

Calendar of Events, 2006

- Aug. 6** Tri-Club Picnic w/ Dubuque and Quad Cities FF clubs –
Squaw Creek Pk, Marion 1:30 pm Bring side dish to share!
- Aug. 20** Bring & Brag Social – 1:30 – 4 pm Beems Auditorium, CR Library
- Aug. 25** RSVP due for Kalona Lunch on Sept. 13
- Aug. 29** Kernels Game, 6 p.m.
- Aug. 30** RSVP's are due for Russian's welcome potluck – call 377-5502
- Sept. 2-10** Host Open World Leadership Exchange
- Sept. 2** – welcome potluck 5:30 p.m. 5540 Hunters Ridge Ct –
- Sept. 8** – farewell dinner for Russian Exchange 6 pm Marion Heritage Ctr
More details forthcoming
- Sept 12-18** Host Shelby, North Carolina Friendship Force – Please join us or volunteer!
- Sept. 29** Let's Eat Out - Elk's Club – more details to follow
- 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

Byron
Lucy J. Hansen
Bice
Melle SW

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

Nelson
Bice

2007 FRIENDSHIP FORCE BOARD POSITIONS

EMPLOYMENT AD:

If you would like to work with exciting, fun-loving world travelers, this is your golden opportunity. There are various positions available for 2007 and every attempt to match you with your area of interest will be made.

Call Dianne at 378-0084



This is a request for each Friendship Force Member to consider, please think about how your talents could best be used. There are several positions that need a volunteer willing to serve for 2007. The following positions are available: Vice President, Secretary, Exchange Director for Japan, Membership, Communications, and Newsletter. Please call Dianne Karal and let her know if you are interested in serving and together we'll decide which opening is the best fit. Dianne's phone number is 378-0084, if there is no answer, please leave a message and she'll return your call.

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	337-3886
Exchange Directors (2006)	Sally Fairchild (12-07) sfairchild@gazellevillage.com	377-8611
	Phyllis Seidl (St. Petersburg/Latvia) seidlgerald@msn.com	377-5619
	Mary Lucas (Shelby North Carolina)	
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	393-1209
	Jill Rinkenberger kjrink@mchsi.com	377-5077
Historian	Mary Carson mcarson484@yahoo.com	366-4545
Newsletter	Frank and Mary Stull (distribution) fpstull@aol.com	393-6254
	Sally Nelson (publication) nelsmaddie@aol.com	857-5296

Open World Russian Leadership Exchange – HELP !

12 female delegates will be our guests for a week focusing on “Women’s Issues” Sept.2 -10.



We are still in need of a home for 2 women for 4 nights from Wednesday, Sept. 6 to Saturday, Sept. 9. The women would be attending functions with their group related to their business each day. The hosts would only be asked to provide meals and help transport them at the beginning and at the end of the day and if that is a problem, assistance could be provided. Please call Vic at 377-5502 if you can help.

Everyone is invited to attend both the welcome event and farewell events:

A welcome potluck will be held at the home of Pat and Vic Klopfenstein on Saturday, Sept. 2 at 5:30 p.m. Please bring a dish to share. The farewell dinner will be at Marion Heritage Center on Friday, Sept. 8 at 6:00 p.m. (more details coming on this event).

Outgoing Exchange Memories from Sandra Colton:

Sandy is a new member and this is her account of her first exchange experience:

The Friendship Force exchange to Russia, Latvia, Finland and Estonia this past spring was a memorable cultural, historical and people experience. The three are intermingled.

Historically, you hear of Russia’s need to defend itself dating back to Swedish invasions in 1240 and 1702 and more recently from the Germans in 1941. On the other hand, Russia was the aggressor in the Balkans. Latvians fled to the U.S. Latvia still has 29% Russian population. As our young guide in Estonia said, “If they liberated us, why don’t they go home.” Someone asked her if she would date a Russian – “I do. If I don’t teach him, who will!” On a personal level, people still like each other even though they remember history.

A cultural highlight in Latvia was a folk dance festival with thousands participating. As many as 640 people at a time in groups of sixteen danced on the football field in colorful folk costumes.

A touching historical moment was a stop at the memorial to the 900-day siege of Leningrad by the Germans. Over 500,000 died from shelling, starvation and disease. Saw dust filled bread was meted out at 170 g. a day.

My nomination for the most spectacular is Petrodvorts known as “The Russian Versailles”; its gravity-powered fountains were trashed by the Germans in WWII and reconstructed from photos and drawings.

The hosts in St. Petersburg and Latvia tried so successfully to show us their way of life and expand our thinking, lasting bonds of friendship were made.

Phyllis Seidl, as our Exchange Director and Jerry as her aide, did a superb job!!!!



Exchange Updates

Upcoming Domestic Exchange:

18 Members of The Friendship Force Club of Shelby, North Carolina arrive on Tuesday, Sept. 18. A HUGE thank you to the nine host families: Ed Junkins & Mary Lukas, Greg & Sally Nelson, Jim & Colleen Nieman, Dick & Veryl Hansen, Steve & Nancy Miller, Dallas & Jackie Bryant, George & Stephanie Schulte and Bernita Walker. Also thank you to those people who have volunteered to help by being a day host or sponsoring a dinner. **If you think you would like to help by being a day host or sponsoring a small dinner party at your home, there is still a need** - Please contact Mary Lukas at 319-337-3886 or email mlukas@aea10.k12.ia.us.

Anyone may join us on any event. The agenda for the week is as follows:

Tuesday, Sept. 12: Welcome picnic/potluck at the Fossil Gorge Area. Meet at 5 p.m, eat at 5:30.

Everyone is welcome – the more the merrier – bring a main dish and salad or dessert plus your own table service and beverage. Note: There is an interesting film about the flood of '93 you can view at the Visitors Center which closes at 5 p.m, so go early in order to view it.

Wednesday, Sept 13: Kalona Day – Meet at the Historical Museum at 9:30 for a tour, then on to enjoy a lunch on an Amish Farm at noon where the family will speak to us about their life. After, we will tour the area by car. Anyone may join us, but must pay in advance (see RSVP form below.)

Thursday, Sept. 14: Hoover Museum & Library & Wallace Winery - Meet at Hoover Museum entrance at 2:00 p.m. for tour. After the tour, we will kick back and enjoy some wine tasting at the Wallace Winery in West Branch. They have recently been written up in the Gazette and a few of us and have sampled and were pleasantly surprised at the quality – come join us!

Friday, Sept. 15: Quad Cities Visit – We include the new River Music Experience Museum, the Mississippi River Visitor's Center and the Arsenal.

Sunday, Sept 16: K & K Popcorn Farm in Shellsburg, and farewell dinner at Bloomsbury Farm
Meet at 2:00 p.m. at the popcorn farm to learn about the "world's tiniest popcorn", grown organically and packaged and shipped on site in Shellsburg. We will then move on to Bloomsbury Farm for a catered dinner, a little farm history and fun (see RSVP below for farewell dinner).

Please send the following RSVP's along with your check made payable to Friendship Force Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Area to Jim Nieman 2803 Camelot Ave. NW Cedar Rapids, IA 52405

I/We would like to attend lunch in Kalona, Wednesday, Sept. 13 – **(RSVP necessary by Aug. 25)**
Cost for lunch \$19.55 (all inclusive), Museum Tour \$6

Name(s): _____ Total Amt Included: _____

I/We would like to attend the farewell dinner at Bloomsbury Farm on Sunday, Sept 16 – Cost \$20 ea:

Name(s) _____ Total Amt Included _____
Please indicate choice of entrée: Chicken _____ Roast Pork Loin _____

Aug. 6, 2006

Meet Us At The Ballpark!

The Kernels game we were going to attend in July got rained out – the rain date is Tuesday, August 29 at 6 p.m. So, if you missed out the first time around, and would like to join in, tickets are still available. Please call Vic Klopfenstein at 377-5502



Come Meet Leo at L.E.O.!!!!

Mark you calendar for the September LEO event (Let's Eat Out) for Thursday, September 29 at the Elks Club in Cedar Rapids. Come and greet our Russian friends, Leo Ermakov and Natasha Ermolina, both from Ryazan. You may remember Natasha from her two previous visits to Cedar Rapids. They will be hosted by a friend in Decorah and Carl & Mary Carson. Leo plays the piano beautifully even though he has no fingers! Stay tuned for more details to come in September!



FFI Int'l Conference '06 – Dublin, Ireland

The registration deadline is fast approaching: August 13, 2006. You can register on-line or download registration forms at www.friendshipforce.org/ireland2006.htm.

This year our conference takes place at the new conference facility, Crowne Plaza – Dublin Airport. This is a unique facility that has two hotel properties adjacent to the conference complex: the 3-star Express by Holiday Inn (the official conference hotel) or the 4-star Crowne Plaza (available for those who would like to upgrade). The facility is situated in a wooded park 2 km (1.2 miles) from Dublin Airport and 8km (5miles) from the city center.

On Friday afternoon, October 13, we have an optional leadership seminar for the 2006 & 2007 club leaders – Presidents and Exchange Directors. That evening we officially kick-off the conference with an opening banquet at the Crowne Plaza – Dublin Airport. Workshops begin on Saturday morning. In addition to the workshops that are pertinent to Friendship Force leaders and members, we also have workshops on the local culture and history of Ireland. All the workshops end Saturday in time for dinner on your own or with friends at the optional Taylor's Irish Night. The conference concludes Sunday morning, October 15th.



CR\IC Friendship Force UPDATE

Aug. 6, 2006



Greetings from Your President, Vic Klopfenstein

Our club has just received a Certificate as a 'Rising Star on the Founders Circle of Stars' from Friendship Force International in Atlanta in recognition of our exceptional support for the Legacy Campaign the past two years. Congratulations to all.

Thanks to you all for helping with our two incoming exchanges: Open World Russian Leadership and the Friendship Force Club of Shelby, North Carolina. Those program plans are in the final stages. Even those of us not directly involved, let's go to some of the events and make a show of support and make new friends (Faces not Places).

The International Board has set the 2007 fees as follows: membership fees and the magazine will stay the same, the Outbound Ambassador fees for U.S. will be \$140.00 for each week now to Atlanta and a domestic exchange of 4 - 7 days is \$50.00 to Atlanta.

The Aug. 20 event "Bring & Brag" sounds like fun for all; lets all extend an invitation to prospective members (guests).

There now are 14 of us from our club going on a pre-conference tour of Ireland in October and 6 will continue on to the Annual International Conference in Dublin - good show!

We are still looking for a home for two Russian women for 4 nights Sept. 6-9. If you are reading this and have a little interest, but have never hosted before and would like more information, please give me a call. This is an easy and interesting way to get a little more involved!

"Bring & Brag" Social Aug. 20 – 1:30 p.m.

Beems Auditorium, Cedar Rapids Public Library at 500 First Street SE. 1:30 – 4 pm.



Do you have an unusual hobby or an interesting picture or memento from a travel or hosting experience? **Put Sunday, August 20th on your calendar for the Friendship Force Bring 'n Brag Social.** Please bring a short description to share with the group and to label your display. It would be great if each member brought a display of items and/or pictures to share with fellow members and our guests. I know I'll want to see everyone's treasures!

Guests are most welcome to this event, so bring a neighbor or a friend.

Please RSVP to **Connie Williams** at **396-4747** or **cmw1226@yahoo.com** indicating the number coming and the type of display you plan to bring.