

FRIEND TO FRIEND

Vol. XXI, Issue 4, April 2009

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Sandy Sez . . .

Make sure you look at the calendar this week! The 4th Wednesday comes EARLY this month and you won't want to miss the fabulous meeting and meal Ned has put together for us. Bring a friend. Just be sure to let the reservation caller know so we will have plenty of dogs and trimmings.

This is another in the great series of meetings Stu Koch and the program committee have arranged for 2009. Come enjoy and appreciate.

Lots of good news and good activities going on for our club so be sure to check your newsletter, our website and the international website.

Six of us will travel to Reno in early May for the Western Region Leadership Conference. I'm sure we will bring back even more great ideas!!

This is an abbreviated newsletter this month as our super editor Joan Florence has her hands full. She is back on the hook next month, thank goodness!

See you Wednesday!!!

LET'S ALL JOIN AROUND THE VIRTUAL CAMPFIRE

APRIL 22, 6:30 P.M.

**ENJOY A GRILLED
HAMBURGER OR HOT DOG
WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS**

POTATO SALAD, CHIPS



ALL FOR JUST \$5.00

The chairman of the 2010 Jamboree, Noah Mapstead and one of the Scout Masters, 18 year old Sam Ehteshami will be telling us about the plans Kern County has to participate.

**Come and learn who
among us has once
been a Boy Scout!!!**



¿Another Nice Wrinkle for La Serena Chile Ambassadors? (Talk to Bob Himes!)

ATTENTION AMBASSADORS TO LA SERENA, CHILE. Several people have inquired about an extension to Machu Pichu when we return from the Galapagos Islands. I have checked with the travel agent and this is a very good possibility. We would spend three nights in Cuzco with a bus trip to Machu Pichu, and return home via Lima. This cost of this portion of the trip stands at \$2100.00 I am working on this to try and make it a little less expensive. I will keep you posted. **Bob Himes.**



North Carolina Domestic “Return” Exchange Arriving May 28, 2009

We are having a domestic exchange with Asheville, North Carolina May 28, 2009 to June 1, 2009. We have some interesting events planned. BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF ANY EXCHANGE IS THE PEOPLE. WE WANT AS MANY CLUB MEMBERS AS POSSIBLE INVOLVED. We will have six couples....no singles...that is a first time everyone is paired up. Watch on your email for the signup sheet sent independently from this newsletter. We have a neighborhood potluck scheduled, a trip to Tehachapi,, a car rally, Noriega lunch and a very special potluck at **Donna Rogers** home in Wasco on Sunday at 4:00 for our farewell party. They will leave June 1, 2009 after a tour of the Sunny Gem Almond Plant in Wasco for Santa Barbara. If you want to be a part of this exchange—whatever your talents—let **Marie Krause** know—email mglass@copper.net or telephone 661 758 2537. We want you to meet our friends from North Carolina we visited in 2005 on a exchange.

CONGRATULATIONS!

At our last Friendship Force meeting we welcomed six guests plus three speakers, all of whom were invited by our membership. This is the way to increase membership in Kern Friendship Force generating new ideas while increasing our visibility in the community....more people create more energy and open new avenues for collaboration with other clubs and agencies .

If you know of someone who might enjoy coming to one of our interesting Friendship Force meetings consider inviting them to the next meeting, ———— and the next one after that.

Special congratulations and appreciation to new member and first time program planner **Judith Daunell** for the great pies and fascinating presentation by the college students from Nepal and Mali! And thanks to Professor Stanley Clark for bringing them to us.

Domestic Exchange to Houston March, 2009

by Ben and Trish Goossen

Eight ambassadors from Kern County returned from Texas in early April. The week with Houston club was awesome. We saw many things that we expected but were still amazed by the grandeur of all.

Food is an every day adventure when traveling. The tastes of Texas featured chicken fried steak, BBQ, and one dinner included "tossing the rolls." The Staudt Home hosted "Crawfish-Shrimp Boil" which had us eating at a loong table covered with newspapers. We had fun trying to eat our fill of crawfish with lessons from the locals. The boil included onions, potatoes, lemons accompanied by home made beer followed by "Guitar Hero" entertainment.

Every day was packed with adventures but a few had unexpected events. Our visit to the historic 4 generation George Ranch gave us experiences of cattle ranching but finished our day with a drenching rain. We remained in good humor while they gave free coffee to warm us in our wet clothing and watch a lightning show. The tour of NASA Space Center and a ship channel cruise were enjoyed in lovely weather. We all became sports fans when we had an excellent guided tour of the Minute Maid Baseball Park, home of the Houston Astros. After that clever indoor/outdoor stadium, we had a guided tour of the downtown including underground tunnels where Glen Krauter bought a battery in a shop. More than a day could be spent in Houston's museums. After the Fine Arts museum and lunch, we enjoyed a Genghis Khan exhibit at the Museum of Natural Science.

The hosts and club members were very hospitable. We hope they will visit us next year. By the time we left Houston, we "lahked Teksuns an' diduhnit thank they tawkd funny." We all thought it was a good trip and a study of Texas history. Ask [Joan Pracy](#) about this exchange.

Seven of us owe [Gregg Hazle](#) a big THANKS for driving a rented van to San Antonio where we experienced The Alamo and enjoyed the RiverWalk. Afterwards [Marie Krause](#) extended her trip to FF Dallas.



Greg
Iger

Dina
Baykova

OPEN WORLD

**Dina was told that Americans are dull,
hard driving, no-fun capitalists.**

**Greg was taught that Russians were
sad, drab and under the
totalitarian thumb.**

Together they came up with an interesting idea. Could we contribute toward world peace and understanding by educating each other through a photography exchange!

**Dina's got her happy photos ready.
Greg is gathering his! A gallery
showing in Russia is planned!**

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF KERN
COUNTY
PO BOX 2552
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NOTICE JUST RECEIVED :
CARDIFF WALES IS A MATCH
FOR JUNE 2010 – A GLOBAL
EXCHANGE

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OFFICERS 2009

President, Sandra Larson 746-6056
Secretary, Dolly Hei 746-4107
Vice President, Stu Koch, 822-4795
Treasurer, Steve McCalley 587-4840
Past President, Ben Goossen 746-4789
At Large, Jody Miller, 831-0387

STANDING COMMITTEES

Director of Exchanges George Larson 746-6056
Membership Nedra Gilfillan 871-5212
Exchange Treasurer Marie Krause 758-2537
Birthday Celebration Bob Himes 664-0702
Hospitality Phyllis Campbell 832-1586
Website Lyle Carter 746-2995
Publicity Caroline West 325-6223 Telephone
Julia Linfesty 831-0629 Newsletter
Joan Florence 808-5133
Raffle Chuck Switzer 588-4553
Interclub Judy Chase 854-3956 Supplies
Inventory Hildie Elges 871-3442

EXCHANGE DIRECTORS

2008 Inbound Thailand, Ben Goossen, 746-4789
2008 Outbound New Zealand, Bob Laramee, 588-1463
2008 Inbound Canada, Claudia Keith, 324-1239
2009 Inbound Domestic Las Vegas, Claudia Keith, 324-1239
2009 Inbound Hannover, Germany, Frieda Jackson, 873-9661
2009 Inbound Domestic, Western North Carolina, Marie Krause, 758-2537
2009 Outbound La Serena, Chile, Chuck Switzer, 588-4553
2009 Inbound Western North Carolina, 758-2537
2010 Outbound Thailand, Ben Goossen, 746-4789
2010 Inbound England, Pauline Larwood, 871-6090

**Wedding Bells for
Jordan!!**

Our very best wishes go to Jordan Wilkerson who will be married this month. Long time members will remember Jordan as the little girl who used to skip about the room with the raffle basket and later traveled to New Zealand and Costa Rica with us. They will be living in the Sacramento Area -- heads up to the FF Club there!!