



Friday, August 8

Dear Mary,

I know that you and the Kiwanis Club don't expect a report on your summer hospitality program, but you probably would be interested in what happened. For me, it was another wonderful opportunity for international friendships.

I hosted Cheryl and Kimmese from Singapore. It was late in the summer before we were able to get together, complicated by the fact the girls had different working schedules. We drove around Marblehead and Lakeside and could view Cedar Point from across the lake. We stopped at my step-son's manufactured home near Lakeside to show them a different type of American home, and Margaret showed them photos of the step-by-step arrival and placement of their home on the foundation. Of course, I showed them through my home.

They had heard of Toft's Ice Cream

Parlor, and when we passed it on Venice Rd. they were excited! Enroute back from Lakeside we stopped, and each girl ordered a medium cup of ice cream with two different flavors. Then they swapped cups, so each girl could enjoy four different flavors in all. We also stopped at Toft's the last evening before they left town for New York. We sat at an outdoors table and jabbered.

The first meal at my house was rice and chicken. Ah, RICE!! The second visit we stopped at Jo Wok where the girls ordered their favorites. We purchased two meals and brought it home to be divided and enjoyed by the three of us.

They had heard about the Goodwill Industries store where you could buy things very inexpensively. They browsed the store and tried on some clothes, but were more interested in buying ~~the~~ handbags. They bought several.

Of course, we toured Zion Church. Kinniese said she was Christian and would

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have liked to attend a worship service. That didn't work out. Cheryl said she was a "free thinker."

Both girls spoke good English and were sorry they hadn't spent more time at the library. I took them to the library on their first visit to my house, but seemingly that didn't "take."

I truly appreciate being part of your international hospitality program and commend you on your vision and your skills in implementing your vision. One of my Singapore guests from 2007 has kept in touch by mail, and that has been nice. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

Laura M. Stellinghorn