



# YOURS IN FRIENDSHIP

FROM THE CEDAR RAPIDS/IOWA CITY

FRIENDSHIP FORCE CLUB

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

June 1, 2018

June

2018

In this Issue:

**President's  
Message**

1

**Albuquerque In  
Bound Journey  
June 13-19**

2

**Charter Members  
Opportunities Coming  
Soon**

3

**Travel Opportunities  
Travel Tips**

4

**Journey Calendar**

5

**2019 FF World Confer-  
ence in USA**

6

**Calendar of Events**

7

**Board Member Con-  
tact Info**

8

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

Greetings!

Those of you who were able to attend the April 29 General Meeting received information from the recent Regional Conference. Many ideas were presented to help Clubs be more effective in planning for their future. Many Clubs, including ours, have experienced a decline in membership and have struggled in attracting new members. There is not a simple solution for this problem, which extends well beyond Friendship Force. However, we have a lot of ideas and Friendship Force leaders are very willing to assist. Your Board will be initiating a planning effort to establish near and long-term goals for our Club. If you are interested in helping in this effort please let us know.

We have received some exciting news about an Open World assigned for Nov. 2-10, 2018. The Ambassadors will be visiting from the Ukraine and are interested in learning about the elections process. Steve Williams will be coordinating Open World once again and is assembling a team for planning and preparation. If you are able to assist please contact Steve or one of us.

Looking forward to seeing you at the June 16 group dinner at the Anamosa Motorcycle Museum.

In Friendship,

Jim and Barb Steggall  
Co-Presidents



## Opportunities: Albuquerque Coming Soon

Four women from the Albuquerque Friendship Force Club and one man From Ontario will be visiting our club June 13 through 19. It may be the smallest exchange our club has ever had, but you still can be involved in many ways and join in the fun. If you are new to Friendship Force this is a great introduction to what a club exchange is like. **Mark your calendars**

You have the opportunity to join in any of these activities.

**Wednesday June 13** we will welcome our guests over appetizers at Stephanie and George Schulte's home at 523 Rockvalley Dr SW.

**Thursday June 14** join us for any or all of a Cedar Rapids day. We start with a tour of the Downtown Library at 9:30 and then visit the Grant Wood window at the Veteran's Memorial Building. Lunch will be at the top of the Double Tree Hotel, 350 On First. We will then tour Grant Woods studio at Turner Alley at 1:30 and the Czech Museum at 3:00.

**Friday June 15** we are touring the Hoover Library and Museum in West Branch.

**Saturday June 16** is unscheduled during the day but may include CR Downtown Farmers Market, Stone City, The penitentiary museum in Anamosa and the National Motorcycle Museum.

**Saturday Evening June 15 will be a General Meeting and Dinner at 5:00PM at the Motorcycle Museum in Anamosa. Dinner is \$15 and there will be live music. HOPE YOU CAN COME!**

**RSVP to Audrey Bradford at [audrey.b@mchsi.com](mailto:audrey.b@mchsi.com) or 319-350-3390**

**Sunday June 17** is a free day and a great time to volunteer to take guests to any of your favorite places. Show them the Mississippi in Dubuque do a family cookout. Check to see if any of our guests are available.

**Monday June 18** we take a great tour of the Paramount Theater at 9:00 followed by a day in the Amanos with special tours and a family style dinner at the Ox Yoke Restaurant.

Tuesday our guests leave us. If you are interested in day hosting or joining us for any of the events please **contract Audrey Bradford 319-540-3390 or Connie Williams 319-361-8452**. Most activities are free and you just pay for your own meals.

## Charter Members

Since the Cedar Rapids– Iowa City Friendship Force Club has been recognized for our 30th anniversary, we thought we would highlight a couple of our earliest members.

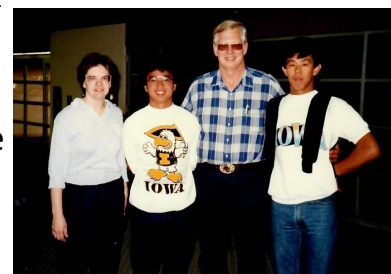
### Connie Williams

Connie had heard something about Friendship Force when she saw an advertisement in the paper to come learn more about it. She went to the meeting where x-Governor Robert Ray presented the idea of Friendship Force. Governor Ray, his wife Billie and his secretary Kitty Olson had started the Des Moines group. When they moved to Cedar Rapids they started to build membership and develop a group in the Cedar Rapids– Iowa City area. Connie became active with the behind the scenes work involved with these meetings. Early on she became a board Member. She says she has been in and out with her involvement. She is a strong advocate and still working hard for Friendship Force.

### Mary Stull

Mary was a member of Welcome Wagon at the time Billie Ray gave a talk at one of their meetings about Friendship Force. She hurried home and told Frank she had found an interesting way to travel. They became involved. Their first hosting was an incoming group from Tokyo Japan. A few years later they then took a journey to Japan, which had been a life goal of theirs.

Thanks to Connie and Mary for contributing so much!!!



## Opportunities Coming Soon

**Immediate Attention**-We have just been offered an exchange opportunity with **Louisville, Kentucky**, September 10-15. It is coming soon, so if you are interested contact Connie Williams 319-361-8452 cmw1226@yahoo.com

### **OPEN WORLD**

Our Cedar Rapids-Iowa City Club has been granted and Open World Program event for November 2, 2018. The participants will be from the **Ukraine** and the **topic will be elections**. Steve Williams will be leading this event for our club. Please contact him at 319-465-3942 swill820@gmail.com if you want to be a part of this wonderful experience.

## Travel Opportunities

If you would like to venture off to places that are not currently being planned by our club you have the opportunity to join another club's journey if they have not filled all of their slots. You can contact our own Dale Moore, 319-362-6252 [mooredale@ironmail.com](mailto:mooredale@ironmail.com) the Midwest Fed Rep. Indicate the type of Journey (domestic or international) and a date range. The information is then put into a shared spreadsheet and then FFI will work to do their best to find a match.

The dates for next year's FF cruise, **15 day South America Passage voyage**, are Feb 21 to Mar 8, 2019 departing Buenos Aires, Argentina and cruising to Santiago, Chile. Bobbie Mulholland will be on the cruise as the incoming board chair. Announcement will be in the catalog soon. In the meantime, this may be of interest to you. [https://www.hollandamerica.com/en\\_US/find-a-cruise/S9S15C/X913.html](https://www.hollandamerica.com/en_US/find-a-cruise/S9S15C/X913.html)

**COMING SOON:** There is an opportunity to join a Journey to **Sherbrooke Quebec Canada this August**. Sherbrooke's scheduled inbound was canceled about the time of the Western Super Regional Conference in early May. Leaders at the conference decided to try to fill the opportunity. 6 slots are filled. Sherbrooke needs a minimum of 10 and will take a maximum of 15. The dates are August 2 thru 8. Sherbrooke is located between Montreal and Quebec City - a great location. If interested, contact Judi Smith, Pacific NW and N Rookies Field Rep, at [smithjudi1941@gmail.com](mailto:smithjudi1941@gmail.com).

## Travel Tips

**THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN** is a travel insurance policy for FFI members living in the United States. It is underwritten by Nationwide® and is a non-published, custom policy created just for Friendship Force members.

The plan cost is simply determined by the total cost of your trip – it is **not dependent on age or destination**. You may purchase it for travel on Friendship Force programs and also for your **own personal travel**. When calculating the Trip Cost, please include all pre-paid, non-refundable items per person. This includes FFI fees, host fees, international and domestic flights, ground transportation, lodging, etc.

The contact person is **ALLISON LINDSAY**, [Allison@Friendshipforce.org](mailto:Allison@Friendshipforce.org), 404-965-4342

## Journey Calendar by Connie Williams

### 2018 JOURNEY CALENDAR

Albuquerque, NM - June 13-19, 2018

Incoming domestic journey with 4 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/music and a tour. Please contact Host Coordinator, Audrey Bradford at 319-365-5746.

Chicago in July is filled. Have a Great Trip!

Louisville, Kentucky - September 10 -15

Just started planning. Watch for more info. Contact Connie Williams if interested, 319-361-8452 or cmw1226@yahoo.com

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. Please put these dates on your calendar and call Host Coordinator, Jerry Burke at 563-929-0190 or Mary Ann Nelson at 319-362-8078 for hosting opportunities. All are invited to the Welcome on Sunday, Sept. 30 (location to be determined) and the Farewell on Thursday, October 5 at Lowe Park. Feel free to bring guests!

Open World from the Ukraine - November 2nd. If interested contact Steve Williams at 319-465-3942 or swill820@gmail.com.

### 2019 Journeys

Ribeirao Preto and Salvador-Bahia, Brazil. Outgoing tentatively set for late June 2019. More details to come, Ambassador Coordinator needed.

Aichi, Japan incoming to Cedar Rapids-Iowa City and Madison. Tentatively planned for September 2019. More details to come, Host Coordinator needed.

At the recent Super-Conference in Cincinnati, contacts were made with the Austin, TX club regarding a future domestic journey. Interested in visiting our friends to the south this fall or winter? More information to come.



## Facebook Page Information

**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.

## 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/>

Tell a friend and bring them to an event or Leo.

## 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.

## 2017-2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 2, 2018	All Iowa Friendship Force Picnic-Ames, Ia	Have Fun!
June 7, 2018 5:30-7:30pm	Board Meeting Downtown Cedar Rapids Library—Un Conference Room	Jim & Barb Steggall, 319-447-1147
June 13-19, 2018	Albuquerque, NM inbound domestic journey	Audrey Bradford, 319-365-5746, Host Coordinator
June 16, 2018 5:00 PM	General Meeting, Dinner and Music at the National Motorcycle Museum in Anamosa	Audrey Bradford 319-350-3390 audrey.b@mchsi.com
June 30, 2018, 10:00am	Volunteer at Freedom Festival Parade	John & Judy Miner, 319-540-1701
July 13-16	Journey to Chicago	Marian Wetjen 319-330-2088
July 4, 2018	Volunteer at Freedom Festival Celebration	John & Judy Miner, 319-540-1701
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	Possibly Domestic Journey to Louisville, Ky	Connie Williams 319-396-4747
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 2, 2019	Open World	Steve Williams 319-465-3942
November 4, 2018 5:00pm	Annual Meeting, Longbranch Hotel, Marion, Iowa	Jim & Barb Steggall 319-447-1147



# CEDAR RAPIDS-IOWA CITY BOARD MEMBERS 2018



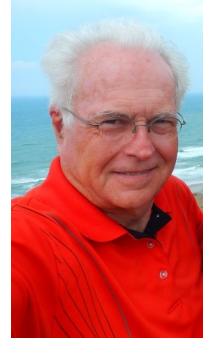
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