



**friendship force**  
CEDAR RAPIDS-IOWA CITY

## CEDAR RAPIDS-IOWA CITY FRIENDSHIP FORCE CLUB

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

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Cedar Rapids- Iowa City Friendship Force

### December 2022

#### Calendar of Events

- Dec 9**  
**7:30PM**  
**Club Zoom Trivia**
- Dec 11**  
**3:00PM**  
**Thanksgiving Diner**  
**with guest from Kosovo at Wickiup Hill Learning Center**
- Dec 16**  
**7:30PM**  
**Orchestra Iowa at The Paramount**
- Dec 9-17**  
**Open World-Kosovo**
- March/April 2023**  
**Outgoing to New Zealand and Australia**
- June 2023**  
**Incoming from Taipei, Taiwan**
- Sept/Oct 2023**  
**Incoming from Edmonton, CA**
- October 2-5 2023**  
**World Conference Dubrovnik, Croatia**

#### President's Message

At this time of year, our thoughts turn to the things we are thankful for. I personally have been blessed this past year with my first grandchild, which I am most thankful for! But I am also thankful that we are finally emerging from the cloud that covid has covered us with for so long. Most of my time in Friendship Force has been under this cloud and I am eager to see what "normal" is; we have started to see it this past year, finally, with incoming journeys, outgoing journeys, ALEX and Open World. I am thankful that our club has stayed strong and healthy and active, when there are so many clubs failing and floundering. We have such a wealth of knowledge, experience and enthusiasm in the members of our club. I am thankful that I joined when I did, in December 2019. I retired January 1, 2020 and I would have gone crazy without this group to sustain me, giving me outings, properly socially distanced of course, to look forward to.

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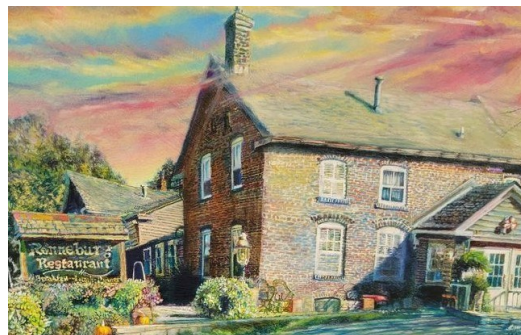


Lastly, I am thankful that everyone I have met in our club is so willing to help and answer questions and offer advice, I will need all of that in the coming year! Connie made this all look easy, but I know that is because so many people help. I hope you all have a wonderful holiday with friends and loved ones. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Bring it on, 2023.

***Patty Potter 2023 Club President***

## Club Annual Meeting November 12

The Annual meeting of the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Friendship Force Club was held November 12 at The Ronneburg Restaurant, Amana, IA. We had around 35 members present. After a hearty Amana breakfast we had the Annual Meeting. Connie William gave a review of the past year. The committee chairs also gave their reports. Nominations for the four elected officers for 2023 were made and a unanimous vote was given. The following are the officers for next year.



Patty Potter	Club President
Nancy York	President Elect
Christine Allen	Treasurer
Marilyn Benge	Secretary
Judy Frascht-Miner	Journey Coordinator
Shirley Rosencranz	Activities
Carol Burke	Membership
Mary Stull	Communications
Jean Thomas	Director At Large
TBD	Director At Large

***Thank you to everyone who served on the 2022 Board***

## Open World with friends from Kosovo

The CR/IC FF club is hosting a delegation from Kosovo who are participating in an Open World from December 9th through the 17th. Connie Williams and her committee have put together a program on Sustainability. There are two events that club members have been invited to by a Signup Genius.



We will be attending a Concert by Orchestra Iowa at the Paramount Theatre on December 16. We will have having a Thanksgiving Dinner with our guest December 11 at Wickiup Hill Learning Center. If you are interested in attending either of these events please contact Connie Williams [cmw1226@yahoo.com](mailto:cmw1226@yahoo.com) for the concert and Shirley Rosencrans [sarosencrans@yahoo.com](mailto:sarosencrans@yahoo.com) for the Dinner.

## Glenn Jensen

We have been notified of the passing of one of our members Glenn Jensen who passed on November 7, 2022. Our condolences to his wife Marjorie and family.

You may read his obituary at <https://www.thegazette.com/obituaries/glenn-b-jensen/>





## Friendship Cedar Rapids Sponsor Circle

Our Sponsor Circle has been hard at work with the two Afghan gentleman refugees who are settling in this area. The project has gone very well and is coming to the conclusion of our formal involvement .

**A very big Thank You to everyone that participated and contributed.**

## NEW ZEALAND/ AUSTRALIA JOURNEY

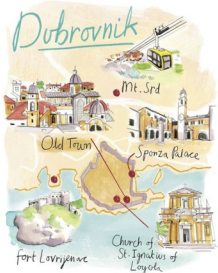
Our journey to New Zealand/Australia will begin March 14th with a few days in Sydney. It will be 3 1/2 weeks long. We have 16 members traveling. Our official journeys will begin in Adelaide, Australia and then move on to Tamworth, Australia. In New Zealand we will be visiting the Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty Club. At the conclusion some of us will be adding on a tour of New Zealand's South Island.



The trip is full, although a couple of people have not made a final commitment yet. If an opening presents itself and you are still interested in going to New Zealand/Australia and March/early April 2023 works for you, please let me know.

Looking forward to hearing from you. I'm sure it will be a wonderful trip.

**World Conference Dubrovnik, Croatia**



Next International Conference!!! Save the date for the Friendship Force World Conference 2023: October 2-5, 2023 \* Our host will be Dubrovnik, Croatia, on the beautiful Adriatic Sea. \* Plans are underway, including pre- and post-conference tours in the region. Look on the international web site for more information. <https://friendshipforce.org>

## Club Zoom Trivia

The next Club Trivia zoom gathering will be Friday December 9 at 7:00 pm. If you want to join in on the fun contact : Audrey [audrey.b@mchsi.com](mailto:audrey.b@mchsi.com), or George [ghsir@gmail.com](mailto:ghsir@gmail.com).





The collage consists of 15 individual photographs arranged in a grid-like fashion. The photos depict various social gatherings and group portraits of seniors. Key elements include:
 

- A group of about 20 people posing in front of a banner that reads 'The Friendship Force Cedar Rapids - Iowa City Area'.
- People sitting at long tables outdoors, possibly at a picnic or meal.
- A large group of people sitting on stone steps in front of a building.
- A group of people standing on a wooden bridge or walkway.
- A group of people standing in front of a sign that says 'TRIVIA Night'.
- People sitting around a dining table indoors, eating and talking.
- A man riding a green and yellow riding lawn mower with a red trailer.
- A group of people standing in a field of tall corn.
- A group of people walking on a rocky, wooded trail.
- A group of people posing in front of a rustic wooden building.
- A group of people sitting on a wooden deck or bridge.
- A group of people standing in front of a sign that says 'Puzzled'.
- A group of people standing in front of a sign that says 'Take a Hike'.
- A group of people standing in front of a sign that says 'Take a Hike'.
- A group of people standing in front of a sign that says 'Take a Hike'.

If you haven't paid your 2023 club dues please send them to

***Where else can you have so much fun for so little money!!!!***



## Journey Calendar by Judy Frascht-Miner

**Safe/Fun Traveling in 2022 and 2023.** Remember, up to date vaccinations and boosting are required for our journeys.

**March/April 2023 -Tamworth Australia, Adelaide Australia; and Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty, New Zealand.** The beginning date is **March 14, 2023.** Pre and post extensions to this journey are being planned. If interested contact Judy Frascht-Miner at [jjbm526@aol.com](mailto:jjbm526@aol.com) 319-540-1701 or Jerry Burke [jbcburke@yahoo.com](mailto:jbcburke@yahoo.com) 563-929-0190

**DECEMBER 9 -17 2022** - Open World with **KOSOVO.** Connie Williams and her committee are hard at work putting together a program for our Kosovo visitors. The theme of their visit is sustainability. Note the **Thanksgiving Dinner at Wickiup Hill** on December 11th and **Orchestra Iowa event** on December 16th. These are during the Kosovo visit. If you would like to be involved contact Connie Williams [cmw1226@yahoo.com](mailto:cmw1226@yahoo.com) 319-396-4747

**LATE JUNE 2023**—We have been matched with **TAIPIE, TAIWAN** for an inbound. It's beginning to look like they will visit in late June if we can dispel their concerns about tornados. Connie Williams has volunteered to be the Host Ambassador for this journey. There are several of you that traveled with us to Taiwan. What a great committee to be on. If you want to be involved with the committee contact Connie Williams [cmw1226@yahoo.com](mailto:cmw1226@yahoo.com) 319-396-4747.

**SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2023 -EDMONTON, CANADA**-Communication to solidify dates has started for our inbound 2023 assignment. We will need a Host Coordinator to put together a committee and plan the itinerary during their visit. You do not do this alone and it's a wonderful experience. Contact Judy Frascht-Miner if interested, [jjbm526@aol.com](mailto:jjbm526@aol.com) 319-540-1701

**I look forward to traveling with many of you soon!**

## **2022 Cedar Rapids/Iowa City FF Officers**

### **President**

Patty Potter 319-551-5179 [pattyspotter1001@gmail.com](mailto:pattyspotter1001@gmail.com)

### **Past President**

Connie Williams 319-396-4747 [cmw1226@yahoo.com](mailto:cmw1226@yahoo.com)

### **President-Elect**

Nancy York 319-929-8208 [stampingnancy@gmail.com](mailto:stampingnancy@gmail.com)

### **Treasurer**

Christine Allen 319-330-3536 [callenivy@gmail.com](mailto:callenivy@gmail.com)

### **Secretary**

Marilyn Benge 319-540-2114 [mbenge@southslope.net](mailto:mbenge@southslope.net)

### **Journey Coordinator**

Judy Frascht-Miner 319-540-1701 [jjbm526@aol.com](mailto:jjbm526@aol.com)

### **Activities Coordinator**

Shirley Rosencrans 319-462-4132 [sarosencrans@yahoo.com](mailto:sarosencrans@yahoo.com)

### **Communications**

Mary Stull 319-393-6254 [mcdstull@aol.com](mailto:mcdstull@aol.com)

### **Membership**

Carol Burke 563-929-6067 [jcburke@yahoo.com](mailto:jcburke@yahoo.com)

### **Directors at Large**

Jean Thomas 319-830-5092 [jeanthomas521@gmail.com](mailto:jeanthomas521@gmail.com)