

# The Friendship Force of Cedar Rapids / Iowa City

## President's Message

It's not too late to go on the exchange to Germany and Belgium. The dates for the trip are May 11 - 26. We have nine ambassadors going so far. Give Mary Stull a call at 319-393-393-6254 and "MAKE HER DAY". We really need 10 or more to get the best group airfares.

We are negotiating on the domestic exchange with Reno/Lake Tahoe. The exchange director for the incoming exchange scheduled for September is Mary Carson. The date has been determined as September 20, so come to our next meeting for more details.

Late breaking news is that the incoming exchange from Mexico will be here July 23 - 30. The exchange director for this exchange is Colleen Nieman.

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**Facts In Brief...** Notice the *Facts In Brief* sheet published by Friendship Force. It is a good review of the history of our organization and something to share with friends to help them understand what we are about. To be a good will ambassador, we need to help share the word.

Joe Trammell, our activities chairman has arranged our quarterly meeting on Sunday, March 15. . It will be a dinner meeting at the Barn Restaurant in the Amanas. See the reservation forms in this newsletter. We will gather at 1:00 and have dinner at 1:30. We invite you to bring something from Belgium or Germany for a display table if you have visited either of these countries previously. It is a good chance to exchange stories and fond memories. It will be a fun day. I'm excited to meet and develop our friendships. See you there. Be sure to send in your reservation before you forget!

Sounds like several exciting events are coming up. We like to get as many people involved as we can. Let your interest in any exchange known to the appropriate director and be sure to attend our quarterly chapter meetings!  
Jim Nieman, President

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**Group Talks on FF!!!** Our membership chairpersons, Nancy and Steve Miller, are available to speak to groups about Friendship Force to help get the message out. If you know a group that would be interested, call them at 393-6730. "A world of friends is a world of peace."

February, 1998

**Heartland Regional Conference**  
Hosted by the Friendship Force of  
Minnesota/TwinCities  
April 18, 1998

The registration fee of \$55 per person for attending the Regional Conference in Bloomington, MN on April 18 will be subsidized by our Cedar Rapids/Iowa City club for up to a total of \$300. If any members are interested in going with our President Elect, Gerry Stoner, and Jim and Colleen Nieman, contact Jim for details. (396-5892) Reservations are due prior to March 15. The complete registration form is enclosed.

**A Warm Welcome To Our  
New Members!!!**

New members this fall include:

**Kathy Healy** - 4330 Lorcardo Dr. N. E.  
Unit D, Cedar Rapids

**Mary Hynek** - P.O. Box 276, Swisher

**Pat & Vic Klopfenstein** - 525-6th St.  
Marion

**Thomas & Jean McDermott** - 6767 No.  
Pleasant Grove Rd. Farley, IA

**Marilyn Smith** - 3630 Mt. Vernon Rd SE  
Cedar Rapids

**David & Elizabeth Spreitzer** - 240 - 25th  
St. Drive S. E., Cedar Rapids

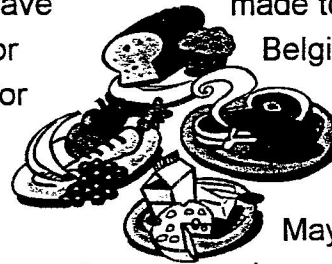
**Patricia Swab** - 3215 Dairydale Ct. S. E.  
Cedar Rapids

**Brian & Debra Weaver** - 2121 Goblins  
Gully Dr. S.E., Cedar Rapids

**James(J.P.) & Donna Williams**-102 Brent-  
wood Dr. N.E., Cedar Rapids

**Join Us at the  
Amana Barn Restaurant**  
Sunday, March 15, 1998  
1:00 Social - 1:30 Dinner

The next meeting of the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Chapter of Friendship Force is being held in the Amanas on Sunday, March 15 at the Barn Restaurant. There will be a table to display souvenirs and pictures from any trips you have made to either Germany or Belgium, the countries for our next outgoing exchange scheduled for May 11 - 26.



A business meeting and program will follow the dinner.

\*\*\*\*\*Cost is \$16.00 each. \*\*\*\*\*

Reservations with checks should be sent to:

**Joe Trammell**

**705 Fairway Lane**

**Iowa City, IA 52240**

Meal includes two meats (chicken & Swiss steak), the usual Amana family style dinner, beverage, and dessert.

**Reservations due by March 8.** We hope to see you there. Bring a friend. Hear the latest updates on all three pending exchanges.

**Important Note on Dues:** If your address label has and asterisk \* by your name, your dues for 1998 have not been received to date. Form enclosed to remit to **Keith Black**, treasurer.

# The Friendship Force

Facts in Brief – January 1998

The Friendship Force is a private, nonprofit organization whose purpose is to create an environment where personal friendships can be established across the international barriers that separate people. The organization promotes world friendship and goodwill through international homestay exchanges.

A 1992 nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize, The Friendship Force was founded in 1977 by Wayne Smith and was announced on March 1, 1977 by President Jimmy Carter at a White House gathering of state governors. Mrs. Rosalynn Carter accepted and still holds the position of Honorary Chairperson and also serves on the Board of Trustees, the governing body of The Friendship Force. An International Advisory Council composed of distinguished persons serves as a board of reference for the organization.

The Friendship Force achieves its goals through the travel of goodwill Ambassadors who share the lives of a Host family in another country for one or two weeks. Host families receive no payment for opening their homes. Ambassadors pay their own travel expenses plus an administrative fee that covers most of the operating costs of The Friendship Force. Over 140,000 Ambassadors and 400,000 Hosts have participated through 3,600 exchanges, touching the lives of over two million people and bringing to life The Friendship Force motto: "A world of friends is a world of peace."

Friendship Force exchanges began in 1977 with groups ranging from 150 to over 400 Ambassadors traveling by chartered aircraft to a partner city. In 1982, travel arrangements changed from chartered to scheduled airline service. This transition allowed greater flexibility and the reduction of group sizes to 20 or 40 persons. In 1997, more than 5,000 citizen Ambassadors participated in 280 exchanges.

Beginning in 1980, independent local chapters, or "Friendship Force clubs," were organized in each active city and were officially licensed by The Friendship Force. These clubs provide volunteer leadership for the exchange program as well as a community focus for The Friendship Force between exchanges. Membership is open to all in the community who share in the organization's goals. There are now 365 clubs in 55 countries and 39 U.S. states. The headquarters' office, Friendship Force International (FFI), is in Atlanta, Georgia, with a small, professional staff.

Friendship Missions, with day hosting only, were introduced in 1982, first to the USSR, then to Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Vietnam and Yugoslavia. Today, these countries or their successors participate in the regular homestay exchange program.

Festivals of Friendship were begun in 1987 combining cultural seminars and with the home-hosting experience. Participants spend several nights in a hotel setting followed by a homestay experience in the region.

In 1985, a unique American-Soviet homestay program was inaugurated between The Friendship Force and the USSR/USA Society. In April 1990, The Friendship Force successfully conducted the largest single exchange of citizens that has ever taken place between the USA and the USSR: the Georgia-to-Georgia exchange.

With the collapse of the Soviet Union, President Wayne Smith initiated a special program, "Friend-to-Friend," featuring the traditional homestay combined with humanitarian aid. Over the next six months, 1,038 Ambassadors traveled to Moscow carrying 45 tons of food and medical supplies. A strong program of exchanges continues to Russia and the newly independent republics, with a program in Bosnia added in 1996.

During the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia, The Friendship Force organized and managed a unique homestay program for the family members of Olympic athletes. The program was sponsored by AT&T and provided a free homestay for over 2,500 people.

The newest Friendship Force program, Bridgebuilders, uses the homestay format as the means for linking professional or special interest counterparts. Bridgebuilders exchanges provide unique opportunities for putting friendship into action through joint projects that grow out of the personal friendship established during the exchange.

In 1996, The Friendship Force Foundation was established to raise funds to support the development of new Friendship Force programs. Development priorities in 1998 include expanded programs in China and South Africa, as well as specialized programs for youth.

Each year, an International Conference brings together Friendship Force volunteer leaders from around the world. The 22<sup>nd</sup> International Conference will be held in October 1998 in Istanbul, Turkey.

*Friendship* magazine was launched in 1983 and is published six times a year. Each issue features articles on recent exchanges and upcoming activities. The magazine, along with a personalized Friendship Force Passport, is available for US \$12.

The Friendship Force  
57 Forsyth Street, NW, Suite 900  
Atlanta, GA 30303 USA  
Telephone: 404-522-9490 Fax: 404-688-6148  
E-mail: 254-9295@mcimail.com  
Web site: www.friendship-force.org

# REGISTRATION FORM

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF MINNESOTA/TWIN CITIES

HEARTLAND REGIONAL CONFERENCE

April 18, 1998



Days Inn  
Airport- Mall Of America  
1901 Killebrew Drive  
Bloomington, MN 55425  
Telephone: (612) 854-8400  
Fax: (612) 854-3331

I would like to make reservations for \_\_\_\_\_ person(s) for the Heartland Regional Conference on April 18, 1998.  
Cost for the conference, lunch & dinner is \$55 for each participant.  
Enclosed is a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover the cost for the above number of people indicated.

Please complete the following:

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

REMINDER: Bring name badge

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your club name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of other(s) attending with you \_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete the following choices:**

**Menu selection:** \_\_\_\_\_ (enter how many) Chicken Amaretto  
\_\_\_\_\_ (enter how many) Beef Sirloin



**Accommodations:** \_\_\_\_\_ Will book a room at Days Inn, Bloomington  
(Please inform hotel representative that you are with Friendship Force to receive special rate:  
Double is \$65.)

**Make reservations prior to March 15th.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Will make other lodging arrangements

\_\_\_\_\_ Would like to be home hosted. Roommate preference: \_\_\_\_\_  
Male or Female host, if preference \_\_\_\_\_ Do you smoke \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this completed form with a check payable to Friendship Force MN/TC to Paula Wirka,  
1072 Mary Lane, St. Paul, MN, 55117-3317. Deadline is March 15, 1998

A table will be set up to promote your clubs outgoing exchanges. Please bring promotional materials publicizing your exchanges (flyer/newsletter/newspaper article-whatever).

PLEASE COPY THIS FLYER FOR ANY MEMBER WHO MAY BE INTERESTED. AGENDA IS ON OTHER SIDE.

February, 1998

### Pay Your Dues Now...

1998 dues are due as of January 1st and last for the calendar year.

Send payment to:

Keith Black  
6605 Kent Drive. N. E.  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

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I would like to pay be a member of  
Friendship Force of Cedar Rapids/Iowa  
City for 1998:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$32 for family membership  
(includes quarterly maga-  
zine and passport program)  
Include spouse's name and  
names of at home children)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$27 for individual member  
(quarterly magazine & pass-  
port program)

Additional order:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$8.00 for FF name tag  
with name imprinted  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$4.50 for tag where you  
print on your own name.

**Include your name, address, phone #**

### Reserve your spot at the March 15 Dinner Meeting Now....

**Time:** 1:00 gather  
1:30 dinner

**Place:** Amana Barn  
Restaurant

**Cost:** \$16.00

**Send reservations by March 8  
to:**

**Joe Trammell  
705 Fairway Lane  
Iowa City, IA 52240**

**Make checks payable to CR/IC  
Friendship Force.**

**Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ dinners  
@ \$16. each for:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Guten Tag.** Preparations are underway for our May exchange to Germany and Belgium. We'll be hosted by families in Herne, Germany and Maas and Kempen area of Belgium. Our group includes **Betty Emrich, Mary Hynek, Shirley Messer, Gerry Stoner, Frank & Mary Stull** from this club. We will be joined by Sharon Youngquist from Ames, Ruth Smith from Oregon, and John Richter from Minneapolis. The trip is from May 11 through May 26. There are still a few days left to join the exchange. It's a great opportunity for two weeks of home hosting in two different countries. You can also stay a third week on your own. **Non members are invited to join us as well. Tell your friends. It's a good way to recruit a new member!**



Friendship Force  
Cedar Rapids/Iowa City  
% Carl & Mary Carson  
3013 Tiperary Dr. N. E.  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402



FRANK & MARY STULL 98  
5819 GOLDEN COURT N.E.  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52402-1310