

EXPERIENCE DIFFERENT VIEWS. DISCOVER COMMON GROUND.



friendship force
MINNESOTA - TWIN CITIES



Mesabi Iron Range Tour

In August, nineteen Minnesota Friendship Force members traveled to the historic Iron Range to learn more about the history of our great state.

We started with a stop at the Mille Lacs Native American Museum to learn about our earliest residents. From there we ventured to the Forest History Center to learn about our earliest settlers and how they made their living as lumberjacks.

Day two was a busy schedule as we started at the Greyhound Bus Museum in Hibbing, the birthplace of bus transportation. From there we toured Hibbing High School, built in the early 1920's by the mining company when they moved the town of Hibbing at a cost of 3.9 million dollars. This was and still is one of the most impressive schools in the United States. From there we learned more about the history of the area at the Hibbing Historical Society and then we went on to the Chisholm Museum of Mining. Of importance is that during World War II,

Cont'd. on page 3



WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT,
Rita Mays

Dear Friends,
Summer has been a great time to renew long-time friendships and make new friends. Many of you attended Lord Fletcher’s, our annual picnic, and our Iron Range mini-tour. Each event has been a fabulous way to connect with others in our club! Give John Christensen and Jane Norman a big thank-

you for the outstanding FFMNTC activities they’ve lead. Look for reports and pictures of these fun events in this newsletter.

In planning for September 9, our Board celebrates our 40th Anniversary each time we receive an RSVP from a past or current FF MN TC member! We know they value the impact our organization has had on their lives. It’s exciting to have early adopters such as Richard Falk, Phyllis Schurz and Betty Croonquist involved! We are pleased that Friendship Force International President and CEO Jermi Snook and FF Regional Representative Dale Moore and his wife Cheryl will join us. Be sure to greet them all and share your wonderful stories!

The Celebration gives us an afternoon to welcome six incoming Open World guests from the Ukraine. (September 7-15). Please greet them warmly! See the article in this newsletter for more information. Be sure to thank Tom Scott and his team (Mary Cunningham, Jane Bardon and Buck MacDonald) for leading this project and coordinating an outstanding program on our health care system for these young professionals.

As we approach fall, we have more opportunities for your involvement. Think about an outstanding volunteer you know and nominate them for the annual Don Wolter Service Award. See page 3 for more information.

We are seeking candidates for Board and Committee positions for 2019. Candidates are recruited by the Nominations committee and then approved by the board and will be noted in the next newsletter. Voting for President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary occurs at our annual holiday meeting December 1st. Contact me at ritamnffi@yahoo.com to serve on the Nominations Committee or to discuss your interests so we can help find a good match for your talents.

See you at the 40th Anniversary!

Rita A Mays, President
Friendship Force of Minnesota-Twin Cities
ritamnffi@yahoo.com

BOARD MEMBERS

OFFICERS

President: Rita Mays
ritamnffi@yahoo.com,
612-730-5129

Vice President: Jane Bardon
ffminnesotavp@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Buck MacDonald

Secretary: Tom Scott

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Activities Co-Chairs:
John Christensen and
Jane Norman

Communications:
Jane Bardon

Journey Coordinator:
Mary Cunningham

Membership Chair
Jane Bardon

Newsletter Editor:
Barb Emer

Open World Coordinator
Ukraine: Tom Scott

Non-Board Volunteers

Historian: Jan Lanyk

Sunshine: Val Hessburg

Webmaster: David Balzotti

To email a board director, go to friendshipforcetwincities.org Click on “Board Contacts” on the red menu bar, then click on the person you wish to contact.

Next newsletter deadline:
Oct. 15th

Cont'd. this area was one of the richest in the United States and produced millions of tons of iron Ore to support the worldwide steel industry.

On day three we visited the Mining Statue, one of the tallest in the United States and then on to the Minnesota Discovery Center. This area houses the largest museum north of the Twin Cities and is devoted to telling the unique history of northern Minnesota. We all enjoyed the trolley ride to a mining location and the opportunity to relive the lives of miners in the early 1900 's. Submitted by *Jane Norman*

UPCOMING EVENTS

OPEN WORLD – UKRAINE DELEGATION

September 7th Arrival; September 15th Departure

40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sunday, September 9th, 1:00-4:00

OPEN WORLD DELEGATES PRESENTATION

Thursday, September 13th, 5:00 p.m.

Tavern on Grand

See page 4 for additional information

NEIGHBORHOOD DINNERS

October

See page 4 for additional information

GET TO KNOW THE SOMALI COMMUNITY

November

Watch for details on our Somali-centered activity this fall. It will include the Somali Exhibit at the MN History Center, a Somali restaurant (meals start with a banana) and a Somali play to complete the experience.

2018 ANNUAL MEETING AND HOLIDAY PARTY

December

Saturday, December 1st, 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm. Hear reports from the 2018 Board and elect a new Board for 2019. Bring one of your favorite dishes for the potluck.

DON WOLTER AWARD

Once again it's time to nominate a member for the annual Don Wolter award. Don served as our newsletter editor for 20 years and faithfully put out a bi-monthly newsletter that was deserving of awards. Unfortunately, Don passed away suddenly and unexpectedly in 2013. We remember and honor Don by giving this award to a deserving member who consistently has gone above and beyond. The award will be presented at our holiday party on December 1st. Board members are ineligible.

If you would like to be on the award committee, contact Barb Emer, chair.

Nominations are due by September 30th. Or how about **NOW** while you're thinking of it? Submit to bemer@usfamily.net

Listed below are key attributes to consider when thinking of an award recipient.

- Displays leadership; serves as a leader when needed
- Interested in understanding other cultures
- Enthusiastic with a "can do" attitude; goes the extra mile
- Positive
- Flexible
- Promotes and supports the mission of Friendship Force

OPEN WORLD - UKRAINE

Ukraine Open World delegates arrive on Friday, September 7th. All club members are invited to get together at Tavern on Grand on Thursday evening September 13th.

Five health care professionals and a bilingual facilitator will arrive in the Twin Cities late Friday afternoon from Washington DC. The delegates will be spending the weekend with their hosts and attending the club's 40th Anniversary celebration on Sunday. Monday through Friday the delegates will have a busy program of meetings, presentations and tours addressing a variety of health care issues, put together by the planning committee with the helpful assistance of club members and friends of the club. The delegates will leave for home on Saturday September 15th.

While the professional programming is not open generally to club members, there are a number of ways members can still participate to help welcome our guests and learn from their life experiences.

—greet them at the 40th Anniversary celebration on Sunday the 9th.

—attend the all club get together with the delegates, hosts and other guests at Tavern on Grand, 656 Grand Avenue, St. Paul. The evening will start at 5:00 pm with drinks and appetizers; dinner at 6:00 followed by delegate presentations. Then stay as long as you like as we have the room for the evening. The walleye is great and the prices reasonable. We will have five menu selections ranging from the walleye sandwich to full course meals. This will be a fun event. Reservations not necessary.

If you are able to drive any day during the week, we may be able to use your help. Contact Tom Scott, tscott1909@gmail.com or 612 804 4102 if interested. *Tom Scott*

NEIGHBORHOOD DINNERS

For our social event this October, we are planning to have get-togethers with members from six to eight geographical locations in the Twin Cities. This has been done in the past and is a great way to connect with Friendship Force members who live in your area. The way that this will work is that Friendship Force members volunteer to host a get-together. You, as the host, plan your get-together and invite people from the membership list who live near you. You can plan any kind of get together you wish: brunch, lunch, dinner, pot luck, coffee at your house or you can go out to a nearby restaurant.



The main idea is to get to know Friendship Force members who live in your area better. If you decide to prepare the meal yourself, you divide the cost among those present. You may want to plan a multi-culture meal and ask everyone to bring an ethnic food or dish. Or be creative and come up with an idea of your own.



The goal is to have all areas represented. Currently we have volunteers from the northern and western Minneapolis suburbs and the northern St Paul area. We need someone to volunteer for the southern Minneapolis area and the central, western and eastern areas of St. Paul. John and I can help with compiling names of nearby members with their contact information if you'd like.

If you would be willing to be a host, please contact John Christensen at 612-361-1078 or myself at 763-535-3096 by September 19th. *Jane Norman*

SAVE THE DATE

2019 FFI World Conference
New Location and New Dates



friendship force
INTERNATIONAL

BOULDER, COLORADO, USA JULY 23-27, 2019

Workshops/Plenaries: July 23-25 | Social/Local Activities: July 26-27

Due to Hurricane Maria's lasting impact on Puerto Rico, our 2019 World Conference location and dates have been changed.
Please save the *new* date and location, and plan to join us in Boulder, Colorado next July!

CELEBRATION OF LOVE



Maribeth Anderson-Raullerson and Jim Collins





An array of good food along with a great turnout of good people made our annual summer picnic a delight.

IRON RANGE - A WALK BACK IN TIME

