

Sunday, September 9 from 3 to 5 p.m.

"Friend" your students at annual Fall Fiesta



Happiness is ... winning a bicycle at the Fall Fiesta. Chances are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

A festive Sunday gathering for new international students and IF hosts will be held **September 9 from 3-5 pm at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, 830 N. First Ave.** The church is a close walk or bike ride to campus and free parking is available in the church parking lot located at the intersection of First Ave. and Second Street.

Students and hosts can connect with each other, **make new friends** and discover shared interests. Beverages and light "finger foods" with a Mexican and Southwestern flavor will be served. You might learn a few Spanish words and phrases or try some salsa dancing.

Also, bring some cash to buy an I-Friends T-shirt featuring flags from around the world (\$15 each) or to **buy some raffle tickets to help your student win a brand new bicycle!**

This is a great opportunity to mingle with students and fellow hosts. If you have selected a student, we encourage you to attend this event together. If you are not yet 'matched' you may meet the international student just right for you!

There is no need to RSVP – just mark the event on your calendars and plan to attend.

Hosting opens a world of understanding

In August the University of Arizona will again welcome a large group of graduate and undergraduate students from around the world to our campus and city. In fact, we expect more than 200 international students will sign up to be matched with an IF Host—a local resident and friend.

As a past or current host, you know the joys of involving these students in your lives and sharing activities with them. While students become more comfortable with American life and customs, you benefit from learning about their countries and cultures. From sharing dinners, picnics and holidays together to hiking desert trails, or attending concerts, your lives—and theirs—are enriched.

We need your help to place students and recruit new hosts for the 2012-2013 academic year! What can you do? Consider hosting one or more new students this year. Many of us have found that having several students makes

our gatherings even more fun—and widens the students' circle of friends. You may have one or several past students continuing as your friends—and they can be great guides to new students as well—we encourage you to treasure old friends and make new ones!

Tell your friends, neighbors, co-workers about how your IF friendships have enriched your lives—and encourage them to be a host this coming year. **Let them know this is not a live-in program but one of friendship and sharing.** Invite them to attend the IF Fall Fiesta on September 9. Explain that the IF online matching system is easy and enables hosts to review and select students of interest to them. (Complete instructions are on page 3.)

IF Host applications are available online at:

www.ifriendstucson.org

International Friends, Inc.



Meet our Board Members:

World experiences continue through International Friends

Larry Grossman

By Pam Obando

Through their involvement with International Friends, Larry and Linda Grossman really enjoy returning the hospitality they have received over the years during their global travels. They understand how meaningful it is to share a meal in someone's home in another country and love having international students in their Tucson home. Larry has been on the IF Board for several years and enjoys meeting and speaking with new students—frequently in their languages.

Larry grew up in Omaha, Nebraska, and always wanted to be a world traveler. As an English major at the University of Nebraska, Larry entered an essay contest for Wrangler Jeans and won their Young Ambassador contest—and the prize was a trip to six countries in Europe! He loved it and in 1969 took exams and entered the US Foreign Service for a 24-year career. His first assignment as a development worker was to Vietnam (during the war years) followed by two years in cosmopolitan Buenos Aires, Argentina. Over the years Larry's assignments included Iceland, Belgium, El Salvador, Denmark, several assignments in Washington, DC and a final assignment with the US Mission to the United Nations in New York. He retired and was immediately offered special assignments with the UN that took him to El Salvador, Mexico and Angola. Along the way Larry learned many languages—as he likes to say, “I can read newspapers in nine languages.”

When Larry's elderly father needed assistance, Larry returned to Omaha to care for him. There he met Linda who owned and operated a restaurant and catering business. Their mutual interests in other countries, cultures and food brought them together. Their first trip in 1996 was to Istanbul, Paris and Tuscany—and they have been traveling the world together ever since. In fact, their goal is to spend at least a month a year in different cities around the world. One of their favorite places is in Tuscany, Italy where they have “extended family”—Italian friends Larry met many years ago in El Salvador.

Larry and Linda fell in love with Tucson while visiting friends and moved here in 2004. Linda has a beautiful large herb garden at their home and loves preparing cuisines from around the world. Linda and Larry teach culinary classes and give tours to Tuscany and Piedmont areas in Italy and to Provence, France. Larry is also busy as an interpreter primarily in Spanish but also in several other languages. He is a trained medical interpreter in Spanish for which there is a large demand in Tucson.

You can meet Larry and Linda at any IF event—and if you are invited to their home, count on a fabulous gourmet meal and lots of great stories and laughter around their dining table.



Board Member Larry Grossman and his wife Linda

Diane Marble

International Friends is pleased to welcome **Diane Marble** to its board of directors.

Diane was born in a small town in southern Illinois. She met her husband while teaching on the US Territory of Guam, “an interesting outpost that enabled me to travel around Asia and make several friends from numerous countries,” she says.

During the past 25 years of marriage, her husband Scott's Air Force career required multiple moves including one to Europe. During their tour in Virginia, they participated in an association called Meetings for Better Understanding with Muslim students from the universities in the Tidewater region.

“Our many moves gave us a heart for welcoming students away from home.”

Scott's career took the family to Russia, Antarctica, and rural Alaska before they settled in Tucson as a result of his employment with Raytheon. “I am hoping this is our last move!” Diane exclaims.

Half of their eight children have already moved along to pursue either college or professional goals, and four are still living at home.

“Our many moves gave us a heart for welcoming students that are away from home, much in the same way that we were so warmly welcomed in the many places we were blessed to have lived over the years,” she observes.

It's that time again!

Go online now to find your new International Friends

International Friends has an online system for matching hosts with students. The system is user friendly and easily accessible: just follow a few simple steps. All you need is access to a computer with an internet connection.

STEP 1: CLICK LINK, USE YOUR PASSWORD

Click on <http://ifriendstucson.org/login.html>. It will take you to a login page.

Username: Enter your full email address

Password: Enter your password

If you have forgotten your password, email Jim Moline at jim@ifriendstucson.org, using the email address with which you log into the I-Friends system. Jim will then email you with your password information.

STEP 2: EDIT PROFILE

Once you have entered your password, it will take you to your profile page. Please edit or update your information.

STEP 3: SELECT A STUDENT

Search through the students who are seeking a host to find student(s) that look like a good match. Select the students.

STEP 4: MEET YOUR STUDENT

Once you have selected a student, our Assignments Coordinator will confirm the match and send you and your student an email with the other's contact information. You can then contact your student to arrange your first get-together.

Tokyo to Tucson:

IF student learns to be an "Honorary Mexican"

By Johanna Willett

"¿Dónde está, Maki?" asked a handful of Mexican children at Casa Hogar Emanuel, an orphanage in Naco, Sonora, Mexico.

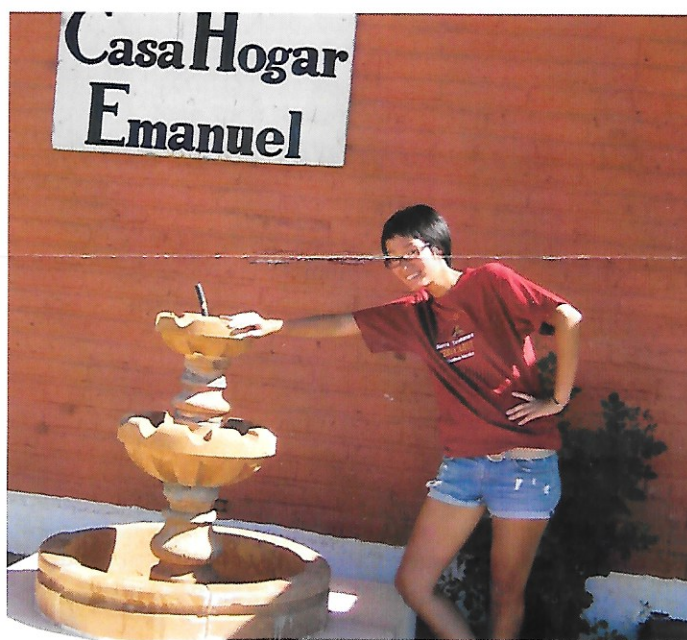
Maki Kosaka, a 21-year-old Japanese student studying abroad at the University of Arizona, frequently volunteers as a playmate at the orphanage. Sick with a head cold last weekend, she missed the most recent trip south of the border, sending much-needed toilet paper in her place. The children prefer Maki.

Maki takes Spanish classes through the university, improving what has become her fourth language and another chapter in her life. She grew up speaking Japanese with her parents and older sister, learned Thai in high school during a year-long program in Bangkok, and now tosses accented English slang around with the ease of a native speaker.

Practicing Spanish both academically and with orphans in Mexico, Maki knows enough that her Mexican-American friends have dubbed her as an "honorary Mexican." She takes salsa dance lessons and has learned how to make tamales. When she discovered what "bucket list" meant last month, learning to make tamales on her own made the "Number One" spot.

"Mexican food is one of my favorite things about being here," Maki said.

Alexis Kreun, a student activities assistant at the Center for English as a Second Language (CESL), first met Maki on a trip to Casa Hogar Emanuel last year. "We get there, and she's speaking Spanish to these kids," Kreun said. "and by the time she leaves, they love her." And Maki loves them, noting the trips to the Mexican orphanage as some of her favorite experiences from this past year.



When Maki chose to study at the University of Arizona, she picked the school because of its proximity to Mexico in an effort to sate her longtime desire to experience Latin American culture. Studying in Tucson allows her to practice her English amongst Americans but also take frequent jaunts south of the border. After she finishes her year at the University of Arizona, Maki hopes to spend the remainder of her summer working in an orphanage, finally immersing herself in the culture that she has only ever dipped her fingers in.

(Editor's note: Maki Kosaka's IF hosts during the 2011-2012 school year were Jim Moline and Ann Brehm-Moline. She got her wish: Maki spent the summer in Naco at the Casa Hogar Emanuel Orphanage. Excerpted from an article written for the "Arizona Daily Wildcat." Reprinted with permission of the author, a student at the University of Arizona.)

Return Service Requested

Fall Fiesta is Sunday, September 9th, 3-5 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS, INC

Got questions about the matching process? We've got answers!

Q. What if my student doesn't respond?

A. Sometimes your selected student may not reply to your initial phone call or email. This can simply mean that the student is adjusting to a demanding academic schedule or life in a new country. Try contacting the student again after a week or two. Schedule a get-acquainted meeting once the student has acclimated to life in the US. If after several tries there is no student response to you, advise jim@ifriendstucson.org and then select another student.

Q. My student's email came back. Now what?

A. International students often change their email address once enrolled at UA. Students' current email addresses are located in the UA online student directory. To locate a student's e-mail go to www.arizona.edu/phonebook. Type in the student's name at the phonebook prompt. The student's current information will appear.

Q. I want a student from Italy, but I can't find one.

A. Enrollment patterns determine the numbers and represented countries of international students at the University of Arizona. Typically, International Friends has students from many countries around the globe with the highest number from China and India. It is not always possible to find students from a specific country, so remain flexible in your student choices. It can be a rewarding and satisfying experience.



Find us on Facebook!

International Friends @ Tucson, Arizona is IF's official Facebook group. If you haven't joined, take time now to check us out and keep informed of IF activities throughout the year. If you aren't on Facebook, well, there's no time like the present! Go to www.facebook.com and sign up. It's easy, fun and a good way to connect with friends, old and new. And, this is the way students communicate today, so you'll be up-to-date on what your I-friends are up to.