



## 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

## May 2023

### Calendar of Events

May 3	LEO	Villas Patio 5200 Fountains Drive NE, Cedar Rapids
5:30 PM		
May 12	Club Zoom Trivia	
7:00 PM		
May 21	General Meeting- AU/NZ presenta- tion	
June 24	All Iowa Picnic	
Noon	Ames, Iowa	
June 27-July 4	Incoming from Taipei, Taiwan	
2023		
July 2	Farewell Dinner	
5:00PM	Coe College Clark Alumni House & Wayne Smith Award Presentation	
Oct 15-22	Incoming from Ed- monton, CA	
2023		
Oct 2-5	World Conference	
2023	Dubrovnik, Croatia	
Dec 2-9	Open World	
2023		

### President's Message

As the weather starts to get warmer, we have many events coming up. We have a **LEO coming up on May 3rd at Villas Pa-**  
**tio.** There will be sign up sheets at the LEO for our **volunteer slots at the Freedom Festival.** We have quite a few opportunities for Dock Dogs, a couple for the Army Band Concert and a few for the Car Show. We also are planning a **general meeting for May (probably the 21st);** stay tuned for details when we get a location lined up. Connie will also have sign up sheets for the Taiwan journey at the LEO. It is shaping up to be a busy summer season with Friendship Force! Oh, and don't forget the **All Iowa picnic on June 24 in Ames.** If you plan on attending please plan on carpooling. I know Connie and I are planning on going so let us know if you'd like to carpool.

*Patty Potter 2022 Club President*

## Taipei Taiwan is coming June 27

Friendship Force of Cedar Rapids-Iowa City is looking forward to an incoming journey from Taipei, Taiwan on June 27-July 4. The daily schedule is listed below, please let Judy Frascht-Miner at [jjbm526@aol.com](mailto:jjbm526@aol.com) know if you are interested in day hosting, home hosting or dinner hosting. Feel free to contact Connie Williams at [cmw1226@yahoo.com](mailto:cmw1226@yahoo.com), if you have schedule questions.

**Tuesday, June 27:** Charter bus to Minneapolis will transport Taiwan ambassadors. Be a bus host! Stop at the Surf Ballroom & dinner in Clear Lake, arriving in Cedar Rapids by 9pm. Home hosts will meet & greet!

**Wednesday, June 28:** Kalona Visitor Center, then 3 other stops including lunch. Day hosts who transport ambassadors will pay half price tour & lunch.

**Thursday, June 29:** Dubuque Day with Mississippi River Museum, lunch at Eagle Point Park/Lock & Dam and Field of Dreams. Day hosts needed, lunch and admission included for drivers.

**Friday, June 30:** Tour of S Bar P Miniature Horse Farm, Anamosa. Lunch at Sally's in Springville, then Motorcycle Museum. Home hosted dinners in evening.



**Saturday, July 1:** Iowa City Day with tour of downtown/U of I museums, then Iowa City Jazz Festival. Day hosts will be needed for transport and to establish a meeting point for group to assemble through the day.

**Sunday, July 2:** Celebration dinner with ambassadors, open to all members and guests at Coe College Clark Alumni House and Garden. Mary Stull will receive the Wayne Smith Legacy Award for her work with Friendship Force and Sponsor Circle.



Parking in lots to the South of Alumni House, behind Wendy's. Social Hour at 5pm, Dinner at 6pm. RSVP required. Catering by LJ's, menu TBD.

**Monday, July 3:** Cedar Rapids Day, beginning with tour of downtown & Czech Village by way of Horizon's bus. A 12:30 lunch at the 350 on First, the restaurant at the top of Double Tree Hotel, open to all club members with RSVP to Mary Stull at [mcdstull@aol.com](mailto:mcdstull@aol.com). All are welcome to tour the Cedar Rapids Public Library after lunch.

Optional evening activities: Five Seasons Ski Team Show at Ellis Park at 7pm. Bring your picnic snacks and lawn chairs. Fireworks after dark.

**Tuesday, July 4:** Free time with host families, a time to enjoy Freedom Festival activities. Breakfast, car show, dock dogs, music and fireworks on the bridge after dark. Or see the Kernels vs Quad Cities ballgame at 6:35pm, with fireworks at the ballpark.

**Wednesday, July 5:** Taiwan ambassadors who extended their journey will hike with our club in NE Iowa, river cruise at Marquette and overnight at Decorah. Join in the fun! RSVP to Judy Frascht-Miner [jjbm526@aol.com](mailto:jjbm526@aol.com) or Shirley Rosencrans at [sarosencrans@yahoo.com](mailto:sarosencrans@yahoo.com) if you can drive. It will be a day trip for most hosts.



**Thursday, July 6:** Ambassadors shuttle to MSP. Bon Voyage!!!



## Freedom Festival Volunteering

One again our club will be providing volunteers for a couple of the Cedar Rapids Freedom Festival events. This is a fun way to help the club earn a few dollars. Below are the events and time slots we have signed up for. Please contact Patty Potter at 319-551-5179 [pattyspotter1001@gmail](mailto:pattyspotter1001@gmail) to let her know which event to you would like to help out with. Also give her your t-shirt size for your official volunteer t-shirt.

- \* Dock Dogs, June 23, 11:30am-3:30pm
- \* Dock Dogs, June 23, 3:30pm-7:30pm
- \* Dock Dogs, June 24, 11:30am-3:30pm
- \* Car Show, July 4, 6:00am-noon



## Wayne Smith Legacy Award —Mary Stull

We are proud to announce that The Wayne Smith Legacy Award is to be presented to our own **Mary Stull** for her dedication and hard work for Friendship Force, our local club and for Sponsor Circle in assisting refugees from Afghanistan relocate and settle in the Cedar Rapids area. Be sure to join us **July 2** at the Celebration dinner for Mary and our friends from Taiwan. It will be held at the Alumni House on Coe College 5PM. RSVP is Required. [cmw1226@yahoo.com](mailto:cmw1226@yahoo.com)

## Edmonton and Area Club of Canada October 16-23, 2023

The Edmonton and Area Club of Canada will be visiting us in October. **Jim and Barb Steggall** will be Host Coordinators. If you are interested in helping on the planning committee, home hosting, day hosting, or dinner hosting please contact :

Jim at [steggall.jim@gmail.com](mailto:steggall.jim@gmail.com) or Barb at [bjsteggall@gmail.com](mailto:bjsteggall@gmail.com).

## Club Zoom Trivia

The next Club Trivia zoom gathering will be Friday, May 12th 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 Bradford and Jo Hanken will be doing questions.

Audrey [audrey.b@mchsi.com](mailto:audrey.b@mchsi.com), or  
Jo [jejke70@cox.net](mailto:jejke70@cox.net)



## General Meeting May 21

There will be a general meeting of the Cedar Rapids-Iowa City Friendship Force Club on **Sunday May 21, 2023**. There will be a presentation of our club's Journey to Australia and New Zealand this past March. Look for more information to come by Email / Signup Genius for time and place.




## Leo May 3 Villa's Patio

Don't forget about our Let's Eat Out  
**Wednesday May 3, 2023** at Villa's  
Patio, 5200 Fountains Drive NE, Ce-  
dar Rapids beginning at **5:30 PM.**



## FFI Announces Individual Journeys

In addition to our Club-to-Club and Special Journeys, Friendship Force is introducing a new program called Individual Journeys. This new program will give our members more opportunities to form friendships in between in- and outbound group hostings. We have always had requests for this type of journey and the interest has risen during the past few years when group travel wasn't always possible.

A photograph of a woman with dark hair, smiling and looking out of a window. The window has a blue frame, and the view outside shows some greenery and a building.

For more information please go to your Member Portal and click on the April 23, 2023 article.

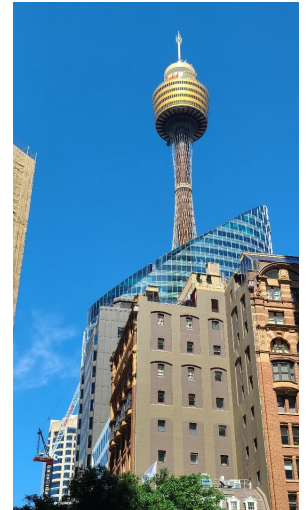




## Sidney, Australia



We are going to share our Australian/New Zealand adventure in segments. I am starting with Sydney and Stephanie is continuing with our journey to Adelaide. The rest of the journeys will be shared in future Newsletters.



Our Australian/New Zealand trip began with a 3 day extension in **Sydney**. Many activities can be jammed into a short time. We enjoyed a performance at the Sydney Opera House. The performer was a prodigy jazz pianist. We roamed the city, enjoying museums, gardens, the eye tower, Bondi Beach, the fish market and much more.



We definitely enjoyed the ferry system, taking a trip to Cockatoo Island which had been a penial colony. (Not a home for Cockatoo's)



We ate extremely well, great meals, good wine, and George would say “don’t forget the beer!”



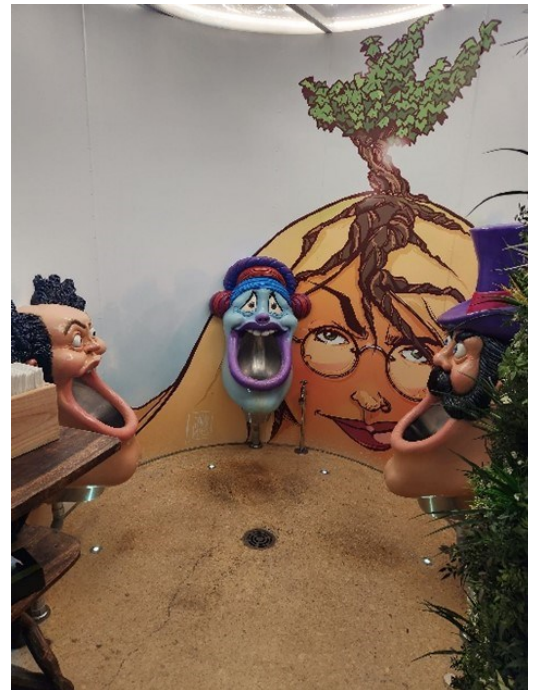


## Adelaide, South Australia

Adelaide, the first third of the Journey in fall of 2023 began March 19th. We all had a tough time realizing it was fall in Australia. Our body clocks were set for Spring in Iowa. Adelaide was a beautiful place to begin. The forefathers had great vision and planned a park around the outside of the whole city. We had a walking tour with, Rob Harris, guiding us. What a great over-view!



The next day was completely different as we started testing wine early in the morning at the d'Ar-enberg Cube. As unusual as the outside, so was the inside including the men's restroom.



We also got to drive south along the coast and stopped for lunch and a view of the Southern Ocean. The next stop is Antarctica!





Next on the agenda was watching for animals. It helped that we went to The Cleveland Wildlife Park. Here we fed the kangaroos and watched the koalas.



Other points of interest, included seeing Adelaide from Mount Lofty Summit, going to the whispering wall, the David Roche Museum, having meals with their club members (including Vegemite) and getting a chance to catch



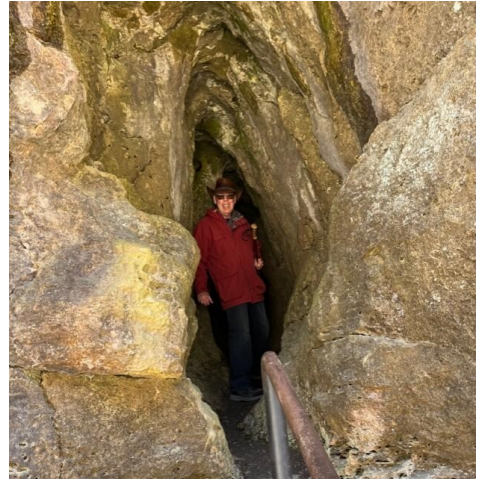
up with Lorraine whom we previously met in Cedar Rapids after the Colorado conference.

*From South Australia, we went to New South Wales so watch for future stories.*



## CR/IC FF Club hike Wapsipinicon State Park

On April 18 several members of our club met at the Wapsipinicon State Park near Anamosa, Ia. It is one of the oldest state parks in Iowa. We were led by 2 DNR employees who explained several interesting facts about the park. Rumor has it that Horse Thief cave goes all the way to Marion. Also there is a Pine Tree forest on top of one of the parks hills in which egrets are known to nest.



**UPCOMING HIKE** - Our club is looking ahead to an incoming visit from Taiwan at the end of June this year. Our visitors have asked for an added hiking activity before they leave on July 6 from Minneapolis. Our club would be renting a bus to take them to northeast Iowa Wednesday, July 5 and possibly to Rochester, MN July 6 before they leave for the Minneapolis airport early afternoon. Jerry and Carol Burke will be planning a hiking activity in northeast Iowa on July 5. There is also the possibility of an overnight then tour of Mayo Clinic the morning of July 6.

# All Iowa Picnic Ames, Iowa June 24

**Friendship Force of Central Iowa**  
**Will be hosting the**  
**All-Iowa Picnic in Ames**  
**Homewood Golf Course Clubhouse**  
**401 E 20<sup>th</sup> St. Ames 50010**  
**Noon to 3:00**  
**Saturday, June 24, 2023**

**Rain or Shine**

**Food catered by Hickory Park Restaurant**

**Turkey, Beef, Pork, Saucy Southerner, Potato Salad,  
Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Chips, Dessert, Iced Tea and Water**  
**Vegetarian meal option available upon request**

## All-Iowa Friendship Force Picnic Reservation

Paid reservations are due **June 14**.

Make checks payable to FFCI and mail to Margaret Epplin, 2114 State Avenue, Ames IA 50014

Name(s)	<input type="text"/>		
Club	<input type="text"/>		
Email	<input type="text"/>	Phone	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check if requesting a Vegetarian Meal		
\$ 16 per person	Number of tickets	Total amount enclosed	
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	



## **FF Minnesota Invites You To Join Their Journey to Taiwan October 2023**

The Minnesota Twin Cities Friendship Force Club is opening **Journey #23181 Minnesota to Taipei and Taichung Taiwan**, to additional ambassadors from the Midwest Regional clubs. We leave **October 7-8**, depending on best travel options, and return **October 22**. An additional optional post-tour is being considered.

We'll be in Taipei to celebrate with our hosts on the National Day of the Republic of China, also known as the Taiwan National Day or Double Tenth Day (10-10-2023). This day commemorates the 1911 Wuchang Uprising, a milestone in China's political development and a new chapter in the history of the Chinese, which led to the collapse of the Qing Dynasty and the formation of the Republic of China.

For more information contact Blaine McCutchan, the MN to Taiwan Ambassador Coordinator with questions. **Text/ phone: 763-443-7879.**

If interested, complete the 2023 FFI Ambassador Application and Agreement Form and send it to FFMNTC Journey Coordinator (Rita Mays) at [Journeys@fftwincities.org](mailto:Journeys@fftwincities.org) to apply to be an ambassador this journey.

Please forward this announcement to all members of your club. We welcome inquiries and ambassador applications during May!

Blaine McCutchan, Vice President

Ambassador Journey Coordinator

FF Minnesota Twin Cities

**763-443-7879**

Rita Mays, Journeys Director

FF Minnesota Twin Cities

[Journeys@fftwincities.org](mailto:Journeys@fftwincities.org)

## Journey Calendar by Judy Frascht-Miner

**WE HAVE OUR 2024 JOURNEY ASSIGNMENTS!!!!** We have been assigned an outbound to **Edmonton, Canada** and an inbound from **Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley**. Watch for future information. I encourage you to get involved in our journey's even if in a small way. There are so many ways to be involved. Don't wait to be asked, contact me and discuss options: Judy Frascht-Miner [jjbm526@aol.com](mailto:jjbm526@aol.com) 319-540-1701

**Tamworth Australia, Adelaide Australia; and Tauranga Western Bay of Plenty, New Zealand** - It was a GREAT trip. Watch for articles in the newsletter and come to the general meeting on May 21st to find out more.

**JUNE 27th- JULY 4th, 2023—TAIPEI, TAIWAN** will be visiting for an inbound. There will be 17 ambassadors coming. **Connie Williams** is 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 journey to be involved with. If you want to be join in with the journey contact Connie Williams [cmw1226@yahoo.com](mailto:cmw1226@yahoo.com) 319-396-4747.

**OCTOBER 16th-23nd, 2023 -EDMONTON, CANADA** will be visiting us. **Jim and Barb Steggall** will be our Host Coordinators. Ways to be involved are in-home hosting, dinner hosting, or day hosting. No one does this alone and it's a wonderful experience. Contact Jim & Barb Steggall [bjsteggall@mchsi.com](mailto:bjsteggall@mchsi.com) or Judy Frascht-Miner, [jjbm526@aol.com](mailto:jjbm526@aol.com) 319-540-1701 if interested.

**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](mailto:cmw1226@yahoo.com) 319-396-4747

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



# 2022 Cedar Rapids/Iowa City FF Officers

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