



...You can make a difference!

The Friendship Force of the San Francisco Bay Area

...a force to promote peace

Vol. 21 No. 2

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA NEWSLETTER

April/May 2004

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I have more changes to report to you at this time. As many of you know, Susie Smith has resigned prior to getting married. The new president of Friendship Force International is George Brown. Those of you who have been long time members will be familiar with him, as he was Executive Director under Wayne Smith. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find a letter from him which was presented at the Western States Leadership Conference, hosted by our club on April 3.

The conference was coordinated by Nina Davidson. It was attended by representatives from most clubs in our region. Maureen Takacs, President of the FFI Board of Directors and Susie Harrison, Program Coordinator at the Atlanta office for our region, were in attendance.

There were many topics of concern discussed by the clubs that were represented, and we left with ideas to share with our own club members. Congratulations and thanks to Nina and her committee for a job well done.

Things are beginning to get lively in our club. We have a group coming in from Iowa from June 15-20. Katharine Kleinke is the Exchange Director for that exchange. You will find more information about this exchange elsewhere in this newsletter.

is getting started with her committee for the incoming exchange from Devon, England and I'm sure you'll also read more about that exchange elsewhere in the newsletter.

Colleen Scott is also putting together an outgoing exchange to Perth and Melbourne, Australia, for July. There are still openings on that exchange.

Don't forget our Birthday meeting on May 16 at the Los Altos Library at 2:00 PM. Better yet, invite a friend to come with you.

—*Louise Heiduk*, President@ffsba.org

IOWA INCOMING EXCHANGE JUNE 15 TO JUNE 20, 2004

It's our first opportunity to host an exchange this year. The club is coming from the greater Des Moines area. They will be with us from Tuesday June 15 through Sunday June 20. You will all have the pleasure of meeting these Ambassadors at the Welcome and Farewell Parties scheduled for June 15 and June 19 respectively. Other possibilities for being involved include Day Hosting, Home Hosting, and Potluck Hosting. Please contact Exchange Director: Katharine Kleinke,



Scenes from the Western States Leadership Conference.

Photos courtesy of Loretta Wales

or to participate in our first exchange
this year.

—*Katharine Kleinke*, Exchange Director

AUSTRALIA IS BECKONING!!

We still have 10 vacancies for the Australian Exchanges to Perth and Melbourne in July. We have 10 Ambassadors, but we need you!! Our next meeting is April 24th for our final decisions regarding the exchanges. Call me at (510) 793-6921 if you have an interest in these exchanges, or if you know of anyone who would like to go.

—*Colleen Scott*, Exchange Director

REGIONAL MEETINGS

FFSFBA COORDINATOR NEWS

Because our FFSFBA Club is so scattered geographically, we are attempting to keep united by having get acquainted gatherings in the various areas on the months when there are no regularly scheduled meetings.

Share your event with other members! Email an article and photos (if possible) to the newsletter editor, newsletter@ffsfba.org soon after your event.

—*June Cademartori*, Coordinator

AREAS 1, 2, AND 3

On March 27th, members of Areas 1, 2 and 3 met at the home of Bernice and Dean Batchelder for a potluck lunch. There were nine members and five guests present. The five guests were friends of! She brought Friendship Force brochures and the members told about exchanges they had taken. We must have done a good job because some of the guests have become new FF members! —*Elizabeth Shumway*

AREAS 5 AND 6

On April 18, twelve of us met for an early dinner at the Casa Lupe Mexican Restaurant on Castro Street. We then walked across the street to the Mountain View Performing Arts Center to see the play, "My Antonia," a world premiere, presented by Theatreworks. The play is based on a novel by Willa Cather, who wrote about the joys and hardships of her pioneer life as an immigrant girl growing up on the Nebraska plains in the early 1900's.

Participants were: John and June Cademartori, Louise Heiduk, Roger Riffenburgh, Darlene Boyanich, Burt and Diane Demo, Dave and Dee Gustavson, Susan Barkan, her mother Jean, and Susan's friend, Ann. —*Dee Gustavson*, Areas 5 and 6

MANUEL SOTOMAYOR

We are sorry to hear that Manuel Sotomayor passed away on March 26th. He died of a brain aneurism. Manuel and his wife, Jeanne, have been members of our club for several years and have gone on several exchanges. Their daughter Nancy will be staying with Jeanne. A copy of Manuel's obituary will be posted on our Web site. Condolences may be sent to , or call her at (.

FORESTER NEEDED

We lost a co-forester and need another. Forester Don Dillon can show you the ropes for the occasional attention our Friendship Forest requires at Prusch Park. Contact Louise Heiduk, , if you can help!

MEMORANDUM FROM NEW FFI PRESIDENT GEORGE BROWN

To: West Coast Conference

From: George Brown

Date: April 3, 2004

If your conference were being held just several weeks later I might be able to greet you in person. Since that isn't possible, I'm delighted to send this message via Nina.

To those of you I know, as well as newcomers to FFI, I look forward to meeting all of you before too long. And to all of you, I want to say how enthusiastic I am to be returning to a great organization. In accepting the position as the next FFI president, I am counting on all of us—in Atlanta and around the world—to work together to create an even stronger and more dynamic force for friendship in this very troubled world.

One of the themes that I will be discussing in the months ahead is "Renewing the Vision." As we look forward to our 30th anniversary in three years, we need to find ways to re-capture the vision that "a world of friends is a world of peace." FFI is not a network of travel clubs, but one of people dedicated to this vision. How can we inspire a new generation to follow that vision as well? That is a key question that I want all of the FFI leadership to consider in the months ahead.

While the vision and inspiration of our ideals is a necessary part of our future, we also need to be an efficient organization. This will be one of my first priorities in the months ahead at FFI—working with the board, staff and key volunteers to find ways to ensure the best possible organizational and financial structure for all of us.

You are well represented at your meeting this year—with two FFI Board members, Maureen Takacs, Chairman and Nina Davidson, Trustee and your field representative Susie Harrison from the FFI staff. I'm looking forward to hearing the results of your time together. Then, before too long, we'll be gathering in California again for the International Conference. Hope to see you all at that great event.

In closing, let me say what a huge debt of gratitude we all owe to Susie Smith who has worked so tirelessly and effectively this past year as President of Friendship Force International. Congratulations to her for a job well done, and best wishes as she begins a new life for herself in the LA area.

DEVON EXCHANGE

Friendship Force members from Devon, England are coming to the Bay Area September 11-18. Exchange Directors and Joy Hillman will be contacting everyone who indicated they would like to participate in this exchange. Those who would like to help are invited to attend the first planning meeting on Saturday, May 8 at 11 a.m. at

If you haven't signed up yet, but you're interested in helping with the exchange in some way—planning, day-hosting, homehosting, giving or attending a potluck, please call at or send her an email:

— co-Exchange Director

SPECIAL EVENT

On February 25th twelve Friendship Force members met at the California Culinary Academy in San Francisco for a wonderful three course lunch. It was hard to decide what to order—too many interesting choices. If you have never been to the CCA, you should try it! After lunch we had a tour of Davies Symphony Hall. The docent was excellent—he gave us the history of the building and a very interesting tour. Some of us who go to the symphony were able to get some of our questions answered.

As we left the hall, we tested the acoustics by singing “Let There Be Peace On Earth.”

Attending were: Joy Hillman,, Nina Davidson, Dick and Faye Ebner, Dave and Dee Gustavson, Darlene Boyanich, Roger Riffinburgh, Richard and Rita Hammer and Elizabeth Shumway.
—Elizabeth Shumway



Board meeting at Cademartori home, March 28.
Board members, left to right, standing:
June Cademartori,, Bernice Batchelder, Dave Gustavson, Geri Bechtle, Barry Rader, Karen McCready, Louise Heiduk, and Colleen Scott.
Seated: Joy Hewett, Darlene Boyanich, and Joy Hillman.



Elinor
Wilner



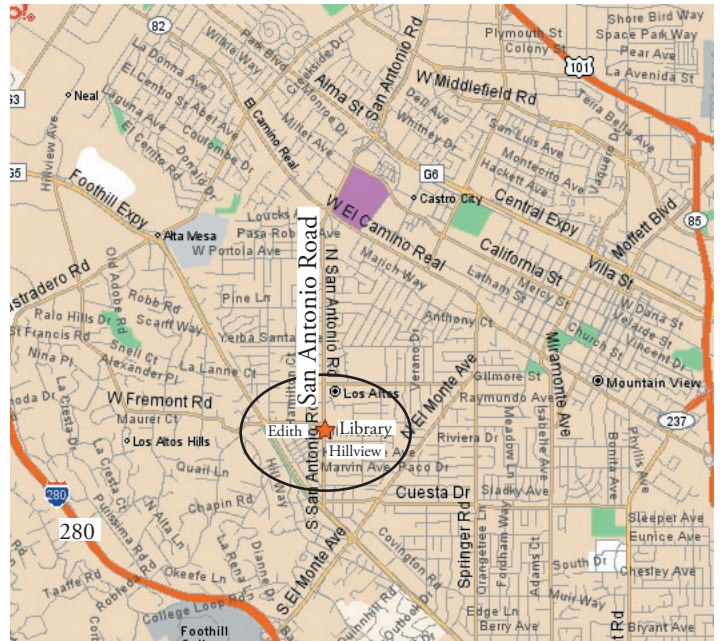
Dee
Gustavson Nina
Davidson

GENERAL MEETING MAY 16

Come to help us celebrate our club's 20th birthday on Sunday, May 16th, at 2 p.m. at the Los Altos Library!

Bring your friends and neighbors and introduce them to Friendship Force.

If you have extra time, come early and visit the Los Altos History Museum, the large gray building just beyond the library. It's open 12-4pm Thursday–Sunday, free admission.



Directions for the May 16 General Meeting:

From northern parts of 880, take Dumbarton Bridge to 101 south. Exit on San Antonio Road west to Los Altos. Cross 82 (El Camino Real) and continue another mile, turning left into the Los Altos Library complex shortly after the police station, civic center, and intersection (traffic light) with Edith Ave. Park anywhere, several lots are available. Enter the library, then go left to the Community Meeting Room instead of going through the gates into the library proper.

From 880 via Milpitas, take 237 toward Mt. View, exit onto 101 north, exit on San Antonio Road west and proceed as above.

From 280, exit at El Monte Ave. east toward Los Altos and the Bay. Go 1/2 mile then turn left on Foothill Expressway, and the next right onto San Antonio Road. Pass Hillview then turn right into the library complex and proceed as above.

THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE
 Bringing the world together since 1977
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Have you renewed your membership yet???

2004 FFSFBA BOARD MEMBERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President@fffba.org Louise Heiduk
 Vice President: Joy Hewett
 Secretary: Colleen Scott
 Treasurer: Joy Hillman

STANDING COMMITTEES

Activities: Karen Mc Cready
 MembershipChair@fffba.org
 Barry Rader
 Newsletter@fffba.org
 Dave & Dee Gustavson
 Parliamentarian: Norm Crane

EXCHANGE DIRECTORS

Inbound

Devon, England: and
 Joy Hillman
 Iowa: Katharine Kleinke, kleinke@comcast.net

Outbound

Australia: Colleen Scott

SUPPORT COMMITTEES

Domestic Exchange Coordinator:
 Eleanor Wilner
 Exchange Banker: Bernice Batchelder
 FF Merchandise: Betsy Steinaecker
 Forester: Don Dillon
 Program:
 Regional Coffee Chair: June Cademartori
 Special Events: Elizabeth Shumway
 Sunshine: Darlene Boyanich
 Webmaster@fffba.org Geri Bechtle

2004 CALENDAR

May 16	General Meeting, 2pm Los Altos Library
June 6	Board Meeting, 2pm Cademartori's home, 1133 Las Flores Ct., Los Altos
June 15-20	Iowa incoming exchange
July 11	General Meeting, 12 noon Prusch Park, San Jose
Late July- mid-August	Australia outgoing exchange
August 1	Board Meeting
September 11-18	Devon, England incoming exchange
September 12	General Meeting, 2pm
October 24	Board Meeting
December 5	Holiday Luncheon

FFSFBA website: <http://www.fffba.org>

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 (includes some back issues of FFI Magazine)