

Friendship Force Cedar Rapids-Iowa City

General Meeting Agenda

April 29, 2018 2pm

Hiawatha Public Library

Austin - Next Feb

- ✓ I. Welcome and call to order
- ✓ II. Minutes from last meeting (Larry & MaryAnn)
- ✓ III. Treasurer's Report (Jerry)
- IV. President's Report (Jim & Barb)
 - ✓ - 30-Year Club Anniversary
 - LEO May 8, Hy-Vee Market Grille (Nancy Miller) -
 - All Iowa Friendship Force Picnic-June 2, Ames, IA
 - Open World November 2018 -
 - Annual Meeting Nov. 4
- V. President Elect report (John & Judy)
- VI. Committee reports:
 - a) Membership- Marian
 - b) Journeys-Connie & Journey Coordinators
 - c) Activities- Shirley
 - d) Communications- Mary
- VII. Program- Regional SuperConference held April 19-21 in Covington, KY
"Unlocking the Future of Friendship Force"
Jim, Barb, John, Judy, Connie, MaryAnn and Dale
- VIII. Adjourn

*Dave Callan
Dave Pat Meyer*

*Brazil - 2019
830
790*

*INCOMING
Aug 6/13-19 10 people coming*

*Chicago
July - 13/14*

*68 Total members
Inter Conv. Boulder
July 23-27 Co.*

*New Zealand -
Ecology - deer problems (farms)
cows - valley - urine
skate boarding
love people*

*CR - Monday -
IA CITY -
Dubuque -*

*Thurs - COINs Away -
Fri - Dinner hosting -*



friendship force
CEDAR RAPIDS.
IOWA CITY

Joint Regional Conference Unlocking the Future of Friendship Force

Hosted by Cincinnati Club
April 19-21, 2018

Welcome
to
COVINGTON

Conference Ambassadors



Creating an Environment Open to Change

Try new ways of doing things to
get new results

FF Mission

To promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people

- As an organization, we have focused on international travel. We think nothing of traveling to the ends of the earth to meet new people and to learn of new cultures.
- We all believe in that mission. Every country has diversity. How can we capture the essence of that diversity in our own communities?
- How can we break down barriers in our own neighborhoods?
- What can we do to help our clubs to become more diverse and to explore the diverse cultures around us?

The Many Cultures of the World Share Their Lives With Each Other!

Be more than a tourist.

Travel for Good.

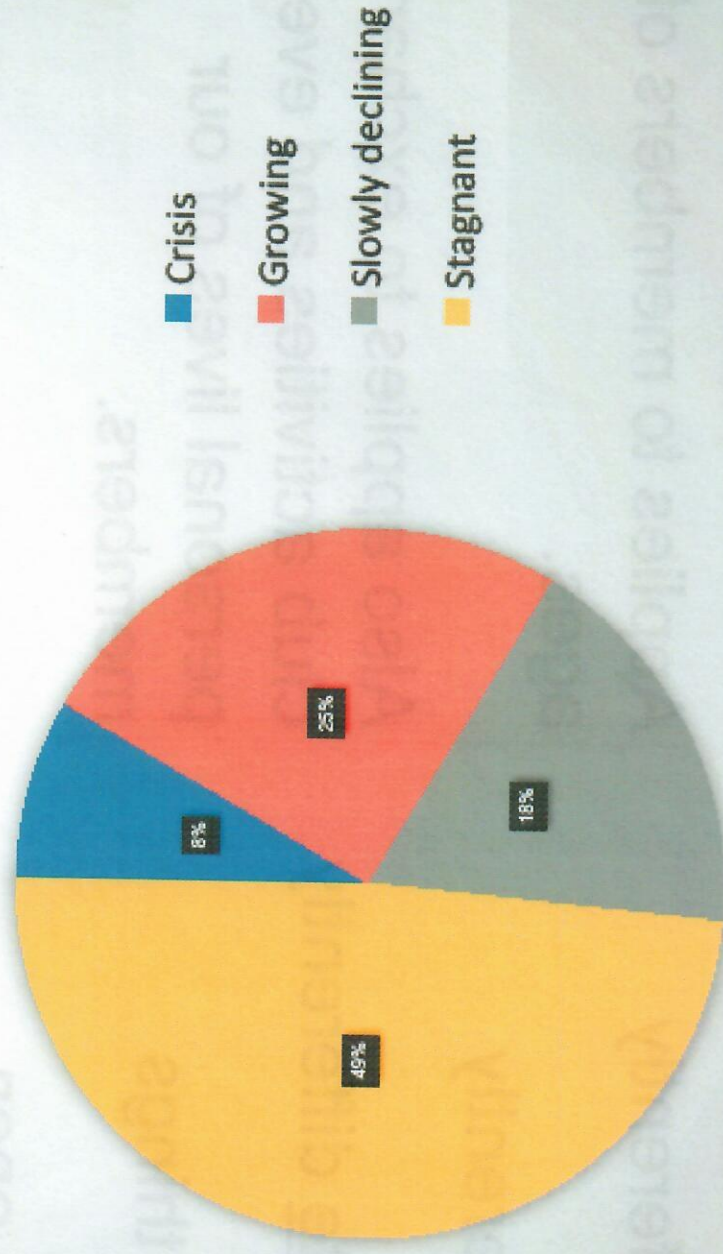
Apply today to join a Friendship Force travel program and spread goodwill across the globe.



friendship force
INTERNATIONAL



2018 Health of FF Clubs



State-of-Mind Open to Change

- Think differently

Applies to members of all ages.

- Plan differently

Also applies to exchanges, club activities and even the personal lives of our members.

- Formulate differently

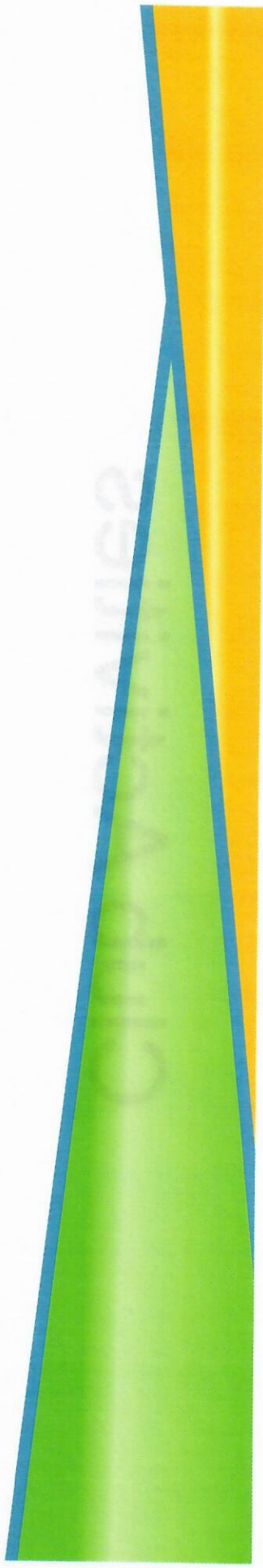
- Try new things

- Be more open



Why Embrace Change?

- New ideas and energy
- Develop new leaders
- Broader networking
- Diversity
- The Friendship Force mission is relevant to people of all ages
- Sustainability



Club Activities

- Make club activities fresh, varied and exciting
 - Be welcoming to guests who can be potential members
- Consider varying the time and location of activities
- Get members engaged and participating



Create Exciting Journeys

- Active
- Options
- Flexibility.
- More non-programmed time
 - More authentic cultural and people-to-people experiences
 - Themed journeys
 - A Friendship Force in Action (humanitarian) activity



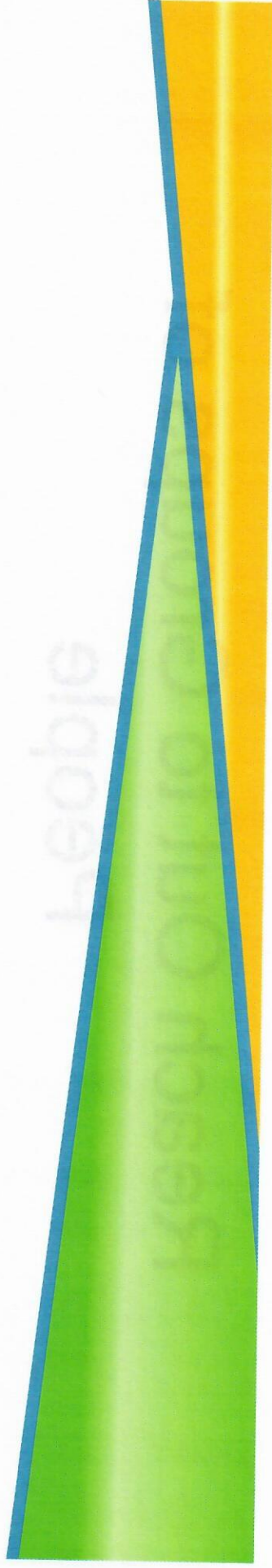
Network

- Attend conferences and training sessions
- Learn best practices from other clubs
- Share newsletters
- Use networking to promote and fill journeys
- Build a relationship with FFI staff and Field Reps as well as other clubs
- Use FFI website



Membership

- Change your club image so family members would like to join
- Host membership events
- Seek diversity
- Reach out to groups of people



Reach Out to Groups of People

- Clubs
- Organizations
- Professional organizations
- Religious groups
- Meetup groups



Survey Your Members to Find Out Their Connections in the Community

- Clubs
 - Religious groups
 - Ethnic groups
 - Universities
- Volunteer/service organizations
- Professional organizations
- Like-minded organizations



Get To Know Your Members

- Understand why they joined and their expectations
- Make sure they understand that we are not a travel club
- Identify their interests and abilities
- Respect leadership capabilities from outside of Friendship Force
- Get them engaged in the club as soon as they join
- Initiate new members with idea that the club works by everyone contributing in some way

Four Generations

Traditionalists

- Born: 1928-1945
- Age in 2015: 70-87 years old

Boomers

- Born: 1946-1960
- Age in 2015: 55-69 years old

Generation X

- Born: 1961-1979
- Age in 2015: 36-54 years old

Generation Y

- Born: 1980-1995
- Age in 2015: 20-35 years old

Baby Boomers

Born 1946-1960

Brazil	China	Germany	Russia	United States
Materialistic consumers	Rigid and authoritarian	Competitive	Competitive	Competitive
Politically cautious	Loyal to the party	Psychologically responsible for relieving guilt	Patriotic	Anti-authoritarian
Idealistic	View work as service to the country	Activists	Educated men and possessive mothers	Idealistic

Source: Generations and Geography: Understanding the Diversity of Generations around the Globe; Tamara J. Erickson

Generation Y, Millennials

Born 1980-1995

Brazil	China	Germany	Russia	United States
Immediate	Immediate	Immediate	Immediate	Immediate
Optimistic	High self-esteem	Financially pressured	Proud of country	Optimistic
Digital natives	Digital natives	Digital natives	Digital natives	Digital natives

Source: Generations and Geography: Understanding the Diversity of Generations around the Globe; Tamara J. Erickson

How to care for Boomers

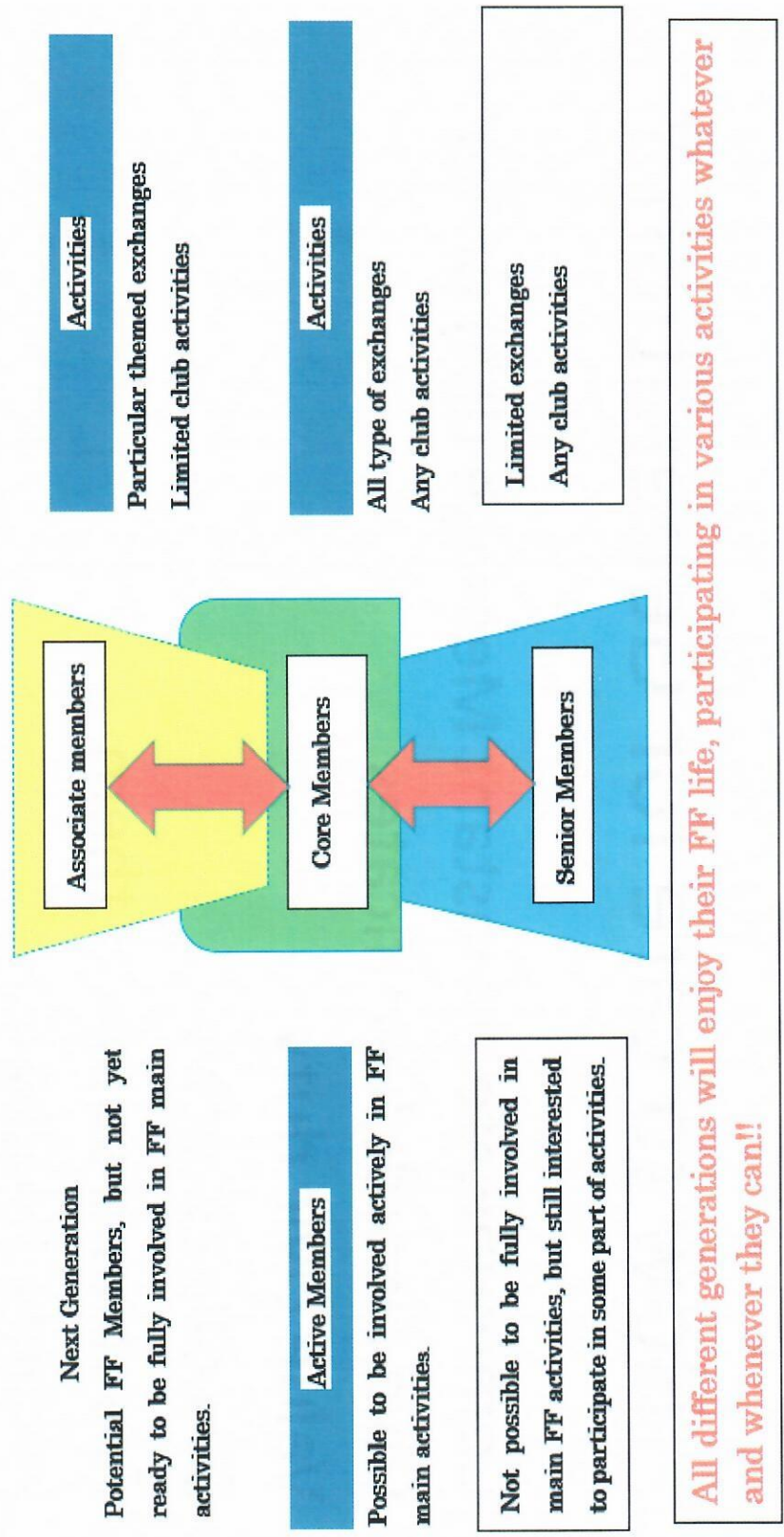
- Meet by phone or face-to-face
- Show personal appreciation
- Treat them as equals
- Be democratic, not bureaucratic
- Say “we need you”
- Hear their input
- Leverage their knowledge
- Value teamwork

How to care for Generation Y

- Communicate by Instant Message (IM) or Text
- Give awards/certificates
- Value civic duty
- Be collaborative
- Coach and support them
- Provide flexibility
- Care about their personal goals
- Promote volunteerism
- Value their technical savvy

Multi-generational Organization

Create an environment of FF family by well-balanced membership throughout the generation



Reaching Out

For years we have relied on one-on-one networking to promote Friendship Force. However, if clubs take the extra effort to learn how to connect with groups of people, they may be able grow faster and become more diverse.

Why Connect with Groups of People?

- Tap into a larger audience for potential members
- Recruit new diverse FF members
- Take the FF mission into the local community
- Develop connections, relationships and exposure in the local community
- Provide learning experiences for your club members
- Provide opportunities for new types of activities for incoming ambassadors

Inspire Your Club

- Never lose sight of the mission of Friendship Force
- Remind your members that we can all make a difference in the world
- Write inspirational messages in your newsletter or communications
- Encourage all your members to “tell their friendship stories”



Never Stop Improving!

**There's always an
opportunity for
growth...**

Membership

- Madison, Milwaukee and Northern Illinois each presented their initiatives to strategically plan to increase membership. The Northern Illinois experience started with a retreat in 2009 and as continued each year. The Milwaukee and Madison initiatives are more recent and were both based on the so called Taupo Model from New Zealand. The numbers presented at the conference were:
- Madison – 31 in 2018 so far and 56 in the last 3 years.
- Milwaukee – 23 in 6 month time period.
- Suggest contacting Madison and Milwaukee leadership to learn more, or <https://www.thefriendshipforce.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Taupo-Experience-Membership-Project.pdf>

Programming

- Strategically planning for innovative programming was also discussed. My big takeaway in a macro sense is that club to club journeys are the core of what we do, but there is a big need to add other innovative programming types for a variety of reasons. This would be a fun small group discussion topic.

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- Some of the types of innovative programming discussed were:

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- Themed
- Humanitarian
- Educational
- Active Next Gen
- Professional
- Global
- Pioneer
- Discovery
- Leadership