



friendship force
CEDAR RAPIDS -
IOWA CITY

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

www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org

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Friendship Force

October 2020

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- October 23, 2020 Zoom Trivia
- October 26, 2020 Board Meeting
10:00M
- December 6, 2020 Zoom Annual Meeting
4:00PM
- April 2021
proposed possibly
rescheduled for fall
2021 Outgoing journey Cedar Rapids/
Iowa City to Albuquerque, NM
- Autumn 2021
proposed Outbound domestic to Western
North Carolina, Ashville & Hen-
dersonville.
- Jan-May 2022 or
Oct-Nov 2022
proposed Outbound to Tamworth, Austral-
ia; Adelaide, Australia and Tau-
ranga-Bay of Plenty, NZ

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

**Friendship Force International
Mission Statement**

Our mission is to promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people. Each individual can make a contribution to global goodwill. The Friendship Force worldwide network of clubs and individuals seeks to overcome differences among people and nations.

Dear Friendship members of Cedar Rapids and Iowa City Club, I feel it is so very important to remember the mission of our club and that we are not simply a travel club. Our purpose is a goodwill mission for understanding that begins locally, statewide, nationwide, and leads to global friendship.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Given the restrictions of the Covid19 virus, we must keep our focus on our local club and the wonderful members that have the same mission since at this time travel is limited. There are several ways that your board would like to help support this effort.

In the next few weeks, expect one of the board members to contact you by phone. They would like to know how you are surviving in the age of Covid19 and the Derecho. It would be great to have your input on how we can work on the mission of Friendship Force though there is no travel probably well into 2021, if not 2022.

The board realizes that there have not been many activities this year so little money has been spent. So for our upcoming dues, we will be asking that members only pay the \$20 which is what we pay FFI each year to support the global endeavor but not the local dues. You can expect to receive information in October on renewing your membership from our membership chair, Carol Burke. Please remember our mission even though we are not able to travel at this time or enjoy guests.

The board is giving "scholarships" to several of the people that have supported our club over the last couple of years. If you have a suggestion of someone who deserves this, please send in his or her name for nomination.

The Activities Committee has been busy at work planning for activities that can help keep members active though it is difficult to meet in person. Because of the Derecho, the tour of the Czech Cemetery organized by Audrey Bradford was cancelled. Marian Wetjen has worked on Mix and Mingles but they are difficult because the weather is cooling and meeting inside can be difficult. Zoom meetings for Trivia, coffee, and "wine" evenings have been positive experiences. As our Covid19 numbers have increased and the flu season is upon us, people are more uncomfortable to meet in person in large groups.

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We would like your input. Would anyone be interested in forming a book club or a movie chat? If you have ideas contact Shirley Rosencrans (sarosencrans@Yahoo.com)

Connie Williams has been working with US and global clubs, scheduling and preparing for travel both inbound and outbound journeys that will occur in the future. Obviously, there are more questions than answers as to when we can travel, but the board wants you to be aware this feature is an ongoing activity. Jerry Burke has been staying in contact with North Carolina for a future journey. Jean Thomas has been also keeping in contact with Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Connie (cmw1226@yahoo.com) has also been involved with our humanitarian ventures at Hoover Elementary food pantry. If you want to donate, they cannot take money but need oil. We are looking at other humanitarian possibilities as well and your input is welcomed.

Mary Stull keeps our website up to date as well as our Facebook Page. Make certain you "LIKE" our Facebook Page. I hope you all had a chance to see the article she was able to have in the Gazette! Great job, Mary! She has copies if you did not see them. I am sure Mary (mcdstull@aol.com) would appreciate information to be included on our webpage or Facebook.

John Miner has been doing a remarkable job with the newsletter each and every month!! I thank him so much. Please read more of the details of some of the items I have referred to in this message. Judy Miner has done a great job sharing and sending out Zoom invitations even though as of writing this, they have no cable - (blasted derecho.) To send them information or ideas their email is (jjbm526@aol.com) .

Also, we would like to have a couple of general meetings via Zoom before the end of 2020. I am hoping that we will be able to use the extended Zoom experience that FFI can provide for our meetings. These meetings have not been fully planned as of yet. We are hoping to have one later in October. The other

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one is our Annual meeting that we all look forward to each year, which will need to be virtual as well. Do put The Annual meeting on your calendar, Sunday, December 6 at 4:00.

I really do want to draw your attention to the FFI website where you can find information on Virtual trips and Virtual experiences. I am amazed at the opportunities. Again, remember our mission and these definitely highlight our global understanding as well.

I would like to mention that Jim Steggall (bjsteggall@mchsi.com) is reviving the Strategic Planning committee. If anyone is interested in serving on this committee, please contact Jim. We are also so fortunate to have Dale Moore serve as our representative to FFI for our Midwest geographic area.

Hopefully from this message, though we do not have journeys, you can see the board and other members including the activity committee have been busy working for you. We invite you as we enter our cooler weather and we become more “shut in,” to use Friendship Force to meet and stay in contact with friends. As you can see, there are many opportunities. I am always open to talk to anyone that would like to become more active. Remember, global understanding begins at home.

Mary Ann and Larry Nelson, (mrsmanelson@gmail.com)

Co-Presidents

International Day of Peace September 21, 2020

International Day of Peace, also known as the World Peace Day, is a day that is celebrated on September 21st to acknowledge and show appreciation for all of those who worked to promote peace and end conflict, whether it is in their home country or in the world. It is also a day in which warring factions, both of a political and a personal nature, are supposed to put away their differences – for one day – and call a cease-fire of hostilities.



Last year we were able to celebrate with a LEO at Shueys Restaurant. Esther Hudson led us in a rousing chorus of Let there be Peace on Earth. Let us hope that we will soon be able to resume these fun activities.



Here are some pictures of people celebrating around the world.



News from FF members

Shirley Rosencrans was able to recently spend a week in the upper peninsula Michigan on Lake Superior.



Shirley also sent this picture of her grandson Jacob's sheep. She reports that he is studying to be a veterinarian.



From Mary Carson:

I have moved from 4th to 3rd floor at Grand Living Indian Creek. Mail must include the apartment number so mine is now apt 325. A downsize, but suits me fine.

I have two new great-grand babies who are cousins to one another. Can't resist adding their pictures. One is in Denver and the other in Indianapolis. Haven't seen them yet due to the virus, but I get pictures regularly!

Heading to a grandson's wedding in Kansas City this coming weekend. Wish all family could come but not safe for some. My son from Seattle will be there so it will be great to see him, masks and all!



Geneva



Brady

Annual Meeting

This year has presented several challenges to our club. Another one is how to have our annual meeting during the pandemic. The board has decided we will hold a virtual annual meeting using ZOOM. The date has been set for Sunday December 6 at 4:00PM. More details and information will be made available in the future and will be shared with you.

Annual Club Dues

At the September 29 Board Meeting, a motion was made and passed to reduce the annual dues for 2021 to \$20. This is the amount of our annual dues that goes to Friendship Force International. As there will not be an in person annual meeting, please send your dues payment to the Club Treasure:

Jo Anne Smith

4125 B Summerfield LN NE

Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Please make the check payable to Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Friendship Force.

Club Mailing Address

The club no longer has a post office box mailing address due to so little use and the annual cost to maintain it. If you have the post office box listed on a **business card or other club brochure**, please cross it off so no mail is inadvertently sent to this address. If you need to use an address please use one of the club's board members who will see to it that it gets directed to the proper place.

Journey Calendar by Connie Williams

Greetings my friends!

Summer is over, autumn is here. We are all rethinking our plans for 2020 & 2021, big plans as well as the day to day. What will make my home more comfortable for the long run? Do we need to stock up for winter? Will we be able to get away for a few days, weeks, months? Grocery delivery, pick up or do I go into the store? Mail in, early voting or election day vote? Flu shot, you bet. When will Covid-19 vaccination be available? Will there be a Friendship Force? Will there be journeys? These are the things that float to the top and wake me up early some mornings. How about you?

As journey chair, I've been in touch with FFI, journey coordinators in our club and host clubs. It is very possible that 2021 journeys will be delayed or canceled. It is also possible each ambassador or host will need to have the Covid-19 vaccine as a part of their medical profile for travel. Reorganizing for future journeys will take time, effort and enthusiasm.

The first step in FFI's matching process is the hosting availability form. This was completed recently, stating optimistically that our FF chapter could host an international journey and one or two domestic journeys. We would also consider a themed journey. In the next round of correspondence with FFI, we will have the opportunity to request our outbound journeys.

My thoughts are to consider domestic travel only for 2021, if possible, then consider Tamworth, Australia; Adelaide, Australia; and Tauranga-Bay of Plenty, NZ for 2022. Before putting in the planning time and energy to coordinate a long journey, we need to make absolutely sure we are welcome there with no possible Covid-19 issues. With this in mind, the journey calendar is as follows:

April 2021 – Possible outbound journey to Albuquerque, NM, to coincide with the 2021 Gathering of Nations Pow Wow. Or possibly in the fall of 2021.

Autumn 2021 – Possible outbound journey Western North Carolina, Ashville & Hendersonville.

While we are open to hosting in 2021, nothing is planned at this time.

Jan.-May, 2022 or Oct.-Nov. 2022 - proposed 3 week journey, outbound to Tamworth, Australia; Adelaide, Australia and Tauranga-Bay of Plenty, NZ. Seasons of summer, spring or autumn in the Southern Hemisphere. We may be given viral tours by the host clubs, in anticipation of our later journey. Sounds great!

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.



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CEDAR RAPIDS -
IOWA CITY

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