



# FRIENDSHIP FORCE NEWSLETTER

SANTA BARBARA NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi all travelers and travel story fans,

Our news this month includes the results of the voting for our choices for Journeys in 2019. England is the clear first choice but runners-up are almost tied. The countries and the points for each are (based on the scale of 4 for first, 3 for second, etc.):

- first England (33);
- second Mexico (22);
- third Romania (21)
- fourth Costa Rica (21).

Ffi has received our choices and will notify us of our selection in February 2018.

As you know, we need a completely new slate of candidates for the club officers/board of directors for next year. The nominating committee (Barbara Rose, Jan Inouye, and Bill Boyd) has found

qualified members who are willing and who would look forward to serving the club in the next year or two:

President – Linda Williams  
Vice President – Bonnie Dutton  
Treasurer – Dave Jones  
Secretary – Anne Gray

At the program meeting, Monday November 20, the slate of candidates will be presented and the floor will be open for additional nominations. We will vote to choose one person for each position. The officers elected will be installed at the holiday party on December 10.

Once again the year has flown by, and this is my last newsletter. It has been my privilege to serve as your president for the past two years. I want to thank the other



officers of our club, Linda, Pam, and Jan for making my job easier. They each carried out their functions independently and completely. I look forward to working with them and all of you while serving in the ex-officio capacity next year. I know you all will share with Linda your cumulative experience and wisdom and will give her your support as you have with me.

In Friendship,  
Rickey Farbman

## FRANCE ON FRIENDSHIP FORCE AND BEYOND

At our September program meeting Ron Hartley treated us to a glorious picture-trip through France and northern Spain. Sandy and Ron undertook a Global Friendship Force Journey beginning in Pau, a chateau and university city in southwestern France on the northern edge of the Pyrenees mountains and about sixty miles from the Atlantic Ocean. Pau is a very historic city from its 11th-century fortification, through fostering the "Good King Henry" of Navarre and France (early 17th century), to its present position as capital of the Department of the Pyrenees-Atlantiques.

Because of an emergency experienced by the host, the global ambassadors did not stay



with families but enjoyed comfortable local accommodations and tours of scenic and historic places. From Pau the group crossed the Pyrenees and traveled through the Basque country of northern Spain. Ron bought a Basque beret, much to the delight of fellow travelers. Many wonderful sites were a part of this trip, including the prehistoric caves of Altamira, Lourdes, a zoo reached by cable car, and the Picos de Europa. The official Friendship Force Journey ended at the fabulous Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao.

The Hartleys extended their trip with a Grand Circle cruise along the Mediterranean Coast and then from Nice to Paris. They headquartered in Nice to sample the Cote de Azure then cruised up the Rhone River to Arles, Avignon, and Lyon, tasting wine and visiting chateaux. On a bull farm in the Camargue region they got to see the famous white horses of Camargue. What more could you ask for – but they did – and went on to a brief feast of colorful sightseeing in Paris, including the magnificent tomb of Napoleon.

### ***2017 Governing Board of the Friendship Force of Santa Barbara***

#### **OFFICERS**

***President: Rickey Farbman***

***Vice President: Linda Williams***

***Secretary: Jan Inouye***

***Treasurer: Pam Vestal***

#### **DIRECTORS**

***Past President: Barbara Rose***

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

#### ***Inbound Host Coordinators:***

***Rickey Farbman & Terry Scrivener (Heisenborg, Sweden)***

***Outbound Ambassador Coordinators: Barbara Rose (Kumamoto and Ehime Japan)***

***Pam Vestal (Blue Mountains and Mount Baker, Australia)***

***Directory: Sandy Grasso-Boyd***

***E-mail Notifications: Dawn McGrew***

***Historian: Barbara Gregoire***

***Membership: JoAnn Magistad and Joanie Sullivan***

***Newsletter: Joyce Falk (editor) Paula Gregoire-Jones (publisher)***

***Programs: Linda Williams***

***Refreshments: Jan & Dave Gorbet***

***Social Events: Pat Burkard (coordinator) & social committee***

***Sunshine: Claire Magee***

***Telephone: Sandy Hartley***

***Webmaster: Paula Gregoire-Jones***

***Welcome: Agris and Elza Petersons***

## HOEDOWN AT THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE CORRAL!

From Linda Williams



Friendship Force cowgirls and cowboys enjoyed a lively evening on Thursday, Oct 12th, at the Rancho Santa Barbara clubhouse. Agris entertained us with his guitar and cowboy songs while we sipped beer and lemonade and nibbled on appetizers. With red and blue bandanas on the tables and red checked napkins, it was a festive dinner catered by Dickeys BBQ Pit: pulled pork, brisket, and beef with all the BBQ trimmings!



Dessert was the occasion for a special celebration as a beautiful cake was brought out for Dottie Iverson's 94th birthday! We all sang Happy Birthday to Dottie, including her two daughters, while she just beamed.

The highlight of the evening was country dancing. Dance instructors Dorothea and Gilbert Escoto started us out with couples dancing. We were taught a simple dance, in which we went through the steps and then moved on to the next partner in the circle. We did country line dancing using dance steps such as the Grapevine, Jazz Box, and more. Dancing is such good exercise! For a finale we asked Dorothea and Gilbert to do some "fancy dancing" for us – and they did an impressive West Coast Swing with complicated variations. It was a fantastic evening of music and friendship and dancing!



## **Domestic and International Inbound and Outbound Exchanges in 2017 & beyond**

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

**End of Jan./ beg. Feb, 2018**, Outbound to Tucson, Mary Rose, AC

**March 19- April 9 2018**- Outbound to Blue Mountains and Mount Baker, Australia, Pam Vestal, AC

**September 18-25, 2018** – Inbound from Heisenborg, Sweden , Rickey Farbman and Terry Scrivener (HC)

### **International Conference Dates:**

**2018** -41st World Conference, TBD

## **Planning and Program Meetings, Social Events:**

### **Planning Meeting:**

**Monday, November 13, 7:00 p.m.**

Join us at the home of Barbara Gregoire, 5001 Sungate Ranch Road, SB.

### **Program Meeting:**

**Goleta Public Library**

**Monday, November 20, 7:00 p.m.**

Costa Rica Adventure and "UnCruise" by Sandy Grasso-Boyd and Bill Boyd

### **Social Events:**

Sunday, December 10, Annual Holiday

Party –more details to follow soon



## **LAST CALL FOR AUSTRALIA!**

This is the final call for anyone interested in joining the Journey to the Mt. Barker and Blue Mountain clubs in Australia.

The Journey will take us to the Mt. Barker club March 19-26 and then to the Blue Mountain club April 3-9. Between the two club visits there will first be a road tour of 6 days and 5 nights from Mt. Barker to Melbourne (wow!) and then a flight from Melbourne to Sydney for 3 nights in Sydney.

In Sydney we will see the Opera House (of course!), take a harbor tour (beautiful!), and have plenty of time to visit places of your particular interest. After Sydney, it's off to the Blue Mountains for friendship and sight-seeing with our host club members.

The cost for all of this is approximately \$2675. The land tour is all inclusive so the only meals you will have to purchase are ones for the club hosts and meals in Sydney.

***If you are interested in this great "Down Under" journey,  
email Pam Vestal (sbwoman@msn.com).***



# Save the Date

## Holiday Party

**Sunday, December 10**

**At the Mesa Cafe**

**Details to arrive in your inbox soon.**

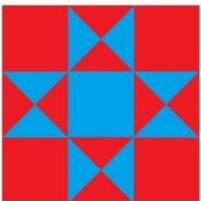


### GLOBAL RANCH AND RODEO FESTIVAL

**March 6-11, 2018**

Festival is the name of the game at the Old West Friendship Force Ranch and Rodeo Festival in – surprise! – Florida, near Orlando and Tampa. Ambassadors from around the world will gather at the Westgate River Ranch to share their cultures and to participate in no-language-barrier events to build friendship and cooperation across borders. Activities include campfires, sing-alongs in various languages, forest walks, trail rides, shopping in the rustic old-west style village, and, of course, a rodeo with bull riding, barrel racing, and trick riding. All of this topped off with dancing in the saloon. For more information go to [www.friendshipforce.org](http://www.friendshipforce.org) and click on Journeys or, to apply, <https://goo.gl/forms/ato9aZ04pshxvigf1>.

### CALLING ALL QUILTERS



Knowing what talented arts-and-crafters Santa Barbara Friendship Force members are, here is a special treat: Friendship Force of Western North Carolina (Blue Ridge Mountains) is offering a truly unusual Journey, "Quilting Mountain Style," for members to share travel and quilting experiences, **May 23-31, 2018**. There will be a fascinating array of activities for music, sightseeing, photography, botanical excursions, and viewing of unique quilts. Ambassadors may choose to extend their visit and attend the North Carolina Quilting Symposium in Asheville, May 31-June 3, 2018. See the details and register your interest at [www.friendshipforce.org](http://www.friendshipforce.org).

## Member Biographies



### Bonnie and Bill Dutton

Long-time residents of Santa Barbara, Bonnie and Bill Dutton have been members of Friendship Force for three years. They have been married for 46 years and have three sons.



Bonnie was born in Michigan and moved to California when she married Bill. They lived in the Los Angeles area for a number of years before moving to Goleta 21 years ago. Bonnie is a retired Registered Nurse having had a

career in hospital, home health, and clinic nursing. In retirement she enjoys hosting parties at their home, singing in the Unity Church choir, volunteering at church, traveling to Guatemala to work with the Mayan Families program, and working with people in many other capacities. Hand her a microphone and you may never get it back!

William (Bill) Dutton retired from the American Red Cross after 35 years where he served as Executive Director/CEO of the Santa Barbara County Chapter, the Glendale-Crescenta Valley Chapter, and the High Desert Chapter. He is past Chair of the American Red Cross Retirees Association (ARCRA), Southern California Unit. He currently serves on the national board of ARCRA and volunteers with Red Cross Disaster Services.

Another focus of Bill's interest is the Rotary Club. He has been a member of the Rotary Club of Santa Barbara since 1996 and is a Past President of that club, as well as having served as Director of Club Service, Community Services, and the chair of numerous committees, including International Special Projects and Chair of the Club's project with Mayan Families in Guatemala. He currently serves on the club's board as Director of International Services. From 1978 to 1994, he was a member of the Glendale Rotary Club and was a member of its board. Bill has traveled to Mexico on several Rotary projects and is a Paul Harris Fellow.

### Mary Wolthausen

I am originally from East Boston, Massachusetts, and grew up in the same house that I was born in. My family lived in one of the Italian districts where we had "many moms who sat outside crocheting and gossiping about what was going on in the neighborhood." Each of my family's six children had their jobs and mine was to help with the cooking, which is something that I loved to do—and still do today!



I went to an all-girls high school and immediately after graduation in 1947 I went to Boston City Hospital for three years training in the Registered Nursing program. I graduated in 1950 as one of the youngest in the program. I had met Larry Wolthausen while I was in nursing school and he was in the Navy. We were married after my graduation and had our first son in 1951. Shortly thereafter we moved from Boston to Connecticut where I worked at the local hospital and where our second son was born in 1954. Larry worked for Pratt and Whitney Aircraft which was the beginning of his career in the aerospace industry, which led to our final destination, Santa Barbara, in 1956—and I've been here ever since!

Here in Santa Barbara we had our third son while I worked at Cottage Hospital (which was a little cottage), mainly in obstetrics, and Larry enjoyed his work in the electronics department at Santa Barbara Research Company. We retired when we were in our early sixties, sailed on cruises in the Caribbean, took up snorkeling, celebrated our 59th wedding anniversary, and otherwise enjoyed life in Santa Barbara until Larry's death in 2009. Along the way I took a cruise to Italy and got to meet many of my relatives who live in Rome.

I joined Friendship Force in 2014 at the invitation of Barbara Rose. Since then I have discovered that there are many nurses in our group whom I have known for years and I have enjoyed hosting visiting Friendship Force club members

## NEWS FROM INTERNATIONAL

Friendship Force International has been busy enhancing its website and producing fresh, new promotional materials. Since its founding in 1977, the organization has remained committed to the mission of friendship and understanding across national and cultural divisions. At the World Conference in Manchester this year, a new official video on how the Friendship Force mission is important now more than ever. Go to [www.friendshipforce.org](http://www.friendshipforce.org), scroll down to Member & Club News, and click on the video.

There is an engaging press release from March of this year reviewing the founding of Friendship Force as a pioneer in global homestay experiences that foster understanding and peace. It mentions founder Wayne Smith and the Carters who—regardless of your political inclinations—are inspirational figures in the quest for world peace. This is really an excellent piece to use to explain the objectives and history of FFI and its local clubs. To get a copy, go to [www.friendshipforce.org](http://www.friendshipforce.org), select tab Who We Are, click News and Media, scroll down to Press Releases, click on March 2, 2017.

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

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

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

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

### FFSB Dues for 2018

**are now due  
\$30 per person**

**Deadline is November 15, 2017 in order to be included in the directory.**

**Please make check payable to Friendship Force Santa Barbara and mail to Pam Vestal:  
514 Apple Grove Lane, SB, CA 93105**



#### **Happy Birthday to:**

November 18 John Rose  
November 23 Ken Jewesson  
December 4 Sidonia Slaff  
December 10 Carol Lazar  
December 16 Claire Magee  
December 24 Marilyn Torrey  
December 27 Lou Smitheram de Pravia