



## Waunakee Rotary Club

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Friendship Force, like the Rotary International, brings people together, and both clubs have their short mission statement.

Bernie Long, a Waunakee resident and Friendship Force member, said that organization's one-liners include, "A world of friendship is a world of peace."

Bernie was the speaker at the Sept. 30 Waunakee Rotary Club meeting. He said other mottos are "You can make a difference," and "Faces Not Places."

Members of Friendship Force travel on exchange trips as a way of making friends around the world and bringing about peace.

Friendship Force International was founded by Wayne Smith, who appealed to then Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter. Carter introduced the organization to the world in 1977, when he was president. The headquarters continue to be in Atlanta, Ga.

The first exchange occurred in 1977 when 381 people from Georgia boarded a plane bound for Newcastle, England, and the following day, 381 people from Newcastle boarded a plane to Georgia.

Those large, simultaneous exchanges worked in the beginning, but it became difficult to find hosts for such large groups.

Bernie said initially, Friendship Force members had no idea where they would be shipped to until one week before they left. But in time that changed, he said.

Now the headquarters in Atlanta take requests from clubs of places they would like to visit.

Two years ago, the Madison chapter visited Baku in Azerbaijan, part of the former Soviet Union.

Now the clubs get their assignment about a year ahead, Bernie said. Communicating is much easier now because of e-mail, he said.

One of the challenges since Sept. 11 has been securing visas for people from abroad wanting to visit the United States.

Bernie said there have also been more domestic exchanges to places like southern California and northern Colorado. The club also schedules mystery trips, where the travelers have no idea of the destination.

Bernie said even those who don't have time to travel join the club, and it's expanded.

"We still maintain that we're going to try to change the world and become friends," he said.

Bernie said longtime members of service organizations like Friendship Force and Rotary find that the affiliation has changed them.

"Belonging to Friendship Force and traveling changes the way you read the newspaper," Bernie said. "You realize these are people."

While Friendship Force is not a political organization, the members often find they can't avoid political discussion, Bernie said.

In other news:

•Susan Hedrick said the Waunakee Public Library has compiled a page on its website titled Historic Waunakee in Pictures. The collection shows hundreds of images of Waunakee. Anyone who would like to share historic pictures of the village can stop by the library and have the photos scanned and posted on the site.

•Dan Statz reported that Wauktoberfest went very well, per-

### OFFICERS

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BOB PULVERMACHER, RECORDING SECRETARY • JOY MCMERTY, TREASURER

### DIRECTORS

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### Calendar of Events:

•Thanksgiving breakfast, Nov. 25.

haps the best year ever. He does not have the financials yet. Dan thanked Ken Ballweg for the use of the Endres Manufacturing grounds and also for the help his employees provide setting up.

Guests: Tony Hellenbrand, guest of Connie Blau; Bob Ziegler, guest of Neil Kruschek.

Visiting Rotarians: Lynne Spielman, Madison West Towne.

Birthdays: None.

Anniversaries: Oct. 7, Betsy Flanagan and Larry Nummerdor.

Prayers: Oct. 7, Susan Vergeront; Oct. 14, Pat Durden; Oct. 21, Leonard Allen.

Programs: Oct. 7, Club Assembly.

Greeters: Oct. 7, David Kennedy and Katie Kennedy-Shepherd; Oct. 14., Neil King and Ed Kruchten; Oct. 21, Neil Kruschek and Alan Langeteig; Oct. 28, Drew Lawrence.

### Make up meetings online

It's easy to make up a meeting on the Internet. The site is [www.rotaryeclubone.org](http://www.rotaryeclubone.org). Print out the form and give it to Phil Willems, the club secretary.