



FRIENDSHIP FORCE NEWSLETTER

SANTA BARBARA SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2015

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello all,

Hope you are all staying cool and enjoying the last days of summer. I'm writing this in the midst of our Taiwan inbound exchange and have to say that this is a lovely diverse group visiting us who promise to keep us all laughing and practicing our Taiwanese. I now know how to say hello and it sounds very much like howdy ho to me. We introduced them to tacos last night so maybe they will become westerners after all. Lovely surprises were the two young folks who are the son and niece of two of their members. I could not believe that they are actually 28 and 37 years of age since both look to be in their early twenties. Another wonderful surprise was the attendance of our incredible Barbara Gregoire. After 4 and 1/2 months of illness and recovery Barbara is well on her way to being back with us in the midst of

things once again. Welcome back Barbara. We have missed you terribly and have sent our best wishes and prayers for you every day during this long road to recovery. A special thank you to Barbara's daughter, Paula Gregoire Jones, for stepping in as ED for this exchange and doing such a wonderful job in addition to caring for her Mom. What an example of a beautiful mother/daughter relationship. Thank you both. We are inspired.



KAOHSIUNG, TAIWAN AMBASSADORS

Moving along we are busy planning another inbound exchange in November with Mary Orr and Mary Wolthausen at the helm. Many of us will remember the FF group in Owensboro who will now be visiting us. It will be a smaller

group with some new innovative plans in the works. Also on the agenda and in planning stages are the MN and Des Moines (joined) inbound exchange in January and outbound exchange in June to Brazil. We are a busy and active club.

Believe it or not we are winding down the year by forming a nominating committee for next year's officers. Karolyn Hanna has agreed to chair that committee so please be available to join with her if asked and also to say yes to the committee if asked to serve as an officer next year. I believe that we have a dynamic group that is thriving and wish for that to continue under new leadership.

I have no doubt that as we attend the international conference in Vancouver B.C. at the end of this month that we will be proud of where we are as a FF chapter. So, thank you all for being a part of our success and for each contributing in his/her own unique way. We truly do make a difference.

In Friendship, Barbara Rose

Rolling Out the Red Carpet for the Friendship Force of Western Kentucky

Owensboro, KY
Exchange Directors
Mary Wollthausen and
Mary Orr are busy
finalizing plans for this
incoming group, which
will be here from
November 7-12. A
complete schedule
and sign-up sheet will
be e-mailed to all club
members before the



end of the month. Ambassadors from FFSB were fortunate enough to visit this club last year and even though most of us had not heard of Owensboro, KY we were absolutely delighted at all the area had to offer, plus the warm hospitality of the club members. Owensboro modestly calls itself the BBQ Capital of the World and has an international festival and competition every May. This city (58,000) on the beautiful banks of the Ohio River is awash in music, including the Big O Music Fest for country music and the River of Music Party (ROMP) for bluegrass fans. When visiting we enjoyed their music museum and their symphony orchestra. Owensboro's most famous son is Johnny Depp. Who knew? We will be welcoming ED Martha Wrona and her husband Ron, Joyce Payne, Ina Bratcher, Betty Rush, Bruce Whitmer, Sandy and Jim Hallman, and Suzanne Guyer. Besides the tried and true SB favorites like the courthouse and the trolley tour, the Marys are hoping to offer a visit to an outstanding ocean front Mesa home already decorated for Thanksgiving, a tour of the more interesting departments at SB City College, and a guided tour at Flags Up Farm, home of Monty Roberts, the Horse Whisperer. The welcome party will be a homemade Italian dinner at Mary Wolthausen's clubhouse on Old Mill Road on Sunday, November 8. Save the date for that one! And the farewell dinner is on Wednesday, November 11, Veterans Day, so we will be honoring this holiday in a patriotic way

2015 Governing Board of the Friendship Force of Santa Barbara

OFFICERS

President: Barbara Rose

VicePresident: Rickey Farbman

Secretary: Jan Inouye

Treasurer: Bill Boyd

DIRECTORS

Past Co-Presidents: Mary & Jack Orr

Inbound Exchange Directors:

*Mary Orr/Mary Wolthausen
(Owensboro)*

*Karolyn Hanna-(Minneapolis)
ED needed-(North Bay, Canada)*

Outbound Exchange Director:s
Sandy Hartley (Charlottesville)
Pam Vestal-(Minneapolis)
Dick Falk/Sandy Hartley (Brazil)
ED needed- (Sarasota)

Directory: Sandy Grasso-Boyd

E-mail Notifications: Barbara Rose

Historian: Barbara Gregoire

Membership: JoAnn Magistad and
Linda Billings

Newsletter: Mary Orr (editor)
Paula Gregoire-Jones (publisher)

Programs: Rickey Farbman

Refreshments: Dawn McGrew

Social Events: Patricia Poilé and
Bonnie Johnson

Sunshine: Claire Magee

Telephone: Sandy Hartley

UN Liaison: Gail Gillies

Webmaster: Paula Gregoire-Jones

Welcome: Agris and Elza Petersons

Kaohsiung, Taiwan Exchange August 17 to 23, 2015

What happens when you mix 15 Taiwan ambassadors with the Santa Barbara Friendship Force (plus 1 FF member from Illinois). A great time, new friendships and old friendships renewed, and memories to last a lifetime.

The Santa Barbara Friendship Force hosted the Kaohsiung, Taiwan FF club from August 17-23. The week started with a taco dinner at Inna's clubhouse. We had a beautiful evening, not too hot, delicious tacos by Karolyn Hanna. a great variety of side dishes provided by club members and 2 kinds of cake made by Paula Gregoire-Jones and entertainment by our own Agris Petersons. A wonderful evening was had by all.

Events during the week included the traditional sightseeing venues, the Santa Barbara mission, Courthouse, a Landshark tour and a trip to Santa Ynez valley along with a few less common venues. We thank Flora Chein for joining us at the mission to help interpret. Who would have thought that the Mission had their written tour guide in Mandarin Chinese?

We also thank Sherman Vincent, for arranging our visit to Lotusland. Sherman, a Lotusland docent and FFSB member not only donated his six guest passes to Lotusland to us, but did an excellent job as tour guide and arranged for an interpreter as well. Many of the Taiwan members mentioned that this was their favorite stop of the week. Cameras were flashing all day as our ambassadors were in awe of the amazing collection of rare plants, trees and flowers as well as the artistic arrangements in the gardens. They also loved the personal stories of the life of the amazing lady who was responsible for it all.

The highlight of the week was the bus trip up the coast to Hearst Castle. Besides visiting the Castle, the group stopped by to visit Madonna Inn and view the elephant seals on the way back.

On Friday, we journeyed up the mountains to visit Cold Spring Tavern for a plentiful and delicious brunch. I know I for one didn't eat again until dinner – and then not too much. Then the group went their separate ways to the Santa Ynez Valley to tour Solvang, Los Olivos or Santa Ynez or other venues.



The last day was a free day where everyone either visited downtown or hosts choice, but we all met again that night at El Capitan Ranch for our grand finale. Over 50 people attended our farewell dinner as we said good-bye to our new friends from Kaohsiung. A good time was had by all, the BBQ dinner was yummy and the group was entertained by dancing from members from both clubs.

Thank you to everyone who hosted, day hosted or hosted a small dinner party during this exchange. Hosts were Karolyn Hanna, Mary Wolthausen, Ken & Francie Jewesson, Rickey Farbman, Pat Burkard, Joyce & Dick Falk, Ilse & Frank Bourbeau, Jo Magistad, Bob & Jane Haas and Nancy Pierson. Day Hosts were Inna Cook, Agris & Elza Petersons and Barbara Rose. Small dinner party hosts and helpers were Barbara Gregoire, Paula Gregoire-Jones, Linda Williams, Erika Kahn, Jill Wilk, Ron & Sandy Hartley, Sandy Grasso-Boyd, Harv & Liz Turner, Gail & Don Gillies, Diane Siegman and Gladys Robinson. We give an especially big thanks to Patricia Poile and Bonnie Johnson for organizing the Welcome party setup and helping plan the farewell dinner.

Pictures from the Kaohsiung, Taiwan Exchange (See more exchange pictures on our website)



WELCOME DINNER



INNA & BARBARA



AGRIS ENTERTAINING US AT THE
WELCOME DINNER



YENCHI, CHUNGDA & KAROLYN



GLADYS, YENCHI & CHUNGDA



GIANT AND ANNMARIE



CAROLINE, LULU, JO AND JOHN



BETH, AGRIS, MARY, ANNMARIE & GIANT



ILSE, CHANTELE & FRANK



NANCY, TINA & RICKEY



HEARST CASTLE



GROUP AT COLDSRING TAVERN

**Domestic and International
Inbound and Outbound Exchanges
in 2015 & beyond**

October 7-12

Outbound Exchange to Charlottesville, Sandy Hartley, ED.

November 7-12

Inbound Exchange from Owensboro, KY, Mary Orr and Mary Wolthausen, EDs.

January 2016 – Inbound from Minneapolis, MN and Des Moines, IA, Karolyn Hanna, ED

June 2016 – Outbound to Brazil (Belem and Fortaleza), Dick Falk and Sandy Hartley EDs

September 2016 – Outbound to Minneapolis, MN, Pam Vestal, ED

October? 2016 –Inbound from North Bay, Canada, ED needed

2017 – Outbound to Sarasota, FL, ED needed

Social Events , Planning and Program Meetings:

Social Events:

Saturday, October 31

Halloween Party. Create your scariest, funniest or most beautiful costume and join us for a Halloween Party at Inna Cook's Clubhouse on Calle de los Amigos (NOTE: this is a change of venue). All the details and how to sign up will be e-mailed to all members closer to the event, but put on your creative thinking cap in the meantime.

Planning Meeting:

Tuesday, September 8, 7:00 p.m.

At the home of Carol Stewart, 381 Hillsboro Way, Goleta. Directions: 101 to Storke exit, right on Phelps, right on Cannon Green, right on Hillsboro Street to corner of Hillsboro Way

Program Meeting:

Monday, September, 21, 7:00 p.m.

Goleta Public Library

Jay Farbman presents a slideshow on his travels to Bhutan (more info on page 6.)

Last Reminder for Silvio's 90th Birthday Bash

WHEN: Sunday, September 13 TIME: 4:00 p.m.

PLACE: In front of the Garvin Theater, SB City College

If you signed up to attend this gala party Silvio looks forward to greeting you on September 13 at SBCC.

Reservations have closed but if you have any questions e-mail the following:
silvios90th@gmail.com

Fascinating Bhutan

Bhutan is the subject of the September 21 Program Meeting.

Please join us for an interesting slide show and stories about the Land of the Thunder Dragon by Jay Farbman, son of our very own Vice President, Rickey Farbman. Situated at the eastern end of the Himalayas, Bhutan is bordered to the north by China and to the south, east and west



2015 MAP OF BHUTAN

by India, with whom it has

close political and economic ties. In 2006 Business Week rated Bhutan the happiest country in Asia. It is



FLAG OF BHUTAN



KING & QUEEN OF BHUTAN

about 18,000 square miles in area and the estimated population is 770,000. In 2008 Bhutan changed from an absolute monarchy to a constitutional monarchy and held its first general election. Buddhism is the main religion but there is religious freedom. Agriculture provides the main livelihood for 55% of the population. Jay was invited in 2014 by the Bhutanese Olympic Committee to be the official photographer for their first annual international marathon, which is how he came to visit this interesting country. In his

younger days Jay toted his 35mm camera with him on a journey that took him through 25 countries and across five continents. He supported himself by cooking in restaurants, picking fruit and doing occasional construction jobs. Upon his return he studied at the Brooks School of Photography for about a year and then became a freelance photographer. He says he calls himself "an adventure, sports, travel and documentary photographer," but has also taken other assignments that piqued his interest. As always, friends are welcome and refreshments will be served, starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Goleta Library. And please, wear your FFSB badge!

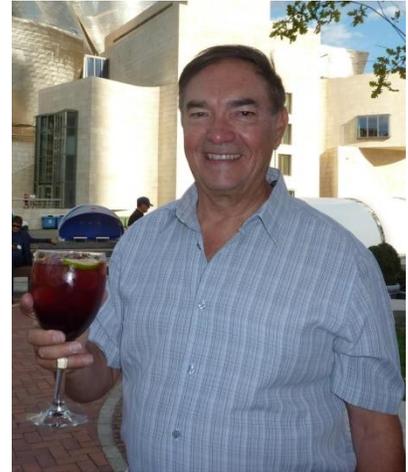


THE DZONG IN THE PARO VALLEY

New Member Biographies

Sherman Vincent

According to our recent ambassadors from Taiwan one of the very best events of the exchange was their visit to Lotusland, and many thanks are due to one of our newer members, Sherman Vincent. He helped with the arrangements and said he was delighted to see his Lotusland friends conversing in their native language with the ambassadors. Hailing from Wisconsin, Sherman graduated from the Milwaukee School of Engineering and came to interview with Raytheon. He thought "This is what heaven looks like" when he saw our beautiful little city. Taking the job, he spent the next 35 years in a variety of positions with Raytheon. Sherman has a patent through Raytheon for an electronic subsystem that prevents an enemy from jamming aircraft receivers. During his last six year with Raytheon, he was part of a team assigned to develop and test equipment for navy ships. But when retirement beckoned he decided that he wanted to do something different than he'd ever done and develop new interests. A newspaper ad for Lotusland's docent training class caught his eye and he became an avid and enthusiastic docent at our world-renowned garden. He says that since taking docent training he has a higher level of appreciation for plants and takes this knowledge with him when he travels. The focus of his recent travels has been Biar, a small town near Alicante, Spain, from which his father emigrated in 1917. Through connections with a cousin, he has journeyed there several times and been the only American to attend an annual festival where the residents reenact the historical conflict between the Moors and the Christians. The experience has helped him improve his Spanish and become close to his family there. Sherman also enjoys camping trips with his son Robert and playing his clavanova, an electric organ that makes him a veritable one man band. And he can channel Fred Astaire when he perfects his ballroom and Latin dance routines. We are glad to have such a talented and energetic member join our club and we look forward to his increased participation in our activities.



UN 70th Birthday Walk UNA & 7 Sister Cities

OCTOBER 24, 2015 • 10AM – 4PM YOU ARE INVITED TO WALK WITH US ON 10/24!

The 70th birthday of the United Nations will be celebrated by the UNA and The Sister Cities on Saturday, October 24th. We will join the Santa Barbara Open Streets Event on Cabrillo Blvd. which will once again become Santa Barbara's longest public park for the day as over 2 miles of Cabrillo Blvd are transformed into a celebration of people-power to promote better health, flexibility, PEACE, and FUN. Join us on our birthday walk. Meet near the Bird Refuge at 10. Look for the UN Flag. Walk as long as you want and enjoy our 3 foot UN birthday cake at noon.

For more information call 805 680 9445 or go to the UNA website www.unasb.org

Bring your friends, flags and wear a blue t-shirt.

Happy Birthday to the 70 years of service by the United Nations.

Visit the Friendship Force Santa Barbara
website:

www.friendshipforcesantabarbara.org

We need exchange pictures for the website.

Please send your pictures to Paula Gregoire-Jones
at pgregoire-jones@verizon.net.

Stay informed with the Friendship Force

International website: www.thefriendshipforce.org



Happy Birthday to:

September 17	Silvio Di Loreto
September 18	Bonnie Dutton
September 19	Paula Gregoire-Jones
September 23	Sandra Grasso-Boyd
October 3	Pat Burkard
October 3	Jackie Van Spankeren
October 7	Margaret Cooper
October 8	Agris Petersons
October 16	Bill Dutton
October 31	Sandy Hartley

Please Join Us in Welcoming Our New Member

Alison Daniels

2933 Puesta Del Sol, Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Phone: 451-3751

e-mail: ALIBNSB19@cox.net

➤ **Remember to add Alison to your address book**