



Club Connections

The Highland Friendship Club is about helping young adults with disabilities make friends, learn new skills and have FUN!

www.highlandfriendshipclub.org

2011 HFC Activity Highlights

- ★ HFC is hosting two dating classes this winter for HFC members, one for the guys and one for the gals. HFC members requested the classes which are led by HFC staff and include information on safety issues and healthy relationships.
- ★ The HFC choir is learning new songs to perform at the May 12th Ticket to Friendship event. The choir will also host an informal concert in May for parents and the general public. Check the HFC website for more information.
- ★ The Backseat Boogie Band will provide live music on Friday, April 1st at the annual spring dance with the Cretin-Derham Hall Friendship Club. 75 HFC members and CDH students will be dancing all night long. The dance is held from 6:00-9:00 at CDH and the cover is only \$10. Join us and have some fun with your HFC friends. Call us at 651-698-4096 to RSVP.



Joe Mauer and HFC member Joel Jacobson compare arm strength after a few games of bowling at the 4th Annual Lanes for Friendship event on November 27th. \$32,000 was raised to support HFC activities in 2011. PritzkerOlsen, P.A. and UPS were event co-sponsors and FILO Productions sponsored the VIP area. Special guests included Tubby Smith and members of the U of MN basketball team, Marcus Freeman, retired NFL player, Glen Perkins of the MN Twins, Tim McNiff from KARE 11 and members of the U of MN baseball team. Chipotle provided a lane game for the 4th year and over 200 people attended.

Photo by Doug Knutson

Winter 2011



Save the Date

Ticket to Friendship is back and better than ever!

Join your friends at the Summit Brewing Company on Thursday, May 12th from 5:30-8:00.

Admission is \$20 and includes food, delicious Summit beer & root beer and entertainment by the HFC choir.

Raffle tickets will be sold at the event.

More information will be available on the HFC website in early April.

“Top Ten Reasons to Support HFC” Results

Thanks to everyone who supported the HFC annual fundraising campaign in December. HFC donors gave over \$14,000 to support HFC activities in 2011. \$14,000 provides funding for one year of Wednesday and Friday night drop-in activities. You can donate monthly to HFC online via our partnership with GiveMN.org. Go to our website, www.highlandfriendshipclub.org, and click on the **Donate Now** button and you can designate how often you want to contribute to HFC. Thanks for your support!



Member Spotlight - Skip

Skip has been a HFC member since 2002. He is a student at Augsburg College in Minneapolis and expects to graduate this spring with a degree in Mass Communications. One of his passions is music, especially blues music, and he is a regular HFC music class attendee when he is not studying or playing guitar. Skip is also an avid Twins fan and enjoys watching Formula One car races. He participates in a therapeutic horseback riding program and has a horse named Jack. He is also a volunteer with Campus Ministry at Augsburg.

Skip is an accomplished guitar player and enjoys playing a solo at the spring dance with the Backseat Boogie Band. Listen to Skip play on Friday, April 1st at CDH.



HFC Community Partnerships

★ St. Paul Serves, a local non-profit organization, is hosting a Beer Tasting Dinner fundraiser on Wednesday, March 30th at O'Gara's to benefit HFC activities. Tickets are \$75 or \$125 per person and include a reception beginning at 6 pm and a five course dinner. Email Zack Ryan at info@stpaulserves.org for more information.

★ First Tee of St. Paul will open a new Learning Center at the Highland National Golf Course and have offered to share one of their offices and activity space with HFC. The Learning Center will offer indoor shelter for golf lessons and will also be a community space for hosting events, birthday parties and other activities. The new Learning Center is expected to be completed in mid-2011.

★ HFC has started a new partnership with residents of the Wellington a senior housing community in the Highland Park neighborhood. HFC Community Club members will spend one day a month working with senior citizens on art projects and community service activities.



HFC Girls Night Out members get a makeover at the Rocco Altobelli salon in Saint Paul.

Highland Friendship Club
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Phone: 651-698-4096
www.highlandfriendshipclub.org



HFC Volunteer Spotlight - Nancy and Joe Skora

HFC has relied on volunteers since its inception to provide support at HFC activities. In 2010, 10 new volunteers supported HFC activities and we recruited our first mother-son volunteer team. Joe and Nancy Skora were looking for volunteer opportunities they could do together and found HFC via our new website. Nancy and Joe began volunteering in June and were regulars on Adventure Day trips. HFC members liked having Joe as another friend to hang out with and HFC staff appreciated the support of another adult volun-

teer. Joe had so much fun last summer that he is planning to help again in 2011 and looks forward to more Adventure Day fun. Nancy has continued her volunteer work with HFC and is a huge help at the Thursday night cooking classes. She is one of the "volunteer" Italian cooks for a class in February too. Nancy enjoys the enthusiasm that HFC members bring to every activity. Program volunteers help members at activities and help staff with set-up and clean up. If you want to join our team of volunteers, sign up online on the HFC website.



Mother and Son HFC Volunteers