

CR\IC Friendship Force UPDATE

May 3, 2007



Greetings from Your President, Dianne Karal

On Sunday, April 22 at Beem's Auditorium, in addition to the Board Meeting and General Meeting, we had a chance to learn more about Japanese culture and customs. Vic Klopfenstein, the ED for the upcoming exchange to Japan put together the afternoon's program. Nancy Miller shared slides and wonderful memories from her trip to Japan. Tatsuo Matsugaki, Vice President Finance at Vector Corp in Marion, provided his personal insights and tips that will be very helpful for those traveling to Japan, and other members brought photo albums, souvenirs, tokens of friendship and informational literature. We then enjoyed the presentation, smells and taste of some traditional Japanese dishes.

Thank you Tressa Youngbear for volunteering to be Outgoing Exchange Director to Germany in 2008 and also to Steve Williams for volunteering as Incoming Exchange Director from Germany in 2008 – Hurray – we are very grateful!!!!

The Friendship Force of Dubuque is excited about hosting the Midwest Regional Conference this year. Watch for more information to come, but for now, know that home hosting will be available October 11 and 12 on a first-come-first-serve basis. Volunteers are needed to facilitate workshops and others to take notes. Another need is for people who have been an Exchange Director to be part of a panel discussion. If you can help in any of these ways, please email Addy Gard, Conference Chairperson at billg989@mchsi.com or call me and I will pass it on for you.

Read further for the many special upcoming events you won't want to miss, mark your calendars now.....looking forward to seeing each of you.

In friendship, Dianne

Where can you dine with friends, view artwork and great literature in the same location?

Answer: At this month's L.E.O. event! May always seems to be a busy month for people, but we hope to see many of you at L.E.O (Let's Eat Out). The weather is nice, so plan to go for a drive to Coralville and take in some artwork at the same time!

L.E.O.

Wednesday, May 16 at 6:30

Marriott Hotel in Coralville (The restaurant is called EDGEWATER GRILL)

We will have a chance to enjoy artwork by Iowa artists and a library with authors from the Iowa Writer's Workshop!

Directions: Take Exit 242 off I80 and go south.

Please call Nancy Miller for reservations by Monday, May 14th at 393-3580.



EXCHANGE NEWS

COME LEARN ABOUT PERU!:

Join in on the fun at the next general membership meeting:

Date & Time: Sunday, June 10th at 2 p.m.

Place: Family Merchants Bank, 600 Boyson Rd NE

Everyone is encouraged to bring a dish preferably relating to Peru or Latin America! Margaret Miller has organized a really interesting, fun agenda with a surprise event (you'll have to attend to find out!)



Regarding the incoming exchange: Ambassadors are still waiting on visas. The dates currently planned for the exchange are Sept. 13 to the 20th or 21st. **The next planning session for Peru will be Monday May 7th** at 7pm at Metro Buffet on SW side of town. Those wanting to eat will arrive at 6.30pm.

Domestic Exchange from Shelby, North Carolina July 29 to Aug. 5, 2007



→ If you would like to join us, you have until June 1st to submit your application to Exchange Director, Jim Nieman at 2803 Camelot Ave NW CR 52405 along with your **\$100 check**. (\$25 goes to FFI and \$75 to the Shelby FF club as a hosting fee). So far, 14 people have submitted applications and 6 more are thinking about the wonderful time we will have in the Smoky Mountains. They had an excellent time here last year and are excited for us to come visit them.

Outbound Exchanges to Tokyo & Gifu, Japan Oct. 22 - Nov. 7, 2007

Exchange Director, Vic Klopfenstein, is happy to report this exchange has been filled with two alternate couples in waiting!

The next planning workshop will be July 15, 2007 at approx 4:30 p.m. at the Lowe Park potluck & General Meeting (see agenda next page).



Just a bit of information follows to pique your interest in the fun events being planned for the summer. Mark your calendar now so you won't miss out!

→General Membership Picnic

Where: Lowe Park - 4500 N. 10th St. Marion
(North of Linn Mar School about 1 mile on the left).
Date: July 15, 2007
Time: 2:00 Potluck Picnic for all members and guests
2:45 General Meeting
3:45 Tour of Arts & Environment Bldg & Hayrack Tour
of Lowe Park Facilities



*Please Note: Board Members, please come at 1:00 for a board meeting.
At 4:30 there will be another workshop for the Japanese Exchange - Vic*

→Meskwaki Traditional Pow Wow - August 12th

→FF Tri-Club Picnic in Clinton - September 9th

More information to follow about these last two events as time gets closer!

Calendar of Events, 2007

May 7	Peru Exchange Planning Meeting – Metro Buffet (SW) 7 p.m.
May 16	L.E.O. 6:30 p.m. Edgewater Grill, Coralville RSVP due by May 14 to Nancy Miller
June 1	Applications for outgoing exchange to Shelby, NC due to Jim Nieman
June 10th, Sunday	General Membership featuring Peru at Family Merchants Bank, C Ave & Boyson Rd NE Time: 2-5pm Chairperson: Margaret Miller
July 15th, Sunday	1:00 Board Meeting Lowe Park, Marion, 4:30 Japan exchange meeting, Lowe Park
July 15th, Sunday	General Membership Picnic 2:00 @ Lowe Park, Marion, Chairperson: Charlie Kress
July 29th – August 5th	Outgoing Exchange to Shelby, N. Carolina, Exchange Director: Jim Nieman
August 12th, Sunday	Tama Meskwaki Pow Wow Social Event Camping available at the Pow Wow grounds Chairperson: Tressa Youngbear
Sept. 9	FF Tri-Club Picnic in Clinton, Iowa
Sept. 13-20	Incoming Exchange from Peru & General Meeting, Exchange Director: Margaret Miller Board Meeting held in conjunction with Peru, date TBD
Late Sept (20th-27th ?)	Open World Leadership Exchange, Exchange Director & Topic TBD
First week of October	LEO held in Coralville/Iowa City area, Chairperson : Mary Lukas
October 12th – 14th	Midwest Festival in Dubuque
Oct. 23rd – Nov. 6th	Outgoing Exchange to Japan, Exchange Director: Vic Klopfenstein
Nov. 11th, Sunday	Annual Meeting

Board of Directors 2007 Friendship Force Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Area

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	Jim Nieman (N. Carolina)	319-396-5892	nieman.jim@mcleodusa.net
	Margaret Miller (Peru)	See Above	
	Victor Klopfenstein (Japan)	See Above	
<i>Past Exchange Directors:</i>	Phyllis Seidl	319-377-5619	seidlgerald@msn.com
	Mary Lukas	See Above	
	Steve Williams	See Above	
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The Friendship Force

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Mission Statement:

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