



# The Friendly Echo

## FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WINNIPEG NEWSLETTER



Volume 10, Issue 1

January 2010



### President's Message

#### NEW YEAR GREETINGS!

Thank-you for the privilege of being your president. I enjoyed my time as assistant to Charliene especially as I began to know the members better and as I made new friends. I look forward to working with the board, the committees and all of you as we work through the coming year with its opportunities to make new friends and to travel.

This New Year begins a new decade. The ten years since the millennium celebrations seem to have passed very quickly and we wonder what the coming ten will hold for us. Allan and I enjoyed watching the progress of the Olympic torch through Manitoba. The celebrations in the cities, the towns and along the way united all that took part and all that watched and gave us a feeling of enormous pride in our country, our communities and in ourselves. We were reminded as well to be thankful for all that we have. As members of Friendship Force International we are proud to be part of an organization that believes that by connecting and making one friend at a time we will create ongoing friendships that help foster a world of peace.

Friendship Force Winnipeg has much to look forward to in the months to come. March 1 is World Friendship Day. It is the anniversary of the founding of Friendship Force International. Friendship On Six Continents will be celebrated with a pot-luck dinner at the Bourkevale Community Club. Members will have the challenge of preparing and serving food that represents each of the six continents.

The outbound trip to Brasov, Romania and Rheinhessen, Germany April 17 to May 1 has room for a few more participants. April is also the month for a card party where we hope to duplicate the success of last year's event.

Greater Cincinnati will be in Winnipeg June 21-28. Hosting twenty-four ambassadors will be a challenge for Norma Padilla and her committee and a pleasure for us to share a little of what Manitoba and Canada has to offer.

Aruna Hall is working on the details for the inbound ambassadors from Japan in September. We will have more details soon.

October brings the International Conference being held in Washington, D C. The East coast of the

U. S. and particularly Washington and area are places that we have always wanted to visit. Here is your opportunity. The information and registration is on-line at the Friendship Force website.

It will be a very busy year. May 2010 bring all our members good health, new adventures, new friends and safe travels.

In Friendship, Karen

#### 2010 FFW Membership Renewal

If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership for 2010. Our Membership List will be updated and finalized for distribution after the February 10 meeting. If you cannot attend the January or February meetings, your renewal cheque should be sent no later than the end of January to Norm Pohl at 202 - 234 Ronald St., Winnipeg MB R3J 3J4. Cost remains the same as last year: Single - \$30, Family - \$50.

#### Upcoming Events

#### 2010 Dinner Meeting Dates at Holiday Inn Winnipeg South, 6 PM

(Tentative activities proposed by the planning committee are noted)

January 13	2009 in Review
February 10	Musical Entertainment
March 10	Celebration of St Patrick's Day
April 14	Spring Fling
May 12	MB Heritage Fashion Show
June 9	MB Towns and info on Cincinnati
September 8	Japanese Theme Speaker
October 13	Autumn Event
November 10	Men's Night to Entertain
December 8	Christmas Party

#### World Friendship Day, Monday, March 1, 2010

The global theme this year is **Friendship On Six Continents**. We plan to celebrate by having an "international" pot luck supper. A committee is working on details and making arrangements. Mark the date on your calendar.

#### FFW Dessert Card Party, Tuesday, April 27, 2010

The Charleswood United Church, 4820 Roblin Blvd., has been reserved for a second card party, focusing on bridge. This will build on last year's very successful event, and with our experience, will be made an even better occasion. It provides community involvement, promotes Friendship Force and is an efficient

fundraiser. Volunteers will be needed for planning and staffing the event, and to prepare desserts.

### Exchanges

#### Outbound

##### **Brasov, Romania and Rheinhessen, Germany, April 17 - May 1, 2010**

There are now six spaces available. The Exchange is being publicized on the new Canadian website for unfilled exchanges [www.canffex.ca](http://www.canffex.ca). Contact Paul Havixbeck, Assistant ED (ED: Martha Klimack)

#### Inbound

- **Greater Cincinnati, USA, June 21-28, 2010**

Through a marvelous coincidence, Norma will be meeting with the Cincinnati ED in late January in San Diego, California. Both will be on vacation and visiting family. An update on the exchange will be available next month. (ED: Norma Padilla)

- **Yamagata and Kyoto-Fukuchiyama, Japan, September 2010**

The exact dates of this exchange and the number of ambassadors expected are soon to be made available. (ED: Aruna Hall)

#### Winter Exchange, February 17 – 24, 2011

We will be forming a full exchange committee in the spring. Lots of volunteers will be needed so please consider signing up! Since this exchange will coincide with the Festival du Voyageur, we are planning a visit to the Festival next month to get a little flavour for the Franco-Manitoban community's "joie de vivre" and to help in the planning. Details to follow. (FFW ED: Val Keenan)

#### International Conference, Washington, D.C., 2010

The International FF Conference in Washington, D.C is planned for October 15 - 18, 2010. For complete conference details, please refer to the conference website at

[www.regonline.com/2010\\_world\\_conference](http://www.regonline.com/2010_world_conference).

#### All Canada to Morocco, September 14 – 27, 2010

This follows a very successful exchange "All Canada to Turkey" in 2009. It's a perfect opportunity for Canadians in all Friendship Force clubs to travel together. The trip will be with Friendship Force people and will provide opportunities for cultural understanding. Friendship Force International has already advertised this trip on its website and people

from other countries have asked for information. Priority will be given to Canadians, provided your registration is before February 15. The proposed 15 day itinerary includes Casablanca, El Jadida (Atlantic coast), Marrakech, Atlas Mountains, Sahara Desert, Fès, Meknès, Volubilis and back to Casablanca. The land-tour package provides 4 star hotels and bus (most nights will be in hotels). Cost: Land in Morocco \$2100.00, per person sharing. Optional tours are available. Leader: Andrew Stirling (Ottawa). If you are interested contact Andrew at <[iax@magma.ca](mailto:iax@magma.ca)>, ph 613-592-8754.

#### Happy Birthday for January

Paul Havixbeck  
Bonnie Vivier  
Sachitha Attawar



*Friendship Force Winnipeg Elected Board for 2010.  
L to R: Adele McMurtrie (Secretary), Norm Pohl (Vice-President), Karen Wokes (President) and Marlene Friesen (Treasurer).*



**friendship force**  
WINNIPEG

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**Honorary FFW Member:** Mayor Sam Katz, City of Winnipeg