



The Friendly Echo

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WINNIPEG NEWSLETTER



Volume 11, Issue 2

February 2011



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Friends:

February holds the promise of spring. But not yet, please. I want our Global visitors to understand and experience some of the conditions, particularly the intense cold, met by our ancestors as they struggled to build a new life and future here in Western Canada.

There is a wonderful response from the members of both clubs to participate in the activities arranged for our guests. I look forward to learning what they really think of all we have planned. Enthusiasm and hospitality will be at the top of the list. What will they think of drilling a hole in the ice to fish for fun or roasting marshmallows over a bonfire in the winter? Sounds strange to me. My excitement is growing. I hope yours is too.

I am sorry that I am losing Norm as Vice President. He has a new position with the Shriners and his time and energy is needed there. Norm has a way of delivering little spurts of encouragement and positives my way when I need them most. I will miss that. Good luck Norm.

FFW members will be together for the February dinner meeting and again on the 17th for our gala welcoming pot luck. I am excited. I hope that you are as well.

In friendship KAREN

Welcome New Member!

Sharon Malchuk

Card from Gail Bell, Bozeman, Montana

"Friends thinking of friends. So nice..." Gail sent thanks to the members of Friendship Force Winnipeg for their expressions of kindness and sympathy regarding the recent passing of her mother

Nomination Call for Vice-President

It is with regret that Norm Pohl advised the Board that he will be unable to continue in the position of Vice-President. The Nominating Committee is hereby calling for nominations. The election will take place on April 13. We hope that you will give this matter serious consideration. Thank you.

The Nominating Committee: Charliene Havixbeck, Marlene Friesen, Dolores Hebert, Val Keenan, Frances Lemieux

REMINDER

2011 FFW Membership Renewal

Your FFW membership renewal fee for 2011 is required no later than our February 9 dinner meeting. Our Membership List will be updated soon thereafter. If you cannot attend please contact Norm Pohl as soon as possible to make arrangements for payment. Many thanks to those who have already renewed. Cost: Single - \$30, Family - \$50.

Friendship Force International Email List

Our email list was submitted to FFI at the end of January. This will be used to periodically distribute items directly to members rather than having them forwarded to you by Karen, an inconvenient process. Changes and updates in email addresses will be forwarded to FFI by the Newsletter Editor.

Happy Birthday for February

Debbie Spracklin
Joan Hodgson
Elaine Benner
Marlene Friesen



Upcoming Events

2011 Dinner Meeting Dates:

Holiday Inn Winnipeg South, 6 PM

Note: March 9 dinner meeting has been cancelled due to the host of other FFW gatherings in February and March.

The Activities Committee, chaired by Norma Warecki, has suggested the following themes for the 2011 dinner meetings:

February 09	Valentines
April 13	Money Bunny
May 11	Manitoba Day, Book Sale
June 08	Picnic in the Park
September 14	Skit, Costa Rica
October 12	Harvest
November 9	Annual General Meeting, Japan
December 14	Christmas.

World Friendship Day Celebration, Bourkevale Community Centre, March 20, 2011,

The theme for World Friendship Day in 2011 is "Make a Difference." We will celebrate with a repeat of last year's enjoyable international pot luck supper. We will gather at 5:15 PM, with supper at 6:00 PM. Family and friends welcome. Bring your own dishes and cutlery.

FFW Dessert Card Party, April 12, 2011

Charleswood United Church, 4820 Roblin Blvd.

Volunteers and desserts will be needed for this popular event that raises awareness for Friendship Force in the community. (Contact Joan Ostermann, Chairperson)

Exchanges

Inbound

Global Winter Exchange, February 17-24, 2011

After almost two years of planning, the Winter Global Exchange is finally just around the corner. The response by the members of our club and the Manitoba club to the activities which have been planned for the week is outstanding! Three of the events have surpassed 100 people attending! As well, we are very pleased that six members of the Brandon club will be joining us on Saturday at the Festival. I would like to thank all the members of the committee who have been working hard to make this unique exchange a reality. Some of our Australian ambassadors are already in Canada and along with the Americans will begin the Ottawa exchange this Wednesday before arriving here on the 17th. We hope to have a wonderful week of friendship - and good weather! Val Keenan ED

Note to Members: if you have extra jackets, boots and ski pants, please call or email Norma Warecki as we are still in need for the Global, especially of ski pants and boots - sizes 9 - 11.5.

San Jose, Costa Rica, August 27-September 3, 2011

Details forthcoming.

(ED: Norma Warecki, Assistant ED: Elizabeth Grover)

Outbound

Yamaguchi and Tokyo, Japan,

September 20-October 4, 2011

Deadline for Ambassador Applications and Agreement Forms, along with payment of the \$30 non-refundable club fee, is February 9. To date, we have 6 couples and 3 singles from our club. After February 9, members of other clubs who have expressed an interest in the Exchange will be notified. (ED: Charlene Havixbeck, Assistant ED: Dolores Tutkaluk)

World Conference Hamburg, Germany,

August 26-30, 2011

The theme of "Leadership for Tomorrow" will be explored. Make the most of your experience by joining a 4-night homestay after the conference with one of Germany's Friendship Force clubs. Visit the Friendship Force 2011 World Conference website to learn more and to register.

www.regonline.com/2011worldconf

Undersubscribed Canadian Exchanges

Bill Harkness reports undersubscribed exchanges for Canadian Friendship Force Clubs as follows:

- Ottawa, Canada to Dallas, USA - 4/27/2011
- Niagara, Canada to Huntsville, USA - 5/4/2011
- The World to Niagara for Cycling In And Around Niagara - 6/6/2011
- Calgary Region, Canada to South Wales and Manchester, UK - 6/24/2011

Go to canffex.ca for immediate access to exchange details.

2012 EXCHANGES

We have received a message from Atlanta that Friendship Force International is pleased to propose the following exchanges in 2012 for Friendship Force Winnipeg:

Outbound

Big Canoe-North Georgia and Greater Orlando, USA – February.

Inbound

Prague, Czech Republic and Hertfordshire, UK – April; Lima, Peru - August.

(Note: We will seek to change months of the inbound visits)

Friendship Force International

Some results from FFI's analysis of 2012 exchange requests are shown in the following table, focusing on countries with 10 or more clubs:

Country	Number of clubs	Number of weeks available for hosting	Number of weeks requested to visit this country
Australia	24	52	31
Brazil	27	43	21
Canada	21	37	62
England	15	22	39
Germany	20	30	11
Japan	24	28	35
New Zealand	24	43	19
Russia	10	18	17
USA - Mainland	92	150	52
USA - Hawaii	2	2	14
All Others	101	129	486
Worldwide	360	554	787



friendship force
WINNIPEG

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Honorary FFW Member: Mayor Sam Katz, City of Winnipeg