



FRIENDSHIP FORCE NEWSLETTER

SANTA BARBARA JULY/AUGUST 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi, all JOURNEY enthusiasts. Whether you actively travel, provide lovely dinners or are just interested in expanding your cultural understanding of this world, Friendship Force is the place for you. We all need to remember the new FFI terminology while staying true to its original ideas, currently expressed as "Experience different views, Discover common grounds." With that in mind, I'm looking forward to our upcoming journey to Japan in October-November.

I'm very proud of our club's participation in the Western Regional Presidents' Conference in May, for which we received many compliments. I found the meeting to be both interesting and helpful. It is helpful to be involved with the leadership of the regional clubs; for example, knowing our Regional Friends will make it easier to combine journeys with members from nearby areas. It was mentioned that some clubs have fewer than 40 members while some have nearly 200 members.

One area of concern that was

addressed was that of the mobility and safety of members when on a journey. Another concern was what is expected of an Ambassador, although on this point the hosting forms are clear. A specific thread was what to do when an Ambassador over-estimates his or her own abilities. Several examples were cited of travelers having to be sent home or moved to a hotel, in which cases the affected Ambassadors incur the additional expenses themselves. It was emphasized that the Ambassador Coordinator has the last word in such situations, but the discussion of this issue showed how difficult a position of Ambassador Coordinator could become.

Another area covered in depth was a club's connections with the internet and media. Linda Williams covers that topic in a separate article in this newsletter.

We will shortly be receiving Ambassadors from the Tuxtla-Gutierrez, Mexico, club. Kuddos to Karolyn Hanna for persisting as Host Coordinator. The planning of this in-coming journey has



been one of the more interesting but also the more complicated ones we've had in a long time. More information about the plans are on pages 7 & 8 in this newsletter.

It is not too early to start thinking about where you would like to go on an international Friendship Force journey in 2019. Each club member will be asked to choose three destinations they would most like to travel to; then the choices are tallied and we submit the top three choices to FFI. We find out the outcome in February 2018. Naturally we hope to be assigned one of our choices, but there are no guarantees—lots of variables go into the FFI decisions. And, by the way, we are still working on our domestic journeys for 2018.

In Friendship,
Rickey Farbman

WORLD DANCE IN RWANDA



JANET REINECK AND THE WORLD DANCERS AT OUR INTL. SOCIAL IN APRIL 2016

At our May program meeting we were treated to a powerful and heart-warming presentation by dancer and anthropologist Janet Reineck about World Dance for Humanity (WD4H), a Santa Barbara organization

that helps communities in Rwanda lift themselves out of poverty. This organization raises money through dance-exercise classes here in Santa Barbara to fund gifts of livestock, stipends for student's schooling, training in new skills, and assistance for cooperative, community-based business ventures in Rwanda. One particularly outstanding example of successful community development is the introduction of sewing machines and the provision of supplies and training for a project that then became a popular profitable business of making menstrual pads, which is also a welcome product for many.

You may have heard of WD4H for its members' performance of the zombie dance, Thriller, or their participation in the Solstice Parade, or for its partnering of local schools with schools in Rwanda to build bridges between children. A new undertaking for the group is to create a Sister City project with a town in Rwanda. The presentation was topped off with a lively demonstration of the dancing that is so much a part of the WD4H's experiences in Rwanda.

To learn about the dance classes, other local activities, and how to help (100% of proceeds from classes, as well as donations, goes directly to the work in Rwanda), go to www.WorldDanceforHumanity.org or contact Janet Reineck at janet@wd4h.org.

2017 Governing Board of the Friendship Force of Santa Barbara

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Santa Barbara's "Gang of Seven" Cruises South America

By Karolyn Hanna



In February, several members of FFSB boarded The Norwegian Sun in Buenos Aires for a fifteen-day trip around the lower half of South America on a tour coordinated by George Brown, former president of FFI. The "Santa Barbara Gang of Seven" (Pat Burkard, Marion Cozort, Barbara Gregoire and her daughter Carla Manchester, Frank and Ilse Bourbeau, and Karolyn Hanna) joined a group from Atlanta Senior University, where George teaches.

Highlights of exploring Buenos Aires and surrounding areas included seeing the "Pink House"—the capital of Argentina, and the tomb of Eva Peron. We then traveled north to Uruguay to visit Colonia Sacramento—the oldest town in Uruguay. Founded in 1680 by the Portuguese, it was a political football tossed between Spain and Portugal until 1828, when Uruguay gained its independence from Brazil and this picturesque city came with it.

We spent much of the cruise visiting parts of Patagonia, a sparsely populated region at the southern end of South America. It includes the southern section of the Andes Mountains as well as deserts and grasslands and has two coasts, one facing the Pacific Ocean and one the Atlantic Ocean. We stopped at Puerto Madryn, Argentina, a town settled in 1865 by 150 Welsh immigrants who migrated to South America to preserve their Welsh culture and language, which they considered threatened in their native Wales. Although the official language is Spanish, a dialect of Welsh is still spoken there. The port is a lovely coastal town but our group headed to a Magellanic penguin colony about two hours from the city.



Next stop was the Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic where controversy continues over British rule (re-established in 1833) with Argentina. The population, estimated at less than 3000, consists primarily of Falkland Islanders, mostly of British descent. The residents are British citizens and the official language is English. After touring Stanley, the capital, we traveled by off-road vehicles to Bluff Cove Lagoon where we had close-up views of two colonies of penguins, including seeing a baby that was less than 48 hours old being cradled on the feet of its parents.



On March 1 we rounded Cape Horn—and what an experience that was! Dressed in our finest clothes, Pat and I (Karolyn), along with George and Jill Brown, met Barbara and Carla in the Observation Lounge to catch a few photos of Cape Horn and enjoy a champagne toast to Barbara in honor of her 85th birthday. All of a sudden the waves from three oceans converged and wreaked havoc. Bottles and glasses began flying off the shelves in the bar and a musical group's music stands and

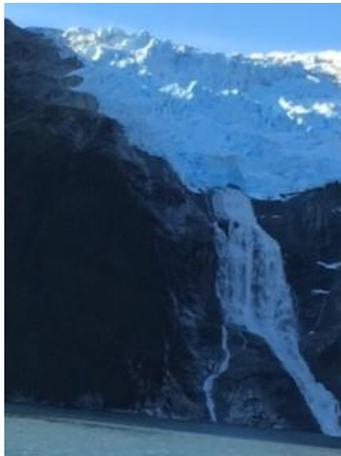


CAPE HORN

instruments group went crashing to the floor. George's quick thinking saved the bottle of champagne!

At Ushuaia, the capital of Tierra del Fuego, Argentina, commonly regarded as the southernmost city in the world and hence also known as the Fin del Mundo, our guide asked us, "If you continue going east, what is the next landmass that you will encounter?" We were surprised when he informed us that it would be Chile! Here we toured Tierra del Fuego National park, visited the most remote post office

in the world, and had an unexpected excitement on our ride back to the city. After we crossed a bridge into the national park, a sinkhole developed, making return across the bridge a challenge. Our driver was able to persuade the officials to allow his passengers to walk across the bridge and then, by placing boards over the sinkhole, he drove the vehicle across. Frank and Ilse had taken an alternate tour and were stranded until the tour company sent a catamaran to pick them up!



The ship continued through the Beagle Channel, the Strait of Magellan, and the Avenue of the Glaciers—some of the remotest areas in the world. The scenery was amazing and the views were spectacular, with sunset not until 8:30 p.m.! Punta Arenas, Chile, located in the Strait of Magellan, which, before the Panama Canal was built, was the main trade route between the Atlantic and Pacific. Among the sites here were replicas of both Magellan's and Darwin's sailing vessels.

Continuing up the Chilean coast we visited Puerto Chacabuco at the head of the Aisen Fjord, which boasts some of the most beautiful waterfalls and breathtaking views of the Andes. On to Puerto Montt, the gateway to Chile's Lake District. This area was settled by Germans at the beginning of the 20th century so the local culture is a blend of native Chilean, Spanish, and German, and German is still spoken in many areas.



After a final day at sea, we disembarked in Valparaiso, Chile. The scenery with palm trees and the balmy weather at Valparaiso reminded us all of home. We continued on to tour Santiago, then headed to the airport for our flights home. It was a wonderful 17-day adventure, seeing parts of the world that many of us never expected to see and enjoying the

companionship of the Atlanta and Santa Barbara group that participated in this "Southern Passage Voyage" coordinated by our dear friend, George Brown.



PAT WITH MAGELLAN'S SHIP



Tea and Tequila Party

Our FFSB social committee led by Karolyn Hanna put on an amazing "Tea Party" for our June FFSB social event. Great food, entertainment and the highlight of the day, the "Hat" Contest, which made for an exciting post Solstice party. The Social Committee members dressed for the occasion in their caps and aprons reminiscent of "Upstairs, Downstairs."



Homemade food included several choices of yummy sandwiches made by Karolyn Hanna, Pat Burkard, Jo Magistad, and Marian Cozort, Sesame Seed cookies made by Barbara Gregoire, Blond Brownies made by Dottie Iverson and Lemon poppy seed and Cinnamon scones made by Paula Gregoire-Jones. Drinks included "Tea-quila" punch made by Francie Jewesson and Karolyn Hanna and hot tea served by the Social committee members.



Entertainment included Robert Burke on the piano and a concert by the Edelweiss Choir, which our FFSB members Agris Peterson and Lou Smitheram-Pravia are members of.



A dozen of our members who competed in the Hat contest were dressed to the nines with their Sunday best and wearing some very special hats.



Jane "Lady in Red" Gorbet and Diane Siegman with her exotic head gear from several countries won best of show.

Two members from the North were able to attend, Claire Magee from Santa Maria and Judy Jessing, one of our newest members who lives in San Luis Obispo.

Many thanks to all the Social Committee members: Karolyn Hanna, Pat Burkard, Jo Magistad, Marion Cozort, and Ken and Francie Jewesson who planned and organized the event and everyone who prepared food for the event. A special thanks to Don Gillies for all his hard work setting up the tables the day before the party.



Domestic and International Inbound and Outbound Exchanges in 2017 & beyond

July 24-31, 2017 – Inbound from Tuxtla-Gutiérrez, Mexico, Karolyn Hanna, HC, 8 Home Hosts needed.

October 29-November 16, 2017 - Outbound to Kumamoto and Ehime Japan, Barbara Rose, Ambassador Coordinator (AC)

Outbound Domestic Exchange – Stay tuned for details

March 2018- Outbound to Blue Mountains and Mount Baker, Australia, AC needed

September 2018 – Inbound from Heisenborg, Sweden , HC needed

International Conference Dates:

August 25-27, 2017 -40th World Conference, Manchester, England

Planning and Program Meetings, Social Events:

Planning Meeting:

Monday, July 10, 7:00 p.m.

Join us at the home of Dawn McGrew and Pat Wade, 106 San Rafael Ave., SB.

Program Meeting:

Goleta Public Library

Monday, July 17, 7:00 p.m.

Santiago Bike Adventure by Rich Scholl

Social Events:

Saturday, August 13, Lunch and Polo Match at the SB Polo Grounds in Carpinteria – details to follow.

NEWS FROM INTERNATIONAL

Don't Miss Out!

We all receive FFI's catalog and special promotions of journeys, but here's a word of caution: If you see a journey that you are really interested in, contact the Host Coordinator directly and immediately. Do not depend on merely registering your interest on the FFI website.

International Conference

It is not too late to register for the FFI World Conference in Manchester, England, August 24-25. For information, just go to the FFI website (www.thefriendshipforce.org) and scroll down to "Upcoming World Conference" and click on "Learn More."

Capital Campaign

FFI has launched a 40th Anniversary Capital Campaign with the goals of expanding worldwide membership and building new clubs; providing new programs for youth and families; and activating a new socially-responsible travel network.

For information about how to support this effort and how to get involved, see the 40th Anniversary Campaign page (www.thefriendshipforce.org/anniversary) and/or email ceo@friendshipforce.org.

A big welcome to our newest Members: Suzy Pelovsky and Judy Jessing



Seventeen Friendship Force Ambassadors from Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, Mexico coming to Santa Barbara July 24-31, 2017

We're looking forward to hosting 17 ambassadors from the Tuxtla-Gutiérrez, Chiapas, Mexico Club July 24-31, 2017. The ambassadors include four senior citizens, six other adults, six students, and one 12-year-old child. Given the diversity in ages and interests, it has been a bit of a challenge to develop a schedule to meet the needs of the entire group. A schedule of activities will be distributed at the Program meeting on July 17, but you will want to plan now for two major activities: the Welcome Dinner on Tuesday, July 25, at Rancho Santa Barbara Club House at 5:30 p.m., and the Farewell tri-tip barbecue at the Hanna home on Sunday, July 30, at 5:00 p.m. For the Welcome Dinner, members are asked to bring an appetizer or a dessert to share. The main course, salad, and beverages will be provided. The Farewell barbecue will include meal and beverages for \$20 per person. See reservation details below.

Tuxtla-Gutiérrez is the capital and largest city in Chiapas, the southern-most state in Mexico. A busy government, commercial, and services-oriented city, it has a current population of approximately 600,000. More than half the population of the Central Valley of Chiapas lives in the city. Most are young; 66% are under the age of thirty, and the average age is twenty-three. The city sits in the long, narrow Tuxtla Valley, in the Central Valley region of the state, at an altitude of about 1800 feet above sea level. From the valley, to the north and south, the land rises into mountainous terrain. At its relatively low altitude, the area has a hot and fairly humid climate with most rain falling in the summer.

In 2011, the city was the first in Mexico to be certified as a "safe city" by the federal government, as well as by the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, due to its very low crime rate and crime prevention programs. Based on its economic potential, human resources, quality of life, infrastructure, and business environment, it has also been designated one of a number of cities worldwide considered to be "cities of the future."

Please plan to join us as we welcome these ambassadors from Tuxtla-Gutiérrez, Chiapas, and help us show them the hospitality of Santa Barbara!

Registration for Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas Journey Dinners
Please Submit by July 22, 2017

Welcome Dinner \$10 per person for dinner and beverages (plus bring and appetizer or dessert) - on **Tuesday, July 25** at Rancho Santa Barbara Club House @ 5:30 p.m

Name(s) _____ # attending _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Farewell Tri-Tip Bar-BQ \$20 per person (appetizers, dinner, dessert plus margaritas & beer) - at the Hanna home @ 5:00 p.m. **Sunday, July 30**

Name(s) _____ # attending _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Send checks made out to Friendship Force Santa Barbara (FFSB) to:
Pat Burkard, 3412 Madrona Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93105

HELP NEEDED FOR SOCIAL EVENT SUPPLIES

Does some helpful FFSB club member have a spare closet or a clean cabinet in an extra room, basement, or garage where we can store the club's social events supplies? Pat Burkard, our Social Events coordinator, needs to be relieved of the responsibility of storing the supplies for club social events. She has four small plastic bins in need of a home. If you can help us with this little chore, please contact Pat or Rickey Farbman.

WEBSITE AS A BUILDING BLOCK FOR A STRONGER CLUB

(from Linda Williams)

At the West Coast Region Presidents' Conference in mid-May, hosted by our FFSB club, the first presentation was on the topic of having a great website for each Friendship Force club. With social media an influential way to obtain information and communicate, an easy-to-use the website is increasingly more important. Currently we have an excellent FFSB website, but we learned five areas in which websites can be enhanced to strengthen a club:

1. Communicate and create a sense of community (as we already do).
2. Membership tools, e.g., a button to click "Add me to your email list"; a tab "Join Us," to facilitate signing up for social events or to get more information; a members-only section with updatable directory information.
3. Treasurer's tool to send reminders of annual membership dues and social activity fees.
4. Events Chair tool to post upcoming meetings and social events (with a revised calendar format), automatic emails about upcoming events, and registration and payment information in one place.
5. File Storage: In addition to our past newsletters, post reports about past exchanges and, for members only, the by-laws and Board of Directors reports.

This report with more details is available from Linda Williams, lindasadie2020@gmail.com.

Visit the Friendship Force Santa Barbara website:

www.friendshipforcesantabarbara.org

Stay informed with the Friendship Force International website:

www.thefriendshipforce.org



Happy Birthday to:

July 3	Dave Inouye
July 5	Jack Orr
July 7	Inna Cook
July 12	Terry Behrens
July 17	Julie Campbell
July 19	Nancy Pierson
July 21	Roberta Lehtinen
July 25	Francie Jewesson
July 26	Joyce Falk
August 13	Mary Orr
August 18	Bea Severson
August 21	Barbara Rose
August 22	Jane Haas
August 31	Lisa Kelly

SAVE the DATE

Saturday, August 13

The FFSB August **social**

event will be at the Santa



Barbara Polo Field in Carpinteria. Game

starts at 3pm and we will have lunch

there first. Food details are in progress.

Call Roberta Lehtinen with questions/box lunch suggestions.