

CRVIC Friendship Force UPDATE

October 17, 2003

Greetings from Your President

Pat Klopfenstein

Friendship



Friendship buds and blossoms like a summer in full dress.
Friendship brings a harvest of joy and happiness.
Friendship is sustaining through winter winds and snow.
Friendship can't be hoarded, by being shared it grows.

That last sentence certainly is true. Vic & I enjoyed making new friends on the exchange to Germany and England. The day before we were to leave Germany our hostess commented: "It seems like we have been friends for years." It was ditto for us. I'm certain that many of you also felt that way when you left your host family.

As this year winds down, I do want to thank everyone on the board for their assistance and guidance over the past year. Also, a thank you goes to all the members for your support and friendship throughout this year of change in Friendship Force International.

We still have a major project ahead of us—The World Leadership Program---which is October 17 through October 25. Those not hosting can also participate by attending the potluck at the Klopfenstein's on Sat., Oct 18 at 6:30 p.m. Also join the group on Tues, Oct. 21 at 5:30 p.m. at Knight's Pumpkin Patch. The farewell dinner is Fri. Oct. 25 at 6 p.m. at Fairview Golf Course.

Please note that the Annual Meeting date has been changed to Sunday, November 16. Our president-elect, Sally Nelson will be at the International FFI conference in Budapest, Hungary on the date that we had previously set and we wanted the 'new prez.' to be present.

Pat Klopfenstein

Annual Meeting Sunday, November 16, 2003

The Cedar Rapids/Iowa City FFI Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 16 at the Marion Heritage Center, 590 10th St., Marion, located just west of the Nancy A. Miller Library. At 6 p.m. the exhibition hall doors on the east side will be opened so that you may enjoy wine and cheese and "The Milwaukee Railroad in Marion" exhibit. (If you have difficulty with steps, go to the north door and there is an elevator available.) After you have tried 'driving' the diesel locomotive, try your hand at tapping out Morse code messages, or test your knowledge of the secret language of the hobos. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. Music is at 7:30 p.m. Please send reservations to

Pat Klopfenstein at 5540 Hunters Ridge Court, Marion, IA 52302 by November 11.

Reservation: Name _____
Cost \$11 Number attending _____ Amount enclosed _____



2004 Club Leadership

Election of officers for 2004 will be held at the annual meeting, November 16 and Sally Nelson will be installed as president. Nominees for offices are:

Vice President	Stephen and Nancy Williams
Secretary	Joanne Smith
Treasurer	Steve Miller

Thanks to these members for providing club leadership. Are you interested in working on a committee? Several opportunities are available including historian, membership, publicity and phone and one director at large position. Call Sally Nelson (319) 857-5296.

Notice of Change of Dues for 2004

In 2003 FFI increased their dues to \$10 for individuals and \$15 for family, and the magazine to \$15. Our old total dues were \$27 for individual and \$32 for family. This left \$2 per membership for our local treasury. The board unanimously approved the following increase of local dues.

'The annual dues of this club shall be \$10 per individual and \$15 per family, which includes the cost of the local Friendship Newsletter, plus whatever the FFI dues are and the cost of the FFI Magazine.'

Therefore, for the year of 2004 our total dues will be:

\$10 local dues + \$10 FFI dues + \$15 magazine cost = \$35 total dues for an individual

\$15 local dues + \$15 FFI dues + \$15 magazine cost = \$45 total dues for a family

Dues for 2004 may be paid at the Annual meeting.

Update from Friendship Force International, Atlanta

A leadership Forum Special Edition newsletter from FFI President Susie Smith reported that the war in Iraq, the SARS epidemic and poor economic conditions have all affected FFI revenue. Recent adjustments at headquarters have included:

- working diligently to reduce expenses by more than 20 percent
- a major concession from our landlord to reduce our office rent
- a significant savings in database maintenance by using a new vendor.
- Staff adjustments including reduction in staff; an 8 percent pay cut for the staff for the remainder of this year, and voluntary unpaid leaves of absence of a week or two.

Expenses reductions made at FFI combined with unprecedented club support this year should help FFI end the year close to breaking even financial.

How can you help? The board has reviewed this issue and is inviting members to donate directly to Friendship Force headquarters. The board has voted to match individual donations up to a total of \$500 for all personal donations. For example, if you donate \$50, the club will match your \$50 as well as other members' donations until the \$500 maximum is reached. Consider including Friendship Force in your charitable giving this year. Donations can be sent to Friendship Force International, 34 Peachtree Street, Suite 900, Atlanta, GA 30303 or visit www.friendshipforce.org.

2004 Exchanges Update

The West of Scotland Club outgoing exchange is a go. Nancy Miller has agreed to be our Exchange Director. Nan and Arrick Wilkins are the West of Scotland FFI club exchange directors. This should be a great exchange.

The Bogata/Calli, Columbia incoming exchange to Eastern Nebraska, CR/IC, and Milwaukee seems to be sidetracked. FFI in Atlanta is still hopeful that there will be an incoming exchange for our clubs.

LEO (Let's Eat Out) Wednesday, December 3, 2003



The next LEO is at Rookies Fine Foods & Spirits at 405 N. Dubuque, North Liberty on Wed., Dec 3 at 6:00 p.m. Call Janis Schmitz (319-396-4450) by Mon., Dec. 1.

Exchange to England and Germany September 2003

It's always interesting to hear the impressions of ambassadors on their first Friendship Force exchange. Winston and Marceil Edson, Ron and Joyce Swanson and Richard Fowler, Dixie and Richard Fowler share their experiences in Varel, Germany and Leicestershire, England last month.

Varel, Germany This was our first Friendship Force Exchange. It was a very good experience. It was so much more than we expected! It was "friendship" in motion – from the meeting with our own club ambassadors at the airport and making new friendships, to the living with our host family in Germany and making a real bond of friendship with them. The exchange directors of both clubs made excellent arrangements, which made for easy travel and lots of fun.

We visited the sites of Varel, including the local history museum, the 1847 windmill, the city market square with all the fresh meats, cheese, flowers and vegetables. We enjoyed wonderful coffee bread, fresh out of the old brick oven, at the bakery museum in Wiefelstede. Also in Wiefelstede we were shown the process for smoking eel and other fish at the fish market. We had a coach and walking tour of Bremen. Several of our ambassadors took a horse-drawn wagon across the mud flats of the North Sea during low tide out to the island of Neuwerk. We had dinner on the island and returned by boat since the tide was back in. We learned about the importance of the dike and how it was made. What a beautiful sight to see the sheep grazing on the rich green grass.

The beauty of the red tile roofs and the beautiful flowers was incredible! There were flowers everywhere! The yards were all pieces of art and at each window of the house there would inevitably be white lace curtains and a blooming plant. And to see the young and old riding bikes everywhere was very picturesque. This exchange was wonderful! Winston & Marceil Edson



Fiscal Service/Business Office will discuss Federal, State and private pay for care. Visiting businesses at Coral Ridge Mall.

Tuesday October 21 - Marion Day, Chairpersons Herman Knappe and Victor Klopfenstein

8:00 a.m. - The group will meet with the County Master Gardner at the Linn County Extension Service in Marion to discuss their volunteer program; Marion City Hall for Marion City Staff Meeting. Tours for the morning include the Police and Fire Station and Vector Corporation. Lunch at 12:00 with the Marion /Cedar Rapids Rotary Club. The afternoon will be spent at the Marion Library, Marion Food Pantry and Helping Hand and the Marion Chamber of Commerce

At 5:30 All American Picnic at Knight's Farm at 3482 Whittier Road in Springville, Iowa.

Wednesday, October 22 - Cedar Rapids Day, Chairperson Sandi Fowler

Meet CR Mayor Paul Pate and Parks Commissioner Wade Wagner; meet up with Small Business Incubator Staff at the Small Business Center-Kirkwood Community College; Lunch with Priority One Public/Private Economic Development Group Corporation. The afternoon will be spent touring Cedar Rapids businesses.

Thursday, October 23 - Des Moines Day, Host Swati Dandekar, Iowa House Representative from Marion

To Des Moines to meet state officials involved with international business, tourism grants, Iowa Values Fund, tour the Iowa Supreme Court and Iowa Historical Building. Lunch with the Iowa League of Municipalities.

Friday, October 24 - United Nations Day, Chairperson and Marion Mayor Victor Klopfenstein

8:00 a.m. - Meet at Kirkwood Community College to meet President Norm Neilson, Economic Development Leader Steve Ovel and Economic Impact on Seven County Leader Dee Baird; meet with the Linn County Board of Supervisors to learn about the function of county government. After lunch in Czech Village the group will tour the Czech and Slovak Museum and Library

At 6:00 p.m., a Farewell Dinner and Awards Ceremony will be held at the Fairview Club House Golf Course in Iowa City.

Saturday October 25 – Departure from the Eastern Iowa Airport at 5:45 a.m. on Delta 5727

**U.S. Field Representative for Midwest Region
Mary Bryant**

Mary Bryant from Lincoln, Nebraska is the Midwest Region Field Representative. The Midwest Region includes Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, and Wisconsin. The list of responsibilities for these representatives is quite long. They are to help if we have any problems, within the club, between clubs, or with the Atlanta office. They are monitoring the health of the organization within their area and will be in touch with each club. If you see the need to contact the representative, her e-mail address is: ab62359@alltel.net

2003 Board of Directors

- President** Pat Klopfenstein (319) 377-5502 v.klopfenstein@worldnet.att.net
- Vice President** Sally Nelson (319) 857-5296 nelsmaddie@aol.com
- Secretary** Joanne Smith (319) 395-9440 jmariesm@msn.com
- Treasurer** Jerry Seidl (319) 377-5619 seidlgerald@msn.com
- Past Presidents** Nancy Miller (319) 393-3580 e-mail: namrabbit@mchsi.com
Shirley Rosencrans (319) 462-4132 or (319) 362-8500 (work)
- Directors at Large** Doris & Dick Faas, (319) 857-4177, ddffarm@att.net
Margaret Miller (319) 364-2135
- Membership** Richard Miller (319) 364-2135,
Kenny & Janis Schmitz (319) 396-4450, schmitzkenneth@mcleodusa.net
Dick & Veryl Hansen (319) 393-9534, culhansen@juno.com
- Exchange Director** (England & Germany) Phyllis Seidl (319) 377-5619, seidlgerald@msn.com
7709 Princeton Drive NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
- Hospitality** Paula Pearson (319) 377-8192, pm0828@aol.com
Judy & Dave Jourdan (319) 377-1277, digdahawks11@mchsi.com
Nancy & Steve Williams (319) 447-5761
Pat & Charles Kress (319) 377-5055, chaskress@mchsi.com
- IRIS Representatives** Jim and Colleen Nieman (319) 396-5892, nieman.jim@mcleodusa.net
Vic Klopfenstein (319) 377-5502, v.klopfenstein@worldnet.att.net
- Publicity & Phone** Rita Maher (319) 396-2189, rmscruffy@aol.com
Darrel Larson (319) 377-3686
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- Historian** Dolores Kaiden (319) 390-3011, dmkaiden@aol.com
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- Heartland Conference Committee** Betty Emrich, (563) 886-2349
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Margaret Miller (319) 364-2135, zrmam@aol.com

Feel free to contact any board member with questions or to volunteer your talents.

Friendship Force Calendar of Events 2003

- October 17-25 Open World Leadership Program
- Fri., Oct. 17 Russians arrive at Eastern Iowa Airport
- Sat., Oct 18' 6:30 p.m. Potluck at the Klopfenstein's
- Tue., Oct 21, 5:30 Fun evening at Knights Pumpkin Patch & Hayrack Ride
- Fri., Oct 24' 6:00 p.m. Farewell Dinner Fairview Club House & Golf Course
- Oct 30-Nov 2 International Conference, Budapest, Hungary
- Tue., Nov 11 Reservation deadline for Annual Dinner
- Sun., Nov 16, 6 p.m. Social Hour & Exhibits, 6:30 p.m. Dinner, Marion Heritage Center
- Mon., Dec 1 Reservations for LEO
- Wed., Dec 3, 6 p.m. LEO at Rookies Spirits & Provisions, North Liberty
- Thur., Dec 25 Merry Christmas
- Thur., Jan 1 Happy New Year
- Sat., Apr 24 Heartland Conference in Milwaukee, WI
- June, 2004 Exchange to the West of Scotland FFI Club

The Friendship Force

Frank & Mary Stull
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