

CR\IC Friendship Force UPDATE

April 7, 2006



Greetings from Your President, Vic Klopfenstein

I sure hope many of you can attend the Midwest Regional Meeting in St, Louis. Pat & I always enjoy seeing old acquaintances and meeting new faces. Our International President George Brown will be in attendance so we can meet him in person. We can talk about car pooling at the L.E.O. at Zindricks on Wednesday the 19th if you are interested. This is a great opportunity to bring guests as prospective members.

May 1st we are to hear about our inbound & outbound priorities for 2007. We, the board, think we need a social event in mid-May. Maybe - Lets GO OUT TO THE BALL GAME - KERNELS. Do I hear a volunteer to organize?

It is our club's turn to host the Dubuque & Quad-Cities FF Clubs. Be sure to mark Sunday afternoon, August 6th, at Squaw Creek Lodge for our Tri-Club picnic. Shirley Rosencrans is in the planning stages of a great event with good food, excellent conversation & exchange of travel experiences as well as great entertainment.

In friendship, Vic

*Please note areas marked with *** in this newsletter where help is needed and consider lending a hand.*

Please notify Doris Faas or another officer if you are aware of a member we should send a sympathy card or get well wishes to.

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



SPRING IS HERE!!!! Join fellow Friendship Force members (and guests) at Zindrick's Czech Restaurant in Czech Village for good food and fellowship. Bring your friends who would like an opportunity to talk to other members about their Friendship Force experiences.

WHERE: 86 16TH AVE. SW Cedar Rapids
WHEN: Wednesday, April 19, 5:30 p.m.
RSVP: Please call Will or Karen Mickelson (319) 743-0575 with the number to attend by Friday, April 14

See you there!!!!


Heartland Regional Conference

Friendship Force International Midwest Regional Conference
“Meet me in St Louis” April 28-30, 2006
Hosted by The Friendship Force of Missouri—St Louis



There's still time to register for the Midwest Regional Conference! We have been told that George Brown, President of Friendship Force International will be present at the Conference. If you have never been to a conference before, this would be a great time to gain insight about the organization and meet new friends from the Midwest or re-connect with former acquaintances. (If you are thinking about going but need a roommate, let Dianne Karal know.) Also, Joyce Schmitz from the Northern Illinois Friendship Force group may still be in need of a roommate (call Phyllis Seidl). If you need more information or an application, see the February, 2006 newsletter or call Vic Klopfenstein (377-5502)

Int'l Conference, Ireland Tour & Scholarship!

The Friendship Force International Conference this year will be hosted in Dublin, Ireland October 12-15. This is very intriguing because our club is not likely to be assigned an outgoing exchange to Ireland anytime in the near future since there is only one club in all of Ireland at present. However, Dianne Karal, our current Vice President, is considering organizing a week-long pre-conference tour around Ireland, ending in Dublin just in time to attend the International Conference. Approximate cost including air fare from Cedar Rapids is \$1600 - 1700 per person (not including cost of conference). **If you have interest in hearing more about this tour, call Dianne Karal at 396-6820 (day) or 378-0084 (evenings) by May 1.**

In addition, again this year, the Board voted to make an \$800 scholarship available to one of our members (not including Pres., V.P., Sec'y, Tres.) interested in attending the International Conference. If you are interested, please read the guidelines below and contact Sally Nelson at 857-5296 if you would like an application. **You must submit your application by June 1 to Dianne Karal,**

- Applicant must be an active club member, defined as one who regularly attends and participates in General Meetings and has indicated a willingness to accept a leadership position within the next two years. Also be willing to share their experiences at a general membership meeting.
- The Travelship must be applied toward the cost of an International Conference
- If the applicant is not able to travel after the award is given, the money is to be returned to the scholarship fund.
- The President or Vice-President is not eligible for this scholarship as the Club already is providing other financial support.
- A member is eligible to receive only one scholarship

Exchange Updates & Opportunities to Help***!

St Petersburg/Latvia/Helsinki: Eight of our members are excited about departing with eight additional members from other clubs on May 30 under the direction of Exchange Director, Phyllis Seidl.

Work In Progress/Opportunities to Help:

Mystery Exchange (Fall 2006 or Spring 2007?): We are still looking *for a volunteer to lead a Mystery Exchange**** to another Midwest city of their choice (to be hosted by another Friendship Force club). Please call Vic Klopfenstein for further details or even to just chat about ideas.

Tri-Club Friendship Force Picnic – Aug. 6, 2006 – see p. 1 *Committee members needed to help with planning this event****– please contact Shirley Rosencrans (giftstore@ncsml.org or 319-362-8500)

Incoming Domestic Exchange: Mary Lukas and Sally Nelson will be working with the Friendship Force Club of Shelby, North Carolina to design a few fun-filled days of hosting by our club this September. Tentative date is sometime during the week of Sept. 12. *If you would like to help with planning this hosting, please call Mary Lukas (337-3886) or Sally Nelson (857-5296).****

Open World Exchange: We are still awaiting word from Atlanta that funding has been approved for this year's exchanges. *If anyone is interested in going to Atlanta for a weekend of training to become a Director for this program (expenses paid), please call Vic Klopfenstein for more information.****

Friendship Force Board of Directors 2006

President	Vic Klopfenstein vpklopfenstein@msn.com	377-5502
Vice President	Dianne Karal toy4di@msn.com	378-0084
Secretary	Doris Faas ddfaas@msn.com	390-3234
Treasurer	Winston Edson wedson1@msn.com	393-8053
Directors at Large (Two Year Terms)	Mary Lukas (12-06) mlukas@aea10.k12.ia.us Sally Fairchild (12-07) sfairchild@gazellevillage.com	337-3886 377-8611
Exchange Directors (2006)	Phyllis Seidl (St. Petersburg/Latvia) seidlgerald@msn.com Jim Nieman (Shelby North Carolina)	377-5619 396-5892
Past Exchange Director	Phyllis Seidl	
Past President	Steve & Nancy Williams SWILL1234@msn.com	447-5761
	Standing Committees Chairpersons and Special Positions	
Membership	Richard and Margaret Miller zrmam@juno.com	364-2135
Communications	Pat Kress chaskress@mchsi.com	377-5055
Activities	Margaret Nelson ronnmarg@aol.com Jill Rinkenberger kjrink@mchsi.com	393-1209 377-5077
Historian	Mary Carson mcarson484@yahoo.com	366-4545
Newsletter	Frank and Mary Stull (distribution) fpstull@aol.com Sally Nelson (publication) nelsmaddie@aol.com	393-6254 857-5296

Calendar of Events, 2006

- April 14** **RSVP for L.E.O. (see p. 1)**
April 19 **Let's Eat Out – Zindrick's Czech Restaurant, 5:30 p.m.**
April 28-30 **Midwest Regional Conference, St. Louis, MO**
May 8 **Board Meeting – Site TBA**
May 30 -June 17 **Outgoing Exchg to Russia, Latvia, Estonia & Finland, ED - Phyllis Seidl**
June 24? **2nd Annual Car Rally (Tentative)**
July **L.E.O., (host Andrew Cecil)**
 Board Meeting
Aug. 6 **Tri-Club Picnic with Dubuque and Quad Cities FF clubs – Squaw Creek Pk, Marion**
Fall **Host tentative Open World Leadership Exchange**
Sept./Oct. **Let's Eat Out (host Margaret Miller)**
Sept. 12-18? **Incoming Domestic Exchange from Shelby, NC**
Oct. 12-15 **FFI Int'l Conference in Dublin, Ireland**
Nov. 12 **Annual Membership Meeting and Election**

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.***