



friendship force

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA
Changing the Way You See the World

Vol. 29 No. 4

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA NEWSLETTER

November/December 2012

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The days of 2012 are dwindling down to a precious few. FFSFBA has just two more events this year. On November 17th we will meet at Prusch Park in San Jose to celebrate Founder's Day and recognize all those members who have played such an important role in making the Friendship Forest a significant part of our club. On December 1st we will again meet at Michael's Restaurant for our annual Holiday Luncheon with entertainment by the Madrigal Singers of Mountain View High School. Details of these two events can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

2012 has been an active year for our club with two exchanges and many "events." I would especially like to thank two individuals who played a major role in the success of these activities: Martha LeRoy and Karen McCready. Martha is our Vice President and our Event Planner. She has been the "logistics" person for all of our events, in addition to accepting the role of ED for our 2013 Exchange to Europe. She has been very busy and involved all year. Karen has been responsible for many of our event programs, including the excellent speakers we had for three of our meetings. She also handled the publicity for most of the year and served as co-ED for the incoming South Africa exchange, a very demanding job. In addition to all this, Karen worked tirelessly on the maintenance of the Friendship Forest and put together the program for Founder's Day. Thanks to both of you for all your support and contributions to our club this year. Obviously there have been many others who contributed significant efforts to our 2012 success. Thanks to all of you.

Next up—2013! At this point we have an outgoing exchange in June to Wales and Germany with an extended tour to the Czech Republic and Poland. Martha will be leading that group, which is filling up fast. In May we will be hosting the club from Horowhenua, New Zealand, and Wendy Dewell will be the Exchange Director for that exchange. Rose Marie Everett will be ED-ing for the incoming exchange from Manitoba, Canada in late September. All three of these EDs will be needing and asking for your assistance in order to make these activities of FFSFBA successful.

Finally, your Board submitted the following countries as our request for an outgoing exchange in 2014: Australia, Brazil, Argentina or Peru and Hungary or the Czech Republic. We will be notified after the first of the year (2013) which country we have been assigned by FFI. —*Don Pelland, President*

UPCOMING INCOMING EXCHANGE

Our first incoming exchange for 2013 will be May 17th–24th when the Friendship Force Club from Horowhenua, New Zealand pays us a visit. Do you want to be part of planning our activities with them? **Now** is the time to volunteer! Contact our incoming Exchange Director, Wendy Dewell,

—*Wendy Dewell, E.D.*

MEMBERSHIP DUES AND FEES FOR 2013

The FFSFBA Board has discussed dues and fees for 2013 and has decided upon some changes. One change that doesn't affect current members but will affect new members is as follows. Up to now we have prorated the dues after July. We will no longer be prorating, but will expect full dues until October 1. After October 1 the dues collected from new members will carry over through the following year.

The change in fees will be in the cost of the newsletter. Printing costs are rising, so the cost of receiving printed newsletters in 2013 will be \$10 rather than \$5.

—*Louise Heiduk, Membership*

WALES AND GERMANY IN 2013

We are so excited about our upcoming exchange to Cardiff, Wales and Nuremberg, Germany in June/July 2013. Following the exchange we will be touring Warsaw, Krakow and Prague. There has been lots of interest, especially among our newer members. We have 17 ambassadors booked and ready to go. We plan to have some events in the new year which should get us ready to experience these two very different and vibrant countries. The ambassadors will be getting together as a group, to get to know each other better, learn about expectations and to immerse ourselves in the Welsh and German cultures. It will probably involve sausages and ales, which they both have in common. —*Martha LeRoy, E.D.*

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of the FFSFBA was held on September 9th at the San Francisco Library. After determining that we had an appropriate quorum of members, the slate of officers was presented. All of the 2012 executive committee agreed to a second term. A motion calling for the election of the executive committee was made and a vote taken. The vote was to accept the following officers for a second term:

Don Pelland—President

Martha LeRoy—Vice President

Ann Halligan—Secretary

Nancy Menz—Treasurer

A program, titled *The Hidden Europe*, highlighting travel in Eastern/Central Europe, was presented by author Francis Tapon. The 90 minute presentation included a fascinating slide-show set to music and narrated with interesting facts and humorous anecdotes. Mr. Tapon's presentation really resonated with our members and guests. A flurry of questions ensued, which finally needed to be cut off because we had to vacate the room. Despite the vacancy deadline, people stayed back to engage Mr. Tapon and share experiences. The subject really related to our upcoming exchanges in Germany and scheduled tour of Poland and Czech Republic.

Following the meeting, small groups got together for an early dinner and dined in various venues. My group dined al-fresco at a charming little restaurant featuring a wine bar and light fare.

—Martha LeRoy, Vice President

MORETON, AUSTRALIA FRIENDS

Remember that delightful 2008 inbound exchange with our North Moreton, Australian friends? That was the first experience Scott and I had as new Friendship Force members, and through the years, thanks to email and Christmas letters, we have stayed in touch with Glynnis Kelly, the ambassador we day hosted, as well as Allan and Olive Roff, a couple we simply fell in love with, in part because Scott and Allan have the same crazy sense of humor. So imagine our excitement when we were given the privilege of truly surprising Glynnis, Allan, and Olive at the Sacramento airport on September 6th. The North Moreton club was arriving for a week-long exchange with the Sacramento club on that day, and Cheewa, the Sacramento ED, helped us plan this surprise. Greeting and hugging dear Friendship Force friends from Down Under that we first met 4 years previously brought us immediately back to the heart of what Friendship Force is all about—friendship. Yes, it takes a bit of time and energy to stay in touch with friends we all meet during exchanges but rarely have a chance to see again, but this moment in Sacramento was oh so worth it. And it further cemented our friendship with all three of those delightful Aussie friends.

—Luree Miller

CHRISTINE WOOD AND WALT COE

Two of the club's new members herald from Tiburon—Christine Wood and Walt Coe. Christine is a Bay Area native, although spent some of her childhood years living in Japan and Europe. Walt is a Detroit native. Christine has two adult children and a new granddaughter—all live in the Bay Area. Walt has two adult children, one in Chicago and one in Kansas City. Christine and Walt met by chance (is anything truly by chance?) while individually vacationing in Belize a couple of years ago and realized life would be much more interesting together than apart. They are avid hikers, love to garden, and love to entertain (they hosted a potluck during the Cape of Good Hope exchange). Christine used to be a scull rower, and, with the exception of Antarctica, has traveled to all the continents. Walt recently hiked the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu with several people in their early 30s—and was applauded by them at the end of the trail, as a 69-year-old, for matching them, stride for stride. This is an adventuresome couple, so their love of travel and meeting new people in diverse cultural settings, along with Christine's long-standing friendship with current members Scott and Luree Miller, are at the heart of their interest in joining FFSFBA.



Luree & Scott Miller with their Aussie Friends



Luree & Scott Miller's Aussie Friends

PEACE, THE HOME STAY WAY

All of us live together day by day
From Shanghai to San Francisco Bay
Our genes connect us, it's all biologic
Our cultures divide us, it defies all logic
For reason to find its season we need Home Stay

Fear arises from ignorance and isolation
Friendship from trust and contemplation
Getting to know you is a two-way street
Where everyone is in the driver's seat
Thoughtful motoring is everyone's obligation

If we open our eyes we can each of us see
That all of us share a common humanity
If we open our doors as well as our minds
We can discover the universal tie that binds
Culture is the lock, love is the key

by James G Luce
(inspired by Billy Lee)



The Friendship Force
of the San Francisco Bay Area invites you to

Forest Founders' Day

Saturday, November 17, 2012 11:00 am-1:30 pm
Emma Prusch Farm Park Meeting Hall
647 S. King Road at Story Road, San Jose, CA 95116
(See directions on page 4.)

Brunch and Founders' Day Program
Acknowledgment of the Forest Founders
Memorial to Howard Craven
History of Prusch Park and Friendship Forest
Our City Forest's programs

Planting of trees in the Friendship Forest
The Founders' Tree
Trees for our guests coming from Horowhenua,
New Zealand in May 2013
and from Manitoba, Canada in September 2013
RSVP by November 10 to Martha:

Founders' Day on November 17: Celebrating Our Leafy Legacy of Friendship

In 1995, the Friendship Force of the San Francisco Bay Area adopted a space in San Jose's Prusch Park to create our Friendship Forest. Since then, FFSFBA has planted a tree for each of the international clubs that we have hosted. Today, 18 trees represent those friendships that have been developed and nurtured through all these years. Founders' Day, on Saturday, November 17, at Prusch Park in San Jose, will give all of our members and special guests an opportunity to honor those who inspired and launched this tribute to friendship. At the same time, we can acknowledge the priceless benefit of adding trees to our public places for everyone to enjoy.

Because November is the best month for planting trees, we will be planting on November 17 not only a Founders' Tree for our special honorees but also the trees that we will be dedicating to our visitors from Horowhenua, New Zealand in May 2013 and from Manitoba, Canada in September 2013. Here are the trees that will honor those groups:

For Horowhenua, New Zealand



Leptospermum scoparium 'Ruby Glow'
New Zealand Tea Tree
aka "Manuka"

For Manitoba, Canada



Cedrus deodara Deodar Cedar

The Founders' Tree



Quercus lobata Valley Oak

JAPANTOWN

On October 27th, a lovely fall day, twenty-five members of FFSFBA visited Japantown, San Jose.

Our visit began with lunch at Minato Sushi. Following lunch the group walked around the block to the San Jose Buddhist Church, a small church surrounded by a lovely garden with unique white granite boulders. These boulders represent the parts of Japanese heritage which have become separated from the mainland of Japan.

We were met at the church by the Reverend Ken Fujimoto. He demonstrated a portion of the chant used in the church's Sunday service and then explained the history and meaning of their sutras. He also interpreted the stunningly beautiful rooms of worship and answered our members' many interesting questions.

After a very enlightening hour with Mr. Fujimoto, we headed for the Japanese American Museum of San Jose, also on 5th Street. In front of the museum are notable landmarks of Japantown, such as rustic benches and inverted buckets, which recall the contribution of Japanese Americans to agriculture during the early 20th century. Inside the museum, our small group tours were conducted by museum members. Photographs, artifacts and histories brought to life the outrageous internment of Japanese Americans during WWII. One very interesting piece in the museum was a camp barracks building, newly built to the exact government specs that were used in 1942.

All in all... a sobering, informative and lovely day.

—Ann Halligan, Secretary

DIRECTIONS TO EMMA PRUSCH PARK

Directions: From the East Bay, take 680 south to the King Road exit. Turn left onto South King Road and right to enter Prusch Park. (Or take 880 to merge with 101 and continue with directions below.)

From the Peninsula, take 280 south, nearly to 680. Exit just past 101, turning right onto S. King Road. Turn right into the park at 647 South King Road, San Jose, CA.

From the West Bay, take 101 south to Santa Clara Street exit toward San Jose State/CA-130/Alum Rock Avenue. Turn left onto E. Santa Clara Street. East Santa Clara becomes Alum Rock Avenue. Turn right onto S. King Road. Turn right into the park at 647 South King Road, San Jose, CA.

DIRECTIONS TO MICHAELS RESTAURANT

Take Highway 101 to Mountain View. Exit on North Shoreline, and go approximately 2 miles to the restaurant. Free parking is available in the restaurant's parking lot (near the golf course).

LAKE HARTWELL, GEORGIA

FRIENDSHIP FORCE

Here's a group picture of Lake Hartwell, Georgia Friendship Force folks and us.

Natalie Cheng and I joined the Sacramento FF Chapter on this two-exchange tour of the South, from September 24th to October 6th.

We spent one week in communities outside of Birmingham, Alabama and one week at Lake Hartwell which included members from both Georgia and South Carolina.

We were very sad to leave our new friends in the South. By the way, their weather was beautiful, in the low 70's the entire two weeks.

—RoseMarie Everett



RoseMarie is in the blue jacket, second from right.



RoseMarie is in the second row, far left; Natalie Cheng is in the front row, fourth from left.

Friendship Force Holiday Luncheon

Saturday, December 1, 2012
Michael's Restaurant
2960 North Shoreline Blvd.
Mountain View

Noon to 1:00 PM is a social hour with a no-host bar
Lunch will be served at 1:00

The program will include entertainment by the Madrigal Singers and
a presentation by our FFSFBA ambassadors to New Zealand

Menu Choices

Roast Beef, English cut, au jus
Broiled Salmon, lemon beurre blanc
Baked Cannelloni, Italian style

Grilled Vegetable Brochette with Wild Rice

Includes seasonal greens, vegetables, potato du jour, rolls, coffee and chocolate mousse.
Information:

-----Detach here-----

Holiday Luncheon Reservation: **Must be received by November 24**

Name(s) _____

Phone (____) _____ Email address _____

Roast Beef # ____ @ \$28.00 = _____

Broiled Salmon # ____ @ \$27.00 = _____

Baked Cannelloni # ____ @ \$23.00 = _____

Vegetable Brochette # ____ @ \$21.00 = _____

(Tax and tip are included) Total _____

Please mail check payable to FFSFBA and the reservation form to
Nancy Menz

2012 FFSFBA COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President@ffsfba.org; Don Pelland

VP@ffsfba.org; Martha LeRoy

Secretary@ffsfba.org; Ann Halligan

Treasurer@ffsfba.org; Nancy Menz

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Membership@ffsfba.org; Louise Heiduk

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RoseMarie Everett

SUPPORT COMMITTEES

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Hospitality@ffsfba.org; RoseMarie Everett

Merchandise@ffsfba.org; Wendy Dewell

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2012 CALENDAR

November 17

Friendship Forest Founders' Day at Prusch Park, San Jose, lunch, 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Directions on page 4.

December 1

Holiday luncheon, 12 noon at Michaels Shoreline Restaurant, Mountain View Directions on page 4.

2013 CALENDAR

May 17–24

Incoming Exchange from Horowhenua, New Zealand

June 25/July 17

Outgoing Exchange to Cardiff, Wales and Nuremberg, Germany

September

Incoming Exchange from Manitoba, Canada

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