



friendship force
CEDAR RAPIDS -
IOWA CITY

**FROM THE CEDAR RAPIDS – IOWA CITY
FRIENDSHIP FORCE CLUB**

www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org

Follow us on Facebook: Cedar Rapids-Iowa City
Friendship Force

August 2020

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- August 13, 2020**
9:00AM
Rain date August 20
Walking Tour of Czech Cemetery
General Meeting
- December 2, 2020**
Open World Kosovo -probably
cancelled
- April 2021**
Outgoing journey Cedar Rapids/
Iowa City to Albuquerque, NM
- July 2021 proposed**
Inbound journey with Tuxtla-
Gutierrez, Mexico
- Summer Autumn**
2021 proposed
Outbound domestic to Western
North Carolina, Ashville & Hen-
dersonville.
- Sept - Nov 2021**
proposed
Outbound to Tamworth, Austral-
ia; Adelaide, Australia and Tau-
ranga-Bay of Plenty, NZ

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

*“Hope is the thing with feathers
that perches in the soul and sings
the tune without the words and
never stops at all.”*

Emily Dickenson

As we enter the last full month of summer of 2020, we find we can make no more plans than we did in early spring. I do, though, feel we all share the hope we will eventually be able to have journeys in person with many FF members throughout Iowa, the US, and worldwide. Thanks to all of your donations and connections, we maintain our vitality. But until then, there are amazing virtual opportunities for our members.

TOGETHER.....

WE CAN GET THROUGH ANYTHING.

Continued page 2

At the last presidents' meeting Dale Moore brought to our attention a website that offers an extensive array of opportunities during this "at home" time. It is **blog.friendshipforce.org**. During the last several weeks they explored the countries of Brazil, Ghana, and Australia. They continue to plan more for the future. They have had recipe exploration with summer salads and photography with various clubs around the world. The trivia times and group connections seem amazing as well as learning about WhatsApp and ZOOM. There are tips for productive meetings and planning for 2021. There are virtual connections around the world to meet new friends and reconnect with old. Remember the pen pals of our youth? They are creating that opportunity as well.

Members of our club are working hard to stay connected. Over the last two weeks we have had a great trivia night and lovely Mix and Mingle event. Thank you to those committees for your work. Please keep aware of the future events and join us when you can. Do take a look at the FFI blog for virtual opportunities. Make a call to someone in the club you have not talked to during this 2020-year. If anyone has ideas for connections, let someone on the board know.

Mary Ann and Larry Nelson

2020 Club Co Presidents

Look for CR/IC FF in the Cedar Rapids Gazette



Friendship Force in the press. Coming in August, watch for an article on our club in an August Sunday supplement. You may see photos from a journey you participated in. I haven't seen the article so I don't know exactly what's in it.

Mary Stull.

Walking Tour of the Czech Cemetery & General Meeting

We will meet at the Czech National Cemetery 2200 C St SW at 9:00 AM. To get there easily, stay on C St past Czech Village. The entrance to the cemetery is well marked but comes up suddenly and is nearly the same place as Hawthorne Dr.

When you enter the cemetery, the office is to the right behind the flags. Park anywhere along the roads and walk to the office. We will meet outside.

Barbara Edmunds, who with her husband have cared for the grounds for many years, will talk with us about this historical gem. The Czech community bought the land over 100 years ago and the names, history and stories make it a fascinating way to spend part of a morning.



If you get there early go into the office to see the “The Book” of over 150 years of graves or wander the grounds to try to pronounce the names .

Following the walking tour there will be a short General Meeting (at the cemetery or a Jones Park pavilion?) with refreshments.

If it looks like rain, we will move this event to August 20 at the same time.

Mix & Mingles of July 24

On Friday July 24 we had our second outdoor Mix and Mingle. Shirley Roesencrans and George and Sephanie Schulte opened up their backyards to host club members. We socially distanced and brought our own food and beverages to enjoy spending a couple of hours with friends.



Jerry & Carol Burke, Shirley Roesencrans, Judy Frascht-Miner, Mary Novak, Marian Wetjen

Mary & Frank Stull, Vic Klopfenstein



JoAnne Smith, Darlene Petersen, Dorothy de Souza Guedes from the Gazette, Stephanie Schulte and Barb Steggall



Sad News -Daniel Cechetti



We just heard some very sad news. The couple that we stayed with in Brazil (Daniel and Sheila) Daniel just passed away from COVID-19. He was a wonderful man and highly respected as a eye doctor. Our hearts are very heavy .Jim & Barb Steggall



What I remember about Daniel was the mischievous glint in his eyes. He was a leader in our journey to Brazil and brought much fun and energy to our visit. His involvement in Friendship Force goes back to his parents who had been active members. My heart is also heavy. Judy Frascht-Miner

Zoom Trivia

About a dozen keen thinkers took on the Trivia challenge again on July 17. George Schulte and Audrey Bradford challenged players are great movie lines, brand slogans, general trivia, hobbies and British and New Zealand terms in English.

Marty Novak again had the highest score in the five, lively rounds. She has volunteered to write and monitor the next challenge, so watch for the date of the next contest. If you've been a player on previous nights you may want to talk to Marty about helping her with the next round.



New From Open World

From Britton Holmes, FFI Open World Programs Coordinator

Hi all,

I hope you are still doing well and staying safe! I am writing with an update for all fall and winter Open World programs. Open World has informed us that they are suspending all in person programs through December 31, 2020. Taking into consideration the uncertainty of the effect of COVID-19, this is the best decision to make sure that all delegates, local host organizers, and host families are safe. Once they are able to start rescheduling programs, Open World Program Managers will work with us to postpone as many programs as we can to a safer date. With that being said, Open World cannot guarantee that all originally planned 2020 programs will take place in 2021.



One positive note is that they will be expanding their virtual programming. They said that they plan to put a greater focus on virtual alumni programming as nominations for the second half of the year have not started. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, or have a specific group of alumni you would like to reconnect with, please let me know.

I will be working with them to determine the best plan moving forward into 2021 programming and keep you all updated along the way. Thanks for your patience and understanding. Please let me know if you have any questions! Stay safe.

In friendship,

Britton

Journey Calendar by Connie Williams

JOURNEY UPDATES

2020 Journeys have been canceled. Stay home, stay healthy, stay safe!

April 2021 – Outgoing journey Cedar Rapids/Iowa City to Albuquerque, NM is rescheduled for April 2021, to coincide with the 2021 Gathering of Nations Pow Wow.

July 2021 proposed – Inbound journey with Tuxtla-Gutierrez, Mexico. English learning adventure for families.

September – November 2021 proposed 3 week journey, outbound to Tamworth, Australia; Adelaide, Australia and Tauranga-Bay of Plenty, NZ. Springtime in the Southern Hemisphere.

Proposed domestic outbound to Western North Carolina, Asheville & Hendersonville, NC, no dates set.

Accessing Membership Content on CR/IC Friendship Force Website

Several members have asked how to access the membership content on our CR/IC Friendship Force Website. This information is open to all club members and is set up with a username and password. To get to this information:

Click on the Membership Content on the left side of the home screen of our website.

Enter Username: Ffmember (both are case sensitive)

Enter Password: Friendship

You can then access directories of membership and club leadership. There are minutes from general & board meetings & Club Governance policies.

Note: The directories seem small but if you click on them they will enlarge. This works for the stored newsletters also.

Remember to use **.org** in our website: friendshipforcecr-ic.org

If you use **.com** you will be directed to a different website for an online pharmaceutical company.



friendship force

CEDAR RAPIDS -
IOWA CITY

2020 Cedar Rapids—Iowa City Club Board Members

Co-Presidents

Mary Ann & Larry Nelson 319-362-8078 mrsmanelson@gmail.com

Past Presidents

Judy & John Frascht-Miner 319-540-1701 jjbm526@aol.com

President-Elect

Jerry Burke 563-929-0190 jbcburke@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Joanne Smith 319-395-9440 jmariesm@msn.com

Secretary

Trudy Johansen 319-310-4560 srahohanson@hotmail.com

Journey Coordinator

Connie Williams 319-396-4747 cmw1226@yahoo.com

Activities Coordinator

Shirley Rosencrans 319-462-4132 sarosencrans@yahoo.com

Communications

Mary Stull 319-393-6254 mcdstull@aol.com

Membership

Carol Burke 563-929-6067 jbcburke@yahoo.com

Directors at Large

Esther Hudson 319-393-4839 esther_hudson@msn.com

Darlene Peterson 319-430-6850 d68peterson@gmail.com