

EXPERIENCE DIFFERENT VIEWS. DISCOVER COMMON GROUND



friendship force
MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES



UPCOMING EVENT

Lunch at the Gatherings Café

Thursday, May 16th, 11:00 AM

Minneapolis American Indian Center

1530 E Franklin Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55404



This will be our first exploration into the American Indian community in the Twin Cities

RSVP to FFMinnesotaVP@yahoo.com or 651-484-7989. They will plan a group luncheon based on the number of guests.

Following lunch, we will tour the Two Rivers Gallery, the Woodland Crafts Gift Shop, and other venues at the American Indian Center.

Gatherings Café: “We are a community-embraced café that encourages living healthy, eating healthy and education through ancestral knowledge. Gatherings Café serves fresh, locally grown foods that are Indigenous and prepared in healthy ways. We are in the heart of the urban Native American community where people gather to catch up with friends and family. We are a place that brings about tradition, culture and fabulous food.”



WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Exploring Local Cultures

We probably all know that the name “Minnesota” comes from the Dakota (Sioux) word “minisota” meaning “sky-tinted waters” or “sky-blue waters.” A fitting name in a state where going “up-to-the-lake” is a common family tradition. We also learned in school about the Native Americans who inhabited this land many long years ago. Their descendants still live among us and have maintained many of the ancient traditions across the centuries.

I invite you to join me in exploring the culture and lives of our Native American neighbors. Our first two excursions are described on the “Upcoming Events” page. This is just the beginning. We have an amazing richness of opportunities right here in the Twin Cities. There are many Native American events and cultural sites to explore. We don’t need passports, suitcases, or airplane tickets.

As Friendship Force Ambassadors, we know how to do this. We’ve slept in other folks’ beds and eaten at their tables – sometimes without speaking a common language. This is the same: go to interesting places, chat with folks along the way, and be ready for new friendships.

In Friendship,

Jane Bardon

If I am unavailable, my back-up is Secretary Louise Anderson

HELP WANTED

I am recruiting a telephone committee to “get the word out” as needed. If you are interested, email me at: janesbardon@gmail.com

Thank you, Jane Bardon

BOARD DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President: Jane Bardon
janesbardon@gmail.com
651-484-7989

Secretary: Louise Anderson
louisemarieanderson17@gmail.com 612-354-0927

Treasurer: Rose Emerick

DIRECTORS

Cindy Cauble

John Christensen

Barb Emer – Newsletter Editor

Buck MacDonald

Rita Mays – Past President

Tom Scott – Open World Program Coordinator
(ex-officio – non-voting)

Non-Board Volunteers

Historian

Jan Lanyk

Sunshine

Val Hessburg

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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE June 15, 2019

Email submissions to Barb Emer at:
bemer@usfamily.net

COMING EVENTS

Lunch at Lord Fletcher's on the Wharf

Monday, June 10
Noon
3746 Sunset Drive
Spring Park, MN
Reservations not necessary
Enter in the back from the parking lot. **Questions:** Contact Barb Emer bemer@usfamily.net, 651-731-9696



2019 Semi-Annual Meeting and Picnic
Saturday, July 13th Noon-3:00
St. Louis Park
Further information will be in the next newsletter.

Open World Delegates from Ukraine
September 6-14

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome these new FFMNTC Members when you meet them at events.

Christine Keuler – Eagan MN

Michael and Charlene Kruger – Hudson WI

Donna Nordin – Richfield MN



Native Women Artists

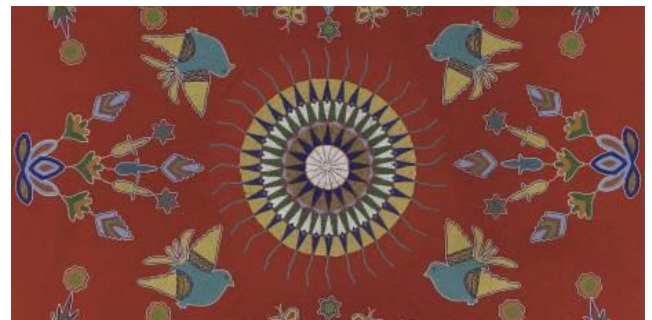
Minneapolis institute of Art, Target Gallery
2400 3rd Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55404

This exhibit runs June 2nd – August 18th, 2019. We'll let you know the date and time of our Club visit in a special flyer.

MIA general admission is free. This special exhibit is \$20 for adults. We can also visit the Native American wing which is free.

There will be time for lunch at the Agra Culture Restaurant on the mezzanine level or the Agra Culture Coffee Shop and Café on the main level.

www.artsmia.org



Women have long been the creative force behind Native American art. Presented in close cooperation with top Native women artists and scholars, this first major exhibition of artwork by Native women honors the achievements of over 115 artists from the United States and Canada spanning over 1,000 years.

QUESTIONS? Contact Jane Bardon at
FFMinnesotaVP@Yahoo.com
or 651-484-7989

REMEMBERING



Bernard "Bernie" WILKE

90, of Lake Elmo, died March 6, 2019. Bernie was born May 13, 1928 in

Diesem, North Dakota. Bernie served in the Marines for 2 years. He attended the University of St. Thomas and the University of Minnesota for a journalism degree. Bernie worked at the St. Paul Dispatch and Pioneer Press in the Editorial Dept for 37 years beginning in 1953. He was involved with the YMCA, Volks Marching, Friendship Force, Lake Elmo Library, Guardian Angels Church and Men's Club, Pioneer Press tours, travel, fishing and golf. Bernie is preceded in death by his sons Stephen Wilke, Matthew Wilke; grandson Daniel Kleinschmidt. Bernie is survived by his wife of 62 1/2 years, Jeanne; his children Christine Wilke, Laura (Keith) Kleinschmidt, Paul J. Wilke; grandchildren Paul M. Wilke, Julia Wilke, Annie (Matthew) Martin, Sam Kleinschmidt; sister Jane Strickler, and family members. A Mass of Christian Burial for Bernie will take place March 19, 2019 at 11AM at Guardian Angels Catholic Church, 8260 4th Street N., in Oakdale. Visitation prior to the Mass at 10AM. Memorials will be forwarded to HealthEast Hospice and Good Samaritan Society of Stillwater. Burial at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery, 2PM May 13.

Published in Pioneer Press on Mar. 17, 2019



Recently learned...



George Earl PATCHIN

MANKATO — George Earl Patchin, age 82, died Monday, June 18, 2018, at Mayo Clinic Health System

in Mankato, Minn. Visitation is scheduled from 4-7 p.m. Thursday, July 19, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Mankato, and will continue 10 a.m. Friday, July 20, before a Celebration of Life service 11 a.m. July 20, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church with lunch and fellowship to follow in the dining hall. Private family burial will be held at Calvary Cemetery, Mankato.

George was born May 24, 1936, in Fairmont, Minn., to George Everett and Mary Jane (Oswalt) Patchin. George attended elementary school in Fairmont, caddied at the local golf course, had a newspaper route and took swimming lessons at the lakes. When he was in seventh grade, his mother remarried and moved to Rake, Iowa. George was confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church in Rake and graduated from Rake High School in 1954.

After graduation, George attended Waldorf College in Forest City, Iowa, where he participated in sports and choir and earned a two-year degree in "Commercial" in 1956. He worked for First National Bank (1956-58) in Fairmont and then served in the U.S. Army (1958-1960). Upon discharge, he attended Mankato State College and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Education (1962).

He then taught Business Education in Freeborn, Minn., for seven years. During those years, he earned his Master of Science degree in Business Education (1966) at Mankato State College, where he met his future wife, Mary Jane Andersen.

Editor's Note: To continue reading:
www.fairmontsentinal.com

OPEN World in Minnesota

By Jane Bardon

Friendship Force MN Twin Cities has had three opportunities to work with the Open World program through FFI. We have hosted Delegates from Turkey, Tajikistan (2017), and Ukraine (2018). This Fall we will welcome another delegation from Ukraine. This is a remarkable service program and we can be very proud of our successful participation. As a former Peace Corps Volunteer, I feel right at home with Open World. One of our OW Team members said: "Any tiny bit of help we can give these young people in their efforts to tip their country toward democracy is worth the effort."

It is not an easy program to plan and administer. The most familiar part is identifying host families for the five delegates, their facilitator, and a translator. Hosting assignments can be complicated by language skills and other personal factors. Our local OW Team sets up meetings with local federal, state, and city political and legal authorities. Depending on the theme for the year, we contact relevant organizations and individual experts to provide content for the training program. There is a significant administrative component that is passed on to us by FFI from the Open World Leadership Center in Washington DC. It involves delegates' resumes, host family profiles, and a comprehensive training schedule with details of training venues, qualifications and contacts for speakers, and the focus of training sessions. The training manual for our 2018 OW Program turned into a complex sixteen-page document. A final report when the training period is completed is also required.

After all of development work is completed, and the Delegates arrive, it is a full-time job for the local OW Team. We call on our Team members and other volunteers as drivers to get all seven guests to the right places at the right time. (It's still worth the effort.) For the Delegates it's 40 hours of training, Monday - Friday. Only weekends and some evenings are free for entertainment or to spend with host families.

The Open World Leadership Center is housed in the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. Every year, the U.S. Congress decides upon funding and the agency then confers grants to

U.S.- based nonprofit and governmental organizations to host Open World delegations. These organizations all have expertise in implementing professional foreign exchange programs. Some grantees, like Friendship Force International, carry out Open World programming through their local clubs. Program participants are provided with extensive exposure to American politics, accountable governance, and citizen diplomacy, while being home hosted by American families. Some 8,200 American families have hosted participants in more than 2,400-plus communities around the country.

Open World is a ten-day program which brings emerging leaders from Eurasia to the United States to engage with professional counterparts. The program was established in 1999 to foster cultural and political ties with Russia, but has expanded to other countries of the post-Soviet region. The program has brought over 28,000 current and future leaders from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Moldova, Mongolia, Russia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan to the United States.



The mission of the Open World Leadership Center, an arm of the U.S. Congress, is to introduce rising leaders of emerging countries to the importance of legislative functions in creating and sustaining democracies. This is done through the introduction of young foreign leaders to the American democratic governing systems and free market operations at every level: federal, state, and local. The Center also maintains a continuing relationship with the network of leaders it has enlisted, especially with those from countries crucial to American national security interests.

To learn more about Open World, please visit www.openworld.gov/

Friendship Force Exchange

by Louise Anderson & Godfrey Peterson



Who knew there were 19 different types of sheep in New Zealand?



Practicing New Zealand's indigenous Maori's culture greeting



Only 13,000 kiwis still exist

Explore Farming in New Zealand

February 21 to March 17, 2019

We loved the opportunity to experience the north island with two New Zealand clubs, Manawatu and Wairarapa. The exchange explored farming with visits to kiwi, mushroom and asparagus farms along with vineyards. We also explored sheep and cattle farming and one of the highlights included a visit to New Zealand's Agrodome, which offered a world famous farm show, starring a cast of talented animals.

We spent an evening enjoying the Matariki Hangi and cultural show. This provided us with a special experience to visit the Maori culture with an interactive performance, as well as getting a taste of unique New Zealand cuisine with a Maori feast, called a hangi.

Our homestays were delightful and while staying in Masterton we cheered on New Zealand's best sheep shearers as they competed for the title of Golden Shears champion.

We recommend this exchange and if you go, a conversation starter would be discussion of NZ's 2011 and 2015 Rugby World Cup!



Over 20 people came out to enjoy lunch at Bachnan's with fellow members and guests. Surrounded by plant life and friends, it was a real day brightener in the midst of a long winter.



Tour of current exhibits at Walker Art Center led by Walker Art docent Jack Bardon.

Thanks to Rita Mays for photos