



# The Friendly Echo

## FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WINNIPEG NEWSLETTER



Volume 12, Issue 10

December 2012

# Merry Christmas!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! As 2012 comes to a close, we can look back on our "Friendship Force" year and conclude that it was an exciting one.

In March we celebrated World Friendship Day with an International Pot Luck Dinner. Our members and their families, as well as members of the Friendship Force of Manitoba, enjoyed the evening of fun, friendship and a wonderful array of food.

Our spring Card Party was a great success, thanks to the hard work and support of many of our members.

In May, nine members attended the Canadian Conference in Quebec City. It gave us an opportunity to reconnect with members of other Canadian Clubs and to make new friends.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of so many of our members, we enjoyed two very successful Inbound Exchanges with the Prague and Hertfordshire clubs and the Lima, Peru club. During these Exchanges, it was nice to see some of our new members being so supportive with their time and participation in the activities.

Our members who travelled on the Outbound Exchange to Big Canoe, Georgia and Greater Orlando, Florida have wonderful memories of warm hospitality and new friends. Some of our members also joined other clubs on Outbound Exchanges and reported that they had a wonderful time.

Thank you to all the members of the Board, who are always so supportive and willing to help. A special thank you goes to Lorraine Franz and Jim McMurtrie for sharing their time and talents and have now completed their terms as Secretary and Telephone Chair respectively. We appreciate your dedication over the last 2 years.

We look forward to another great year in 2013.

In Friendship,  
Paul Havixbeck

## Get Well Wishes

We hope that all goes well for Al Kaiser, Bev Schultz, Val Daniel and David Judge. We wish these members all the best for a complete recovery.

## Happy Birthday December Celebrants

Joe Keenan  
Carlos Serpa  
Ernie Ostermann  
Joanne Kury  
Lorraine Franz  
Jim Kubas  
Judy Olmstead-Coss



## Membership: Renewal & Participation Reports

We currently have 79 members. Membership renewal notices for 2013 have been sent out. These should be completed by January. The membership fees for 2013 are \$30.00 for a single and \$50.00 for a family. From these fees, our Club sends FFI Atlanta US\$10.00 per single member and US\$17.00 per family when renewing our charter.

Val, our Vice-President/Membership is asking members to complete their 2012 participation reports soon.

Membership renewal forms and participation reports forms will also be available at our December meeting.

## Upcoming Meetings

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



**December 12** – Our Christmas meeting. We will be entertained by Julie Biggs and The Yuletide Singers.

### Tin for the Bin: December 12, Christmas Party

For those who wish, please bring along a "Tin for the Bin" for the Christmas Cheer Board. Please check the "Best Before" date.

**January 9** will be our first meeting in 2013 with our **February meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>**.

### **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The past November meeting was our AGM. Karen Wokes, our Past President, chaired the nominating committee and ran the election. All positions were open for election.

Most of the current elected board members let their names stand for another term. Myrna Rourke volunteered to replace Lorraine Franz, who is stepping down as club secretary. All were unopposed and declared elected by acclamation.

Our elected Board of Directors for 2013 is  
President - Paul Havixbeck  
Vice-President/Membership - Val Keenan  
Treasurer - Shirley Schellenberg  
Secretary - Myrna Rourke

Karen Wokes continues on the Board as Past President.

Appointed Board Members, who chair committees, are:

Newsletter - Jim Kubas  
Communications - Elizabeth Grover  
Website - Joe Keenan  
Exchange Coordinator - Norma Warecki  
Historian - Herb Schellenberg  
These members offered to continue to serve in 2013.

The Board welcomes two new members for the following committees:

Activities/Fundraising - Diane Judge. This chair was vacant for 2012.

Telephone – Dolores Tutkaluk is replacing Jim McMurtrie who is stepping down after 2 years of club service as chair of the phoning committee.

### **World Friendship Day.**

March 1, 2013 is World Friendship Day. Plans are underway to celebrate this occasion with the other Manitoba FF Clubs FF Manitoba and FF Brandon. We are looking to our members for event suggestions and to volunteer and to participate. Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> is being considered as the likely date for our get together, to accommodate FF Brandon.

### **2013 Exchanges**

#### **Inbound**

**Piracicaba, Brazil** The date has not yet been set but will likely be in early July. Joe Keenan will be the ED and Gladys Thomas will be the Assistant ED.

**Northern Illinois, USA.** The dates for this exchange are Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. Jim Kubas is the ED and Carol Frederickson is the Assistant ED. Discussions regarding organization will be starting in the very near future.

#### **Outbound:**

**Trujillo and Tarapoto, Peru.** Dates have not yet been arranged, but will likely be in early October. Paul Havixbeck will be the exchange director.

### **2014 Exchanges**

Members have voted for their preferences for 2014 outbound exchanges. Our members' top choices were Austria, Norway, Turkey and the Ukraine. We'll be advised in early 2013 by FFI Atlanta of the clubs that we will be visiting in 2014.

### **Canadian FF Conference**

The Canadian Conference has been set for Edmonton on September 18, 19 & 20, 2014. The goal is to have 200 conference delegates. Sessions will be held in both French and English. Home Hosting Clubs - Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Calgary, Edmonton, Hay River, Penticton  
The general conference will be preceded by the Presidents' Meeting on September 17, 2014.

### **FFI - World Conferences**

The 2013 conference will be from November 22 to November 25 in New Orleans, USA.

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

### **Other Exchanges**

#### **Undersubscribed Canadian Outbound Exchanges**

See the Canadian Friendship Force Exchange Site at <http://canffex.ca/> for more information on undersubscribed exchanges being organized by other Canadian Clubs. This is a good opportunity for members to get involved in exchanges over and above those organized by our club.



**friendship force**  
WINNIPEG

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