



# FRIENDSHIP FORCE NEWSLETTER

FRIENDSHIP FORCE SANTA BARBARA OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2021

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



### **FFSB President's Letter October 2021**

Dear SBFF Members,

Our club year is winding down. It is time for our club to look toward choosing new club Officers and Committee Members for 2023.

Stepping down will be Bonnie Dutton, President; Terry Behrens, Secretary; and Lori Lofstrom, Treasurer. The 2022 slate of officers will be: Bill Boyd, President; Pam Vestal, Vice President, Karolyn Hanna and David Jones co treasurers and Jan Inouye, Secretary.

These candidates will be voted on at the November Planning meeting.

Other positions that need to be filled soon are: Quarterly Newsletter Editor and Publisher and someone to send E-Mails notifications to the club member, Communications Coordinator and Club Historian.

Please let me know if you are interested fo volunteering for one of these positions at [bdutton5@msn.com](mailto:bdutton5@msn.com)

Dee Wilkerson has volunteered to compile and send out the 2022 club directory. Roberta Lehtinen is willing to continue as Social Chair and is looking for someone to co-chair that job with her.

There are no firm plans for a Holiday Party yet, but the Social Committee is working on that.

I have been notified by the Goleta Library, that at this time no in person meetings are allowed in their meeting room. So, we will continue with Zoom Planning and Program meeting

The next Planning meeting will be Monday November 8, at 7 p.m. via Zoom

The next Program meeting will be Monday November 15, at 7 p.m. via Zoom

This meeting will include our annual business meeting and the election of club officers for 2022.

2021 brought no Inbound or Outbound Exchanges. We do not know how travel and hosting will look for 2022-2023

These are potential confirmed plans for 2022:

- Inbound Domestic Tucson Arizona to Santa Barbara, March 1-8 2022
- Inbound International: Adelaide Australia to Santa Barbara, Mid November 2022.

Potential confirmed Plans for 2023 are:

- Inbound Domestic Birmingham Alabama to Santa Barbara January 2023.
- I have notified FFI about this change from 2022 to 2023.

FFI has notified me that due to the ongoing impact of the pandemic, the 2023 Journey assignment process will be a little different than usual.

1. To account for the uncertainty of travel and border closures, FFI will be undertaking the Journey assignments process later in the year. This will help FFI to have a better idea of what travel in 2023 will look like. They will also have a better idea of how many journeys will actually go ahead in 2022.

2. Clubs will have the opportunity to ask FFI to reassign an already established Journey to 2023 if they wish. This is for clubs that have a Journey already planned and ready to go when normal travel resumes. FFI expects that only a few Journeys will fit this category. A separate form will be used to make this request. This means we will need to be patient as we plan for the future.

I want to say that it has been an interesting and unusual two years during my term as president. I thank my fellow officers, and the active committee members who have made my task easier and indeed possible.

*Bonnie Dutton*  
*Club President*



Sign up with FFI to establish an individual FFI portal. The purpose is for each member to set up a portal in order to get an ID number for travel in the future. When you set this up, one preference is to be sure and check the box to receive mailings from FFI.

To sign up got to

[https://my.friendshipforce.org/en/users/sign\\_in](https://my.friendshipforce.org/en/users/sign_in)

**July Program Meeting**

***2021 Governing Board of the  
Friendship Force of Santa Barbara***

**OFFICERS**

***President: Bonnie Dutton***

***Vice President: Bill Boyd***

***Secretary: Terry Behrens***

***Co-Treasurers: Lori Lofstrom &  
David Jones***

**DIRECTORS**

***Past President:***

*Linda Williams*

***Communications Coordinator:***

*Pam Vestel*

***Membership Coordinator:***

*Jo Magistad*

***Domestic Journey Coordinator:***

*Karolyn Hanna*

***Social Coordinators:***

*Terry Scrivner and Roberta Lehtinen*

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

***Directory:***

*Paula Gregoire-Jones*

***E-mail Notifications:***

*Dawn McGrew*

***Historians:***

*Dick and Joyce Falk*

***Membership:***

*JoAnn Magistad & Joanie Sullivan*

***Newsletter:***

*Dawn McGrew & Patrick Wade*

***Programs:***

*Bill Boyd*

***Setup:***

*Sherman and Julie Vincent*

***Sunshine:***

*Claire Magee*

***Telephone:***

*Sandy Hartley*

***Webmaster:***

*Paula Gregoire-Jones*

***Welcome:***

*Agris and Elza Petersons*

**Monday, July 19, 2021**

**Via Zoom**

# **OPEN WORLD**

**Presented by**

**PAT GHIGLIERI**

**Western Region Field Representative**

Open World is a program designed and promoted by the U. S. Library of Congress. Friendship Force International is just one of approximately 20 organizations who agree to participate and host and provide 32 hours of education, interaction and experiences that follow a specific theme. This presentation had all the nuts and bolts of the program to encourage FFSB interest in thinking about what our club might have to offer within our community as it relates to specific themes. There are a small number of delegates, 5-6, a coordinator and an interpreter, if needed. The U.S. Library of Congress pays a stipend per delegate. It is to be used, if FFSB decided to proceed, on the program developed, meals, sightseeing, museums, etc.

The following is taken from the slideshow presentation.

**What is the Open World Leadership Program?**

- A exchange program which brings young, dynamic political and civic leaders from countries around the world to the US for short professional programming to give them first-hand exposure to American cultural, government and democracy.
- Mostly from former Soviet countries such as Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Kazakhstan, and Balkan countries such as Serbia, Kosovo and North Macedonia
- Friendship force first received a grant in 1999 and since then has hosted over 2,500 delegates

**Why FF works with Open World (OW)?**

- FF's mission is to promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people.
- OW's mission is very similar
- OW gives clubs the opportunity to share global perspectives and reinforce the notion that peace and national security can be achieved through citizen diplomacy and cultural exchanges.

### How different from a journey?

- US clubs only
- Delegates are young professionals or emerging leaders
- Professionally-focused around a theme
- Visa is guaranteed
- Must follow grant requirements
- Smaller group so need less home hosts.

### Look and Feel

- 5 delegates, 1 facilitator and 1 interpreter
- Delegates have introduction to US in Washington, DC
- Eight day stay with host club
- 32 hours total professional programming on the theme  
e.g educational presentations, personal interaction with American counterparts in their fields and visits with government representatives

### How are Topics Chosen

- Open World decides by Country the topics of the year
- Try to send a delegation to each state each year
- Members of Congress have input- especially members of appropriations committee

### Sample Topics for 2022

<u>Country</u>	<u>Topics</u>
Ukraine	Local legislators- Health Care Reform
Russia	Women in STEM
Ukraine	Combating Disinformation
Mongolia	Prosecutors
Russia	National Parks/Conservation
Kosovo	Engagement of Youth in Volunteerism
Ukraine	Human Rights/ \ Political Prisoners
N. Macedonia	Members of Parliament

### . Praticalities

- Develop detailed programming for the week and submit to OW for approval – be flexible
- Develop a budget
- The clubs OW budget gets funds based on generous grant from OW
  - Grant usually \$5,000 to \$6,000
  - Provide group meals, van rentals, ect
- Keep detailed records on spending and in-kind donations (host meals, nights, mileage)
- Engage the press
- Complete a detailed report afterward to OW

## September Program Meeting Monday, September 20, 2021

(Via Zoom)

Santa Barbara Friendship Force  
in partnership with  
Murray Bridge, Australia

### Taiwan tour in 2012



(with extension to Hualien-Toroko Gorge, Taipei)

### Presented by Dee Wilkerson

*Article Submitted by Dee Wilkerson*

Travelers on this tour were: **Ambassadors SB:** Gladys Robinson (ED) deceased, Ken & Francine Jewesson, Karolyn Hanna, Barbara Gregoire (deceased), Pat Burkard, Randolph Luck (Snohomish, Washington), Dee Wilkerson (Tarzana, **Ambassadors Murray Bridge, Au:** John & Jacqui Stapleton (ED), Joan Post, David & Janice Trevorrow, Barry & Wendy Laubsch, Deirdre Sparrius, Meredith Walters

Randolph Luck and Dee were not members of the SB club at the time. Dee joined at the invitation from Gladys Robinson.

The presentation served to highlight how travels through our club enriches all involved and broadens our horizons and also served as a tribute to participants who have since deceased: Gladys Robinson & Barbara Gregoire of the SB club. Also known to be deceased, is the President of the Taipei club at the time, Richard Li Li Shih Kang.

There were so many wonderful sites & experiences, the following depicts a few:



Tour members having a good time



(Gladys & Barbara)



Ken presiding a class on a school visit



Pat Burkhard meeting the Pres. of Taiwan at that time



Tour members enjoying council chambers



Amazing typical decorations & craft



Legend: You enter the dragon then out tigers mouth, turns bad luck to good



Old Asia & Modern Asia



School for deaf mutes; students performing with dance & drums



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2021**

### **TUCKERS GROVE**

It was a beautiful, sunny, end of summer day at Tucker's Grove as 20 FFSB members tucked in under some shady oaks and enjoyed an open-air barbeque with some of our chatty friends. We brought our own barbeque item and a dish to share and were the dishes ever tasty and creative! From picnic favorite beans to salads to a layered olive construction to greens and watermelon many other dishes we had plenty of variety. The creativity didn't stop with there but included homemade apricot crumble, brownies chocolate dipped strawberries and more. Some exercised the opportunity to show off their personal favorites and the benefits were enjoyed by all. We loosened our belts.

Special thanks to Sherman Vincent and Julie who did a special reconnaissance trip to make sure he had the right kind of charcoal wood for the fire pit and the right tools. He helped those who were BBQ challenged grill their entrees to perfection.

Across the park was a large wedding party, a 6ish year old boy in birthday party Spiderman costume and other people trying to live normal, happy lives again.

On the sad and solemn day of September 11, our area was decorated with just enough red, white and blue to help us remember the challenges our country has gone through, but our spirits were brightened by seeing friends again in a pleasant and peaceful setting -- and we had the best area!



*Article Submitted By Roberta and George Lehtinen*

**Planning and Program Meetings**

**Planning Meetings:**

**Monday, November 8, 2021 7:00 p.m. via Zoom**

**Program Meetings:**

**Monday, November 15, 2021 7:00 TBD**

**Social Programs**

**October 15, 2021 11:30 Progressive Pumpkin Party**

***Domestic and International Inbound and Outbound Journeys***

**December 2021 Holiday Party TBD**

AC = Ambassador Coordinator Outbound  
 HC = Host Coordinator Inbound

**Inbound:**

**March 1-8, 2022** –Inbound. Tucson, Arizona.  
 HC: Karolyn Hanna & Terry Brehens

**Mid November 2022** Tentative Inbound  
 Adelaide, Australia. HC Pam Vestal

**January 2023** – Inbound Birmingham Alabama



**Happy Birthday to:**

- October 3 Pat Burkard
- October 8 Agris Petersons
- October 16 Bill Dutton
- October 31 Sandy Hartley
- November 18 John Rose
- November 23 Ken Jewesson
- December 16 Claire Magee
- December 24 Marilyn Torrey



**Visit the Friendship Force Santa Barbara website:**

[www.friendshipforcesantabarbara.org](http://www.friendshipforcesantabarbara.org)

**Friendship Force Santa Barbara email:**

[friendshipforceSB@gmail.com](mailto:friendshipforceSB@gmail.com)

**Stay informed with the Friendship Force International website:**

[www.thefriendshipforce.org](http://www.thefriendshipforce.org)