



friendship force
CEDAR RAPIDS-IOWA CITY

**CEDAR RAPIDS-IOWA CITY
FRIENDSHIP FORCE CLUB**

www.friendshipforcecr-ic.org

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

February 2023

Calendar of Events

February 3 **Planning Meeting**
1:00 PM **for Croatia 2023**
World Conference
526 Forest DR SE CR

February 10 **Club Zoom Trivia**
7:00 PM

February 26 **World Friendship**
2-5PM **Day at Salem United**
Methodist Church

March/April **Outgoing to New Zea-**
2023 **land and Australia**

June 27— **Incoming from Tai-**
July 4 2023 **pei, Taiwan**

Oct 15-22 **Incoming from Ed-**
2023 **monton, CA**

October 2-5 **World Conference**
2023 **Dubrovnik, Croatia**

December 2- **Open World**
9 2023

President's Message

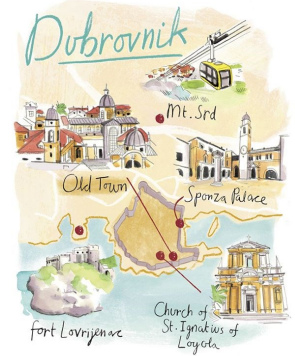
As a nod to getting back to normal, we will be celebrating in person World Friendship Day on February 26, for the first time since 2020. Since I am a newer member, this will only be the second one of these I have attended, and I am excited! I hope we will have a big turnout for this potluck at Salem United Methodist Church, as we all gather to celebrate the Friendship of our many countries, with hopefully many exchange students and visitors. A Sign Up Genius will be going out, please plan to attend. Guests are also welcome, this is a good opportunity to introduce friends and neighbors to what Friendship Force is all about. I hope to see you all there.

Patty Potter 2022 Club President



2023 WORLD CONFERENCE IN CROATIA

There is a small group of us that are planning to go to Croatia in October for the World Conference (Oct 2-5). We plan to do some add on's to this trip, either before or after the actual conference. If you have any interest in checking this out, please come to a meeting at my home to begin the planning:



Planning Meeting for Croatia 2023

Friday February 3rd at 1:00 PM

526 Forest Dr. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52403

Please let me know if you plan to attend. Hope to see you there.

Judy Frascht-Miner, Journey Coordinator

jjbm526@aol.com 319-540-1701

Club Zoom Trivia

The next Club Trivia zoom gathering will be Friday, February 10 at 7:00 pm. If you want to join in on the fun contact or watch for the email with the link, and jump on:



Audrey audrey.b@mchsi.com, or Judy jjbm526@aol.com

World Friendship Day February 26

You're Invited to Celebrate Friendship Force International's World Friendship Day



Sunday, February 26, The Friendship Force of Cedar Rapids-Iowa City will celebrate World Friendship Day.

International themed potluck and presentations by area international students.

Place: Salem United Methodist Church, 3715 33rd Avenue SW,
Cedar Rapids IA

Date & Time: Sunday, February 26, 2:30 to 5 pm

- ⇒ Enjoy an international potluck dinner.
- ⇒ **Bring a dish to share.**
- ⇒ **Table service & beverages provided.**
- ⇒ Meet international students from area colleges and high schools
- ⇒ Meet club members and learn more about upcoming club activities



The Friendship Force of Cedar Rapids-Iowa City is part of Friendship Force International, a global network of citizen ambassadors in 360 clubs who travel the world in the name of friendship and goodwill. The signature program of FFI is home hospitality, where travelers are hosted in the home of someone in another country in order to experience the culture from the inside. It is truly a powerful experience that creates strong bonds as well as lifelong friendships.

RSVP or More Information: Contact: Connie Williams, 319 396-4747; cmw1226@yahoo.com

a world of friends is a world of peace



Taipei Taiwan is coming June 27

Our friends from Taipei, Taiwan will arrive in Cedar Rapids on June 27, after a week with the Twin Cities Friendship Force Club. Please join in the fun, look for events to be posted in the newsletter. If you are interested in hosting, contact Judy Frascht-Miner at jjbm526@aol.com or Connie Williams at cmw1226@yahoo.com. We will need overnight hosts, day hosts and home dinner hosts. Thanks to all who make this journey a success!



Our club's welcome to Taipei on 2017 Journey

Leo at Czech Town Station

On a cold January 19th, eleven members of the Cedar Rapids Friendship Force gathered in the warm friendly confines of the Czech Town Station Restaurant in heart of Czech Town Cedar Rapids. We enjoyed good food, fun and fellowship. There will be more opportunities coming up during the year to enjoy these outing. Please follow us through the newsletter and join us on the next one.



Journey Opportunity to Leuven, Belgium

With the Greater Des Moines FF Club

Friendship Force of Greater Des Moines is looking forward to an outbound journey to FF Leuven (Belgium) in September 2023, They have several seats to fill and are look for other members from our district to join them. Below is some information on what the journey will encompass. If you are interested please contact

Shelley Bain, Ambassador Coordinator, at shelleybain@centurylink.net or 515-330-9981.

Typical Journey

A typical Journey is a reception at the City Hall, visits to the historical cities of Leuven, Brussels, Bruges, Ypers or Antwerp and a farewell party in Hoegaarden, a famous beer village.

During the visits we have lunches with typical local dishes. Everywhere our guests can fully enjoy the authentic Belgian beers and genuine Belgian chocolate. Our hosts are keen to provide flexibility for individual ambassadors. Dinners are held where groups of ambassadors and hosts can meet informally.

Our Journey Committee plans the week creatively, attempting to keep costs for the ambassadors to a minimum. Special activities not planned can be done on special request to the hosts at an extra cost arranged in advance.

Dutch is our first language. All hosts are trilingual (Dutch, French, English). Moreover, many members speak German, Spanish, and/or Italian.

Transport by bus or train, lunches, entrance fees are included. The nearest airport is Brussels International Airport at 15 km from Leuven, easy to reach by train (15 min)

Airfare

Des Moines (DSM) to Brussels (BRU). Total price from \$1,514 on United as of 1/12/2023.

Total cost - range \$680 (Does not include a pre or post extension if one is planned.)

Applications

Due *March 4*, mailed to Shelley Bain, 1008 38th St, Des Moines, IA 50311-3619 or emailed to shelleybain@centurylink.net.

Journey Calendar by Judy Frascht-Miner

IT'S COLD OUT THERE!!!! A great way to deal with cold weather is plan future activities when the weather is better. There are many things happening in 2023. I encourage you to get involved in our journey's even if in a small way. There are so many ways to be involved. I will use my favorite word for Friendship Force **"ENRICHING"**. Don't wait to be asked, contact me and discuss options: Judy Frascht-Miner jjbm526@aol.com 319-540-1701

Vaccinations are required for traveling and hosting

March/April 2023 -Tamworth Australia, Adelaide Australia; and Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty, New Zealand. The beginning date is **March 14**, 2023. Flights have been purchased, planning is in full swing, and bags will be packed soon!

JUNE 27th- JULY 4th, 2023—TAIPIE, TAIWAN will be visiting for an inbound. It appears there will be approximately 19 ambassadors coming. Connie Williams has volunteered to be the Host Ambassador. We need many volunteers. There are several of you that traveled with us to Taiwan a few years ago. What a great committee to be on. If you want to be involved with the committee contact Connie Williams cmw1226@yahoo.com 319-396-4747.

OCTOBER 15th-22nd, 2023 -EDMONTON, CANADA will be visiting us. We need a Host Coordinator, planning committee members, in home hosts, dinner hosts, and day hosts to put together this visit. No one does this alone and it's a wonderful experience. Contact Judy Frascht-Miner if interested, jjbm526@aol.com 319-540-1701

DECEMBER 1-9, 2023 - Open World with KOSOVO. Yes, a different group from Kosovo will be coming again in December. If you would like to be involved contact Connie Williams cmw1226@yahoo.com

I look forward to traveling with many of you soon!

2022 Cedar Rapids/Iowa City FF Officers

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