



The Friendly Echo

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WINNIPEG NEWSLETTER



Volume 13, Issue 6

June 2013

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

A big thank you to Diane Judge and her committee for organizing the Book Sale at our May meeting. It was not only a great chance to buy some treasures but the club benefitted as well. Profits for the night were \$142.45. Our Inbound Exchange from Piracicaba, Brazil in July will not only provide us with the opportunity to make new friends but also get to know our own members better and to make acquaintances with members from the FF Manitoba Club. Joe K and his committee have an interesting program of planned activities for that week. Jim K and his committee are in the final planning stages for the Inbound Exchange from Greater Illinois which takes place in September. Sign-up sheets will be sent out later in the summer.

George Brown, President of Friendship Force International, will be retiring at the end of June. A retirement letter to George is being prepared and will be available at the picnic for those members who would like to offer him best wishes.

After our picnic on June 12, our next meeting will be August 28. This will be a meeting in the Schellenbergs' backyard, similar to last year. Details to follow. Hope to see you at the picnic on Wednesday.

In Friendship
Paul Havixbeck

Happy Birthday – June Celebrants

Karen Kaiser
Marilyn Zaharia
Bessie-Marie Hill
Robert Champagne
Muriel Moreau
Elizabeth Grover
Norm Pohl
Shirley Mitchell
Norma Warecki
Janice Leckie
Don Charleson
Shirley Esaruk
Nina Logan
Gail Atkins



Announcement

George Brown, who has served as president of Friendship Force International since April 2004, will retire effective June 30, 2013. As Paul mentioned, our club will be sending George a congratulatory letter to mark this occasion. Members can sign this letter at our picnic meeting on June 12.

George first joined the Friendship Force staff in 1983 and worked closely for many years with founder Wayne Smith. The FFI Board recognizes George Brown's work in building the strong foundation on which our organization will continue to flourish.

Upcoming meetings

June 12 - 5:30 PM A picnic and meeting for members and invited adult guests will be held at the home of Dolores Tutkaluk in East St. Paul (near Birds Hill).

There will be no charge for the picnic but we are asking each person to bring along two saleable, pre-priced items for a mini-garage sale. This will be your entrance fee. Proceeds will be used to cover the cost of food etc. Unsold items (we hope there won't be any) **MUST BE REMOVED FROM THE PREMISES.**

Those who plan to attend should bring lawn chairs, plates, cups & cutlery as well as beverages of their choice. Tea, coffee and soda pop will be served.

August 28, - 5:30 PM - Picnic meeting in the Schellenbergs' backyard.

Instead of the September meeting, a "finger food" picnic meeting will be held (just like last year). Those attending should bring lawn chairs, plates, cups & cutlery as well as beverages of their choice. Tea, coffee and soda pop will be served.

September 11 Dinner meeting at the Holiday Inn has been changed to **September 18** (at the Holiday Inn). This will be the Welcome Banquet for the Northern Illinois Club inbound exchange. Please mark your calendars. Details will be provided in late August.

Regular dinner meetings at the Holiday Inn Winnipeg South are planned for the rest of 2013 on October 9, November 13, and December 11.

2013 Exchanges

Inbound

Piracicaba, Brazil. Joe Keenan is the ED and Gladys Thomas is the Assistant ED. Planning is now in the final stages.

We will be welcoming 23 ambassadors at the Richardson International Airport at about noon on Thursday, July 4th. 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. On Thursday, July 11, we will be saying goodbye to our friends as they leave by air to go to Milwaukee for another week to complete their North American exchange.

Activity sign-up sheets have been emailed to members and should be completed and returned soon.

Two special highlights of this exchange are full day and evening trips to Little Britain on Saturday, July 6 for the *Schützenfest* festivities and then on Tuesday, July 9 to Southern Manitoba via bus (and private cars as required).

Schützenfest is an annual marksmen shooting event that is based on the traditional *Schützenfest* in Germany and Switzerland. The *Schützenfest* held in Little Britain began in 1929 and is a great way for family and friends to enjoy themselves through German traditions.

The wooden bird shooting competition starts at noon to determine the "king" for the year (for Little Britain Schützenverein members only). This will be followed by a traditional soup lunch. An afternoon snack of coffee and sandwiches will be provided. A BBQ supper (small extra charge depending on one's choices) and an evening dance will follow. Soft drinks and beer will be available to purchase. Participating FFI members should pack lawn chairs, sun hats, mosquito repellent and water.

The trip to southern Manitoba will feature a visit to the Mennonite community and their unique housebarns in Neuberghthal. The Saturday, May 24th issue of the Free Press (page A9) had a full page story on this community and their unique housebarns. The trip will also include a visit to Plum Coulee, the Canadian Fossil Center in Morden and a dinner at a restaurant featuring a Mennonite style buffet. A late evening return to Winnipeg can be expected.

Northern Illinois, USA. Jim Kubas is the ED and Carol Frederickson is the Assistant ED. The dates for this exchange are September 18 to September 24. We are currently expecting 13-15 ambassadors.

Jim and Carol have begun planning for this exchange but would still welcome members to host or help organize.

Outbound

Trujillo and Tarapoto, Peru. ED, Paul Havixbeck; Assistant ED, Lorraine Franz. The dates for this exchange are October 7 to October 21, 2013. There are 21 ambassadors for this exchange: 10 from our club, 5 from FFM and 5 from other clubs in Canada and 1 from a club in USA. The exchange will be extended with an optional add-on for visiting Cusco, Machu Picchu, Lake Titicaca and Lima.

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.

2015 Exchanges

The deadline for submitting our requests for our Outbound Exchanges for 2015 is November 1, 2013. The Board has created a short list of possible destinations taking into account suggestions made by members at the May Dinner Meeting. The following choices were suggested: Australia, Indonesia, the Orient, the Balkans, West Coast USA (to coincide with the Vancouver International Conference) and others. Voting for our requests will take place at the August 28th meeting.

FFI - World Conferences

The 2013 conference will be from November 22 to November 25, 2013 in New Orleans, USA. About 75 Canadian FF members have registered with several from FFW.

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



friendship force
WINNIPEG

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