



YOURS IN FRIENDSHIP

FROM THE CEDAR RAPIDS/IOWA CITY

FRIENDSHIP FORCE CLUB

www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org

August 1,
2018

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE....

Greetings!

As a Friendship Force Club we welcome Ambassadors from all over the world to Iowa and are proud of all our state has to offer. The strength of our state was recently affirmed in a U.S. News & World Report survey that ranked Iowa as the #1 state in the U.S.! For example, did you know that Iowa ranks #1 in infrastructure, including internet and ultra-fast internet access? Or that it ranks #1 in high school graduation rates and third in 4-year college graduation rates? Iowa also ranks #2 in concentration of science and engineering bachelor's degrees conferred per 1,000 people. Iowa's technology industry employs over 76,000 workers. There is much for us to share when we host Ambassadors from all over the world.

We look forward to hosting the New Zealand Club Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty Sept. 29-Oct 6. Please contact Jerry Burke or MaryAnn Nelson if you would like to get involved. We hope the Ambassadors will have a chance to meet all of our members.

In Friendship,

Jim and Barb Steggall
Co-Presidents



Are you ready for a South American adventure?

We've been invited by two clubs in Brazil to visit them next summer. Estimated dates are late June/early July. It is actually the winter season in Brazil. The first journey will be with the Salvador-Bahia club for one week, then we will travel to Ribeirao Preto for a week with their club.

Salvador is located along the balmy tropical Atlantic waters on the Bay of All Saints and is one of Brazil's oldest colonial cities. From Vicki of the Baton Rouge Club: "You are going to love Salvador!!! It's an extremely unique city in Brazil, one of the oldest colonial areas first settled by the Portuguese. What makes it very unique is that the cultures (Portuguese/African/indigenous) have blended to create the Bahian culture with its different forms of dance, music, food and religion. The people in the club are super and put on a fantastic homestay!



Ribeirao Preto is an economic and business regional center and is located in one of the most developed areas in the country. It has a population of about 600 thousand inhabitants and is proud to have a high social index. In the 19th and 20th centuries Ribeirao Preto was considered the coffee capital of the state. During that period the city built the Pedro II Theater, which held several European productions in the early 20th century. After that, Pedro II Theater experienced a decline, until it caught fire in the early 1980's. It was restored and modernized in the 1990's and nowadays is the home of the Ribeirao Preto Symphony Orchestra and is among the largest opera houses in Brazil.

A significant event in the history of the city was the opening of the Antarctica Brewery Company in 1911. This led to the opening of many beer houses in the city, one of which was named Pinguim and became very famous and brought national fame to the city because of the fantastic quality of its draft beer. Ribeirao Preto is also a pioneer in the establishment of microbreweries in Brazil. Besides culture and beer, Ribeirao Preto also has many gardens, parks, a zoo and museums. The Coffee Museum, is the only of its type in the world, having a detailed and rare exposition of the rise and fall of the coffee barons.

We will also plan a side trip to Iguazu Falls which is in southern Brazil. The colossal power of these thundering falls, viewable from both Argentina and Brazil, and accessible from Paraguay, is a mesmerizing sight: 275 separate falls in a U-shaped formation pound the water below in raging cascades with a deafening intensity.



Chicago Journey July 13-16

On Friday morning July 13, ten of us headed east for a 4 day domestic visit with the Chicago FF Club. Enjoying the scenic drive were Audrey Bradford, Esther Hudson, Lynette Nuehring, Darlene Peterson, Sharon Gillespie, Marty Novak, Pat Hunsberger, Judy/John Miner and myself.

Along the way we stopped in La Salle, IL and enjoyed the 1 1/2 hour guided tour of the seven level, 57 room Hegeler Carus Mansion, which is an architectural masterpiece and a National Historic Landmark.



We then headed into Chicago to meet our hosts at their homes.



Saturday morning we had guided tours of Frank Lloyd Wright's Home and Studio and also the Unity Temple he designed in Oak Park. After lunch at Winberie's, we strolled through four blocks of gorgeous older homes to get back to our vehicles. We then drove downtown where we met Bob our Host coordinator who led us on a walking tour of the city as we made our way to the Chicago River's waters edge where we had a 1 1/2 hour architectural boat tour.

Back on shore, we bought a picnic food at Mariano's Grocery and enjoyed an evening meal with our hosts and other members of the Chicago Club on the lawn at Millennium Park. We listened to a concert of Learner & Loewe's Broadway Show tunes. Fireworks over Navy Pier topped off our busy day.



Sunday was a free day to enjoy with our hosts. Some went to the Aquarium, some to the Art Institute, some rode the hop on/hop off bus, some explored Lincoln Park, and some visited the McCormick Mansion.



Monday morning arrived way to soon and we had to say goodbye to our hosts. Heading west we stopped in Aurora, IL and toured the ornate Sri Venkateshwara Swami Temple. Later in La Salle, even though our mule-pulled boat ride was cancelled due to low water in the canal, we enjoyed walking around the area before heading home.

All in all, we had a great time together and thoroughly enjoyed our hosts and hope that our Chicago friends will visit us sometime soon. Our journey was short and sweet and sure made us appreciate our traffic, even at 5 PM on Collins Road.

Marian Wetjen

Journey Coordinator



Open World is Coming Soon

Our Cedar Rapids-Iowa City Club has been granted an 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.

The next meeting will be August 3 at 10:00am at Culvers Restaurant in Marion.

If interested helping out with this please contact Steve at 319-465-3942 swill820@gmail.com It is a wonderful experience!

LEO at The Red Ginger August 23, 2018 5:30PM

Come join your Friendship Force friends for a LEO on Thursday August 23. It will be held at the Red Ginger (2230 Edgewood Rd SW, Cedar Rapids), starting at 5:30pm.

Bring a friend to show them the fun and adventure of joining Friendship Force.

Please RSVP to Judy / John Miner by August 20 at 319-540-1701 or 319- 5402199.

Thanks to Shirley Rosen-
crans for organizing the
Leo at Bulicks Landing in
Delhi. We had a great turn-
out, good food, and interest-
ing conversation.



Justice for our Neighbors

On September 18, 2018 our Friendship Force club is hosting a meal for "Justice for our Neighbors", an evening of donated legal assistance for those wishing to immigrate into our country. This would entail making a donation of food to bring to Lovely Lane United Methodist Church, 2424 42nd St NE, Cedar Rapids about 4:30 in the afternoon, Tuesday, September 18. You have an option of staying to help serve and see the process or just drop off the food. We are in need of:

- * soup (vegetarian or other)
- * relish tray
- * bread or rolls
- * cookies or bars

If you are able to help please contact Jean Thomas at 519 830-5092 or jeanthomas521@gmail.com. Thanks

FFI World Conference 2019



Ambassadors from New Zealand Clubs have arranged for a one-week Journey to Cedar Rapids-Iowa City following the Conference. This will be our second opportunity within a year to host New Zealanders!

Journey Calendar by Connie Williams

Thanks to Audrey Bradford and her committee, Judy Miner and Lynette Nuehring, for putting together a great mini-journey for four ambassadors from Albuquerque, NM, plus the ambassador from Ottawa, Canada. Cheryl, Ginger, Lenore, Lori and Ian had a great time, thanks to our hosts, dinner hosts and day hosts. I'm sure their visit will develop into return journeys to Albuquerque and Ottawa in the next few years.

Thanks also to Shirley Rosencrans and Esther Hudson for the lovely decorated tables and beverage setup at the National Motorcycle Museum for the general meeting and dinner during the journey.

Thanks to Marian Wetjen for coordinating the journey to Chicago, our club had a great time!

Journey Calendar

September 29 - October 6, 2018 Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty, New Zealand.

Incoming international journey to Des Moines, Cedar Rapids/Iowa City, Wichita and Las Vegas. Please put these dates on your calendar! Call Host Coordinators Jerry Burke at 563-929-0190 or Mary Ann Nelson at 319-362-8078 for hosting opportunities or questions. All are invited to the Welcome Picnic on Sunday, September 30 and the Farewell Banquet on Thursday, Oct 4 at Lowe Park. Feel free to bring guests.

November 2 – 10, 2018 Incoming Open World group from Ukraine. Topic: Elections

If interested in hosting or working on the committee, contact Steve Williams at 319-465-3942 or swill820@gmail.com or Jim Steggall at 319-447-1147 or bjjfs@mchsi.com

Mid-Late May 2019

Outgoing domestic journey to Louisville, KY. Contact Connie Williams at 319-396-4747 or cmw1226@yahoo.com if interested.

June 23- July 8, 2019 (est).

Outgoing international 2-week exchange to Salvador-Bahia and Ribeirao Preto, Brazil.

Our Club's Journey Coordinator, Jim Steggall, is working with the Brazil 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 are interested or know friends from other clubs who may be interested, encourage them to join us. As soon as the program details are set, we will have a price for the exchange and in country portions of the exchange.

An application link must be completed at <https://friendshipforce.azurewebsites.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Ambassador-Application-and-Agreement-1.pdf>. Contact Jim at bjjfs@mchsi.com or (319) 651-1092 if you are interested in this exchange.

July 23 – 27, 2019

World Conference in Boulder, CO More details will become available soon, save the dates on your calendar.

July 28 – Aug 3, 2019

All New Zealand tour: Our club has been asked to host 18-20 ambassadors from various locations in New Zealand after the Boulder, CO, World Conference. What a great way to make connections for a future journey to New Zealand! If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Connie Williams at 319-396-4747 or cmw1226@yahoo.com

September 2019

Incoming journey from Aichi, Japan. Contact Connie Williams at 319-396-4747 or cmw1226@yahoo.com if interested. Host Coordinator and committee needed. **

I've been in contact with the FFI of Dallas, coordinating possible journeys for 2019 or 2020 and with Kathy Hsue of the Kaohsiung, Taiwan FFI regarding their visit to CR/IC in 2020. Lots of friends and fun to come!

****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>

Youth for Understanding Opportunity

Gina Zoss is a Field Director with Youth For Understanding (YFU). They are one of the organizations that always attend our March World Day potluck. YFU is still looking to identify host families for some incoming students for this 2018-19 school year and ask to see if any of our members would consider hosting one of their students. There is more information that was forward to our membership by email from Jim Steggall on July 26. You may contact Gina per the information below.

Gina Zoss | Field

Director, Twin Cities & Southern Minnesota/Iowa & Nebraska

Youth For Understanding USA

(p) 563.676.6732 | yfuusa.org

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 clubs journey if they have not filled all of their slots. You can contact our own Dale Moore, 319-362-6252 moore-dale@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.

***Central Israel (Tel Aviv) October 4-10,2018**

The Dallas Friendship Force Club has openings for 2 ambassadors for an exchange to Israel this October. Please see the July 22 email from Jim Steggall if you would like to go on this wonderful opportunity.

*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. An 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

New Member Profile Trudy Johansen

I'm from Sioux City and an ISU grad. I'm a retired Spanish teacher who spent the majority of my teaching career at Washington High School in CR as well as shorter positions at Hudson, Waterloo East, and Norway. I also taught language arts and journalism in the smaller districts. During my career I took 10 trips with students to Spain every 3 years, and in retirement, I have begun leading adult tours as well. Other Spanish speaking countries I have visited include Mexico, Costa Rica, and all of South America. I am widowed with one son and 2 adorable granddaughters, 3 and 5. I love to read, bike, travel, garden, cook, and entertain.



Online Information is Available

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 website is www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org

What 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.

2017-2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 3, 2018 10:00am	Open World Meeting Culvers Restaurant Marion, Ia	Steve Williams 319-465-3942
August 23, 2018 5:30pm	LEO Red Ginger, Cedar Rapids, Ia	Judy / John Miner, 319-540-1701
August 21, 2018 5:30-7:30pm	Board Meeting CR Library	Jim & Barb Steggall, 319-447-1147
September 18, 2018 4:30pm	Justice for our Neighbors Lovely Lane United Methodist Church 2424 42nd St NE, CR, Ia	Jean Thomas 319-830-5092
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
Sept 29, 2018	Welcome for Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty-New Zealand	Location TBD
October 4, 2018	Farewell Dinner for Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty, New Zealand	Lowe Park, Marion, Iowa
October 16, 2018 5:30-7:30pm	Board Meeting	Jim & Barb Steggall, 319-447-1147
November 2-10, 2018	Open World Ukraine visit on elections	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



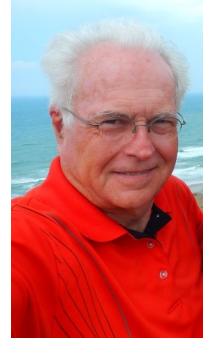
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