

FRIEND TO FRIEND

Volume XXIII
Issue 10

Friendship Force of
Kern County
PO Box 2552
Bakersfield, CA 93303
www.ffkern.org

President:

Steve McCalley
smccalley@bak.rr.com
661-587-4840

**NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE**

**10 TH OF EACH
MONTH**

*The
Friendship
Force*



Kern County, California
www.ffkern.org



MESSAGE from STEVE ...

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO MADE THIS A GREAT YEAR!!

Fall is finally here and our final exchange of 2011 begins this Saturday. What a year!!! We hosted the FFI Western Regional Conference, Sacramento Exchange, Grandparent/Grandchild Exchange, Language Learner Exchange, sent an energetic team to Hay River, NWT, Canada.



Hay River

So the final tally for 2011 is-Inbound 4-
Outbound 1. Not to forget the Member-
ship Pot Luck in July. Suffice to say it has been a very busy
year. No wonder we are all a bit tired.

Next year promises to be a bit slower. We have an Inbound Exchange confirmed for February 2012 under the capable leadership of Past President Chuck Switzer and Hilde Elges as ED's. Please mark your calendar for late February 2012 to assure our friends from south of the border an excellent Kern County welcome.

Sandy Larson will be leading a group in March 2012 to Guarania and Curitiba, Brazil with a stop off at Iguazu Falls. This will be a spectacular trip. Two weeks in Brazil, what an opportunity to see the rest of America.

Please be considering your "wish list" for 2013. Selection of a trip that you will take to a location that is desirable is up to you. Please return your selections to me by October 26th so I can make FFI aware of your desires.

I look forward to seeing you all at the October meeting on the 26th for a bit of moose stew and bannock. Again, thanks to you for making us the Club that other Clubs want to visit.

Best Regards, Steve



DUES TIME

IT'S TIME TO PAY YOUR DUES AGAIN
\$45 SINGLES/\$60 COUPLES

DO IT NOW , THEN YOU CAN FORGET !!



CALENDAR 2011



General Meeting,	October 26
Language Learner exchange Inbound exchange	October 15-21
Inbound, Mundo Maya, Mexico	February 2012
Brazil Outbound exchange	March 13, 2012

OCTOBER MEETING

The ambassadors that went to Hay River are providing the food and program for the meeting. There will be Mock Moose Stew and Bannock, salad and dessert. The program will be a video presentation and short comments from the ambassadors. Cost is \$5.00 per person. THE BEST BARGAIN IN TOWN. When someone calls you for a reservation be ready to say "YES".

When: Wed., Oct. 26 , 6:30 pm
Where: Mt. Vernon Ave. Vets Hall



Brazil March 13, 2012

Two weeks of home hosting. Cost estimate around \$1900 plus airfare to Sao Paulo. Estimate covers home hosting fees, bus and airfare moving around Brazil, hotel one night in Sao Paulo and one night near Iguasu Falls and guided tour of Falls.

If interested get your application to me right away before the exchange is advertised outside our club.

Support FFI - silent auction

Can you help keep FFI strong? How about either a bid or an item for the on-line auction sponsored by the FFI Board of Directors. Bidding will end around March 1, World Friendship Day. Auction entries are needed immediately. Entries should be opportunities, NOT physical items. Got a time share you aren't using? Like to take people line dancing? Golfing? Bird counting? Last year I offered a personally guided visit to the elephant seals and three nights home hosting. The winner was Aila from Florida and we had a great time together. I also offered home hosting for small town 4th of July. Winner wasn't able to make it in 2011 so gave her a rain check for another mutually convenient date.

Let me know what you might be able to do. Maybe we could bundle up a couple of offers. When it's time to bid, I'll get instructions in newsletter.

THANKS!!

Sandra Larson



Hay River trip: Steve, Marie, Irene, and Ned.

CANADIAN ROCKIES ARE A MUST SEE!



Before our recent exchange to Hay River, the ambassadors took a pre-trip through the Canadian Rockies. We flew to Calgary Canada where we were met by our bus driver/guide. The tour arrangements were made with the largest provider of those services in western Canada, Brewster Vacations.



Our first day was a drive thru the flat agricultural fields outside Calgary. Soon we saw some foothills and eventually some very high craggy mountains which started our journey through the Canadian Rockies chain. This was the start of seeing many beautiful lakes all fed by glaciers.



We arrived in Banff National Park area where we took a gondola ride for a bird's eye view of whole valley. We enjoyed walking through a garden around a National Park Headquarters. We were astounded to realize their growing season is only two short months.



High tea and a gourmet dinner at the beautiful old Lake Louise Hotel was our next highlight. We stayed the night in gorgeous rooms with views of the lake and glacier where we could watch the evening descend in our supplied terry cloth robes, if we wished.



We saw unbelievably aqua lakes and one of the highest waterfalls in Canada and as we drove, 100 glaciers were in surrounding mountains.



The next day held a surprise no one could anticipate. We had tickets to ride the Columbia Ice fields Snowmobile which would take us out onto the glacier. But it started to snow as we climbed further toward the summit. We were told that a snowmobile was stuck on the glacier so we were not able to go. This was the last day of Aug. and very unexpected. So we played in the snow and took pictures.



All in all a great trip!!!



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WHAT IS FRIENDSHIP FORCE?

The Friendship Force is a non-profit organization sponsoring people to people exchanges of individuals and families to over fifty nations of the world. It brings people of the world together through home hospitality experiences that can build lasting bonds of friendship

OFFICERS 2011

President: Steve McCalley, 587-4840 Vice President, Ana Lucia Chiles, 324-2792
Secretary, Kate Himes, 599-2241 Treasurer, Marie Krause, 758-2537
Past Co-Presidents, Charles Switzer, 588-4553 and Caroline West, 325-6223

STANDING COMMITTEES

Director of Exchanges	Ben Goossen	746-4789
Membership	Susan Eagle	472-3191
Exchange Treasurer	Marie Krause	758-2537
Hospitality	Susan Eagle	472-3191
Publicity	Nancy Hazle	835-9434
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

2010 Inbound Houston, Texas, Nancy Hazle, 835-9434
2010 Inbound England, Pauline Larwood, 871-6090
2010 Outbound Cardiff UK (Global), Sandra Larson, 746-6056
2011 Outbound Hay River, Canada, Nedra Gilfillan, 871-5212
2011 Inbound Language Learner, Germany, Merry McCalley, 587-4840
2012 Inbound Mundo Maya, Mexico, Chuck Switzer, 588-4553
2012 Outbound Brazil, Sandra Larson, 746-6056