths and weaknesses and strategies for embracing change—all are welcome: club leadership encouraged to attend. 4:15-6:30 PM Social Gathering.

Saturday April 21 9:00-10:15 AM Opening and Keynote Address by Bob Herring of Cincinnati Sister Cities. 10:45-12 Noon Morning Breakout Sessions 12 Noon-2:00 PM Small Group Lunches at local restaurants. 2:00-3:15 PM Afternoon Breakout Sessions 3:45-5:00 PM Group discussion of strategies for re-energizing and growing our clubs. 5:00PM-5:30PM Wrap Up 7:00– 9:30 PM Banquet with music by Ma Crow and the Ladyslippers.

Registration information and details for conference can be found at ffregionalcincinnati.weebly.com/

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.

2017-2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 11, 2018 6:00-8:00pm	Board Meeting Scooter's Coffee 2300 Edgewood Rd SW, CR,IA	Jim & Barb Steggall, 319-447-1147
April 19-21, 2018	Super Regional Conference Including Midwest, Great Lakes and South-west Clubs	Greater Cincinnati Area Contact Phil Schmidt, (859) 635-2006
April 29, 2018 2:00-4:00 pm	General Meeting Hiawatha Public Library	Jim & Barb Steggall, 319-447-1147
May 8, 2018	LEO, HyVee Market Grill 5050 Edgewood RD NE, Cedar Rapids	Reservations to Nancy Miller 319-393-3580 By Friday May 4th
June 2, 2018	All Iowa Friendship Force Picnic-Ames, Ia	Information to be made available closer to date.
June 7, 2018 6:30-8:30pm	Board Meeting	Jim & Barb Steggall, 319-447-1147
June 13-19, 2018	Albuquerque, NM inbound domestic journey	Audrey Bradford, 319-365-5746, Host Coordinator
June 30, 2018, 10:00am	Volunteer at Freedom Festival Parade	John & Judy Miner, 319-540-1701
July 4, 2018	Volunteer at Freedom Festival Celebration	John & Judy Miner, 319-540-1701
July 9-15, 2018	Ribeirao Preto-Brazil Inbound Journey	Connie Williams, 319-396-4747, Host Coordinator
August, 2018	LEO, TBD	John & Judy Miner, 319-540-1701
August 21, 2018 6:30-8:30pm	Board Meeting	Jim & Barb Steggall, 319-447-1147
Sept. 29-Oct. 6, 2018	Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty-New Zealand Inbound Journey	Host Coordinators, Jerry Burke, 563-929-0190 and MaryAnn Nelson, 319-362-8078.
October 16, 2018 6:30-8:30pm	Board Meeting	Jim & Barb Steggall, 319-447-1147
November 4, 2018	Annual Meeting, TBD	

CEDAR RAPIDS-IOWA CITY BOARD MEMBERS 2018



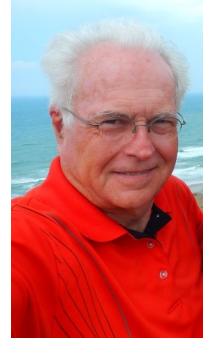
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