



# The Friendly Echo

## FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WINNIPEG NEWSLETTER



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April 2013

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### Greetings!

Will Spring ever come? I planted some tulip bulbs last fall hoping to see them bloom in April. Not likely this year. I think the only one enjoying this cold spring is the latest addition to the Zoo, Hudson, the polar bear. However, as April moves along, it will eventually warm up.

Joe Keenan and Jim Kubas and their committees are working hard planning the itineraries for our two Inbound Exchanges. They will need lots of volunteers as home hosts, day hosts, dinner hosts, etc. Please help them out wherever you can. Sign-up sheets will be available at the next meetings.

Diane J, our activities chairperson, has decided to have a book sale in May. Bring all those books you have read over the winter so you can share them with other members. There will be lots of bargains at our June picnic. More details provided below and at the dinner meeting.

I would like to welcome 2 new members, Lorry and Kathy Lesyk and hope that we will get to know them in the coming months.

**Paul Havixbeck**

#### Member Correspondence

From Marlene Friesen:  
Thank you for your sympathy and kindness.  
In friendship  
Marlene.

#### Happy Birthday – April Celebrants

Val Keenan  
Karen Wokes  
Gladys Thomas



#### Membership

We now have 75 members in our club. Please extend a special welcome to our new members, Lorry and Kathy Lesyk, when you see them at our meetings,

#### A New Canadian Friendship Force Club

It became official last month. Canada's largest city now has a FF club. We welcome **The Friendship Force of Toronto** to the Friendship Force family. Our best wishes for your future.

#### Revisions to our Exchange Manuals

Norma Warecki, our Exchange Coordinator, is undertaking the updating of our exchange manuals. Please contact her with your suggestions for improving this documentation.

#### Upcoming Events

##### Dinner Meetings, Holiday Inn, Winnipeg South, 6 PM

**April 10** - For our after dinner entertainment, we will be showing an interesting film from the Canadian Red Cross Archives entitled *Love and Duty*.

**May 8** - a regular dinner meeting with a book sale afterwards. This is a repeat of last year's popular event. This is a good opportunity to donate those previously read books with proceeds to FFW. Books not sold will be donated to the Children's Hospital Book Fair. Speak to Diane Judge., our Activities Coordinator, for details.

**June 12** - A picnic is planned for this meeting; Dolores Tutkaluk has kindly offered to host the event at her house in East St. Paul (near Birds Hill) at 87 Chrisluk Drive. . A "garage sale" is being planned. Bring 2 items to the picnic, prepriced. This will be your entrance fee. Proceeds to be used to cover costs of picnic.

#### 2013 Exchanges

##### Inbound

**Piracicaba, Brazil.** The dates for the exchange have been changed to July 4 to July 11. We may have up to 27 ambassadors coming, ranging in ages 11 to 80. The second organizational meeting is planned on April 22. The Friendship Force of Manitoba has agreed to help us with home hosting for this exchange. Friendship Force of Manitoba travelled to Piracicaba several years ago.

Joe Keenan is the ED and Gladys Thomas is the Assistant ED.

**Northern Illinois, USA.** The dates for this exchange are September 18 to September 24. Jim Kubas is the ED and Carol Frederickson is the Assistant ED.

Members will be asked to volunteer as Home Hosts, Day Hosts and Dinner Hosts for this exchange. Sign up sheets will be on the tables at the April and May meetings. Jim and Carol would welcome members to join their organizing committee. Although the exchange is in mid-September, we are proceeding with organizing now as no club meetings are planned during July and August.

### **Outbound**

**Trujillo and Tarapoto, Peru.** Paul Havixbeck is the ED and Lorraine Franz is the Assistant ED. The dates for this exchange are October 7 to October 21, 2013. So far 10 FFW members are participating as well as 5 people from other clubs. This exchange is being advertised in Canffex as there are still some spaces available for additional ambassadors. If you wish to participate, you should show your intentions soon as the exchange may fill up with members from other clubs. Paul has been looking at extending the time in Peru with optional add-ons for visiting Lima, Cusco, Machu Picchu and Lake Titicaca.

### **2014 Exchanges**

The 2014 Outbound Exchange to Izmir, Turkey is scheduled for one week in April. The Board will be looking at options for another week of an outbound exchange.

### **FFI - World Conferences**

The 2013 conference will be from November 22 to November 25, 2013 in New Orleans, USA. 200 FFI members have already registered which is currently the registration limit. Several FFW members have already registered.

The 2014 conference has been announced and will be held in Auckland, New Zealand in October, 2014.

### **Canffex**

Canffex is the Canadian Friendship Force Clubs Exchange web site. Members with email should be receiving email announcements from Bill Harkness of Canffex (either directly or forwarded from Paul).

The Friendly Echo often refers to Canffex as the place to go for information on undersubscribed Canadian Outbound Exchanges.

Follow the link to: <http://canffex.ca/>

Currently the Canffex site features a recent report from Cecil Latour, our Canadian board member of FFI, regarding the FFI Board meeting in Atlanta this past March as well as other Canadian-based reports and announcements.

### **Friendship Force International** **Did you Know**

\*There are 377 chartered clubs and programs in 56 countries on 6 continents with more than 18,000 members worldwide.

\*Friendship Force is a volunteer-driven organization. More than 1,500 volunteer leaders work more than 30,000 hours each year to promote the Friendship Force mission.

\*225,000 ambassadors and 750,000 hosts have participated in Friendship Force programs since 1977.

\*333 exchanges were conducted in 2012 with 5,443 ambassadors traveling. Thousands more families served as hosts.

\*In 1992, Friendship Force International was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

\*The first exchange involved 762 travelers from Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England, and Atlanta, Georgia which was done by charter aircraft.

\*Source: FFI website and Wikipedia

Be sure to check out all the other interesting facts on FFI's newly updated web site (see link below). While you're on the site look at the World of Friends Catalogue featuring over 20 cultural and travel exchanges on 6 continents.



**friendship force**  
WINNIPEG

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