

JULY 1998

THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE
OF
CEDAR RAPIDS / IOWA CITY

DAY and **Deborah Czerwonka** for the SOLON DAY. We showed them a variety of things. The farewell dinner was planned by **Sue Denham-Jordt, Madeleine Sullivan** and **Mary Stull**. Thank you all for your efforts.

Now we have good friends in Chiapas and invitations to come visit.

Colleen Nieman, exchange director.

Notice

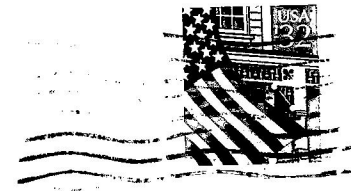
August 9th 11AM - 4PM
Club picnic & Qtrly. meeting

Cedar Rapids Jones park pavilion (see map on page)

We plan to eat at noon, socialize until 1:30. have a short meeting and tell long stories about our new Belgium, German and Mexican friends. Bring your pictures and items to show.

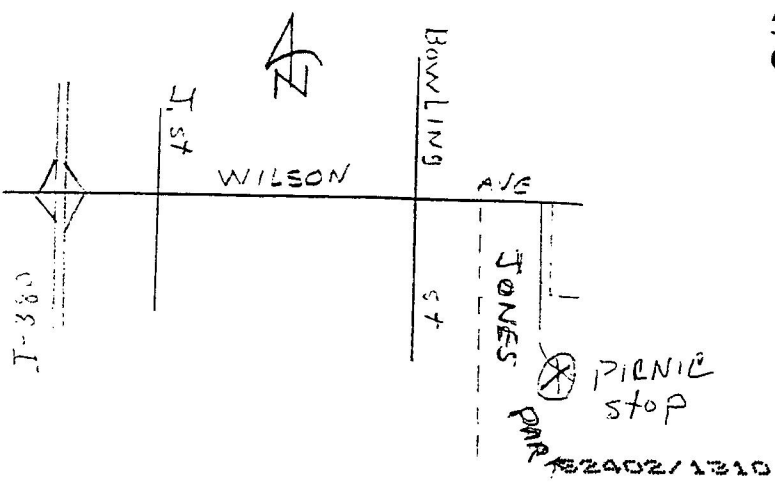
Please bring a meat dish and another dish or dessert to share. Also your own table service. The club will furnish Coffee, Ice tea and a cooler full of pop.

Brings people of the world together.



Friendship Force of Cedar Rapids/Iowa City
Carl & Mary Carson, Newsletter
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President's Message

The weather is HOT!!!
The Mexican exchange was HOT!!!
The clubs cooperation with Colleen was HOT!!!
The CR/IC FF is one HOT!!!! club.

I am so proud to belong to this club and was really gratified to watch how the club rallied around Colleen and came forth when all the glitches appeared in planning , arranging and making the Mexican Exchange become successful. We have many young friends in Mexico, who now know Mid-USA is not like the movies. Even some who know how to milk a goat.

Coileen Nieman did an excellent job of keeping on top of the details and keeping everything flowing. Her Spanish speaking ability amazed everyone especially the Mexicans. We all owe her a BIG THANKS and of course a BIG THANKS to all who helped her.

Our next outing will be **Aug. 9th**. Our **PICNIC and quarterly meeting at Jones Park** in Cedar Rapids. Will eat at NOON. (see details on other page) Come and share your pictures and experiences with us.

Our Sept. domestic exchange with Lake Tahoe failed to materialize. Therefore that leaves an **Oct. 11 Th. Br Meeting at the Hills Bank in North Liberty**, (all are welcome) and our **Nov.15th Annual Meeting** will round out the friendship force's year.
Jim Nieman, President.

Mexican exchange

Wow!!!! What a great exchange with **Chiapas, Mexico!!!!** As always once the ambassadors arrived everything seem to just grow and expand. Its so nice to have new family members in our homes and remain in our hearts after they leave.

The Friendship Force rule of flexibility sure was fact. There were 16 ambassadors - 12 ages 15-21 and 4 from 55-68. The challenge was to fine homes with teenagers for them to be with. We had several first timers hosting and even some non-members. Then the group arrived in 2 groups in Des Moines. 14 came July 9th and 2 more on the 10th. Thanks to **Jim Nieman** who made the 2nd day trip with **Fr. Diaz** (the exchange director). They all departed on July 16 by chartered bus for Lincoln, Ne. for their 2nd week.

Thank you to all of you who helped in any way with the exchange. Without all your help it would be an overwhelming job. The family and day hosts are so important. Again a bow for flexibility when grandma came without grandpa and brought an additional teen and to **David and Anne Parton** who helped out in hosting the 4 of them for a few days when **Hally Adams** had a family emergency. **Sally Nelson's** van availability was a real blessing.

I thank **Delores Kaiden** for her flexibility and warm welcome she had planned for our ambassadors. I also want to thank **Nancy Miller**, who planned the CEDAR RAPIDS DAY, **Tami Ryan** for the IOWA CITY