



The Friendly Echo



Volume 9, Issue 3

March 2009

The Friendship Force of Winnipeg
www.friendshipforcewinnipeg.org
3198 Vialoux Drive R3R 2H5
Ph. 204-832-9905
Email: friendshipforcewpg@mts.net

Friendship Force International Headquarters
233 Peachtree Street, Suite 2250
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
Web site – www.thefriendshipforce.org
Email: ffi@thefriendshipforce.org

Editor/Publisher
Herb Schellenberg
583 Harstone Rd, Wpg, R3R 1C8
Assistant Editor
Paul Havixbeck
3198 Vialoux Drive, Wpg, MB R3R 2H5

Honorary Member: Mayor Sam Katz



President's Message

Dear Friends,

Spring is in the air and warm, spring breezes will soon be upon us. We hope! Twenty-two of our members are looking forward to considerably warmer temperatures as they embark on a 2 week Exchange to Costa Rica. I'm sure there will be stories to tell at our April meeting! Remember that the date of our April meeting is **Thursday, April 16**.

Our 5th annual World Friendship Day celebration was a resounding success! The 45 members and guests in attendance at our Pancake Breakfast were all delighted with the food and the fellowship. Thank you to all our members who supported the event and to all who helped in any way – from the cooks and their helpers and the food shoppers and choppers, to the friendly greeters, the telephone committee, gift basket donors and ticket sellers. Our Club is very fortunate to have so many willing members, who will pitch in, not only to get the job done, but to get the job done well! We were happy to have as our guests, Barbara Main, our Western Canada Field Representative and Marie Hamilton, the President of the newly-formed Brandon Club.

We are excited to have received the following Exchange Assignments for 2010:

- **OUTBOUND** to Brasov, Romania and Rheinhessen, Germany – April
- **INBOUND** from Greater Cincinnati, USA – June
- **INBOUND** from Yamagata and Kyoto-Fukuchiyama, Japan – September

Please mark on your calendars two upcoming events – our Card Party on Tuesday, April 28 and our Garage Sale on May 8 and 9.

In Friendship, Charlene

Upcoming 2009 Events

FFW Card Party, Tuesday, April 28:

NOTE CHANGE IN DATE FROM THURSDAY APRIL 30 AS REPORTED IN THE FEBRUARY ECHO.

A dessert card party is being planned for the Charleswood United Church, 4820 Roblin Blvd. Various card games will be available including Bridge and Cribbage (Fish anyone?) Volunteers will be needed to staff the event and to prepare sumptuous desserts. Items for door prizes will be needed. More information at our March meeting (contact: Elizabeth Grover at 452 5299).

FFW Garage Sale: Friday and Saturday, May 8-9:

Look through your home and garage for things to contribute to this fund raising activity. Please bring your clean pre-priced items to the March 11 and April 16 meetings. The sale location will be the Keenan's and Spracklin's garages at 50 and 53 Blossom Bay, Charleswood. Having two sales on the same street is expected to attract more customers. The event will be promoted as a "multi-family" sale. Volunteers are needed: a sign-up sheet will be provided at the March meeting (contact: Jill at 261-4308).

FFW Promise Auction, May 13

Start thinking of your promise. At a promise auction, promises are sold to the highest bidder. Your promise of what you will do for someone is described on a card (the promise is not an object that one can bring in). Examples: cook a meal for 4 people in their home; walk a family's dog for a week; use of a cottage for a weekend. A promise auction has been used previously by FFW as a significant fund raising activity.

2009 Meeting Dates at Holiday Inn South:

(Usually 2nd Wednesday of month)

March 11: Theme - St Patrick's Day

April 16 (avoids conflict with Costa Rica Exchange)

May 13: Promise Auction

June 10

September 10 (note that this is a Thursday)

October 21 (avoids conflict with Niagara Conference)

November 11

December 9

Exchanges

Interclub Exchange:

Our Club's first Interclub Exchange has been finalized for October 6 to 12, 2009 in Quebec (Sherbrooke Region and Quebec City Clubs). This exchange will coincide with the national FF conference scheduled for Niagara Falls on October 14-16 (described below). More information and sign-up forms will be available at the April FFW meeting.

Outbound:

Costa Rica: (EDs: Diane Judge & Muriel Moreau)

- San Jose: March 25 to April 1, 2009
- Heredia: April 1 to April 8, 2009.

Inbound:

- **A replacement exchange is being sought for the June 2009 Izmir, Turkey Exchange which was cancelled due to lack of ambassadors.**
- Fortaleza and Belem, Brazil, September 20-27, 2009: (EDs: Joe Keenan & Karen Kaiser). 20 ambassadors are anticipated.

An analysis by Friendship Force International has shown that Canada is one of the most popular destinations for FF Clubs from around the world!

Winter Exchange 2011:

This Global Exchange will be a great opportunity to showcase our "Winter Wonderland" to the world. Friendship Force International is very excited about our idea to host a winter exchange in February 2011 in partnership with the Friendship Force of Manitoba. Ambassadors from any country will be invited to participate with the goal of having a truly mixed international group. Warm winter clothing will be required for the ambassadors – keep your extra winter-wear in good condition for this week-long event.

Upcoming Canadian Conferences & Festivals

Fifth Canadian Friendship Force Conference and Home Stay – Niagara Falls –October 14-16, 2009

One of the highlights of our Friendship Force season is the Canadian Conference of Friendship Force Clubs. This year FF of Niagara is hosting the 5th Canadian Conference at beautiful Niagara Falls. The conference theme is "Feel the Power of Friendship". The Conference team has been working on a great program with dynamic speakers and interesting workshops. Hotel accommodation is in the newly renovated Ramada Suites. Following the Conference, there will be home hosting for three days for the first 100 applicants (80 in Niagara Falls and 20 in Hamilton). The Conference website at www.ffcanadianconference09.org is an excellent source for information and to download the application forms.

2009 Northern Rockies Regional Conference, Calgary, May 1-3, 2009:

Hosted by the Friendship Force of Calgary Region, this Conference is a gathering of members of the Friendship Force in the Western Provinces and adjoining states. It promises interesting discussions and socializing with members. For further information contact Ron Kessler, registration chair: kesslerron@yahoo.com.

Edmonton & Area Friendship Force Festival – August 19 – 28, 2009 Alberta, Canada

Help the Friendship Force of Edmonton celebrate their 10th Anniversary at the Edmonton & Area Friendship Force Festival. Many activities are planned and the whole world is invited to attend. For more information and the application form, visit www.friendshipforceedmonton.org and click on Festival 2009.

2009 FFW Membership List

Our 2009 Membership List has been finalized and will be distributed electronically to those with e-mail. Others may pick up their copy at the March 11 meeting.

Happy Birthday for March

Bev Shultz
Gladys Spracklin
Frances Lemieux
David Judge
Jill Saunders
Darlene Lazenby
Herb Schellenberg



friendship force
WINNIPEG