



FRIENDSHIP FORCE NEWSLETTER

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF SANTA BARBARA

APRIL/MAY/JUNE 2019

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Excitement was building as we awaited news from FFI to find out International's Outbound Assignment for us in 2020. And ta-da... now we know. We are going to a northern area of England, near the Scotland border. Cleveland County has several cities, and we'll find out more, as we start communication with our UK Friendship Force club. Cleveland County is about three hours south of Edinburgh, Scotland. Since Sweden had been our 1st choice for 2020, our club could possibly arrange a "stop-over" on the way to England.



CLEVELAND COUNTY IN RED

Having heard so many wonderful reports from our members about their Japanese trip, I was pleased to hear that FFSB was matched with Kumamoto, Japan as our Inbound 2020 assignment!

The Moscow club will be our next International visitors. The Moscow ambassadors are facing a huge challenge, in obtaining Visa's, to allow them to leave the country and travel to the USA. The issue is that they cannot obtain the interview appointment that is needed to

apply for the Visa's. On our part, we are proceeding with our plans and preparations, hopeful that most of the 17 Russians who had expressed interest in coming to California will be able to do so. With a team approach, we will be showing our Santa Barbara hospitality and friendship to ambassadors from across the world!

Definitely exciting are our International journeys, but don't underestimate the enjoyment of getting to know the people and places of our own USA. Getting personally involved with incoming clubs, both international and domestic, is gratifying and rewarding. Consider being a day host, or hosting a small dinner party or attending the Farewell dinner, and you'll enjoy the Friendship that our club is all about.

In Friendship,
Linda Sadie Williams



MEET OUR NEW EDITOR DEE (DELIA) WILKERSON

It is amazing that without having attended any FFSB meetings or events, Dee agreed to become our editor. This assures the continuation of the newsletter.

Practically a native, Dee has lived in California since 1949. She has enjoyed a career primarily involving finance. This included working for a savings and loan as Assistant Vice President and for City of Los Angeles Department of Aging as a management analyst. Dee retired from the workforce in 2006.

She has three grown children; two boys and a girl and each have two children. The six grandchildren, three girls and three boys, range in age from 28 to 12 years old. Dee is also a great-grandmother. Her oldest grandchild living in Muskegon, Michigan, has a four year old and a six year old.

Dee's interests include: a love of the outdoors, music, attending fairs and festivals and visiting places of interest. Self described as a sort of "foodie"; she is interested in astronomy as well as non-predictive astrology. She belongs to several Brandeis study groups. Loving to travel Dee has been on 37 trips in the last 10 years. Dee's primary hobby is painting, mostly with acrylic.

Living in Tarzana, Dee serves on the advisory board for ONE Generation a senior center.

She has been a member of Friendship Force of Los Angeles for eight years. She has been on numerous exchanges, both within the USA and abroad, with different FF clubs and also has hosted many times. Claire Magee introduced Dee to FFSB.

Since Dee loves the Santa Barbara area, joining our club allows her to visit/see friends that live in Santa Barbara more often. Why not come to Santa Barbara rather than travel one hour to go to a Friendship Force meeting in Los Angeles?

2019 Governing Board of the Friendship Force of Santa Barbara

OFFICERS

President: Linda Williams

Vice President: Bonnie Dutton

Secretary: Anne Gray

Treasurer: Dave Jones

DIRECTORS

Past President: Rickey Farbman

JOURNEY COORDINATORS

***Domestic Journey Coordinator:
Karolyn Hanna***

Inbound Host Coordinators (HC):

A group serves as HC for Moscow

Outbound Ambassador Coordinators (AC):

*Sandy Hartley, Metro Vancouver,
Penticton-Okanagan and Victoria,
British Columbia Canada (with FFLA)*

*Anne Gray & Barbara Rose, Hartford,
Connecticut*

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Directory: Paula Gregoire-Jones

E-mail Notifications: Dawn McGrew

Historian: Barbara Gregoire

***Membership: JoAnn Magistad &
Joanie Sullivan***

***Newsletter: Dee Wilkerson (Editor)
Dawn McGrew (publisher)***

Programs: Bonnie Dutton

Refreshments: Jane and Dave Gorbet

Setup: Sherman Vincent

***Social Events: Pam Vestal
(coordinator) & Social Committee***

Sunshine: Claire Magee

Telephone: Sandy Hartley

Webmaster: Paula Gregoire-Jones

Welcome: Agris and Elza Petersons

Program Meeting

January 28, 2019

As reported By Bonnie and
Bill Dutton



What to do with The Good Stuff Your Kids Don't Want

Presented by Dr. Elizabeth Stewart

Dr. Elizabeth Stewart is a 40-year expert and appraiser of Fine Art and Antiques based in Santa Barbara. With humor and examples from her own personal experience of gifting her "Good Stuff" to her son and daughter-in-law. She gave us advice about what the next generation will not want of our precious antiques and belongings - fine china, linens, antique furniture and more.

She advised on what we could do with these items: how to donate or "try" to sell them.

We have known Dr. Stewart for a number of years now. We have attended her Antique Road Shows and she has appraised items in our home. She always amazes me with her knowledge and professionalism. All members welcomed her information.

Dr. Stewart writes a weekly column for the Santa Barbara News Press called "Ask the Gold Digger" and hosts a weekly radio show on KZSB AM 1290. She can be reached at:
<http://www.elizabethappraisals.com>
or (805) 895-5005

Program Meeting March 18, 2019

Australian Journey

Blue Mountain & North Moreton

Slideshow and Report by Paula Gregoire-Jones

Narration also by Karolyn Hanna and Linda Williams

Last October/November, members of the FFSB club, Paula Gregoire-Jones, her husband David, Karolyn Hanna and Linda Williams decided to join the New Zealand Club on their three week long trip to North Moreton and the Blue Mountains in Australia. The decision was due to the disappointment of the scheduled 2018 spring trip to Australia being cancelled by FFSB. Still wanting to go, they researched and discovered the Nelson New Zealand club's trip.

The tour group was small: the four FFSB members, five members of the Nelson club and two members from the Adelaide club

On the Tour, highlights of the Moreton Bay visit included: Bribie Island, a cruise on Brisbane Bay, the Steve Irwin Australia Zoo (domesticated kangaroos can be petted here), and the scenic mountains around the area. Then the group flew from Brisbane to Sydney and went on by van to the Blue Mountains to meet their respective hosts.

The highlights of the Blue Mountain tour included: Scenic World in Katoomba, the Blue Mountains, Jenolan caves, Mt. Tom Botanical gardens and of course getting to know all of their wonderful hosts and members of the Australian clubs and the Nelson club.

Tour members were amazed by all of the wildlife they were able to see, the wild birds, parrots, cockatoos, ibis, kookaburras, water dragons, and also kangaroos in the wild (these you didn't try to pet).



To end the journey, a train was taken from the Blue Mountains to Sydney where three days were spent exploring the city before flying home.



SANTA BARBARA TO TUCSON JOURNEY

Reported by Barbara Rose



Twelve lucky friendship force members were able to join a five day journey to Tucson, AZ from Feb. 5th through Feb. 10th. Some of us drove & others flew to Tucson but all ended up gathering and meeting our lovely hosts at the Swan Lake clubhouse. The welcome party featured delicious foods and friendship and also highlighted our week ahead.



Day 1: We had an amazing tour of the world famous Biosphere, which was created to better understand how natural environments generate conditions appropriate to life. It is now a research facility used to study water, soil, air, life and how they all interact to improve the quality of life. In the early 1990's, eight ambitious young folks actually lived in this enclosed structure for two years proving to the world how sustainable life can be in an enclosed environment.

The afternoon featured a tour of the Mission San Xavier del Bac, considered to be the finest example of Mexican Baroque architecture in the United States. It was founded in 1692 as part of a series of missions established by the Jesuit fathers bringing Catholicism to the indigenous peoples of the area (sound familiar?). It remains a working church and parochial school today.



Day 2: A free day to explore the gem show with multiple venues all over town or visit old Tucson, Titan Missile Museum, Pima Air Museum, art museums, etc. Our folks opted for various of these with the men mostly choosing the Missile Museum and/or the Air Museum and the women checking out the gem show.

Day 3: The day was filled with wonderful outdoor delights starting with the Desert Museum, which is a living desert botanical garden, zoo and museum all in one. It features acres of incredible desert plant specimens, walking paths with interspersed animals. A highlight was the raptor show with a raven, red tailed hawk, great horned owl and others free flying over our heads to their trainers. They warned us to not have children, selfie sticks or any other object higher than our heads and we found out why. Talk about close encounter – wow.



Afterwards we visited Saguaro National Park. Rangers were available to explain the desert flora, a video depicting desert life and a walking path that demonstrated desert life. Ask our FFSB president about her "very close encounter" with a Saguaro. In addition, many of us included a visit to the art show in the historic town of Tubac



Day 4: Our last day proved to be outstanding. The morning was spent at the "Gallery in the Sun" which was the home and studio of the famous artist Ted De Grazio. His talent extended from painting to sculpture to architecture and beyond. It was impossible to leave without one of his works as we marveled at his eccentric, renaissance persona.

The afternoon was spent at the Fort Lowell Days celebration where we had a walking tour of the prehistoric Hohokam farming families' rich legacies and the U.S. Army military supply depot during the Apache wars. Rounding it off, a mariachi group performed in the chapel, a cavalry training re-enactment was held and a baseball game from the 1880's was played.



Day 5: We bid our goodbyes at a lovely catered farewell party held in an adobe clubhouse where we offered an exchange visit to Santa Barbara in the future.



Our hosts were exceptional, they had to drive long distances to show us their remarkable offerings, they even arranged for a very unusual snowfall on our first day there!



"Because I was born in the Southwest and live there, I love it with a passion. The state has a harsh temperament, as though it were alive. It is rough, colorless and silent and yet you feel gentleness, see beauty and color. In a storm the skies roar, the cactus of the desert in its prickly silence bursts forth for a moment of exquisite beauty." - Author Unknown

MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS

Linda Stohler



Linda is a native of California, but has recently moved back after spending five years in Pinehurst, NC. She found out about us through playing golf with Anne Gray and Barbara Rose.

Linda was a K-8 teacher in Buellton, CA, for 23 years where her two sons were also in her class. After pursuing advanced degrees, she became a K-8 principal in Santa Maria, CA.

At present, Linda is in the process of renovating her home and when she completes the renovation, she plans to get involved with a Therapeutic Riding program, join book clubs and find a Mahjong group.

Her younger son is an engineer for Santa Barbara County Fire and is currently at the Solvang station. He, his wife and their three young children (5, 4, 6 mo.) live in Arroyo Grande. Her older son is in the Merchant Marine and works on container ships.

Riding horses, playing golf, hiking, traveling and reading are some of her favorite activities.

Nancy Franco



As her name implies, Nancy is of Italian descent, though born and raised in New York.

Prior to her retirement Nancy was an organizational and management consultant specializing in non-profit organizations.

Currently, she is a member of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee and is a board member of the Cathedral Oaks Village Association.

Nancy and her husband, Don Olson, have an adult son and one granddaughter living in Santa Barbara.

She is a devoted yogi and enjoys cooking, reading, travel, feeble attempts at producing art and especially hanging out with her eight-year-old granddaughter Emma.

Joanie Sullivan introduced Nancy to Friendship Force Santa Barbara.



friendship force INTERNATIONAL

HIGHLIGHTS: Please go to their website www.thefriendshipforce.org for the full story:

1. FF of Mount Barber Australia was selected on 12/17/2018 as the Club of the Quarter
2. The Leadership Training Conference 12/10/2018 was highlighted.
3. International has a new promotional video "Now More Than Ever – Our Newest Video. This video is quite good. Go to www.thefriendshipforce.org/video and look for it by title.

World Conference

Do not forget the WORLD CONFERENCE being held in Boulder, Colorado July 23 to July 27, 2019. Here's a great opportunity to enjoy and not have to go international.

JOURNEY OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

**Rocket City Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11 Lunar Landing Mission
8 Days / 7 Nights Program and Itinerary: July 14, 2019 – July 21, 2019
Coordinator: Bill Johnson, FF Huntsville Area - guesscreek@gmail.com**

Join potentially record-breaking Journey to Huntsville, Alabama, USA, where we will attend celebrations honoring the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Lunar Landing! Visit the US Space and Rocket Center where you will view fascinating space exhibits, participate in a celebratory parade in the Courthouse Square, meet descendants of the German rocket team behind the building of the Saturn V rocket, and participate in an attempt to break the world record by launching 5000 model rockets simultaneously at the exact time of the Apollo 11 launch on July 16, 1969.

During your visit to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center you will get to relive the history of the German rocket team led by Dr. Werner Von Braun. There are displays honoring that great German team from the time of their initial rocket development at Peenemunde, Germany to and through their development of the giant Saturn V rocket that took men to the moon.

At social events, you will meet with some of the remaining family members of these great German engineers and scientists. During these visits you may wish to share your experiences and compare to their experiences of being brought to this strange land and thrust into this epic engineering feat. You may also meet some of the U.S. engineers that worked alongside their German partners.

WHAT'S ON OUR RADAR

Moscow Inbound

In the next newsletter issue we will be able to report on our May Inbound from Moscow. We will have the actual details of the exchange and be able to relay them to you. If you will be one of the hosts or coordinators, please send pictures and/or a report on what you've enjoyed to the Editor deewilker@cs.com.

If the Moscow club is unable to obtain their visas and does not come to Santa Barbara, the potluck dinner on May 8 will still take place as our club's May Social Event.

British Colombia Outbound

April 25th thru May 17th, Sandy Hartley will be leading our new outbound to British Colombia. I'm sure many of you are looking forward to this exchange with great anticipation. We will be waiting to hear the many stories you will bring back with you.

Journey Assignments For 2020

Those in our club who are considering International Travel in 2020 were asked to vote for their three top choices, for an International Journey in 2020. Our club voted for Sweden, England and Costa Rica (in that order) and these 3 countries were submitted to FFI.

Santa Barbara has been assigned Cleveland County, UK in September 2020. Kumamoto, Japan will come to Santa Barbara in March 2020.

A very novice Editor and a still struggling Publisher would like to thank both Joyce Falk and Paula Gregoire-Jones for the legacy they have given us through their published articles and formats in their previous Newsletters.

Joyce served for two years as Editor and Paula served for four years as Publisher. They produced an outstanding product that was eagerly read. Thank you.

Domestic and International Inbound and Outbound Journeys In 2019 & beyond

April 25 -May 17, 2019 –Outbound with FFLA to Vancouver, Penticton-Okanagan, and Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Sandy Hartley, Ambassador Coordinator (AC)

May 2 – 9, 2019 - Inbound from Moscow. Karolyn Hannah - Daily Activities & Financial Budget; Barbara Rose - Home Host Coordinator; Bonnie Dutton - Day Hosting and Small Dinner Parties; Anne Gray and Linda Williams - Welcome Dinner; and Carol Lazar, Terry Behrens, and Gail Gillies – Farewell Dinner.

Oct 12 – 19 2019 – Outbound to Hartford, CT. Anne Gray and Barbara Rose (ACs)

November 2019 - Outbound to Tuxtla-Gutierrez, Mexico, Karolyn Hanna and Gail Gillies (ACs)

Tentatively 2020, Outbound to Sarasota, FL, AC needed

March 2020 -Inbound from Kumamoto, Japan

September 2020 – Outbound to Cleveland County, UK

Planning and Program Meetings And Social Events:

Planning Meeting:

Monday, May 13, 2019 7:00 p.m.

Join us at the home of Barbara and John Rose 6813 Silkberry, Goleta, CA 93117

Program Meeting:

Goleta Public Library

Monday, May 20, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

Are You Ready for the Next Disaster? Presented by an American Red Cross representative.

Social Events:

Wednesday, May 8, 2018 Moscow Potluck
June – Potluck at Dottie Iverson's home



Happy Birthday to:

Visit the Friendship Force Santa Barbara website:

www.friendshipforcesantabarbara.org

Friendship Force Santa Barbara email:

friendshipforceSB@gmail.com

Stay informed with the Friendship Force International website:

www.thefriendshipforce.org

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| April 14 | Marilyn Conrad |
| April 24 | Carol Nichols |
| April 28 | Gus Pravia |
| April 29 | Ron Hartley |
| May 2 | Jill Wilk |
| May 4 | Dee Wilkerson |
| May 3 | Dick Falk |
| May 7 | Pat Wade |
| May 17 | Jo Magistad |
| May 24 | Diane Galvan |
| May 27 | Julie Nguyen |
| June 4 | Rickey Farbman |
| June 5 | Diane Siegman |
| June 9 | Harv Turner |
| June 27 | Anne Gray |