



AUSTRIA



BELGIUM



BRAZIL



CHINA

*Friendship Force
Southern
New Jersey*



COLOMBIA



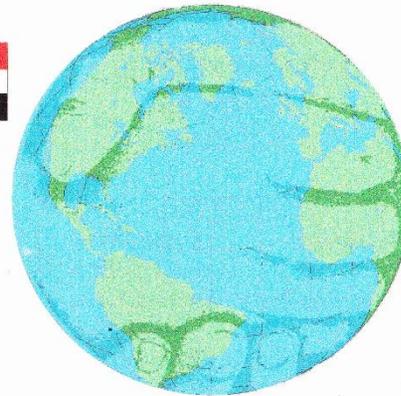
COSTA RICA



CZECHOSLOVAKIA



EGYPT



GERMANY

79

99



HUNGARY



IRELAND



ITALY



JAPAN



MEXICO

*20 Years
Friendship
Around the World*



NETHERLANDS



NEW ZEALAND



UKRAINE



UNITED KINGDOM

THE
FRIENDSHIP FORCE
OF
SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY

CELEBRATES

20TH ANNIVERSARY
1979 1999

NOVEMBER 14 1999
LUCIEN'S MANOR
BERLIN, NJ
2-6 PM

OFFICERS

Presidents Stefan Frank
Barbara Griffith
Vice Presidents Frances Farris
Sylvia Seer
Secretary Chloe Paolini
Treasurer Sue Hoke

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Officers
Membership Frances Farris
Hospitality Kay McAlonan
Newsletter Kelly & Joe Garofalo
Activities / Program Ginny Webb
Past Presidents Elvera Parlapiano
Heinz Fischer
Olga Prychka

PROGRAM

Welcome
Greetings
Invocation
Luncheon

Olga Prychka
Stefan Frank, Presiden
Heinz Fischer
Bon Appetit

Menu

House Garden Salad
Beef Bordelaise Stuffed Flounder
Seasonal Vegetables Potato
Rolls & Butter Dessert
Coffee Tea

Guest Speaker

Wayne Smith

President, Friendship Force International

Master of Ceremonies

Heinz Fischer

Introduction of Past Presidents
Club History

Telling Our Story -- Personal Anecdotes

Dr. Howard Haines & Helen Carrell (videotape)

Mike Carrell
Richard Korth
Helen Rizer
Karl Bruininghaus
Olga Prychka
Stefan frank

Closing-- Heinz Fischer

Please look at the items posted on the bulletin board

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

Our club is celebrating its 20th year of making friends with individuals across the world.

We began with 254 enthusiastic individuals on a mystery trip in a chartered plane, with a mission to be ambassadors of friendship to the people of another county. Only at the last moment did we find that the destination was Piacenza, Italy. Our group included a wide variety of occupations and ages, and some 60 members of the Haddonfield Symphony Orchestra and Chorale who had prepared a concert for our host community. We formed unforgettable relationships that participants remember vividly today.

The next day, a plane loaded with Italians disembarked here to be hosted by the South Jersey community.

All this transpired because of Wayne Smith, who first proposed establishing a worldwide citizen's exchange program to Jimmy Carter, then a presidential candidate. Friendship Force was launched from the White House early in Carter's presidency. Rosalynn Carter continues to serve as honorary chairperson.

On that first exchange, the emphasis was on flexibility. We went to live with people and share their lives, not as 'house guests' or 'tourists'. Some were hosted in mansions with servants...some peeled potatoes for the family restaurant...some lived on farms, where visits to 'mother' in the hospital was the concern...one couple with dietary problems were hosted by a hotel manager...a lawyer took a week off to play host and tour guide to another couple...one group found an empty apartment with a note on the door of the full refrigerator: "Help yourself, we went to New Jersey"...there were many stories.

A concert hall was expected by the orchestra and chorale. The venue was an outdoor stage in the ruins of an old manor house on the one day it rained. A Bechstein upright piano appeared from someone's home, a local harpist brought her instrument for loan (it was not taken out by mutual agreement). The concert went well, and the newspaper reviews were kind. (Piacenza is a sister city to Milan, home of the famous opera house, where music criticism can be an indoor sport.) In 1983, our Friendship Force Club was formed and from that beginning we have sent 590 ambassadors to 18 countries and hosted 958 ambassadors from 8 countries in return.

The Friendship Force International Atlanta, Georgia

Honorary Chairperson Rosalynn Carter
President Wayne Smith

Friendship Force in Southern New Jersey

Piacenza 1979

NJ State Friendship Force Director

Dr. Richard Holzmann

Superintendent of Schools

Cinnaminson

Flight Director Sidney Daroff Cherry Hill
Flight Coordinator Nick Pascale Cinnaminson
Music Director Dr. Howard Haines Pine Hill

Members of Haddonfield Symphony and Chorale

- 1983

South Jersey Friendship Force Club

Founding President Heinz Fischer

Past Presidents

Heinz Fischer

Richard Korth

Karl Bruninghaus

Olga Prychka

Elvera Parlapiano



Dr. Howard Haines
Music Director of the 1979 exchange with Piacenza, here conducting the Brahms Requiem at Trinity Memorial Church in Philadelphia, November 1999.



Helen Carrell
Friendship Force member, harpist and pianist for the 1979 exchange, here accompanying the Brahms Requiem with Dr Haines.



Members of the Haddonfield Symphony and Chorale, Dr. Howard Haines conducting, performing the Piacenza concert program at the Baptist church in Merchantville.



Elvira Parlapiano



Stefan Frank

Our club's traditional farewell for visiting ambassadors is a traditional Thanksgiving dinner with the story of early cooperation between the Pilgrims and the Native Americans who helped them survive the first winter and taught them their agriculture.



Dance company in Kiev performing for the ARMS visitors



In 1988, Friendship Force sponsored a special American Russian Mutual Survival (ARMS) exchange to foster peace and understanding during the cold war. A delegation of Ambassadors from New Jersey visited Kiev in the Ukraine.

Children in Odessa making chalk designs with a peace theme.