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JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

We will have our first general meeting of the new year at 2:30 p.m, Sunday, January 15, 1989 at Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church, in Iowa City, one block east of the University Club.

A program on Colombia, South America, will be presented by the Quad Cities Club. Refreshments and a social hour will follow. Applications for our South American Exchange will be taken. A Holland slide presentation will be presented. PLEASE BRING A FRIEND!!!!!!

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1989 BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

- Honorary Board Members . . . . . Robert and Billie Ray
- President . . . . . Betsy Sargent
- Past President . . . . . Sue Girsch
- Vice President . . . . . Carl Carson
- Treasurer . . . . . Janice Dyrland
- Secretary . . . . . Kathy Goematt
- At Large . . . . . Clayton Ringgenberg
- At Large . . . . . Max Betenbender
- Activities . . . . . Dolores Kaiden
- Publicity . . . . . Chris Manahan
- Membership . . . . . Mary Stull
- Hosting Exchange Director . . . . . Clem McKamy
  
- Committee Chairpersons
- Phone . . . . . Doris McClain
- Newsletter . . . . . Eleanor Green

T H A N K   Y O U   ! ! ! !

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people that have helped me so much in the past year and a half. First of all, I would like to thank Betsy Sargent, Lee Clancy, and George Milligan for being such great officers. Everyone worked very hard and I appreciate it. Also Board members: Bob and Billie Ray, Kitty Olsen, Max Betenbender, Carl & Mary Carson, Clem & Jan McKamy, Clay & Helen Ringgenberg, Chris Manahan, and Connie Williams. Thank you for being so supportive and willing to jump right in and help. But most of all I want to thank you, the members, for responding to our calls, for hosting, for your applications for the exchange, for saying "yes" when you were called. We could never have been successful without you.

In Friendship,  
Sue Girsch

HOLLAND HIGHLIGHTS

Twenty Ambassadors from the Cedar Rapids-Iowa City area spent a delightful two weeks in Zutphen, Netherlands. The exchange director, Anja Maljers and her committee, greeted us warmly at the Amsterdam airport to begin a warm and wonderful time. When we arrived in Zutphen, our hosts were waiting for us at a local coffee shop where we had the Dutch treat of coffee and cookies. We came to learn that there is ALWAYS a coffee break at 10:00 a.m. with pastries, cookies or some other treat available.

The weekend was free to be spent with our host families. The weather was cool but dry, Perfect weather!

Monday morning, bright and early, we left for a day at the Delta Works in SW Holland. The Delta Works is a new dike system built to protect the land from the North Sea. It is an awesome sight and quite an accomplishment. We had a delightful bus trip including stops for coffee, lunch, and dinner. We arrived home at about 10:00 that night. Weary but happy travelers.

Wednesday was spent in Amsterdam. We were able to go to the Diamond factory, Anne Frank's house, or the Reichsmuseum to view Rembrandt's paintings. Or we were free to do whatever we wanted. It was a wonderful day full of new sights. We were first of all treated to a boat ride through the canals of Amsterdam. There were some very interesting barges on the canals! Again, the weather cooperated beautifully. After another full and exciting day, we were home in time for dinner. Again a group of very tired but excited ambassadors.

Thursday night was our farewell party. It began with a group of local artists displaying their crafts, from basket weaving to

painting to candle making. We were able to purchase items. It was very interesting. We then had a light dinner of sandwiches and made our presentations of gifts. Our ambassadors also presented some entertainment for our Dutch hosts. We gave a resounding rendition of We're from Iowa, (complete with kazoos!) The Hokey Pokey, and It's a Small World. It was a very touching time as we came to realize that it was almost time to leave our new families. Many of us have formed relationships that will be with us a lifetime. We ended our evening with folk dancers and singing Dutch folk songs. It was a happy ending to a happy week.

On Saturday, ambassadors who were staying for a second week moved to their new homes and the rest of us moved on for our second week. We left the Amsterdam airport for home on the following Friday afternoon. We were all excited and ready to go again. In fact some ambassadors have already signed up for the exchange to Cali, Columbia! It was a perfect time for all of us. Our ambassadors were truly goodwill ambassadors. We learned about the Dutch, laughed together, ate at their tables and cried as we said farewell. It will be a time none of us will soon forget. I would like to encourage everyone to try it. We're glad we did.

Sue Girsch  
Exchange Director