

# CR\IC Friendship Force UPDATE

Dec. 17, 2005

## Greetings from Your President, Vic Klopfenstein:



On behalf of all club members, I thank Steve & Nancy Williams for their guidance this past year. What a fun-packed, eventful year we had with nearly all of you involved. It certainly exemplifies our Mission: To create an environment where friendship can be established across international borders. Thanks to Carl & Mary Carson and their committee for an outstanding annual meeting. You made it a memorable and special anniversary.

I thank you all for the opportunity to represent you at the FFI Annual Conference in Sao Paulo, Brazil. It was an exciting, educational and an excellent conference with good ideas and good fellowship. I return even more optimistic about the future of our international organization and possibilities for our club. I look forward to the challenge this year.

At our January 8th general membership meeting, please invite guests to learn about Friendship Force. Let's not keep it a secret any longer. If you bring an extra dessert, they can share in the dessert exchange. Come and enter into the selection of our inbound and outbound exchange priorities for 2007 and be thinking about where you would like to go in 2007. Our club's exchange request must in by February 1. Based upon the probability of receiving it and our past assigned exchanges, the Board is recommending we request the following exchanges, but we would like to hear input from members at the meeting on Jan 8, so please come and give this some consideration:

1st choice: 1 week in Japan and another week in Thailand or Taiwan.

2nd choice: 1 week in Bulgaria and another week in Slovakia or Hungary

3rd choice: 1 week in Costa Rica and another week in Mexico

4th choice: 1 week in the Czech Republic and another week in Poland or Croatia.

-Vic

## Mark your calendars NOW for the first meeting in 2006 – it will come fast:

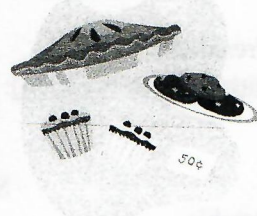
**What:** General Membership Meeting with Dessert Buffet & Exchange

The speaker will be Pete Aboliens to talk about Latvia

**When:** Sunday, January 8, 2006 at 2:30

**Where:** St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Iowa City  
1300 Melrose Ave

**Cost:** Please just bring a dessert to share in addition to a plate or container that you can carry extra desserts home on.



Put on your warm coats (bring a friend) and come share food and friendship!

**FFI**

At their meeting on December 5, 2005, the CR/IC FF Board voted to sponsor a high school student-operated small business for one year in the Russian republic of Buryatia. The contribution of \$500 is possible because of funds the club has earned through home-hosting Russians for the Open World Program. This program for young people, REAP International, is under the leadership of Bill Mueller from Cedar Rapids. Bill was our keynote speaker at our last annual meeting November 13, and shared information about this program and is a new member of CR/IC FF.

REAP stands for Rural Enterprises Adaptation Program. It is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is to help stabilize villages in Russia to become independent of the State system. REAP works with schools, youth and others to bolster rural resources and adapt economic survival techniques learned in the United States.

REAP works in the area near Lake Baikal, the world's largest, oldest, deepest and most unique lake. Buryatia is among Russia's five worst economically depressed regions. It is 70% rural, with 600 villages, towns or settlements. A selected youth group will receive \$1,000 (\$500 is matched by REAP) to set up their business. Students must follow regular accounting procedures and report to the Youth Activity Center Fund, a Russian partner of REAP and which oversees the chosen activity. Reports will be forwarded to the CR/IC FF on the activity generated by our contribution and the FF membership will be informed about the activity. Further information on REAP can be found at [www.reapintl.com](http://www.reapintl.com) or by emailing Bill at [REAP@reapintl.com](mailto:REAP@reapintl.com)

We need someone to take charge of organizing a L.E.O. (Let's Eat Out) Event in February. This is easy - as the organizer, you select the day, place and time of your preference. The Board will take care of the publicity. Feel free to be creative and opt for a breakfast, lunch, or dinner or even some other creative event if you like!

**Help  
Wanted**

### Officers For 2006:

President	Victor Klopfenstein
Vice-president	Dianne Karal
Secretary	Doris Faas
Treasurer	Winston Edson
Directors at Large	1 year term - Mary Lucas (12-06) 2 year term - Sally Fairchild (12-07)

Past Exchange Directors (2005): Phyllis Seidl (Outbound Australia 5-05); Sally Nelson (Inbound Germany 8-05); Mary Stull (Inbound - Mystery - 10-05); Vic Klopfenstein (Open World -10-05)

Past Presidents Steve/Nancy Williams

Exchange Directors (2006): Phyllis Seidl - Outbound - Russia & Latvia, May or June 06; Jim Nieman - Inbound - North Carolina; Sep or Oct '06; Shirley Rosencrans - Tri-Club Picnic; Outbound exchange to Memphis in April '06?; Open World ??

### Standing Committees - Chairpersons and Special positions

Membership	Richard & Margaret Miller
Communications	Pat Kress
Activities	Margaret Nelson & Jill Rinkenberger
Historian	Mary Carson
Newsletter	Sally Nelson and Frank & Mary Stull

### 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)

**Proposed 2006 Calendar**

- Jan. 8      General Membership Meeting 2:30, St. Andrew Presb. Church, Iowa City (See P.1)
- Feb.        L.E.O.
- Feb. 13    Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Grant Wood AEA Bldg
- Mar. 5     FFI Anniversary Event – "Welcome To Our World", 2:00 p.m., Pot Luck, Details TBA
- April 3    Board Meeting – Grant Wood AEA Bldg
- April 28-30 Midwest Regional Conference, St. Louis, MO (Applications forthcoming)  
2-night home stays will be available on Wed. & Thurs. (Apr. 26, 27)
- April/May Possible Outgoing Domestic Exchange to Shelby, NC or Memphis, TN
- May 30 -June 17 Outgoing Exchg to Russia, Latvia, Estonia & Finland, ED is Phyllis Seidl
- July        L.E.O., Board Meeting
- Aug. 6     Tri-Club Picnic with Dubuque and Quad Cities FF clubs – Squaw Creek Pk, Marion
- Sept.      Possible Open World Leadership exchange
- Oct.        Incoming Domestic Exchange from Shelby, NC
- Oct. 12-17 FFI Int'l Conference in Dublin, Ireland (Post Conference of Northern Ireland offered)
- Nov. 12    Annual Membership Meeting and Election

If you haven't yet paid your 2006 membership dues, please do so now by completing the form below and mailing it to Richard Miller (address below). Club dues must be to Atlanta by February 1 in order to receive all issues of the Friendship Magazine.

**Membership Dues**

Please return the following to Richard Miller - 2011 Linmar Dr. NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52402.  
Please submit this by January 15 in order to receive all issues of the Friendship Magazine

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address (include both addresses if you winter south):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

Check one: Family Membership (\$35) \_\_\_\_\_ Individual Membership (\$26) \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Membership dues include the "Friendship" Magazine published by Friendship Force International in Atlanta on a bi-monthly basis (in 2006).**

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Dec. 17, 2005

A reminder that FFI in October that The Friendship Magazine will change to an 8-page, two-color, bimonthly newsletter-type publication (replacing the 12 page, full color quarterly publication). For members of the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Area Friendship Force, this magazine is included with your club membership dues.

The last issue for 2005 subscribers will be the 2005 Annual Report issue that will be mailed in January 2006. Publication dates for 2006 have been announced as:

February 15, April 15, June 15, August 15, October 15 and December 15



**"Happy Holidays from Steve and Nancy Williams  
Thanks for all the wonderful support from the  
club in 2005 and best wishes to the outstanding  
2006 Officers."**

**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.***