



Friendship Force of Central

Iowa Annual Picnic at Bandshell Park!



Ann Hein, Peggy Faden, Dennis Dake, (Dennis & Dots furry friend), Jerry Byg, Front Row: Karen Wilson, Lynne Van Valin and Dot Dake.

On Thursday, July 17th a group of FFCI members gathered to enjoy a potluck picnic at Ames Bandshell Park.

Lynn Avent & Lynne Van Valin organized this special event.

We had a great variety of food and after the meal



The last song of the evening, they turn on the background lights to add to the beauty of the Bandshell.

several members stayed to enjoy the music. Members in attendance: Ginny & Stu Huntington, Marybeth Buchele, Alta & Jerry Byg, Dorothy & Dennis Dake, Peggy Faden, Kitty Fisher, Joan Mathews, Judy Mongin, Karen Tegtmeyer, Ann Hein, Carole Magilton, Joan Matthews, and Karen Wilson. (Hope I did not miss anyone; I did not get a picture with everyone in it).

Upcoming Dates:

August 16, Senior Variety Show and Pizza and games at Torrent Brewery

September 9 - 16, Journey to Richmond VA

September 23, 4-6 pm FFCI Board of Officers

November 22, 10 am to 2 pm FFCI Annual Business Meeting; location to be determined.

December 6th, FFCI Holiday Party - Village Cooperative of Ames, 2525 Bobcat Drive

Friendship Force Central Iowa

to

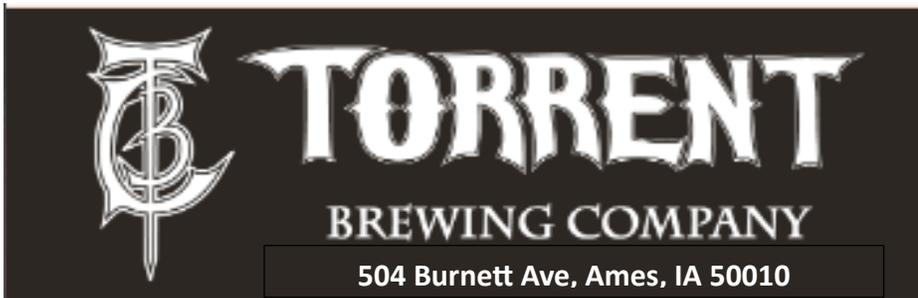
Senior Variety Show

At Ames, City Hall



\$10 Per person, contact Kitty order your ticket.

The show begins at 2 pm, with a pre-show band which starts at 1:30, arrive early and notify the usher that you are part of the friendship Force Group. Start at Ames City Hall Auditorium and then come to Torrent at 504 Burnett Ave. to enjoy something cold to drink, pizza, and some games to finish out the day.



Join FFCI on **August 16**, to see the Senior Variety show and then join us at Torrent to enjoy some games, **both** on **August 16th**.

Please RSVP by **August 11 is required to order pizza.** Please let **both** Kitty and Alta to get your Senior Variety tickets and let us know if you will be continuing to Torrent Brewing Company.

Pizza will be provided
by the FFCI Board at Torrent Brewing Co.

(Each person will purchase your own beverages.)

RSVP Alta Byg, 515-450-8397 or altajerbyg@gmail.com and
Kitty Fisher 515-460-9135 or kafisher99@aol.com

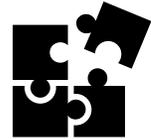
Letter from Activity chairperson,

Charene Starcevic:

As one of the Activity Coordinators, I have been giving some thought to different things we could do to become more active. Please give these ideas consideration. These are just a few ideas, please send any suggestions which might be something which would be interesting. Your suggestions will be welcome.



Ideas for some activities are as follows:



Small groups: Set up monthly card games (Canasta, 3 -13, 500, etc.), Luncheons, Coffees.

Large groups: LEO's, Theme parties (50's, Cinco de Mayo, Soup Party, etc.)

We have a great group of members, we just need new ideas and we need to set the dates for those who will assist to make this a success. We will be discussing this at the Annual Board Meeting in November 22nd, so please contact Charene by phone or text at 515-231-3686 for extra ideas or to volunteer for a specific event.



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SAVE THE DATE!
April 24-27, 2026
Memphis, Tennessee

**2026
North American
Regional
Conference**

WELCOME CANADIAN, MEXICAN, AND USA MEMBERS!
DETAILS AND REGISTRATION THIS SUMMER

All-Iowa Gathering

Friendship Force Central Iowa had a great attendance at the All-Iowa Gathering which was hosted by Friendship Force of Greater Des Moines. Eleven members and one guest enjoyed an excellent meal, lively competitive bidding on the Silent Auction, and a great game of Art Bingo. Art Bingo helped us to get to know more about the people who attended the event and more about the Des Moines area. Those who attended from FFCI were Sedahlia Crase, Diana Lang (guest of Sedahlia), Peggy Faden, Lynne Van Valin, Stu



Huntington, Ginny Huntington, Dennis Dake, Dot Dake, Jerry Byg, Charene Starcevic, Alta Byg and Kitty Fisher. Sixty people attended the festivities, some members bid on the Silent Auction items, I know I did and unfortunately, I didn't bid high enough. Connie Williams who is the Mid-West Regional Representative encouraged us to just say yes, when someone contacts you for anything. Alta Byg, Barb Jacobsen, Judy Minor, and Deb Steele, the club leaders who attended gave a short talk about what their clubs were doing, or going. Alta was able to recruit 2 more people to travel to Richmond, VA which put us over the minimum



Connie Williams gave an encouraging presentation. "Just say Yes!"



All attendees of the All-Iowa Gathering posing in front of the Machine

number of people needed to make our Richmond VA journey a success.

It was great to see people we have not seen since last year. Next year the All-Iowa Gathering will be held in

the Quad Cities. (It is usually on the last weekend in June, so put it on your calendar and plan on attending, maybe even an overnight trip) Yeah Party!!

Members of FFCI who attended the All-Iowa Gathering. L to R: Sedahlia Crase, Diana Lang, Peggy Faden, Lynne Van Valin, Stue Huntington, Ginney Huntington, Dennis Dake, Dot Dake, Jerry Byg, Charene Starcevic, Alta Byg and Kitty Fisher.



Journeys for 2026

Your input is needed for an incoming journey

We have received information about the upcoming journey for 2026. The Southern New Jersey club would love to visit our club in 2026. We did not ask Friendship Force International for an incoming journey for 2026. We need to let Taryn with FFI know if we are NOT interested in hosting an incoming



journey in 2026. I need your input. The good news is that we have prepared for Brandon as an incoming journey so much of the preparation work has been done. I have created a Google form to gather information. Click on the link and complete the survey: <https://forms.gle/tg2wGBddkuxfEPDa6>

September 2026 Outgoing

Central Iowa, USA has been given an outgoing journey for 2026. Our club will be traveling to Greater Hamilton and Burlington, Canada. Greater Hamilton and Burlington Canada is in the Niagara Falls area. On our recent journey to Azerbaijan and Armenia, we were very lucky to have the opportunity to meet Willie & Joan Avis, who are members of Greater Hamilton and Burlington, Canada. They are an awesome and funny couple and it sounds like their club will show us a fabulous time while we are visiting. I am excited about this journey since I have never been in that area. I hope you will be excited about this opportunity as well.



R to L: Jane Carr, Rose Schultz, Joan & Willie Avis



Sign Into My Friendship Force

To see what is happening at Friendship Force International, sign into the Friendship Force Portal. Click the following link;

<https://my.friendshipforce.org/> Insert your email, password, and login. If you have never logged in, Click on Sign Up.

On the left-hand side, select Journeys. If you find something you are interested in, contact the Journey Contact.

my friendship force

Signed out successfully.

ENGLISH DONATE

Member Login

EMAIL
Altajerky@gmail.com

PASSWORD
.....

LOG IN

NEW TO THIS SITE? Click here to create your free basic account!

SIGN UP

Forgot your password?
Didn't receive confirmation instructions?
Didn't receive unlock instructions?