

# The Friendship Force Reporter

A World of Friends is a World of Peace

Edited by: Alyce Schultz-Rozsa

March 2008

Assisted by: Arlene Lawson

Los Angeles, CA U.S.A.



Our year is off to a good start. The Niagara, Canada club has arrived and is enjoying our good weather. We met them at the March 2<sup>nd</sup> General meeting. What a nice group of Ambassadors. **Sharon Levy, ED** has done a great job of organizing this exchange and it shows! All the ambassadors have ear-to-ear smiles.

We have added a domestic outbound exchange to this year's program. It will be to Cherry Hill, New Jersey the end of October 2008. We do need an Exchange director for this exchange so if you are interested, please contact **Sandra Arai. Samantha**

**Monheit** will be the exchange director for the New Jersey club. Samantha is a long time member of FFLA and maintains dual membership with the New Jersey club.

We have received our international outbound exchange for 2009. We will visit Bogota, Colombia and Sao Jose do Rio Preto, Brazil. It is scheduled around January or February 2009. We are working on an inbound exchange and will let you know as soon as we get it.

**Charlou Larronde** has offered her house for a fundraiser in July. Doesn't that sound like a lot of fun, get your bathing suits ready. Thank you Charlou for your generosity. We always have a great party at your house. We will let everyone know when we have a firm date.

Several members are going to the Western Regional Conference March 10-12 hosted by the FF San Diego Club. There will be representatives from clubs in California, Arizona and Hawaii. I am so happy that our club will have a good number of people attending.

We have a busy year ahead of us. Don't forget, if you want to get involved, give me a call.

In friendship,

*Pat Gittleman*

*"It's a Wonderful World"*



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## OUR EXCHANGES

The ***Niagara Canada Inbound Exchange*** arrived in Los Angeles on February 28 and will depart on March 6. Members of our Club worked very hard to make sure our ambassadors have a great time. In addition to the many wonderful activities planned by the home host there will be a downtown tour and visits to the Autry Museum, Griffith Observatory and the Getty Center. Many met our Niagara visitors at the General Meeting, March 2. A Farewell Party at Fred and Marjie Mautner's will be a wonderful conclusion to their visit. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this exchange a success.

### **Sharon Levy, ED**

FFLA has been invited to visit two clubs in England, the ***County Cleveland Club and the Isle of Wight Club***.

We will visit the County Cleveland Club first. It is a small club. They have invited sixteen of us to visit. We are already working on arrangements for the trip and they are already making plans for our visit.

After our stay with Cleveland, we will fly south to Southampton and take the ferry over to the Isle of Wight. The Isle of Wight is located off the southern coast of England in the English Channel.

Since the IOW club visited us in November 2006, many of us are acquainted with some of their members. They are excited that we are coming and are looking forward to getting reacquainted with their FFLA hosts and to showing us their beautiful Isle.

### **Sandra Brooks Arai, ED**

## **INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES FOR 2009**

### **Outbound**

We have received word of our only outbound exchange (thus far) for 2009. We have been accepted for one week in ***Bogota, Columbia*** and one week in ***Sao Jose do Rio Preto, Brazil***. At this time, this two week Exchange is scheduled for January or February 2009. Any add-on would be up to the Exchange planning committee. Sign up sheets will be available at all upcoming meetings beginning with the General meeting on March 2. If you would like to help on the planning committee for this Exchange, please contact me, Arlene Lawson.

We realize this seems to be far in the future, but a good Exchange takes much time to plan. Therefore, we are now accepting applications for ED candidates for this Exchange. If you are interested, please send an email to me at

**grammy98@earthlink.net**. Include in this email: for which inbound you were ED (required), when you attended a leadership training workshop (doable in the future) and why you would like to lead this particular exchange. I look forward to hearing from you.

### **Inbound**

We are working on an international Inbound exchange for 2009. We will let you know when the information is available.

### **Arlene Lawson, International Exchange Chair**

## **YOUR NEWLY ELECTED BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**PRESIDENT: PAT GITTLEMAN**  
**VICE PRESIDENT: ARLENE LAWSON**  
**SECRETARY: SANDRA ASHFORD**  
**TREASURER: BERNIE SCHWEITZER**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**SANDRA ARAI      SHARON LEVY**  
**DAVE GRIMM   SHARON LAVENBERG**  
**ALYCE SCHULTZ-ROZSA**

**WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU!**

## **MORE EXCHANGE INFORMATION**

Start making your plans!! We have just finalized plans for an Exchange with **FF of Cherry Hill, NJ** for the end of October 2008, just in time for Fall Foliage. We will have a sign up sheet at the General meeting on March 2, so check your calendar and sign up for this great Exchange.

We are looking for an Exchange Director for this exchange. Please let me know if you are interested. If you have any desire to become an ED for an International Exchange, leading a domestic exchange first is a prerequisite. This exchange would be a fun one to start with and you will have lots of help.

**Sandra Arai, Domestic Exchange Chair**

### **FRIENDSHIP FORCE PLEDGE**

**AS A MEMBER OF FRIENDSHIP FORCE, I RECOGNIZE THAT I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. I RECOGNIZE THAT I HAVE A MISSION TO BE A FRIEND TO THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD. AS I EMBARK UPON THIS NEW ADVENTURE, I KNOW THAT OTHERS WILL BE WATCHING ME. I KNOW THAT THROUGH MY EXAMPLE TO MY OWN FELLOW CITIZENS AND THE PEOPLE OF OTHER NATIONS, THE CAUSES OF FRIENDSHIP, LOVE AND PEACE CAN BE FURTHERED. I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

## Member News

With all the news about Kenya I decided to Google (and Yahoo) the names of the family we stayed with in Nairobi. I found the names of 3 of the members in the family and then started sending e-mail to the organizations that were listed with their names. I was almost starting to feel a desperation trying to get in touch with them. This morning I got a phone call from **Carole Irangi**, who's living in Kansas City. Her family is safe in the suburbs of Nairobi, but many shops are closed and there are shortages. They don't go out very often right now. Carole says that even though she knows that her family is safe, she talks to them almost every day. It was so wonderful hearing from her and learning that her family is doing well. Thought you'd like to know that a "reconnection" was made.

### **Kristine Valentine**

**Gene Haberman** is recuperating at UCLA after his stroke as reported by Barbara, Gene's wife. He is more alert, talking and walking and working on his laptop.

## **EDMONTON REUNION**

In August 2006, 26 Ambassadors (23 from FFLA, two from San Diego and one from Santa Rosa) participated in an exchange to Edmonton, Canada. **Zelda Arditte** was our ED. The Canadian ED was **Clare Scott**. Clare came on a private visit to Zelda last month and was hosted and day hosted in grand style by **Zelda, Leo, Tanya Sisikin** (who wasn't even on the exchange) and others living near the Ardittes in the City. On February 10, fourteen of the Ambassadors gathered at the Valley home of **Arlene** and **Clifford Lawson** for a wonderful, memory-filled reunion, with Clare as the guest of honor. Everyone brought food or drink for a delicious pot luck style buffet. **Sharon Vaughn** also brought a digital frame which showed her Exchange photographs as a slide show.

We all had a grand time reminiscing about our Canadian adventures and recalling the dear friends we had made. Don't wait for a return visit from a host—get your group together SOON. Get out your Journal, make up your guest list, send everyone an email (or snail mail if you must!). Bring food and your pictures and relive some of the best weeks of your life. Let's make REUNIONS an FFLA tradition!!

### **Arlene Lawson**

## **TRIBUTES**

Just a note to remind the membership that our very own original **TRIBUTE CARDS** are still available. When you have an occasion to celebrate, sad or happy, an FFLA Tribute card is a lovely way to say you care and the donation fee will go into our Treasury earmarked for our Special projects. Contact: **Alyce Schultz-Rozsa** to order your all occasion card.

# Calendar

## March 2008

- 2 FFLA General Meeting—Encino Community Center  
1 pm Prospective members  
2 pm Meeting
- 11 Valley Game Night location - Shirley Cohen's @ 7:30pm
- 10-12 Western regional conference-San Diego
- 18 Westside Game Night & LEI

## April 2008

- 5 10am Board Meeting
- 8 Valley Game Night
- 12 1st workshop— inbound Taupo, New Zealand
- 15 Westside Game Night & LEI

# Exchanges

## Inbound 2008

- May: Kumasi, Ghana ED—TBD
- June 16—23 Taupo, New Zealand Mona Gifford, ED

## Outbound 2008

- August 27: Isle of Wight/County Cleveland, England  
Sandra Brooks Arai, ED
- October 2008: Cherry Hill, New Jersey ED—TBD

## Outbound 2009

- Jan or Feb: Bogota, Columbia and Sao Jose do Rio Preto,  
Brazil

Visit Our New Website:

**FF-LA.ORG**

# **THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE**

## **Of Los Angeles**

**ff-la.org**

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## **FACES, NOT PLACES**

### **REMINDER FROM THE EDITOR**

**THIS REPORTER IS GOING HIGH TECH AND *GREEN*.**

**THIS IS THE FINAL "PAPER ISSUE" OF YOUR FRIENDSHIP FORCE REPORTER. YOU WILL BE SENT THE REPORTER VIA EMAIL AND THEN IT WILL CONTINUE TO BE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.FF-LA.ORG IF YOU DO NOT HAVE EMAIL OR WOULD OTHERWISE PREFER TO HAVE A "PAPER COPY", YOU MUST INFORM THE EDITOR BY TELEPHONE OR AT ASRCREATE1@AOL.COM THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION.**

**IN FRIENDSHIP, ALYCE**

