

CR\IC Friendship Force UPDATE

January 12, 2005

Greetings from Your Presidents, Steve & Nancy Williams

Welcome to the 2005 Friendship Force year from co-presidents, Steve and Nancy Williams. We look forward to an exciting event-filled year. Thanks for the opportunity—now comes the hard work.

We want to recognize Sally Nelson for a wonderful 2004. Sally carried out the details of the club through projects like the bylaws revision. This was tedious work and Sally did the entire editing and final layout. Sally brought new features to the club like a fun and delicious open house at the Nelson home in October. She was always excellent in planning events and volunteered to help with

everything. Thanks also to other outgoing officers who made 2004 special: Steve Miller, treasurer and Joanne Smith, Secretary.

The club has been blessed with fine leadership for many years and we will endeavor to carry out the tradition.

We have a great team of officers for 2005, with Vic Klopfenstein stepping up to be vice-president. Vic and Pat attended the International Conference in Los Angeles and have included a report in this newsletter. Our Board of Directors includes new and veteran members who are ready to serve. In a planning retreat in early December we outlined an aggressive agenda we think you will enjoy.

On your calendar, mark special events for March 1 and November 13. World Friendship Day will be celebrated around the world by all Friendship Force Clubs on March 1. The November 13 annual meeting will feature a 20th anniversary celebration of our local club led by Carl and Mary Carson.

Note the exchange opportunities and be prepared to pitch in. We need your active participation to keep Friendship growing around the world.

In Friendship, Steve and Nancy

**General Meeting
Sunday, January 23,
2005**

Where: Lovely Lane Methodist Church,
2424 42nd St. NE Cedar Rapids, (By Kennedy High School)
Time: 4:00 p.m. - Concert by New Horizons in the Sanctuary
Music From Around The World
5:00 Ethnic potluck in the Fellowship Hall
6:00 - Speaker "Justice for Our Neighbors" (JFON)
Dorothy Higdon

JFON offers low-income immigrants a safe place to seek free legal assistance.



Please bring an ethnic main dish to feed 6-8 people, and a dessert or side course plus your own table service. We will be feeding a 40-member band, so we are hoping for good attendance by members.

We also ask you to check your email for a list of supplies needed by JFON. We will have a collection area at the meeting to help with this cause. If you do not have email, please call Margaret Nelson at 393-1209 to find out items that are needed

This promises to be an interesting evening. Margaret Nelson is familiar with the work of JFON and tells us it is an emotional experience to hear the plight of those who are assisted by this organization.

And remember - please be prepared to pay your membership dues if you have not already done so!

2004 End of Year Report

It was a busy year - we developed a club brochure, updated the club bylaws, and established guidelines to use the scholarship funds. In addition, we hosted a Russian Open World Exchange in February, directed by Vic Klopfenstein, and another in the fall, directed by Steve Williams. Our assigned incoming exchange from Colombia cancelled, but we accepted a request to host members of the Northern Illinois FF group in June, coordinated by Marceil Edson. 20 delegates went on an outgoing exchange to Scotland led by Nancy Miller, and 11 delegates traveled on a domestic exchange to the Twin Cities FF club, led by Margaret Miller. Twelve of our members attended the Heartland Conference in Milwaukee, and two members attended the Int'l Conference in Los Angeles.

Four general membership meetings occurred plus a fall open house, an inter-club picnic with Friends of International Students, a tri-club picnic in Dubuque, and three L.E.O dinners.

Our club brochure was distributed while marching in the St. Patrick's Day Parade and also sponsoring a table at the Cultural Diversity Festival at the University of Iowa. The goal for participation in these two events was simply to gain name recognition and increase our visibility in the community - members who participated felt the events were worthwhile, but perhaps not every year. A book trade/sale was held to raise revenue for the Scholarship Fund.

The Board consented to co-host, along with the Quad Cities and Dubuque clubs, a Midwest Festival in July of 2005 to entice people to come to the Midwest. The Festival chairman for our club is Shirley Rosencrans. Our assigned exchanges for 2005 are: outgoing exchange to Australia and New Zealand, Exchange Director is Phyllis Seidl; incoming exchange from Varel, Germany, Exchange Directors are Ron and Joyce Swanson.

We have a healthy, strong membership as evidenced by the activities and support mentioned above. We made good progress in growing membership (16 new family memberships and 1 new single membership) and there are good prospects for the future. The current membership is 115 members. The nomination committee was challenged once again this year to find a Vice President. We must continue to work hard at growing our membership and building leaders for the future. The new club brochure has facilitated getting information out. The new scholarship guidelines require the funds be used to send a member other than the Pres. & V.P. to International Conference, thereby assisting a member to travel as well as developing leadership. A proposal by the Scholarship Committee is forthcoming in 2005.

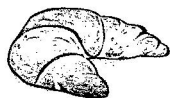
A financial audit was conducted by Mike Karal prior to the annual meeting, and a Treasurer's report was given.

Respectfully, Sally Nelson, President, 2004

Let's Eat Out (L.E.O)

Up for something new?

How about a French Patisserie and Café for a Saturday lunch?



When: Saturday, Feb. 19, 2004 at 1:30 p.m.

Where: Croissant Du Jour 3531 Mt. Vernon Rd. S.E.

You must call Sally Nelson by Feb. 15 with your menu choice (Be sure to save room for dessert!!!! (cost for each menu selection is \$5.50)

- 1) Quiche (ham or broccoli)
- 2) Turkey Club Croissant Sandwich
- 3) 1/2 sandwich + cup of soup

Report on Int'l Conference, 2004

The FFI Meeting in Los Angeles was a very positive - upbeat conference with 4 expansion initiatives.

1. Establishing 30 new clubs in strategic regions of the world.
2. Training a new generation of FF leaders.
3. Developing unique and bold new programs.
4. Launching a new series of teacher and school exchanges.

To meet these initiatives, we are encouraged to pledge \$10 for each club member from our FF Club to FFI at a party on FF Day March 1, 2005 and register on line at 6:00 p.m.

Our local stars led by Quad Cities Eloise Pfeiff and husband Ted, dressed as a River Boat Captain, Tom Welch, Anamosa, (Dubuque Club) dressed in bib-overalls and John Deere Cap and our own Pat Klopfenstein, dressed in a Czech Costume gave an excellent 5-minute presentation at the closing session on the Midwest Magic & Mighty Mississippi Festival, July 14 - 23, 2005 sponsored by FFI, Chicago, Quad Cities, Dubuque and our Clubs.

Horst Neumann, from Varel, Germany, was inducted as one of the nine FF International Board of Trustees. Our Club met Horst when we visited the Varel Club in September, 2003 and we will host them in August this year. What a great opportunity to go one-on-one with an International Board Member (a great chance for publicity!)

I was proud to represent our club because I feel we, as Friendship Force members, can destroy walls and build bridges. We can change the world one friend at a time.

-Vic Klopfenstein

World Friendship Day, March 1, 2005



The Anniversary of the White House announcement of the establishment of the Friendship Force by President Jimmy Carter in 1977, the "Great Legacy Campaign", was approved by The Board of Trustees of FFI to expand The Friendship Force and ensure its strength into the future. This fundraising event is a tribute to our founder, Wayne Smith, and is chaired by his daughter and former FFI President, Susan Smith.

There are four important goals of this endeavor:

- 1) Establish 30 new clubs in strategic regions of the world;
- 2) Train a new generation of Friendship Force leaders;
- 3) Develop unique and bold new programs, and;
- 4) Launch a new series of teacher and school exchanges.

Our Board of Directors has chosen to participate in the celebration; and, to facilitate success of these important goals, we voted to match contributions made by members up to a total amount of \$500. Mark your calendar for the evening of Tuesday, March 1, and watch for more details as we "fine tune" our plans.

We will join a 24-hour worldwide celebration, and we will be able to watch online. FFI will also be releasing and distributing a new video in time for the event

Exchange Updates

OUTGOING EXCHANGE TO AUSTRALIA, MAY, 2005 - Yes, we are going to New Zealand & Australia from April 12 - May 5. Currently, 13 ambassadors will be traveling, and the exchange is still open to more. Airfare from Los Angeles is still \$1747.60, round trip. The fare from Cedar Rapids to LA is apx. \$250, and Friendship Force fees to Atlanta are \$600. Some of the exciting things on the agenda are the Great Barrier Reef, a sky rail over the rainforest to Kuranda village, a B.B.Q, and home hosting with 3 different Friendship Force clubs in Cairns and Ipswich, Australia and Horowhenua, New Zealand. We hope you will decide to come along "downunder". - Phyllis Seidl, Exchange Dir. 377-5619

INCOMING EXCHANGE FROM VAREL, GERMANY, AUGUST, 2005 - We will host the Varel, Germany club from Aug. 23-30. So far, 16 ambassadors have signed up for the exchange. If you are interested in helping to plan the week or want to host, please contact exchange directors, Ron and Joyce Swanson, joyfulswan@hotmail.com or 319-270-3664 (cell) or 319-364-6867 (home)

MIDWEST FESTIVAL, 2005, A copy of the festival flyer is included in this newsletter in hopes you will copy it and send it to friends (foreign and American). Please note that it is a two-sided flyer. Please suggest to your Friendship Force friends to submit a copy in their club newsletter also. Call Shirley Rosencrans @ 462-4132 if you would like to home-host or help with driving.

Following are other exchanges departing from Midwest areas that may still have openings (thru July):

- Feb Dubuque to Kapatu Coast and Western Bay of Plenty, New Zealand
 Northern Illinois to Toluca, Mexico
- March Greater Milwaukee to Alajuela, Costa Rica
- April Lincoln to Noumea, New Caledonia
- May Missouri-St. Louis to Manchester, UK
 Greater Milwaukee to Adelaide and Sunshine Coast, Australia
- June Des Moines and Central Iowa to Hannover, Germany
 Lincoln to Bratislava, Slovakia and Tallinn, Estonia
- July Quad Cities to Moscow and Saratov, Russia

Heartland Regional Conference

"Reflecting on the Past; Planning For The Future is the theme of this years Heartland Regional Conference to be held in Lincoln, Nebraska on **April 29 & 30th**. In addition to a personal update from FFI from Taleih Monajjem, our regional representative in Atlanta, there will be panel discussions on: "How to avoid the pitfalls of exchange travel arrangements"; Preparing members for leadership roles and establishing an effective Board of Directors"; How to revive a club whose members have been there, done that"; "WOW! A FFI Field Representative does all that!"; "The Germans, Ukrainians, Peruvians, New Zealanders, Ghanaians and Japanese are coming!! What to do?? Or Inbound exchange planning"; and "The Force of Friendship.

Home hosting will be available by request from Thursday, preceding the conference (except lunch on Friday) thru Sunday at 1 p.m.. at no cost. Participants can look forward to wine receptions, dinners at ethnic restaurants in the area (dutch treat). Prior to the conference, there are planned tours of the Governor's Mansion with lunch for \$8.50 and a tour of the Nebraska State Capitol. **The full conference fee (registration, Fri. & Sat. wine receptions, lunch and dinner on Saturday if received by Mar. 15 is \$55.00.** Between Mar. 16-April 15 = \$65.00. Home hosting applications must be received no later than April 1. Motel accommodations will be available at \$55.25 + tax for one queen bed or \$63.75 for 2 queen beds at the Ramada Inn Limited South.

Please contact Steve or Nancy Williams for applications for the conference and home hosting.

This conference appears to be a great deal and sounds like fun AND it's a great way to meet regional friends, do some regional sight-seeing, and gain a broader insight into Friendship Force.

For additional questions, Lincoln contacts are:

Conference Chair: Larry Kluck - 402-483-6508 - larrykluck@hotmail.com

Registration: Chuck Godwin - 402-488-4013 - cg90959@alltel.net

Home Hosting: Betty Starr - 402-486-4006 - bettystarr@inebraska.com

Membership Dues

Please send in your 2005 annual membership dues immediately if you did not do so in December. Note that the membership dues include 4 issues of the Friendship Force International Magazine published in Atlanta and in order to receive all issues, dues must be submitted in a timely manner.

Please return the following to Richard Miller - 2011 Linmar Dr. NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52402.

Name(s) _____

Address (include both addresses if you winter south):

Phone: Home _____ Email: _____
Work (only if you wish to be called at work) _____

Please check one: Family Membership (\$40) _____ Individual Membership (\$31) _____

If you would like to order a name badge for \$5.00 each, please write a separate check to cover cost of badges ordered payable to Friendship Force. Please write your name as you would like it to appear below:

Name: _____

Name _____

Total # of badges requested: _____ X \$5.00 = _____ enclosed

Special Congratulations to Carl and Mary Carson, who are one of the nominees for KCRG's "Nine Who Care" because of their work to promote international friendship. (Promise of Health -a free medical clinic for the Mayan people, and the "extra mile" they went to in bringing wheel chairs to Russia and arranging for crutches to arrive. They receive a donation to their favorite charity and an invitation to a special recognition dinner the end of January just for being nominated. Good luck in the final selection Carl & Mary - we're cheering for you!

Our condolences to Mary Ann Harding, who lost her beloved husband, Tom, in December. Tom and Mary Ann are former members of our local club. They have been residing near Omaha the past few years to be near family. They home hosted foreign ambassadors, and Tom helped several of our clubs foreign ambassadors even recently, while living in Nebraska, by supplying an extra used suitcase to fly home with.

A giant group hug and "thank you" goes to Frank and Mary Stull for the many years they have composed and distributed the newsletter. They will continue to distribute the newsletter, so call them if you have a problem in receiving your newsletter or a change in contact info. Call Sally Nelson regarding future items for publication.

Congratulations to the Friendship Force Club of Chicago - The International Visitors Center of Chicago chose their club as its Volunteer of the Year in honor of all the members who have volunteered to host int'l visitors participating in Int'l Visitors Center of Chicago programs.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:

Bradley & Darby Anderson from Cedar Rapids. Bradley & Darby recently hosted a young Russian woman on an Open World program hosted by St. Lukes Hospital and they so enjoyed the experience, they would like to do more of it! They were invited by the Nelsons, Carsons, and Faas'

Andrew Cecil & Liz Peters from Iowa City. When you meet them, be sure to congratulate them on their recent engagement! They were invited by Betty Emrich

Lidia Graham from Cedar Rapids - A native of Argentina, Lidia enjoys opportunities to experience other cultures. Lidia is a realtor with Iowa Realtor and was invited by Greg & Sally Nelson

Richard & Veta Hildebrand from Marion - Invited by neighbors, Marge and Rich Ferris, they recently moved back to this area. They enjoyed hosting a Japanese teacher in the 1970's and they are still friends.

Ed Junkins & Mary Lukas from Iowa City - Ed is retired and Mary does social work. Ed is excited about going on the outgoing exchange to Australia. They were invited by Shirley Rosencrans.

Jack & Jeanne Knopp from Monticello are friends of Steve & Nancy Williams. Now retired, Jeanne was a library director, Jack was in the automobile business, and now does some appraisal work.

Myron & Connie Williams from Cedar Rapids - Welcome back to former members of our club! Their family is grown and they have kept in touch with Frank and Mary Stull and decided to rejoin us!

Irvin & Tressa Youngbear from Cedar Rapids - They were invited by George and Stephanie Schulte and are excited about the outgoing exchange to Australia.

MIDWEST MAGIC AND THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI

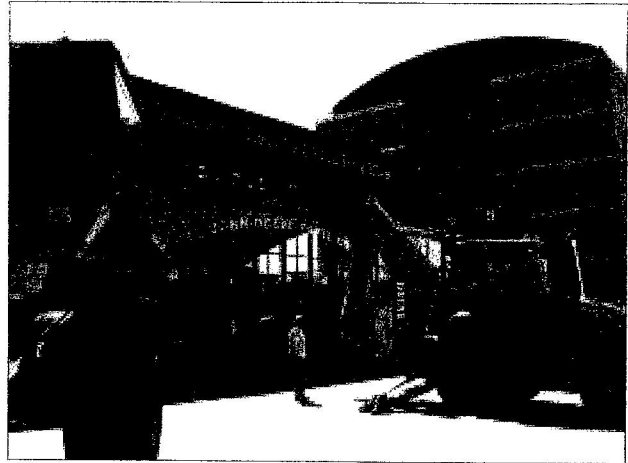
WE WELCOME THE WORLD

July 14-23, 2005



Quad Cities, Iowa and Illinois

Learn how music developed along the Mighty Mississippi with a visit to the River Music experience. Tour the John Deere Pavilion, the largest agricultural museum in the world.



Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Learn about the Czech and Slovak heritage in this area and attend a National Bohemian, Moravian and Slovakian Folk dance festival.



Dubuque, Iowa

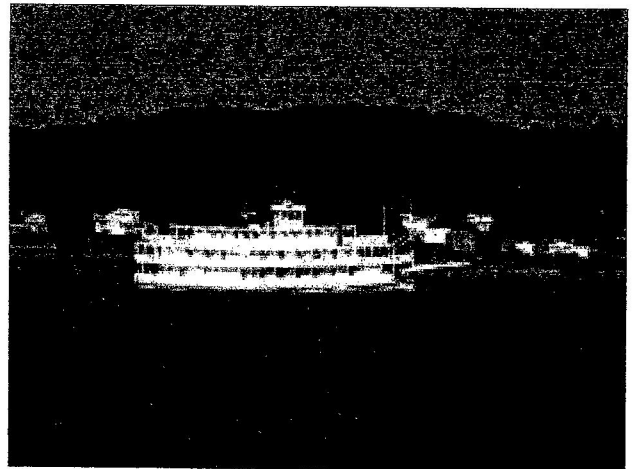
Visit the fascinating city of Dubuque and its new Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium.



LeClaire, Iowa, to Galena, Illinois

Experience the Mississippi River up close and personal on a day-long cruise. Tour Galena with its wide range of antique shops.

Following the Midwest tour, take an optional visit to Chicago for two nights and three days. Visit the Sears Tower, Navy Pier, Chinatown, and take a Chicago Architectural river cruise. Stay in a downtown Chicago hotel.



The Friendship Force clubs of the Quad Cities, Dubuque, and Cedar Rapids/Iowa City welcome you to the Heartland of America.

MIDWEST MAGIC AND THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI
WE WELCOME THE WORLD

July 14 - 23, 2005

Join this exciting Festival planned and hosted by three clubs in Iowa and Illinois in cooperation with Friendship Force International.

July 14, 2005: Arrival in the Quad Cities. Welcome Dinner and overnight at Blackhawk Hotel, Davenport, IA. (The Quad Cities is a community of four cities and the surrounding area joined by the Mississippi River. The cities are Davenport and Bettendorf in Iowa, Rock Island and Moline in Illinois. The Quad City Airport is in Moline, Illinois.)

July 15: Breakfast on your own.

9:30 AM - Meet hosts from the Quad City, Dubuque, & Cedar Rapids/Iowa City clubs at the hotel.

10:00 - Visit the River Music Experience, a museum showcasing how music developed along the river: jazz, blues, gospel, rock & roll, country, Cajun. Watch and listen to your favorite performers.

11:45 - Box lunch on the island at Lock & Dam 14.

1:30 PM - Tour of the John Deere Pavilion, Moline, Illinois, world's largest agricultural museum.

4:00 PM - Departure to host home.

July 16: Day with host club. Evening: Optional dance in Cedar Rapids.

July 17: 10:00 AM - Tour of Czech and Slovak Museum in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Lunch on your own - sample food booths and the beer garden.

1:00 to 5:00 PM - Attend National Bohemian, Moravian and Slovak Dance Festival. See performances of dancers from all over the United States.

July 18: Day with host club. Visit an Iowa farm.

July 19: 10:00 -12:30 Visit the Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium, Dubuque, Iowa. Learn about the Mississippi River, its history, wildlife and uses.

Lunch on your own. Free time to explore the Port of Dubuque, stroll the river walk or visit unique shops.

Farewell Dinner and barn dance at Mooney Hollow: Social Hour 5:00 PM, Dinner - 6:00 PM, Dance - 7 to 9:00.

July 20: Day with host club.

July 21-22: Cruise the Mississippi River. Enjoy the scenery, on board entertainment and meals.

July 21: 8:30 AM - Board the Twilight Riverboat in LeClaire, Iowa for an all day cruise to Galena, Illinois. Overnight at Chestnut Mountain Lodge.

July 22: Tour of Galena, an historic river town. Board Twilight and return to Le Claire, arriving about 7:00 PM. Overnight at Blackhawk Hotel, Davenport, IA

Festival cost - \$825.00 Includes 6 nights of home hosting, hotels, entry fees, welcome & farewell dinners, box lunch, and all-inclusive river boat ride.

July 23-25 - Post Festival tour of Chicago - \$389. 3 days, 2 nights. See the city from the Skydeck of the Sears Tower, visit Navy Pier, take a 90 minute Chicago Architecture river cruise, and tour China Town.

For application, contact Talieh Monajjem, Friendship Force International, 34 Peachtree Street, Suite 900, Atlanta, GA 30303 USA, phone 404-522-9490 or visit www.friendship-force.org

Friendship Force Board of Directors 2005

Co- Presidents--	Steve/Nancy Williams ✓ <i>williams.stephen@mcleodusa.net</i>	447-5761
Vice-President	Victor Klopfenstein <i>v.klopfenstein@worldnet.att.net</i> ✓	377-5502
Secretary	Doris Faas <i>ddffarm@att.net</i> ✓ Treasurer Winston Edson ✓ <i>wdedson@msn.com</i>	857-4177 393-8053
Directors at Large (Two Year Terms)	Gerry Stoner (12-05) <i>g.stoner@msn.com</i> ✓ Dianne Karal (12-06) <i>toy4di@msn.com</i> ✓	351-9067 378-0084
Exchange Directors (2005)	Phyllis Siedl (Australia 4/05) <i>Seidl.Gerald@msn.com</i> ✓ Shirley Rosencrans (Festival 7/05) <i>giftstore@ncsl.org</i> ✓ Ron and Joyce Swanson (Varel, Germ. 8/05) <i>joyfulswan@hotmail.com</i> ✓	377-5619 462-4132 364-6867
Past Exchange Director	Nancy Miller <i>namrabbit@mchsi.com</i> ✓	393-3580
Past President	Sally Nelson <i>nelsmaddie@aol.com</i>	857-5296

Standing Committees Chairpersons and Special Positions

Membership	Richard and Margaret Miller <i>zrman@aol.com</i> ✓	364-2135
Communications	Betty Emrich <i>demrich@iowatelecom.net</i> ✓	886-2349
Activities	Margaret Nelson <i>ronnmarg@aol.com</i> ✓ Jill Rinkenberger <i>krinkenber@aol.com</i> ✓	393-1209 377-5077
IRIS Rep.	Jim and Colleen Nieman <i>nieman.jim@mcleodusa.net</i> 396-5892 ✓	
Historian	Mary Carson <i>mcarsen484@yahoo.com</i>	366-4545
Newsletter	Frank and Mary Stull (distribution) <i>fpstull@aol.com</i> ✓ Sally Nelson (publication) <i>nelsmaddie@aol.com</i> ✓	393-6254 857-5296

Additional volunteers would be helpful on the standing committees:

Membership (follow up with prospective members),

Communications (publicity and telephoning)

Activities (help set up for meetings, plan special activities)

Calendar of Events, 2005

Mark Your Calendars!!!!

- Jan. 10** Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m. - Gander Mountain 2140 Edgewood Rd. SW
- Jan. 23** General Meeting Lovely Lane Church, Cedar Rapids, 4 p.m. - *bring 2 dishes to share, your own table service, and perhaps an item to donate to JFON*
- Feb. 19** L.E.O. (Let's Eat Out) Croissant Du Jour 1:30 p.m. (*all are welcome, R.S.V.P. by Feb. 15*)
- March 1** World Friendship Celebration - *more details forthcoming, save the date!*
- March 7** Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m. - Gander Mountain
- April 3** General Meeting - "Poor Man's Soup Supper" - site TBD
- April/May** Outgoing exchange to Australia and New Zealand - *call Phyllis Seidl to join in*
- April 29, 30** Midwest Regional Conference - Lincoln, Nebraska - home hosting avail Apr. 28-30.
- May 9** Board Meeting, details TBA
- June 12** General Meeting - Road Rally?
- July 11** Board Meeting
- July 14-23** Midwest Festival - "Midwest Magic & The Mighty Mississippi" (*Home hosts & drivers will be needed*)
- Farewell dinner in Dubuque July 19
- Aug. 23-30** Incoming exchange from Varel, Germany, *Call Ron or Joyce Swanson to help!*
- Sept. 12** Board Meeting
- October** Possibilities include Open World hosting, an open house and a domestic exchange
- Nov 3-6** International Conference in Sao Paulo, Brazil
- Nov. 13** Annual Meeting and our local chapter 20th Anniversary Celebration

The Friendship Force

Frank & Mary Stull
5819 Golden Court NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Mission Statement:

*To create an environment
where friendships can be
established across
international borders.*