



friendship force

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA
Changing the Way You See the World

Vol. 34 No. 1

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA NEWSLETTER

January/February 2017

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Visions of a Bright New Year 2017!

And Happy New Year to you and yours!

I emailed this message recently but think it's worth repeating here.

One of my New Year's resolutions is to find new members and to start off 2017 with more activities to acquaint all of our members with what makes Friendship Force unique and how they can get more out of it by participating in home stays, in hosting, and in the leadership of our club. Those three areas are the mainstays of our club, and it takes more members who can participate in those roles to keep our club vital. All of us enjoy our many social activities, but Friendship Force is more than that.

Please help us strengthen our club's resources and programs by suggesting organizations we can contact to promote our organization. We have a team prepared to give a 30 minute presentation about our extensive hosting and home stay opportunities. We made a presentation to the Tri-City California Retired Teachers Association (CalRTA Division 91) a few years ago, and I just sent emails to all of the other Bay Area chapters of CalRTA to offer a presentation to them. Do you know of any other professional groups, retired organizations, service clubs, and any other groups that would be interested in our message? With all due respect, we feel this message is most appropriate for groups whose members are still able to travel and to host.

It doesn't have to be a formal organization. Just find us a group of 4 or more who might be motivated to follow up on this opportunity.

As you read through this newsletter, you will see many of the wealth of activities we have in store for the year. I'd like to highlight just a few:

- World Friendship Day, Sunday, February 26, 2-4pm at Mitchell Park Library in Palo Alto. (See page 7.) This is our kick-off event for the year that reviews our inbound and outbound exchanges of 2016, promotes the exchanges for this year, and previews the other activities for the year. You will have the opportunity to sign up for events and committees.

- Inbound Exchange from Memphis (yes, Tennessee), March 12-19. Anyone who has participated in a domestic exchange can tell you that they learn as much from visiting other regions of our country as they do on international exchanges. We have

Continued on page 2, column 1 top

LET'S EAT OUT

Join us Thursday evening, February 16th at 6pm at Dusita Thai Cuisine, 2325 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, 408-247-5199. My friend and I had their Pad Thai (rice noodles) and it was excellent. It's a small, intimate restaurant (not a chain) on the NE corner at Los Padres. If driving south on El Camino Real, turn left at Los Padres and enter their parking lot from Los Padres. Please let me know if you plan to attend so I can get us a group table: The minimum charge for credit card is \$15.

—Barbara Ross

CELEBRATE WORLD FRIENDSHIP DAY —AND FFI'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY— ON FEBRUARY 26TH!

World Friendship Day is our annual celebration of the founding of Friendship Force International. This year is special because we will be celebrating 40 years of this organization that has changed so many lives for the better. In 1977, as the world continued to deal with the Cold War, Wayne Smith, FFI's founder, approached his friend, President Jimmy Carter, with this prototype for bridging cultural differences and making friends around the world. When our club meets at the Mitchell Park Library in Palo Alto on Sunday, February 26th, we will touch briefly on this history and then focus on our main events for the year. Everything else you need to know is on the attached poster, except for two ways that you can participate to make this event even more enjoyable for you and everyone else there.

1. Wear an international costume to add color to the event and to reflect the interest in other cultures that is so central to our organization.

2. Compose an "Elevator Speech" and offer to recite it at the meeting. What is an elevator speech, you ask? We encourage our members to concoct a message that captures the essence of what Friendship Force is, which can be delivered during a short elevator ride—or while standing in line at the bank or the store, or at a soccer game, or... One lucky member will receive a \$5 gift card to Starbucks. Most people you meet have never heard of Friendship Force, so opportunities to explain it are everywhere.

—Karen McCready, President

Continued on page 2, column 1 bottom

President's Column, continued from page 1, column 1

the opportunity to return the hospitality we experienced on our visit to Memphis last year. Consult a separate article on the fun activities we have in store for this energetic group.

- Outbound Exchange to Sapporo, Japan, June 11-24. This is another reciprocal visit: we hosted a group from Sapporo for a Language Immersion Exchange last October. The pre-tour will include Kyoto, Nara, and Hiroshima.

- Annual BBQ, July 22, at Carol Easter's home in Newark. Definitely one of last year's highlights, when we had the largest attendance of the year. Let's capture that magic again!

- Outbound Exchange to Oklahoma City (September 24-30) and Denver (October 1-7). Discover what these two bustling metropolitan cities have to offer that makes them the hubs of their respective areas. Who knew that Oklahoma City is the site of the most comprehensive collection of Dale Chihuly glass sculptures in the world? These two cities showcase the best of the West!

- Inbound Exchange from Nagasaki, Japan, November 4-11. Our immersion in the Japanese culture continues, with this group from the southernmost region of Japan, about as far south from Sapporo as you can get within the Japanese islands.

- Look for the calendar of all our activities on the back page. Here's to a newly energized FFSFBA and to your good health and happiness in 2017!

In friendship, —Karen L. McCready, President

Continued from page 1, column 2

OKLAHOMA CITY AND DENVER

Don't Miss the Journey to Oklahoma City and Denver, September 24–October 7, 2017.

Like all of America's metropolitan centers, the hub cities of Oklahoma City and Denver have much to offer, especially to give us a different perspective from our West Coast lifestyles.

We invited ourselves to learn more about them, and both clubs are welcoming us with open arms. Our stay in Oklahoma City, September 24–30, will bring to life the homesteading era of the Land Rush, show us the cowboy culture celebrated in their museums, and introduce us to the artistic side of their culture that includes the most comprehensive collection of Chihuly's famous glass sculptures.

In Denver, from October 1–7, we will see the panorama of the Rockies and then travel up these majestic peaks to a 6,200 foot elevation. The urban side of Denver includes excellent museums, well preserved historical districts, colorful lore, and highly acclaimed botanical gardens.

Please note: October 1st is the travel day when our members will either fly from Oklahoma City to Denver for the second exchange week or return home, while other members will be arriving in Denver from home. In other words, you may sign up for one or both weeks.

We need to know very soon if you are ready to sign up for what is bound to be a thoroughly enjoyable and informative visit to another unique part of our country.

Please email or phone me if you have not signed up already:

—Karen L. McCready, President

FIFTH AT 5

Due to February 5th being Super Bowl Sunday, we will NOT have a get-together for happy hour next month. Stay tuned for details for March 5th.

—Carol Easter, Membership

HOLIDAY PARTY

On Saturday, December 3rd 2016, the Friendship Force of the San Francisco Bay Area gathered at Massimo's Restaurant in Fremont, Ca. to celebrate the holiday season with our annual party. We had a total of 38 members attending, including 5 new members. The theme this year was a celebration of our outbound exchange to Brazil. KC Sarr, the Exchange Director, presented an informative program with photos and tales from Curitiba and Sao Paulo. Many of us were amazed to hear how cold it was. Most of the ambassadors had expected tropical jungle, so were not prepared for the "arctic" weather. The very populous Sao Paulo filled with high rise apartments provided many fascinating things to see. Curitiba is the 8th largest city in Brazil. All of the ambassadors raved about their exciting excursions and generous hosts. —Martha LeRoy

MEMPHIS IS COMING IN MARCH

From March 12 to 19 the ambassadors from Memphis are joining us for an exchange. The opportunity to participate is great: you can day host, be a standby home host, come to the welcome luncheon in Palo Alto on March 13, visit the Redwoods and Santa Cruz on Tuesday, March 14, tour Rosie the Riveter Museum in Richmond on Friday, March 17, or join us for the farewell dinner in Fremont on March 18. To participate, all you have to do is email Barry Rader at or call him. All are welcome. —Barry Rader

WE NEED YOU!!

Have you ever looked at something that was being done and asked yourself WHY DON'T THEY...?

Well here's your chance to show us all what you would do.

We need to develop a supply of members who would be Exchange Directors extraordinaire with fresh ideas and styles of leadership. In other words **WE NEED YOU!!**

We are organizing a leadership workshop to help you get started. Come play with us and organize a model exchange.

I know there is a leader in each one of you. Come to our workshop and let it out to grow and blossom.

Call Louise or Martha or if you prefer, email Louise

and help us set up a time. —Louise Heiduk and Martha LeRoy

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Jennifer and Krishna Venkatraman live in San Francisco. Jen's mother is the president of the Chicago Friendship Force club. Burt Liebert and Emi Hester live in Palo Alto. Some of you long-time members may know Burt, as he is a former member. Judy Walter is a friend of RoseMarie's, and lives in Newark.

—Carol Easter, Membership

MARGARET TRACY

We are sad to report that Margaret Tracy passed away on December 5, 2016, at age 93. Margaret got a BA in Decorative Arts and a master's degree in Education from U.C. Berkeley. She taught in several Bay Area Schools. Active in many organizations, she made her voice be heard and helped found the Preserve Area Ridgeland Committee (PARC), which lobbied to set aside open space along the Mt. Diablo range. As a result of PARC's efforts, the Ohlone Regional Wilderness and Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park were created. Margaret served as a director on the Zone 7 water agency for many years.

Margaret and her husband, Jim, were longtime, active members of our FF club. They traveled on the first outbound exchange to New Plymouth, New Zealand in 1985. Jim passed away several years ago, but Margaret continued to attend FF events as long as she could, with the help of a companion, and often with Julice Winter. She never lost her sparkle and enthusiasm, which we shall miss dearly.

Donations to our FF club in Margaret's memory may be sent to Judy Smith,

—Karen McCready and Dee Gustavson

HERB CLOUGH

Sadly, Herb passed away on November 24, at age 96. He and his wife, Kumi, have been active in our club for many years. They've traveled with our club on outbound exchanges, and frequently offered their home for potlucks, welcome, and farewell parties. We'll miss Herb's cheerful and positive attitude, and his zest for life.

Condolences may be sent to Kumi Clough. Donations in Herb's memory may be sent to Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, or Friendship Force of San Francisco Bay Area, c/o Judy Smith,

—Dee Gustavson

WEBSITE

To learn more about our club, see the list of future events, view photos of recent events, read past newsletters, etc., check out our website: <http://ffsfb.org> It's one of the club's ways of keeping the members informed.

FRIENDSHIP FORCE PLEDGE

As a member of the Friendship Force, I recognize that I can make a difference. I recognize that I have a mission. That mission is to be a friend to the people of the world. As I embark upon this adventure, I know that others will be watching me. I know that through my example to my fellow citizens and the people of other countries, the cause of friendship and peace can be furthered.

I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

SAPPORO EXCHANGE

Twenty ambassadors from our club plan to travel to Sapporo in June of 2017, with 17 going on the pre-exchange tour of central Japan. A planning meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 28 at 1 pm at K.C. Sarr's house in Palo Alto to discuss details of the exchange.

—K.C. Sarr, ED

ROSIE THE RIVETER MUSEUM, MARCH 17, 2017

Join us for a very exciting day! We are taking our 15 visiting Memphis, Tennessee, Friendship Force Ambassadors to the Rosie the Riveter Museum in Richmond, by public transit. RoseMarie Everett will be writing the itinerary for this fabulous day together. We'll go rain or shine.

Rosie the Riveter Museum is an amazing place, high lighting the participation of women as they joined the workplace for the first time in large numbers. Hear the amazing stories of how it felt for these women to help build ships for the USA in 1942-45. See and hear the stories of actual women who came here from many parts of the US to join in the war effort.

I will take you to an amazing outdoor display that is the length of a liberty ship, marked with quotes from numerous women who worked these yards. It is an incredibly moving experience for both men and women to walk along the enormous ship and hear the stories.

Several real Rosie's that actually worked at the Richmond shipping yard will talk to us in the afternoon. They are 90-95 years of age and still going strong. They will tell their own stories and show their pictures from those times. The whole experience is great at the Rosie the Riveter Museum.

Our trip will start at the Fremont BART Station at 8:30am. We will not return until about 4:30pm. BART will be paying for our BART fare and our Subway lunch! We must pay a small amount for our short bus ride. If you're 65+, I can get you your own discounted Clipper Card to use on future outings, if you don't already have one. Let me know in advance.

Judy Smith and I will be conducting this exciting day. I hope you can join us. Call Judy ASAP if interested. We'll keep a waiting list in case the trip is overfull.

—RoseMarie Everett and Judy Smith

Holiday Luncheon Photos

Courtesy of Karen McCready and MaryLynn Pelican



Karen McCready, Barry Rader, Dee Gustavson, Mary Lynn Pelican



Martha LeRoy inaugurates new officers: President Karen McCready, Vice President K.C. Sarr, and Treasurer Judy Smith



Linda Jasany, Sara and Kevin Rozzano



New Members Mary and Cal Morris



Katharine Kleinke, K.C. Sarr, Ole Krogh (new member), June Nielson, Dee Gustavson



Jennifer Lam, GeeGee Lenhart, Saaku Sarr



David Rice, Carol Easter, and Elaina Habel



June Harris, Judy Smith, and RoseMarie Everett



Judy Pemberton, Barbara Day, and Olga Pekelny



Judy Heyman, Barry Rader,
Judy Smith and Carol Easter

FFSFBA Calendar for 2017

Board Meetings: Alternate Months

January 14, February 11, April 8, June 3, August 12, October 14, November 19 (Sunday) (transition meeting for new executive committee) *Note: All members are welcome to attend the board meetings.*

5th @ 5:00: Most months, except May and July, we meet for drinks and snacks at a variety of comfortable venues around the bay.

Let's Eat Out (LEO): Once a month, we meet for a modestly priced meal at an ethnic restaurant, alternating between the West Bay and the East Bay. (See schedule on back.)

ACTIVITIES

- World Friendship Day, Sunday, February 26, at Mitchell Park Library, 3700 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94303
Including presentations on
2016 Exchanges—Brazil Outbound and Sapporo Inbound
2017 Exchanges—Memphis, Sapporo Outbound, Oklahoma City/Denver, and Nagasaki
Other FFI destinations
Social Calendar
- Inbound Exchange from Memphis—March 12-19
Monday, March 13—Tour of Stanford, Welcome Party, and shopping at Stanford and Palo Alto
Tuesday, March 14—trip to redwoods and Santa Cruz
Wednesday and Thursday—Two days with hosts/day hosts to see San Francisco, Monterey, etc.
Friday, March 17—Rosie the Riveter field trip, with free BART and lunch
Saturday, March 18—Tour of Livermore wineries, shopping in Niles, and Farewell Party
- Birthday Meeting, Sunday, May 7: Cultural program
- Outbound Exchange to Sapporo, Japan: Pre-tour, June 11-17; Home stay in Sapporo, June 17-24.
- Annual BBQ and New Members' Reception, Saturday, July 22
- Annual Meeting, Sunday, September 17: Election of officers and selection of recommended outbound choices for 2019
- Outbound Exchange to Oklahoma City, September 24-30, and Denver, October 1-7.
- Inbound Exchange from Nagasaki, Japan—November 4-11
- Holiday Luncheon, Saturday, December 2

Communications

Newsletter—published 4 to 6 times per year as an electronic document; \$10 for mailed hard copy. The membership roster is updated with each publication of the newsletter; an email is sent with links to both of these documents.

Websites:

ffsfba.org—the archives of our club, with posting of upcoming events

friendshipforce.org—the international website, about to be launched in its new, more user friendly format, listing all outbound exchanges, the profile of each of the clubs, and all of the official forms and leadership materials

Yahogroup emails—our most frequent form of communication, publicizing current events to members registered for the group

Monthly email communiqués from FFI to promote cultural exchanges and to provide updates on policies and personnel

The Friendship Force of the San Francisco Bay Area presents . . .

Sunday, February 26, 2017

**World Friendship
Day**

2:00 to 4:00 P.M.

**Mitchell Park Library, 3700 Middlefield Rd.,
Palo Alto, CA 94303**

The public is welcome to this FREE event.

Travel with friends

***Home stays in 60 countries
Hosting international guests in Bay Area homes
Monthly dinners out
Cultural programs***

ffsfba.org

thefriendshipforce.org

Questions?



friendship force
SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

2017 FFSFBA COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President@ffsfba.org: Karen McCready

VP@ffsfba.org: K.C. Sarr

Secretary@ffsfba.org: Barbara Ross

Treasurer@ffsfba.org: Judy Smith

STANDING COMMITTEES

EventPlanner@ffsfba.org: open

Membership@ffsfba.org: Carol Easter

Newsletter@ffsfba.org: Dave & Dee Gustavson

Publicity@ffsfba.org: Karen McCready

Webmaster@ffsfba.org: Dan Eggerding

EXCHANGE DIRECTORS

Memphis, TN, InboundMT@ffsfba.org
Barry Rader,

Sapporo, Japan, OutboundSJ@ffsfba.org
K.C. Sarr,

SUPPORT COMMITTEES

ExchangeBanker@ffsfba.org: Judy Smith

Merchandise@ffsfba.org: Carol Easter

Sunshine: Darlene Boyanich

MemberRecruitment@ffsfba.org: open

MemberWelcome@ffsfba.org: Natalie Heling

Forester@ffsfba.org: Karen McCready

2017 CALENDAR

February 11

FF Board Meeting, 11am,
Gustavsons' home, Los Altos

February 16

Let's Eat Out: Dusita Thai Cuisine,
2325 El Camino Real, Santa
Clara, 6pm, Barbara Ross, host

February 26

World Friendship Day, 2-4pm,
Mitchell Park Library, 3700
Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto

March 12-19

Inbound Exchange from Memphis,
TN

March 30

Let's Eat Out, Casa Robles
Restaurant (Mexican), 3839
Washington Blvd., Fremont,
6pm, Kathy Bray, host

April 8

FF Board Meeting, TBD

May 6 or 7

FFSFBA Birthday Meeting, TBD

June 3

FF Board Meeting, TBD

June 11-24

Outbound Exchange to Sapporo,
Japan

July 22

Annual BBQ at Carol Easter's,
Fremont

August 12

FF Board Meeting, TBD

August 24-28

FF World Conference, Manchester,
England

**September 24-
October 7**

Outbound Exchange to Oklahoma
City & Denver

October 14

FF Board Meeting, TBD

November 19

FF Board Meeting, TBD

November 4-11

Inbound Exchange from Nagasaki,
Japan

December 2

Holiday Luncheon, location TBD

FFSFBA website: <http://ffsfba.org>

Friendship Force International

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