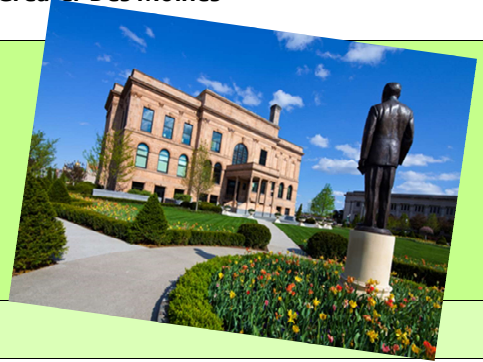




friendship force
GREATER DES MOINES



2017 FFGDM Activities

(dates and activities subject to change)

April 18 - May 3	Outbound journey to FF Mundo Maya de Tuxtla Gutierrez, Mexico
May 4	LEO at LaFeria Restaurant – Celebrate Cinco de Mayo – 6 pm
May 8	FFGDM Board Meeting, 5 pm
May 13	<i>Brazilian Evening hosted by CultureAll</i>
May 16-22	Language Learners from Japan
June 12	FFGDM Board Meeting, 5 pm
June 23-28	Inbound journey from FF Louisville
July 10	FFGDM Board Meeting, 5 pm
July 14	<i>Bastille Day Potluck hosted by Alliance Francaise</i>
July 23 or 30	Club Picnic – 12:30 pm
August 14	FFGDM Board Meeting, 5 pm
Aug 24-28	40th Anniversary FFI Conference
Aug 27	'Say Goodbye to Summer' Sundaes
Sept 11	FFGDM Board Meeting, 5 pm
Sept 13 - 18	Inbound journey FF Columbia-Cascade
Sept 30	All-Iowa FF picnic in Quad-Cities
Oct 9	FFGDM Board Meeting, 5 pm
Oct 12-17	Outbound journey to FF Austin
Oct 29	FFGDM 40th Anniversary Party
Nov TBD	FFGDM Annual Meeting
Nov 13	FFGDM Board Meeting
Dec TBD	Happy Feet Holiday Lunch

DON'T FORGET TO LIKE US AND POST PICTURES ON OUR FB PAGE:

www.facebook.com/FriendshipForceGreaterDesMoines

facebook



Join us for a LEO to celebrate



May 4

6:00 pm

LaFeria Restaurant

4450 E University Ave * Pleasant Hill

We'll hear from our ambassadors who recently returned from their Journey to FF Mundo Maya and also have a fun Spanish contest.

If attending, rsvp by May 1 to Marla at marlakcarr@yahoo.com or 238-6372.

President's Message



Dear Friendship Force Members,

We are now on the verge of several very important tasks that may determine how successful our club is in the future. Nothing earth-shaking, just more member participation and ownership of the club. Have you joined one of the committees mentioned in the last newsletter - Activities, Membership or a Journey Committee, or have you volunteered to help with the 40th Anniversary Party? The dedicated people who chair these efforts can use your help. In addition, we'll have elections for Board members at the Annual Meeting in the fall, it is not too soon to find out if being a Board member would be a good fit for you.

I wish to thank Adrienne Moen who successfully found home hosts for the Japan ambassadors and Karen Kilpatrick for her attention to detail as chair of the Activities Committee. You can show your appreciation for these two members, and others, by volunteering for a committee where it is proven that 'many hands make light work'.

In friendship,

Shelley Bain

FFGDM President



BRING 3 FRIENDS NEW MEMBER PROJECT

Our mantra is "Bring a Friend" and we seriously hope you do. The best way to bring new people into the club is for members to personally ask friends and acquaintances to attend a club activity and learn about Friendship Force. Current members are our best sales people!

As an incentive, any member who brings 3 new members into the club between March 1 and October 1 will be entered in a drawing for a complementary ticket to the 40th Anniversary Party or a 2018 membership. What a deal!

An easy way to promote the message of Friendship Force is to forward this newsletter to your friends and invite them along to our next activity. Couldn't get easier!

40th Anniversary Celebration



Sunday
October 29
4 – 7 pm
Des Moines Golf
& Country Club

FFGDM 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

My how time flies when a SPECIAL OCCASION is being planned! Yes, just six months away on SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, our organization will celebrate the birth of Friendship Force of Greater Des Moines! The committees are working diligently to showcase 40 years of citizen diplomacy around the world and the future plans in store! However, we need YOUR help to make this a success. . .so get on board, don't miss the opportunity to be a part of the organization YOU so faithfully acknowledged as important to you.

- ❖ We are looking for up-scaled International themed "Silent Auction" items
- ❖ Requesting each FF member provide two (2) prospective names to be invited to the special event
- ❖ Just off the press – Jeremi Snook, President/CEO of Friendship Force International in Atlanta, will be our special guest and will present future opportunities for the Clubs of Friendship Force.

Mark your calendars, watch for press releases in your local newspapers, spread the word through conversation with friends. . .make it a point to let all know of this SPECIAL OCCASION!

You can offer suggestions, contribute, and become a part of the working committees by contacting:

Adrienne at adriennemoen@gmail.com or
Nancy at nancylundstrom@mchsi.com

Journeys

LOUISVILLE INBOUND JOURNEY JUNE 23 - 28

After our club visited their club last year, Louisville, Kentucky is coming to Des Moines on June 23. We will be hosting 10 ambassadors. We would like you to come to meet and visit with them at the Farewell Dinner on Tuesday, June 27. (Please mark your calendars!)

The Farewell Dinner will be at Sorriso's at 7015 NE 14th (Hwy 69), Ankeny, IA. We will be the only ones at the restaurant from 5-8 that evening. The \$25 dinner will include appetizers, entrée, wine, dinner, soft drinks, dessert. You will receive information and a reservation form for the dinner in May. Please plan to come and spend an evening with the Louisville ambassadors.

If you have questions, contact Alice at off4ever@aol.com.





ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS FROM JAPAN MAY 16 – 22

The planning committee is excited to host our very first English Language Learners Journey from Japan. Club members are invited to attend the Welcome and Farewell Parties so you can meet the ambassadors from Japan.

Use the form below to make your reservations. Then send the completed form, with your check made payable to FFGDM, to the address below. The deadline is May 5.

Date	Time	Activity	Cost	Pay in advance	RSVP required	Number of people	Total \$
Tues May 16	6:00 pm	Welcome Party Luther Memorial Church 1201 Grandview Avenue Des Moines	Potluck Bring a salad, side dish, or dessert for 15. Meat and beverages are provided.	NO	YES		No cost
Sun May 21	6:00 pm	Farewell Party Toad Valley Golf Course 237 NE 80 th St Pleasant Hill	\$20 per person Cash bar available. Dinner includes entre, garden salad, two vegetables, dessert, coffee, tea. Entre (select one per person): Herb Roasted Pork Loin Tuscan Chicken Vegetarian pasta Dessert (select one per person): Almond Bar Brownie	YES	YES		
						Total	

Reservation deadline is May 5, 2017

Name(s) _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Make check payable to FFGDM, and mail with this form to:
Shelley Bain, 1008 38th St, Des Moines, IA 50311



We Have our Journey Match for 2018

Outbound – FF Perth (Australia) and FF North Auckland (New Zealand). This is a cooperative journey with FF Whidbey Island (Washington) and is tentatively scheduled for November. We have asked FFI for a 3rd club to visit but we may add a tour or organized independent travel for a third week.

Inbound – Unfortunately, we did not receive an inbound international journey. We'll meet this summer to develop a theme inbound journey. If you have ideas, please share them with one of the board members.

Stories of Friendship



STORIES OF FRIENDSHIP ARE STORIES OF PEACE



They are stories of our experiences that have helped eliminate the barriers that separate us, bringing us closer together.

Whether it is short or long, funny or moving, from three weeks or thirteen years ago, please send your story to Alice Rasmussen at off4ever@aol.com.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE FIRST YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP FORCE

by Alice and Ken Rasmussen

On September 17, 1978, we found out at a Friendship Force meeting that we were on stand-by for home hosting the Dublin ambassadors coming to Des Moines in October.

On October 16, 1978, we received a phone call at 4:30 from Kay Gremlich who asked us if we would take two ambassadors from Dublin! Of course, we said yes. Joan and John White (sister and brother) arrived that evening - Ken took vacation in order to spend time with our guests. We had a great time with those "kids" who were probably in their early 20's. We visited the Governor's mansion, the Art Center, my farm home in Clear Lake and spent a day in the Amana Colonies. Joan and John met several of our friends, neighbors and church members -- everyone enjoyed visiting with them.

In July of 1979, Ken was sent to England as part of his job at Massey Ferguson. This would be a great time to visit the Whites, so I flew with Ken, spent a couple of days in the London area, then flew to Ireland. I spent a week there and had a fantastic time. Ken joined us for several days after his work in London was completed. This was our first experience in a foreign country. The five Whites were so welcoming and we still remember many of the things we did and places we went.

After all of these years, we still have fond memories of their visit to our home and our visit to Dublin. We kept in contact for many years and John visited us several times after 1978.

Club Activities



LET YOUR STORY BE HEARD: PRESERVING MEMORIES

The annual Springfest was held Sunday, April 2, with a hors d'oeuvre potluck and speaker Claudia Frazer.

Twenty-eight members and guests heard Claudia Frazer, Professor of Librarianship and Director of University Archives at Drake University, share her love of and tips on how to create oral histories. She spoke about the three projects specifically – Story Corp, The

History Project, both through the Library of Congress, and a local project about Drake University female graduates over the decades.



We hope this speaker would encourage our members to record their own oral histories – both personal and Friendship Force experiences.



Eighteen members celebrated the Year of the Rooster, enjoyed Chinese food, and engaged in lively conversations at China One Buffet on March 9.

We welcomed new members Ann and Ron Rowland and their foreign student from Malaysia. At one table, Karen Kilpatrick shared stories about Chuck and her recent river cruise in China. She also brought pictorial books and Chinese money.

Several people won Chinese Knots door prizes so they should have plenty of good luck throughout the year.

PLANNING FOR 2018

The Activities Committee will meet this summer to plan activities for 2018.

New people and new ideas are always welcome.

Member News

MEMBERSHIP

Our club now has 79 members. If you know anyone who may be interested in or has questions about our club, please contact me 289-1222. I would be very happy to talk to them and answer their questions. I also have a New Member Handbook that is very helpful to someone with questions or who joins.

Alice Rasmussen,
Membership Chair



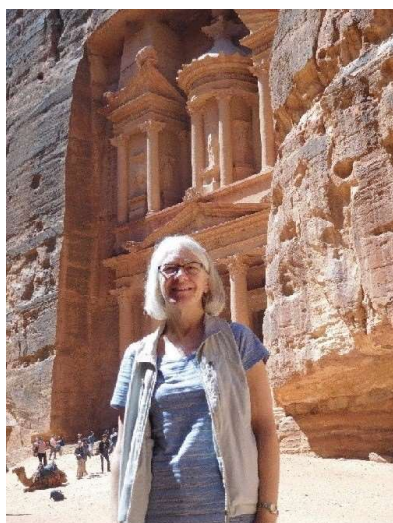
Welcome our newest member Ginny Renda

Ginny is a retired educator and has already volunteered to host an English Language Learner ambassador from Japan.



In Memory

Former member
*Kathryn "Kay"
Gramlich*
passed away in March
Our sympathies to her
family.



Mary at Petra

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS MARY MARSHALL?

Mary Marshall and Charlotte Buttin recently traveled to the Holy Land.

They visited several historic sites including Petra, the Garden of Gethsemane where the olive tree is said to be old enough to have been there when Jesus was in the Garden, and the River Jordan where they were offered the opportunity to reaffirm their baptism.

They also visited Masada, the ancient fortification in Israel.



At the Jordan River, people on the other side are in Jordan and although they share the same river, people cannot cross from one side to the other at this is a sacred spot for both sides.



2017 FFDGM Board and Committee Chairs

<u>Name and position</u>	<u>Term end</u>	<u>Email</u>
Shelley Bain - <i>President</i>	2018	shelleybain@centurylink.net
Marla Carr - <i>Vice-President</i>	2019	marlakcarr@yahoo.com
Jerry Carr - <i>Treasurer</i>	2018	Jerry.Carr55@yahoo.com
Carol Corrigan	2019	jecorrigan@msn.com
Jane Escobar	2019	janeescobar@yahoo.com
Janette House - <i>Secretary</i>	2018	j.house@mediacombb.net
Beverly Lytle	2017	bdlytle@gmail.com
Cookie Major – <i>Community Service</i>	2017	cookster50@gmail.com
Alice Rasmussen - <i>Membership</i>	2017	off4ever@aol.com
Adrienne Moen - 40 th Anniversary Celebration Co-Chair		adriennemoen@gmail.com
Nancy Lundstrom - 40 th Anniversary Celebration Co-Chair		nancylundstrom@mchsi.com
Karen Kilpatrick – <i>Activities Chair</i>		karenkilpatrick@gmail.com
Cookie Major and Jonathan Yentis – <i>IPR Media Project</i>		cookster50@gmail.com
Mary Marshall - <i>Mundo Mexico outbound Exchange Director</i>		dpmmgm@msn.com
Shelley Bain – <i>All Japan English Language Learners Exchange Director</i>		shelleybain@centurylink.net
Alice Rasmussen – <i>Louisville inbound co-Exchange Director</i>		off4ever@aol.com
Janette House – <i>Louisville inbound co-Exchange Director</i>		j.house@mediacombb.net
Marla Carr – <i>Columbia Cascade inbound Exchange Director</i>		marlakcarr@yahoo.com
Jane Escobar and Shelley Bain – <i>Austin outbound Exchange Directors</i>		janeescobar@yahoo.com
Del Wynn - <i>Webmaster</i>		wynndl@centurylink.net

Community Events for You



Living Cultures Brazil

Saturday, May 13, 2017

7:00 – 10:00 pm

Valley High School * 3650 Woodland Avenue * West Des Moines

Tickets are now available for Living Cultures: Brazil – a lively evening of food and family-friendly fun celebrating the culture of Brazil. Tickets are \$35 (ages 13-adult); \$15 ages 6-12, and children under 6 are admitted free. \$20 of every adult ticket purchase is a tax-deductible donation to CultureALL. More information is available at the CultureALL website <https://cultureall.org/events/living-cultures-brazil/>



friendship force
GREATER DES MOINES

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

FFGDM membership dues cover a calendar year, January 1 through December 31.

Mail membership application and check to:

FFGDM, PO Box 13136, Des Moines, IA 50310

Name(s) _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Individual Membership at \$30	\$
Newsletter mailed at \$12	\$
Contribution*	\$
Total Enclosed	\$

Please check which activities you can participate in. *Check as many as you like.*

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Exchange Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Exchange Home Host |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Exchange Day Host |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Photographer | <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Exchange Dinner Host |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | | |

* Friendship Force of Greater Des Moines is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization.
Your contribution may be tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.