

President
Betty Emrich

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Vice President
Kenneth Schmitz

Thanks to everyone who attended the meeting at St. Andrews church last March. I especially appreciated meeting the guests. Ken Schmitz, has some great ideas how to increase membership. Please read his membership challenge in this newsletter and make every effort to follow his suggestions.

Treasurer
Anne Parton

Secretary
Doris Faas

Past President
George Mulligan

The Heart of America Conference at Amana will soon take place---Sunday, April 28th. Plan to join us for fun and fellowship. It will be a wonderful opportunity to enlarge our circle of friends with other FF members. At this time there are representatives from eight clubs and three states. Members are coming from as far as Chicago and Lincoln, Nebraska. Registration costs are now \$35 which include a continental breakfast and luncheon. We will be happy to add your name to the list of registrants as late as Sunday morning.

Committee Chairs

Activities
Gerry Stoner

Historian
Doris Faas

Hospitality
Margaret Stokely

Membership
Kenneth Schmitz

Newsletter
Bernita Walker

Publicity
Paula Pearson

Telephone
Anne Parton

Directors at Large

Rita Maher
Shirley Messer

The latest happening is the second incoming exchange which will be from Sao Paulo, Brazil. Twenty one ambassadors will be visiting us September 26-October 3. Madeline Sullivan and Margaret Stokely have agreed to be co-exchange directors. You will be hearing more about this later.

Remember our picnic, June 3rd at the Palisades Kepler State Park Lodge. Bring prospective members and enjoy the beauty of Iowa and the beauty of friendship.

Dates to Remember:

Sunday April 28	Heart of America FF Conference Little Amana Holiday Inn Exit 235 on I-80 8:30 - 4:30
Sunday June 3	General Meeting Palisades Kepler State Park Lodge Mount Vernon --- Highway 30 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. Bring a guest who may win a free membership!
June 24 -July 9	Exchange to Indonesia
August 3-10	Our guests from Herne, Germany are here!
Sept 26-Oct 3	Incoming exchange from Sao Paulo, Brazil
October 24-27	Twentieth International FF Conference Le Centre Sheraton Hotel Montreal, Quebec

THE GERMANS ARE COMING

The incoming exchange with Herne, Germany will take place August 3 or 4. The exact date has not been finalized. At the time of this writing, Herne is participating in another incoming exchange at Knoxville, Tennessee. Bernita has spoken to Ulrich Pehlke. They are looking forward to visiting Iowa.

The Germans will be visiting The Friendship Force of Northern Illinois, Libertyville, Illinois prior to their visit with us.

A number of members have signed up for hosting. Hopefully host matching will be easily arranged. We need people to help with activities. If you are called to help in any way, PLEASE say yes. You won't regret being involved.

THERE IS A MIRACLE CALLED "FRIENDSHIP"

There is a miracle called "Friendship"
That dwells within the heart
And you don't know how it happens
or when it gets its start.
But the happiness it brings you
Always gives a special lift.
And you realize that "Friendship"
Is God's most precious gift.

OUTGOING EXCHANGES IN NEIGHBORING CLUBS

Dubuque, Iowa to Moscow and Nizhny Novgorod, Russia June 26-July 13

Cost \$1675 Contact: John McCorkle 319-5829662
fax 319-556-5068

Greater Des Moines to Denmark May
Contact: Nancy Lundstrom 515-289-2800

Malaysia June
Contact: Ella Quiner 515-276-8801

Ukraine October
Contact: Dennis Sharpe 515-222-1122

Costa Rica late 1996
Contact: Alan Kamphuis

Greater Milwaukee to South Korea May 4-19

Cost \$1800 Contact: Rosa Chacon 414-549-6002

Greater Milwaukee to Australia September

Contact: Lois Marti 414-421-0232
Marie Simonson 414-771-2357

Quad Cities to The Netherlands (Rineland Area) May 20-April 1

Cost \$1125 Contact Geraldine Lambert 319-689-4916

Twin Cities/Minnesota to Oleszyn, Poland Aug 6-21
and Kiel, Germany

Cost \$1695 plus ground transportation \$100

Contact Colleene Ortner 612-469-3100

FRIENDSHIP FORCE brings people together who share
the desire to contribute to a
more peaceful world
through the understanding
and appreciation of other
cultures.

BITS AND PIECES

Dee Thayer is involved in a fascinating project in connection with Iowa's sesquicentennial. As a member of the Pilgrim Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, she is helping to track down descendants who signed the Iowa Constitution in 1846. Dee is a descendant of Dr. John Jackson Selman who was a delegate to the 1846 constitutional convention. Are you, or do you know someone, who was involved with the composition of the document that led to Iowa's statehood?

Our condolences to Joanne Beasler who lost her son, David P. Miller of Coralville. He died at University Hospitals, Friday March 15, from complications of AIDS. Memorials may be made to the University of Iowa Foundation for AIDS Research, 500 Alumni Center, P.O.Box 4550, Iowa City 52244. Our hearts go out to you, Joanne.

Gerald and Phyllis Seidel have a new address. It is 7709 Princeton Dr. N.E. Cedar Rapids 52402-6943.

Phyllis Seidel is recuperating from hip surgery which took place in March. She hopes to be in fine shape for their daughter's wedding in June.

Did you see George Mulligan's picture in the Iowa Today's section of the Cedar Rapids Gazette on Sunday, March 10th? George, the Cedar Rapids Water Superintendent, and John North, the Water Utility Director, were interviewed in reference to the \$36 million water system which has recently been completed. What a responsibility!

Hally Adams is sharing her family's history through an exhibit at the Heritage Museum of Johnson County. The exhibit is called "The Legacy of Ebenezer and Henrietta Adams: One Farm, Five Generations". The Museum is located at 310 Fifth St., Coralville. Grand opening of the exhibit will be Sunday April 14 and will feature a presentation by Hally at 2 p.m.

Beginning in 1997 clubs unable to recruit 20-25 Ambassadors from their own community for an exchange will be paired with another club.

It was announced recently that a new sister organization, The Friendship Force Foundation, was established to undergird The Friendship Force Inc, with the financial resources needed for expanding its work many fold. Boyd Lyons has been selected as the President and Chief Operating Officer of the Foundation which already has received two pledges of \$100,000 each.

Do you have any news bits to include in this column? If so, please send it to Bernita.



Membership Challenge

Friendship Force Friends,

We have a challenge for you. Bring a guest or a prospective member to our Friendship Force picnic at Palisades Park on Sunday, June 2, 1996 from 4 to 8 pm. Every prospective member's name will be put in the hat for a drawing of a free membership. A 1997 membership will be awarded to the person who signs up the most new members by September 1, 1996. If each member would sign up one new member, we could double our membership. We need your help.

GOOD LUCK AND DO YOUR BEST!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth L. Schmitz". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a large initial 'K'.

Membership Chairman