



friendship force

HOUSTON

March
2010

A World Of Friends Is A World Of Peace.
A Non-Profit Organization Promoting Peace through Citizen Exchanges

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WHAT IS FRIENDSHIP FORCE INTERNATIONAL?

The Friendship Force is a non-profit organization sponsoring **people-to-people** exchanges between people in over fifty nations of the world. It brings people together through home stay exchanges – creating unforgettable experiences that build lasting bonds of friendship.

As an Ambassador you share lifestyles in a private home in other countries for a week. In return, you may home host people from that nation or other nations to share your lifestyle. The ever-widening Friendship Force global network represents a powerful and growing force that can overcome differences between people and nations.

President's Corner

Greetings to Friendship Force Houston!

Come one! Come all! Friendship Force Houston's grand celebration of World Friendship Day is to be held on March 27th and we want you to come to it and bring your friends, family, and children to this wonderful event! For \$5.00 per person, you will be served a delicious Greek lunch catered by Niko Niko's Greek Restaurant, and you will be treated to an excellent presentation of The Best Of Japan and The Best of California by our members who have travelled to both places. This promises to be one of our greatest meetings, one you won't want to miss! Be sure to wear something you picked up on one of your travels, and be prepared to talk about it as well as about one of your most memorable experiences while in that particular country. And to make sure you'll be coming to this once-in-a-lifetime celebration, I will be calling you personally to take your reservations. So---invite your family and friends, and if you think your children and grandchildren can learn from this experience, bring them along, too! There's room for everyone! This celebration of World Friendship Day will be held at the Tracy Gee Community Center on Saturday, March 27th, at 11:00 AM, and we'd love to see you there! Be ready to give me your reservations, and we will all be looking forward to seeing you there. Don't forget, it's March 27th and a time to celebrate friendships we've made around the world. See you there!

In friendship,

Priscilla Bruyere

2010 Inbound Exchange from Newcastle, Australia

As time approaches, Linda Doolittle, our Exchange Director, will be asking for your help and will be setting up planning sessions. Since exchanges are the heart of Friendship Force, please plan to participate as much as you can by either home hosting, day hosting or dinner hosting and plan to attend both the Welcome and the Farewell Dinners to show our guests that the entire Houston Club welcomes them to Texas.

2010 Outbound Exchange to California

Since this was a four-part exchange (Kern County, Santa Barbara, San Diego, Orange County) some of our Houston members are already home, but others are still enjoying the California hospitality. The latest comments from ED Ruby Reviere are:

“The clubs in California welcomed us with open arms and the hosts can't do enough for us. We will have pretty much covered the sights along the coast from north of Santa Barbara to San Diego. And, of course, the mountains and the entire coastal area are beautiful. [We've been] to the Nixon Library and the Crystal Cathedral. We have gone to museums, to gardens, to old mission churches, the Hearst Castle and to see elephant seals. The fact is that we have done so much every day that it is difficult sometimes to recall where we did what.”



Elephant seals on the coast at Santa Barbara



We will have a presentation of their exchange later in the year.

“Friar” Tom Evans at the Santa Barbara Mission

World Friendship Day luncheon and program

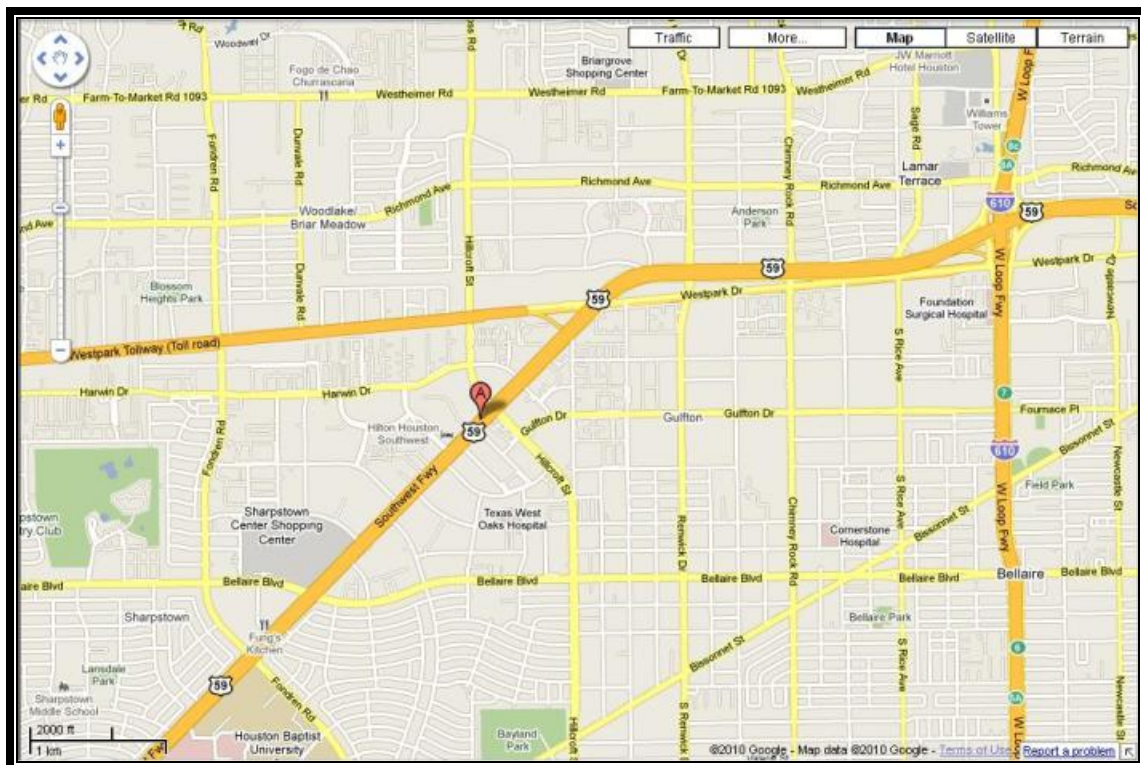
Be sure to join us for our annual celebration of Friendship Force's World Friendship Day. This began some years ago on a specified day in March on which all clubs celebrated together, starting in Japan and going around the world from east to west, being followed on the internet much like the celebration of New Years. Because of scheduling problems over the years, each club now chooses its best day for this celebration. Therefore, we are adhering to our "last Saturday of the month" routine and will meet at the Tracy Gee Community Center (3399 Westcenter Blvd, just off Richmond inside Beltway 8 west) on Saturday, March 27th at 11:00am. For this special occasion, we wear native clothing from a country we have visited, and we get to tell a brief explanation of why this is special to us.

We are having our lunch catered by Niko Niko's Greek Restaurant on Montrose Blvd. and we are asking a \$5-per-person contribution to help defray the cost, although the club is picking up the majority of the meal price. Get ready for some great Greek food, especially their salads and gyro meat.

International Dining Night for April

Please join us for our next evening of International Dining on Saturday, April 10th at Himalaya Restaurant (Indian cuisine) located at 6652 Southwest Freeway (near Hillcroft) at 5:30pm. See link below for information and reviews. Please give your RSVP to the calling committee as space is limited. <http://www.b4-u-eat.com/houston/restaurants/reviews/rsv3360.asp>

http://houston.citysearch.com/profile/41850928/houston_tx/himalaya_restaurant_catering.html



2010 FF Houston Calendar

	Day	Activity	Location	Time
Mar 27	Sat	World Friendship Day luncheon & Japan Exchange Presentation	Tracy Gee CC	11:00 AM
Apr 6	Tue	Board Meeting	Tracy Gee CC	7:00 PM
Apr 10	Sat	International Dining Night	Himalaya, 6652 SW Frwy, 713-532-2837 (Hillcroft area), Pakistani	5:30 PM
Apr 24	Sat	Lunch at La Madeleine & Forbidden Gardens tour	Katy, TX (lunch on your own, tour \$10 or \$5 for seniors 60+)	11:00 AM
May 4	Tue	Board Meeting	Tracy Gee CC	7:00 PM
May 8	Sat	International Dining Night	Bonga, 9861 Long Point, Korean, under \$20	5:30 PM
May 22	Sat	China trip presentation by Missmans & Doolittles	Tracy Gee CC	11:00 AM
Jun 1	Tue	Board Meeting	Tracy Gee CC	7:00 PM
Jun 12	Sat	International Dining Night	Dimassi's, 5160 Richmond (near Sage), Middle Eastern, under \$15	5:30 PM
Jun 26	Sat	Presentation on 200 th Anniversaries of Independence for Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela & Colombia	Tracy Gee CC	11:00 AM
Jul 6	Tue	Board Meeting	Tracy Gee CC	7:00 PM
Jul 10	Sat	International Dining Night	Pho Saigon, 2808 Milan (btwn McGowan & Tuam), Vietnamese	5:30 PM
Jul 31	Sat	General Meeting	Tracy Gee CC	11:00 AM
Aug 3	Tue	Board Meeting & Nominating Committee	Tracy Gee CC	7:00 PM
Aug 14	Sat	International Dining Night	Chuy's, 2706 Westheimer (west of Kirby), Tex-Mex under \$15	5:30 PM
Aug 28	Sat	General Meeting	Tracy Gee CC	11:00 AM
Sep 7	Tue	Board Meeting	Tracy Gee CC	7:00 PM
Sep 11	Sat	International Dining Night	Maylay Bistro, 8282 Bellaire, Malaysian, under \$15	5:30 PM
Sep 25	Sat	Presentation of FFH's Exchange to Australia in 2002 & slate of officers	Tracy Gee CC	11:00 AM
Oct 3 - 9	Sun - Sat	Inbound Exchange, Linda Doolittle, ED	from Newcastle, Australia	NA
Oct 8	Fri	Farewell Dinner	TBD	5:30 PM
Oct 16-18	Sat-Mon	International Conference	Washington DC	NA

Oct 30	Sat	General Meeting & election of officers	Tracy Gee CC	11:00 AM
Nov 2	Tue	Board Meeting	Tracy Gee CC	7:00 PM
Nov 13	Sat	International Dining Night	Cadillac Bar, 1802 Shepherd (so. of I-10), Mexican, under \$25	5:30 PM
Nov 20	Sat	Holiday Party	To be determined (suggestions welcome)	11:00 AM
Dec 7	Tue	Board Meeting	Tracy Gee CC	7:00 PM
Dec 11	Sat	International Dining Night	Kenneally's Irish Pub, 2111 S. Shepherd, hamburgers & pizza, under \$12	5:30 PM
Dec 18	Sat	General Meeting	Tracy Gee CC	11:00 AM

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(under construction)

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World of Friends Catalog



JOIN FRIENDS FROM AROUND THE WORLD AT THE FFI WORLD CONFERENCE

October 16 - 18, 2010

Find out what's happening with Friendship Force International and your Friendship Force colleagues from around the world during our three-day conference in one of the world's most exciting cities! Washington, D.C., the U.S. capital, is a great town to explore with world-class museums, restaurants and historic sites. ([click here to register](#))

MULTICULTURAL EXCITEMENT IN THE MAJESTIC SETTING OF HISTORIC SCHWERIN!

July 31 - August 7, 2010

Make friends from all over the world while enjoying an ideal blend of beautiful countryside and sophisticated culture in Northern Germany. Registration deadline for this spectacular FF Festival is April 30th. Don't miss this unique opportunity.. ([view festival](#))



THE ENGLISH RIVIERA MEETS THE CHARM OF THATCHED ROOFS!

August 27 – September 3, 2010

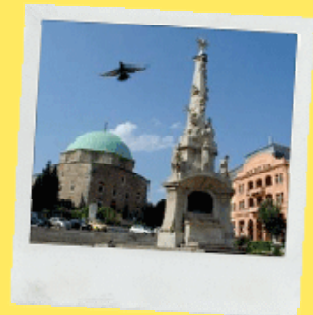
Photographers will love this journey through the varied beauty of southwest England. Enjoy trips to the rugged moors; the wild Jurassic coast near Exmouth; the river Dart, with plenty of charming villages along the way! ([view exchange](#))



VISIT ROMAN AND TURKISH RUINS DURING YOUR VISIT TO HUNGARY!

September 16 - September 23, 2010


The city of Pecs, nominated as a 2010 European Capital of culture, is your host city and the ideal beginning to this magical journey. ([view exchange](#))




DID YOU KNOW?

... that the exchanges in this monthly catalog are designed specifically to introduce brand new travelers to the Friendship Force way of seeing the world? Check out all the exchanges in this month's issue by [clicking here](#) --- And be sure to share the catalog with a friend by using the "Send to a Friend" feature in the top right corner!



 [Click here to view the new WORLD OF FRIENDS catalog](#)

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