

## What is Friendship Force?

The Friendship Force was founded in 1977 by then President Jimmy Carter with his wife Rosalyn as honorary Chair and the Rev. Dr. Wayne Smith, a former missionary to Brazil. It was on a trip to Brazil that they realized how exciting a home stay in foreign countries could be as a way to meet and get to know the people, and as a step to understanding a foreign culture.

Dr. Smith's goal was to further world peace. To accomplish this, his plan was to create a non-profit organization which would arrange reciprocal, alternating home-stay visits by ordinary citizens who would travel as domestic ambassadors to other countries.

There they would live for a short time in the homes of citizens of that country, experiencing daily life, and interacting with the hosts, their families, friends, and associates.

He theorized that direct knowledge and personal experience would dispel the fear and mistrust that so many of us have for each other.

On July 4, 1977, the first official exchange to Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England, was made. Later, people from Newcastle were hosted by families in Atlanta and The Friendship Force was in business.

Friendship Force is

# CHANGING THE WAY YOU SEE THE WORLD



Friendship Force  
International  
by the numbers:

◆ *1 mission - to promote  
global understanding across the  
barriers that separate people*

- ◆ *6 continents*
- ◆ *57 countries*
- ◆ *364 clubs*
- ◆ *750 exchange directors*
- ◆ *5,000 ambassadors*
- ◆ *18,200 members & hosts*
- ◆ *37,500 new friendships  
made each year*

## The Friendship Force of Santa Barbara

Friendship Force of Santa Barbara was established in 1995. Presently, there are about 70 active members who meet bimonthly for a Program Meeting at the Goleta Public Library, and two weeks earlier for a Business Meeting in a member's home. During the interim month, a club Social Event is planned.

We open our homes to visiting Friendship Force Ambassadors during a planned week of activities, and likewise we travel together to another community to experience that culture on a personal basis, living in homes of those citizens for a week's home stay. Ambassadors pay their own travel expenses. The host families provide housing, some of the meals, and transportation to planned activities.

### Who can become a member?

Anyone who is committed to the purpose and ongoing activities of Friendship Force of Santa Barbara can become a member. The annual single membership cost is \$38 and a couple's dues are \$50. Members receive a New Member Packet of FFSB information, the bimonthly newsletters, the current annual FFSB Membership Directory and Reference Book, a Name Badge, and the opportunity to participate in club functions, conferences and festivals.