



The Friendly Echo

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WINNIPEG NEWSLETTER



Volume 9, Issue 6

September 2009

President's Message

Welcome back to our Fall and Winter Season! It seems like it will be a busy one, starting with our Inbound Exchange from Brazil on September 19. Joe Keenan, Karen Kaiser and their committee have planned a fun-filled week for the 14 ambassadors. Joe will provide detailed information and an itinerary at the September Dinner Meeting.

A warm welcome is extended to our newest members, Joe and Val Daniel. We look forward to getting to know you in the upcoming months.

On a sad note, one of our newer members, Isabel Batten, passed away recently. Isabel was introduced to Friendship Force by her sister who is a member in Penticton. Isabel will be remembered as a pleasant woman with a ready smile.

Looking ahead to 2010, Martha Klimack, Exchange Director, will have sign-up sheets at the meeting for those members interested in our Outbound Exchange next spring to Brasov, Romania and Rheinhessen, Germany. We will also be hearing from Norma Padilla, Exchange Director for our Inbound Exchange from Greater Cincinnati in June.

It's that time again to request our Outbound Exchanges for 2011. There will be more information at the meeting.

Please note that our October Dinner Meeting is Wednesday, October 21, to accommodate those members attending the Canadian Conference in Niagara.

In Friendship, Charliene

New Club Banner

Many thanks go out to Karen Wokes for undertaking the job of acquiring a new, updated banner for our club. She will unveil it at our September meeting. We will hold it up with pride at the airport when ambassadors arrive and also take it along to the upcoming Canadian Conference, as well as International Conferences. Thank you, Karen!

Safeway Community Caring Coupons

Approximately 15 coupon booklets are still available at \$20 each. Each contains 4 coupons for \$5 off (with \$50.00 grocery purchase) and additional coupons for extra air miles and discounts on certain items. (Contact: Joe Keenan. 889-5550)

Upcoming Events

Meeting Dates at Holiday Inn South, 6:00 PM

2009: September 10
October 21 (Oktoberfest theme)
November 11 (Annual business meeting)
December 9

2010: Pencil the following dates into your calendar: January 13, February 10, March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, September 8, October 13, November 10 and December 8.

Exchanges

Belem and Fortaleza, Brazil Exchange September 19th to 27th, 2009

We would like to thank our members for their upcoming participation in the Brazil Exchange. A large number have signed up for the various activities. We have over 60 people coming to our Welcome Potluck. Also due to the participation of our members we are able to offer two dinner hostings for our ambassadors and hosts.

Your Exchange Committee has been working hard over the last few months to create a wonderful program.

We are looking forward to meeting our 14 Brazilian friends when they arrive from their Medicine Hat Exchange on September 19th.

Joe Keenan, Karen Kaiser - Exchange Directors

Outbound

Brasov, Romania and Rheinhessen, Germany, April/May 2010 (ED: Martha Klimack). The tentative time frame is late April, early May. We are awaiting confirmation from both clubs. There are 15 spaces available. A sign-up sheet for expression of interest will be available at the September 10th meeting. Please phone or email Martha Klimack at 889-4634 or rmklimack@mts.net if you are unable to attend the meeting and wish to have your name added.

Inbound

- **Greater Cincinnati, USA, June 2010 (ED: Norma Padilla)**
- **Yamagata and Kyoto-Fukuchiyama, Japan, September 2010 (ED: Aruna Hall)**

"Environmentally Friendly" Eco-Exchange to Costa Rica November 3-16, 2009

The following exchange, open to ambassadors world wide, may be of interest to FFW members who were unable to take part in our exchange to Costa Rica last

March. Several Canadian FF members will be participating. The exchange is geared towards the active ambassador with good mobility who is interested in environmental issues, nature, agriculture and wildlife. It begins in the SE Central Valley town of Turrialaba, and then moves into the Caribbean lowlands to EARTH University (Escuela de Agricultura de la Region Tropical Humeda) where the 8200 acre campus surrounded by banana and pineapple plantations will be toured. Next, the adventure takes ambassadors down the eastern Caribbean coast for a stay at the environmental award winning Selva Bananito Eco-Lodge, located at the foot of Muchilla Mountain. Exchange fee - \$1500 (land only). (Contact: Vicki Vance, ED vcvance@aol.com 225-275-3816)

Winter Exchange 2011

The Sunshine Coast of Australia will be the leading club in this unique Global Exchange, scheduled for February 2011 to coincide with the Festival du Voyageur. Global Exchanges are larger events so that ambassadors from other countries can also participate. This will provide opportunity for FF members from around the world to experience a real Canadian winter. Planning has begun. This winter exchange will be hosted together with the Friendship Force of Manitoba. (Contact Val Keenan, 889-5550)

Upcoming Conferences & Festivals

5th Canadian Friendship Force Conference, Niagara, October 14–16, 2009

There is still time to register for this event. Information and a registration package are available at <http://ffcandianconference09.org/index.htm>.

Our Club's first Interclub Exchange, scheduled for October 6-12 in Quebec, will coincide with this conference. All available home-spaces have been filled by members.

Friendship Force International

Legacy Fund

The FFW Board will be seeking approval from the membership for a financial contribution to FFI's Legacy Fund. Through this fund, established in 2004, the force of friendship is felt around the world. Legacy Fund accomplishments include:

- Helping to establish 25 new clubs in 16 different countries
- Enhancing training and support for the FF global network of volunteer leaders

- Expanding use of internet technology for promoting and supporting clubs and exchanges
- Teacher exchanges from Indonesia and Thailand. Money from the Fund helps develop new growth for FF around the world. Legacy Fund priorities into the near future include:
 - Establishing new clubs
 - Developing web-based leadership training
 - Expanding educational exchanges
 - Creating new leadership materials
 - Introducing new environmental and adventure-themed exchange formats
- Marketing initiatives to "gain the world's attention". The Fund is financed mainly from clubs and individuals but support is also provided from Corporations, Foundations and Sponsors. Additional support is now requested from clubs to help FF become a stronger and more vital force for good in today's world.

Happy Birthday for September

Beatriz Serpa, Joan Ostermann, Charliene Havixbeck, Jim Harland, Elsie Hannaford, Lorraine Monaco

2009 Friendship Force of Winnipeg Board of Directors

Board (Elected):

President: Charliene Havixbeck

Vice-President: Karen Wokes

Treasurer: Ernie Ostermann

Secretary: Elizabeth Grover

Past President: Norma Warecki

Committee Chairs (Appointed):

Newsletter: Herb Schellenberg

Communications: Val Keenan

Telephone: Nancy Clendenan

History: Joe Keenan

Membership: Karen Wokes

Activities/Fundraising: Jill Saunders

Exchange Coordinator: Muriel Moreau

Present Exchange Directors: Carol

Frederickson (Quebec), Joe Keenan (Brazil),

Martha Klimack (Romania, Germany), Norma

Padilla (USA), Aruna Hall (Japan), Val Keenan

(Winter Global)



friendship force
WINNIPEG

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Honorary FFW Member: Mayor Sam Katz, City of Winnipeg