



PASSPORT

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JOIN US FOR THE SANDHILL CRANE JOURNEY MARCH 19 – 21, 2018

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GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT



**by Julie Albrecht
President**

In February, we have 6 Open World Delegates coming from Ukraine. These young delegates are associated with city government in 5 different locations in Ukraine. We have a number of opportunities for Friendship Force members to meet the Open World Delegates and learn more about Ukraine. The form is included in this newsletter.

We have 9 ambassadors from Lincoln going to the Thailand Outbound on January 25 and will be joined by 3 ambassadors from Canada and 7 ambassadors from around the United States. Upon their return, watch for a program from our Lincoln ambassadors where they will share their experiences.

In March, we are hosting a FFI Global Journey focused on the Sandhill Crane migration. It is an awesome program and FFL members will be able to meet FFI members from all over the world.

Check out the program in this newsletter and bring a friend to join you on this exciting program.

Every month we have a Breakfast and Conversation that provides an opportunity for FFL members to get to know each other and have fun with a challenging question for discussion. LEO's (Let's Eat Out) are held every 3 months and provides FFL members to learn more about an ethnic restaurant in Lincoln and enjoy the company of members and your guests!

Our FFL Board meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at First Lutheran Church on South 70th Street. The board meetings are open to any member to attend. We will be posting our approved minutes on our website which will help members keep up with FFL activities. Note that the board meeting is held at 6 PM.

We are encouraging all members to become INVOLVED! Find an activity or committee chair and find out what they are up to and how you can be involved. We have a couple of positions to fill – Web master and newsletter coordinator.



CUBAN ART SHOW

*Kathryn & Marc LeBaron
at the Assemblage*

**by Joanna Rogers
photos by Maxine Moul**

Most of us had never heard of the Assemblage until the November 5th event. We were treated to a delightful talk by Kathryn and Marc LeBaron about their travels to gather art work from around the world. This particular show featured an array of Cuban art belonging to both the LeBarons and their travel companions, Karen and Robert Duncan. The FFL International/Diversity committee provided Cuban treats many which were made by Maxine Moul; and we all enjoyed the informative and entertaining afternoon.

JOURNEY TO THE SANDHILL CRANE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD



WITNESS THE GREAT MIGRATION TO THE PLATTE RIVER OF NEBRASKA!

Enjoy an unforgettable road trip to view the Sandhill Cranes congregating in the Heart of the Great Plains, March 17 – 24, 2018

FF Lincoln members and other travelers: We invite you to join our international ambassadors on the Sandhill Crane Journey. Ambassadors arrive on March 17 and depart March 24. We have exciting learning experiences for you: March 18: 3 pm – 8 pm. Welcome Event at the new Graduate Hotel (remodeled Holiday Inn downtown). We will watch the renowned NET video, Crane Song, followed by dinner and conversation with Drs. Alan Bond and Judy Diamond on their work as parrot field researchers. Cash Bar. Complimentary parking in the attached garage is provided by the Graduate-Lincoln Hotel (141 N. 9th St.). Cost: \$30.00

MARCH 19 – 21. SANDHILL CRANE JOURNEY TO KEARNEY, GRAND ISLAND & RED CLOUD.

Included: bus ride, guide UNL Professor Mary Brown, Monday evening dinner speaker UNK Professor Leticia Reichart, morning and evening meals (lunch is on your own), snacks, admittances to Great Platte River Road Archway, Rowe Sanctuary Blind (morning) and Crane Trust Blind (evening) for some spectacular crane viewing, MONA (Museum of Nebraska Art), Red Cloud's Willa Cather's Home and Village, and gratuities. Cost: \$265.00

Double Occupancy Hotel rooms, per person for two nights: \$130.00

March 22. Tour of the State Capitol (10:00 to 11:30 am), lunch at Billy's (11:45 am to 12:45 pm), Governor's mansion tour (1:00 to 1:45 pm). Cost \$15.00

March 23. Audubon Society Spring Creek Farewell Brunch (10 am to 1 pm.) Cost: \$10.00.

**SOMETHING MAGICAL HAPPENS IN THE HEART OF THE GREAT PLAINS EACH SPRING.
COME, BE A PART OF THE MAGIC!**

JOURNEY REGISTRATION

Heart of The Great Plains	Cost	Attending	Total
*Sunday, March 18 - Welcome Dinner, Graduate Hotel	\$30.00	x _____(number) = _____(total)	
Monday, March 19 - Sandhill Crane Journey	\$265.00	x _____(number) = _____(total)	
**Hotel Rooms, double occupancy, per person for 2 nights	\$130.00	x _____(number) = _____(total)	
Thursday, March 22 - State Capitol Tour (10 – 11:30 am)	\$ 0	x _____(number) = _____(total)	
Thursday, March 22 - Billy’s Lunch (11:45 - 12:45 pm)	\$ 15.00	x _____(number) = _____(total)	
Thursday, March 22 - Governor’s Mansion (1 -1:45 pm):	\$ 0	x _____(number)	
Friday, March 23 - Farewell Brunch (10 am – 1 pm)	\$ 10.00	x _____(number) = _____(total)	
TOTAL			_____

*When parking, tell the attendant you are with Friendship Force Crane Journey

**I would like to share a room with: _____

Send form and check to Milt Bayer at 6501 S. 49th St, Lincoln, NE 68516 before **March 5, 2018**. Thank you. See you for an exciting time.



HOLIDAY PARTY

*by Joanna Rogers,
photo by Amy Birky*

The FFL Holiday Party December 3rd was a big success. Everyone enjoyed the meal catered by the Parthenon. The table decorations were from Diane Conley’s collection of

Santa Clause figures from around the world. Our entertainment was provided by the Greasers, a singing group made up of Osher Lifelong Learning members. Thanks to Barb Ridder and her committee for providing us a pleasant evening of food and fun.

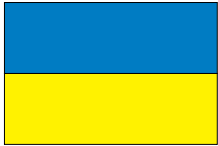
MAMA

by Linda Kistler

SAVE THE DATE!

Plan on attending the quarterly meeting Sunday, May 6 from 2 to 4 p.m. We will gather at MAMA (Midwest African Museum of Art) at 1935 “Q” Street. Experience MAMA’s mission-”to share the hidden beauty and rich history of Africa’s art and culture.” Our guest speaker will be Dr. Natalie Hahn. A native of Nebraska, Dr. Hahn has spent her career improving the lives of women and children in developing countries and resided in Nigeria and Malawi for a number of years. Be sure to join us for this exceptional meeting!

UKRAINIAN OPEN WORLD DELEGATES COMING TO LINCOLN



Five Open World delegates and one facilitator are coming to Lincoln February 9 to 17, 2018. The delegates (3 men and 2 women) will be learning about our state and city government. They come from 5 different cities across Ukraine. Each year they share their country's current events and personal/professional information with FFL members (and guests). The Open World Leadership is sponsored by the Library of Congress in cooperation with Friendship Forces. We invite you to join in any of the following activities:
Welcome Party at Hillcrest Country Club,

9401 East O Street, Lincoln on Sunday, February 11, 2018 4:30-7 PM. We will welcome the Open Delegates with a dinner and program. Cost is \$20.00. Cash Bar.

Luncheon at the Governor's Residence on Monday, February 12, 2018 at 11:30 AM. Meet our guests at a sit-down luncheon. Cost is \$16.

OPEN WORLD REGISTRATION

To attend events, please complete this form and mail it with your check by February 3, 2018 to Pat King, 1200 Coachman's Drive, Lincoln, NE 68510. Please write check to Friendship Force of Lincoln. Contact Pat King at patfking123@gmail.com or 402-489-3695 if you have questions.

Name(s) _____
 Phone number _____ Email _____

Ukrainian Exchange Events	Cost	Attending	Total
Sunday, Feb 11 WELCOME PARTY Hillcrest Country Club, 9401 East O Street	\$20	x _____	_____
Monday, Feb 12 GOVENOR'S LUNCHEON 11:30 a.m. Nebraska's Governor's Residence 1421 H Street	\$16	x _____	_____
TOTAL			_____



From the November LEO at Chef Karim's.

MEMBERSHIP REFERRALS REQUESTED

By Mary Bryant

We are in need of new members! With that in mind, I would appreciate receiving the name, mailing address, phone, and email of individuals and couples you believe would be interested in our organization. I will send an email and a follow-up packet of information about The Friendship Force of Lincoln. Amy Birky, Membership Assistant, will contact them to determine their degree of interest in our group. Let your friends and acquaintances know about the interesting events, activities, and travels you have experienced.

Why not bring a friend to a Breakfast and Conversation held each second Saturday of the month from 8:30 a.m. until approximately 9:45 a.m. at Stauffer's Café. We have lots of fun introducing ourselves and addressing the Topic for Discussion. It might be about a travel experience or a topic such as: What are you most grateful for? Do you see our present world as a better place than the world of a century ago? How so? If you could gain any one ability or quality you admire in someone else, what would you choose? If you could have free, unlimited service for 5 years from an extremely good cook, chauffeur, housekeeper, masseuse, or personal sec-

retary, which would you choose and why? Your house containing everything you own, catches fire, after saving your family and pets, you have time for a final dash to save something of yours. What would it be? Given the choice of anyone in the world, who would you want as your dinner guest? If you could take a one-month trip anywhere in the world and money were not a consideration, where would you go and what would you do? What do you like best about your life? Do you think you have much impact on the lives of people whose paths you cross? Has anyone, over a short period of time, significantly influenced your life? Explain.

You wouldn't believe the variety of answers we receive and along the way we learn something about one another.

We would appreciate hearing from YOU! Send the contact information of those you believe might have an interest in The Friendship Force, to me: Mary Bryant, ab62359@windstream.net. They will be glad you did!



JANUARY BREAKFAST

by Joanna Rogers

There were 11 members gathered on a cold Saturday morning to eat a hearty breakfast and talk about how we spent our holidays. Not too many were traveling over the break and it seemed that most folks just enjoyed a quiet Christmas with their families.

We have a breakfast the second Saturday of every month at Stauffer's Café, 5600 So. 48th Street. Milt and Gayle Bayer are our hosts for this social event and everyone is invited to join us with no reservations needed.

JOIN THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF LINCOLN

Dues for the 2018 calendar year are \$35 for an Individual Membership and \$48 for a Family Membership, the same as for 2017. Dues are for the calendar year from January 1st through December 31st and are not prorated. Prompt payment of dues ensures that you will continue to receive e-mails/mailings from The Friendship Force of Lincoln.

Mail to: Friendship Force, PO Box 30334, Lincoln, NE 68503. Make check payable to: "The Friendship Force of Lincoln."

Date _____ New _____ Renewal _____ Name Badge \$9.00/\$11.00 _____

Replacement name badges cost \$9.00 each for a pin-on type or \$11.00 each for magnetic style

Name(s) _____

Name Badge Name(s) *Please Print* _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Number _____ Mobile Number _____

E-mail _____

CATEGORY: _____ Individual-\$35 _____ Family-\$48 _____ Name Badge-\$9.00/\$11.00

Total Amount Enclosed: _____

2018 FFL BOARD

President: Julie Albrecht
Vice President: Arlene Rae
Secretary: Carolyn Kitterer
Treasurer: De Tonack
Past President: Joanna Rogers
Exchange Coordinator: Pat King
FFI Field Rep. Coordinator: Laurie Ann Scott
Historian: Jim Caruso
International/Diversity: Nancy Comer & Linda Kistler
Let's Eat Out: Carlene & Bruce Keim
Membership: Mary Bryant and Amy Birky
Monthly Breakfast: Milt Bayer
Newsletter: Jim Ecklund
Publicity: Pat King
Social: Committee Members
Website: Richard Spencer (will train a replacement)

2018 Upcoming Dates - Mark Your Calendar

BREAKFAST SECOND SATURDAY EVERY MONTH AT 8:30AM. – STAUFFERS RESTAURANT 5600 So. 48TH ST.

JANUARY

- **January 4** Board Mtg 7 PM
- **January 13** Breakfast 8:30 AM
- **January 20** LEO Noon La Paz
- **January 25** Outbound Journey to Thailand (leave)

FEBRUARY

- **February 1** Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church, 1551 S. 70th Street
- **February 10** Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café,
- **February 9-17** Open World - Ukraine
- **February 13** Outbound Journey to Thailand (return)

MARCH

- **March 1** Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church,
- **March 10** Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café,
- **March 17-24** Global Crane Inbound

APRIL

- **April 5** Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church,
- **April 10** LEO 6:30 PM, Piezanos Italia Restaurant, 2740 South Street
- **April 14** Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café,
- **April 20-22** FF 2018 Super Conf. Cincinnati
- **April TBA** Dessert and Discussion (Thailand)

MAY

- **May 3** Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church,
- **May 6** Diversity – MAMA (Midwest African Museum of Art) 2-4 PM, 1935 "Q" Street
- **May 12** Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café

JUNE

- **June 9** Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café,
- **June** TBA Picnic

JULY

- **July** NO Board Mtg
- **July 14** Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café
- **July 28** LEO Noon, Hub Café, 250 N. 21st Street

AUGUST

- **August 2** Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- **August 11** Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café
- **August** TBA Annual Mtg

SEPTEMBER

- **September 6** Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- **September 8** Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café
- **September** TBA Outbound to Missoula, Mt

OCTOBER

- **October 4** Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- **October 13** Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café
- **October 16** LEO 6:30PM, Shoguns Japanese Restaurant, 3700 S. 9th Street
- **October 12- 18** FFI Training Program

NOVEMBER

- **November 1** Board Mtg 6 PM First Lutheran Church
- **November 10** Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café

DECEMBER

- **December 6** Board Mtg 6 PM Location to be determined
- **December 8** Breakfast 8:30 AM Stauffer's Café
- **December** TBA Holiday Party