



The Friendly Echo

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WINNIPEG NEWSLETTER



Volume 13, Issue 5

May 2013

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

As we struggle through the 2nd coldest spring in history, we look forward to summer and with it, we hope for warm weather to enjoy our many outdoor summer activities.

The coming months are jam-packed with planning for and participating in our Inbound Exchanges from Piracicaba, Brazil and Northern Illinois, USA. If you haven't already signed up to join in the fun, please call Joe Keenan, the Exchange Director for Piracicaba (July 4 - 11) or Jim Kubas, the Exchange Director for Northern Illinois, (September 18 - 24). Let's work together to help make both exchanges an exciting experience for our guests.

Thank you to Diane Judge for arranging our after dinner entertainment at our April meeting, the viewing of the interesting film from the Canadian Red Cross archives entitled "Love and Duty".

We received confirmation from FFI of our Inbound Exchanges for 2014. We will receive ambassadors from Comitán and Filobobos Mexico and also from Saitama, Japan. Dates for these exchanges will be arranged in the near future.

Just a reminder that our monthly June meeting is a picnic on June 12.

Hope to see you at the May meeting.

In Friendship

Paul Havixbeck

Happy Birthday – May Celebrants

Richard Grover
Diane Judge
George Frederickson
Dan Desautels
Dolores Tutkaluk
Loretta Humeniuk



Treasurer's Report

The Financial Report for 2012 which was distributed at our February, 2013 meeting has been audited and found to be in order. FFW extends its thanks and gratitude to Debbie Spracklin who has performed this audit once again.

Members News

Val Keenan's article "Forging New Friendships" which was featured in *Outdoor Canada* and distributed with the March Issue of this newsletter, was featured on FFI's website in a May 3, 2013 news release. Click on the link: http://friendshipforce.org/index.php/welcome_news

Upcoming meetings

May 8 - 6 PM Holiday Inn, Winnipeg South A regular dinner meeting will be held 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.

Please remember to bring along any books you no longer need to this meeting. A special "book sale" table will be set up. Paperback books will be sold for 50 cents each and hardcovers for \$1.00. Books not sold will be donated to the Children's Hospital Book Fair. Speak to Diane Judge, our Activities Coordinator, for details.

Amendment to Standing Rules, Section 7 - There will be a discussion and vote at the May meeting with regards to remuneration for conference registrations for the Canadian and International conferences for the President and Vice President.

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.

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 or early September.

Instead of the September meeting, a late August picnic meeting is being considered with the date and venue to be determined. An announcement will be made once details have been finalized.

2013 Exchanges

Inbound

Piracicaba, Brazil. The dates for the exchange have been changed to July 4 to July 11. We may have up to 24 ambassadors coming, ranging in ages 11 to 80. 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. Expect a preview of exchange plans and activities in the next issue of *The Friendly Echo*.

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 are asked to volunteer as Home Hosts, Day Hosts and Dinner Hosts for this exchange. Sign up sheets will be on the tables at the May meeting. Jim and Carol would welcome members to host or help organize. Although the exchange is in mid-September, we are proceeding with organizing now as no club meetings are planned until late summer.

Outbound

Trujillo and Tarapoto, Peru. ED, Paul Havixbeck; Assistant ED, Lorraine Franz. The dates for this exchange are October 7 to October 21, 2013. So far 10 FFW members are participating as well as 8 members 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. We are extending our time in Peru 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

It's time to starting thinking about our outbound exchanges for 2015. The Friendship Force has over 350 clubs worldwide. If you need ideas or information go to: <http://www2.thefriendshipforce.org/clubs/clubfinder.aspx>

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.

Canffex

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/>

Did You Know Piracicaba, Brazil

Piracicaba is in south-eastern Brazil in São Paulo state. It has a population of about 370,000 people.

The name of the city comes from a word in the *Tupi* language that means "place where the fish stops" due to the waterfalls of the Piracicaba river that bisect the city.

Piracicaba is famous for sugarcane plantations. The cane is processed into automotive ethanol (cars in Brazil run on 100% ethanol) and into *Cachaça* (Brazilian rum) used to make the famous Brazilian drink *Caipirinha*. It has the oldest agricultural university in Brazil, more than 100 years old, and is a recognized leader in the field of precision agriculture.

Piracicaba is known by the nickname *Noiva da Colina* (bride of the hills). Every year Piracicaba is host to the *Festa das Nações* (Nations' Fair), where people may sample foods from all over the world (Folkarama??).

The average high temperature in summer is 38C and in winter, it is 28C.

The Friendship Force Piracicaba began its activities in 1995. Today the club has 12 family and 19 individual members. All but one lives in Piracicaba.



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