

WHAT IS SERVAS?

Servas is an international cooperative system of travelers and volunteer hosts, established to help build world peace, goodwill, and understanding by providing opportunities for contacts with persons of different cultures and backgrounds.

Hosts (mostly individuals and families plus some community groups) provide information about themselves for listing in a national directory. Approved Servas travelers choose the hosts they wish to write or telephone about possible visits (usually two nights), to share life in the hosts' homes and communities.

Peruse charges travelers a small fee. No money changes hands between travelers and hosts; ideas, we hope, pass freely between them. Servas is nonprofit, interracial, and interfaith. It has consultative status with UNESCO as a non-governmental organization.

SERVAS INTERNATIONAL NEWS is published twice a year by non-profit Servas International. President, Graham Thomas, 80 Brompton Road, London, England.

Editor, Harri C. Steinmetz, 3518 Union St. San Diego, CA 92103, USA.

Contributions to this magazine (narratives, photographs, news of other travel organizations, opinions, drawings, complaints, nominations) are not merely invited; they are eagerly sought. The editors do ask that material submitted be relevant directly to Servas, and not just of a general travel nature.

SUBSCRIBE. OR .lcoi URBo "g,

" With every true friendship we build more firmly the foundations on which the peace of the whole world rests.

Mi, K, Gandhiji

Join the Servas hosts and travelers whose friendships can perhaps help to hold the fragile world together. Please check one or more of the boxes below, enclose a donation if possible, and mail this form,

TO: Servas International News
13000 San Vicente Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90049, USA

I am not now a member of Servas, but I am interested in the organization. Please send me information, including the name and address of someone who can tell me more about Servas here in this part of the world.

Please send me the next 4 issues of your magazine. I am enclosing US \$2 or more by check, money order, or International Postal Coupons.

To help Servas in its worldwide efforts toward peace and international understanding, I enclose a donation

SERVAS SINCERELY THANKS YOU.
PLEASE PRINT NAME & ADDRESS:

WANTED: URBAN-RURAL DIALOGUE

In the mountain village I visited in West Africa last summer, the problem was, by and large, familiar:

Because of land reform, plots are too small to make farmers self-sufficient, and the subtle co-operative network among them has been, to a large extent, destroyed. The individual farmer now has to go outside the village for capital (loans), fertilizer (chemical rather than natural), water (through new and very expensive irrigation networks), or technical advice (from rural extension workers, just out of college and inexperienced).

In short, the mistakes of traditionalism have been traded for those of modernism. All needed goods and services are too expensive, irrelevant, or outright counterproductive...

There is a tremendous flow of communication from those at the top in the larger cities to the rural and urban poor. It is a

FRIENDS, MEMBERS, READERS, DO YOU

Every reader of this magazine has the opportunity--and every Servas national secretary and contact has the responsibility ---to help Servas International News survive and be of greater interest and service.

How? By sending items for us to publish. Please do it today. Surely you know about, or have experienced, some interesting, inspiring, unusual occurrences and contacts in Servas. (If you had not, why would you still be a member?) Please write us about those experiences!

Tell us what you would like to read in future issues. Send us what you would like to read in future issues!

message of material goods and how to acquire them,

The best thing those at the top could do is to assume that people at the bottom are not concerned only with economic well-being. They want closeness -- with their own work product --, other people, the society of which they are part, nature, and the transcendental.

The problem of the rural poor is probably inextricably linked to that of redesigning cities so that they can grow more of their own food. What also needs to be done is to increase the intensity, depth, and spectrum of the urban-rural dialogue.

--Excerpts from "Do Cities Know Best?" by Johan Galtung of the Institute of Development Studies in Geneva, published in the magazine of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. Professor Galtung is an international sponsor of Servas.

DO YOU KNOW THIS WORD?

In this magazine, the piece: headed "What's In It For Me?" and "The Friendship Force..." use the word SWAP. This English word, pronounced like SWOP, is considered "colloquial" (for informal use, in friendly conversation). It is both a noun meaning AN EXCHANGE or A BARTER and a verb meaning TO EXCHANGE; TO BARTER.

The original word in Middle English a few centuries ago meant "to move fast" or "to strike." We still use the expression "to strike a bargain" --that is, to arrange a swap.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE A78 SERVAS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Graham Thomas of England was elected president of Servas International by the delegates of 22 countries attending the biennial Servas governing conference August 16, 17, and 18, 1978, in Elsinore, Denmark. Others chosen to serve until the 1980 conference are Vice-President, Martha Simon, USA General Secretary, Barbara Whitehead, England Assistant General Secretary, Reva King, USA Treasurer, Doris Bucher, Switzerland Assistant Treasurer, Denise Waech, Switzerland Peace Secretary, Pastor Konrad Luebbert, West Germany Editor, Servas International News, Donald Fawcett, USA The executive committee also includes these regional coordinators elected or re-elected at the conference: Southeast Asia, Masuo Amano, Japan Southern Asia, Iivarivalla, India Africa, Lydia Jones, USA South Pacific, John and Judy Ebner, Austral Europe, Antonie Fried, West Germany North and South America, pending

The Servas organizations of Egypt, Mauritius, Norway, and Poland were elected as new member branches of Servas International. The executive committee selected two new international sponsors for Servas: Lanza del Vasto of France and Konrad Luebbert. Duties of executives were reassigned in creating the new office of general secretary in place of the former position of secretary. The keynote address of the conference was delivered by Chester Graham of the USA, an international sponsor of Servas.

The next worldwide Servas conference was scheduled to be held on the last five days of 1980 in India, at the Anand Niketan Ashram founded by Harivallabh Parikh. Graham Thomas of London is host coordinator for the London area and, southeast England, and had been peace secretary since the 1976 conference in Los Angeles. Martha Simon of Long Island, New York, is a member of the working committee of U.S. Servas, and was the assistant editor of Servas International News 1974-76. Barbara (Acquah) Whitehead of Liverpool had been Servas International vice-president the previous two years, and was editor of the first six issues of this magazine. She is secretary for Servas in England, Scotland, and Wales. Reva King of New York was president of Servas International for three terms (1972-78). She is a member of the working committee of U.S. Servas. Doris Bucher of Hausen a/Albis had been assistant treasurer and Denise Waech of Zurich had been treasurer. Denise is national secretary of Servas in Switzerland.



Retiring Servas International President Reva King of New York and her newly elected successor, Graham Thomas of London, at the biennial Servas governing conference held August 16-18, 1978 at the International People's



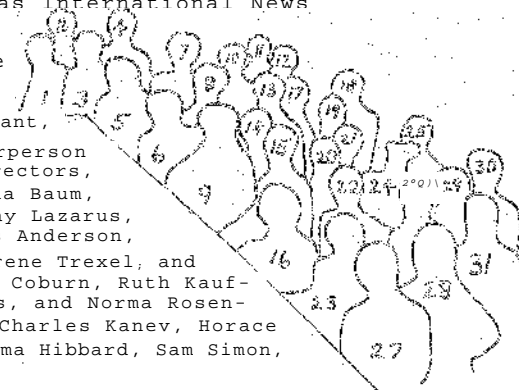
U.S. Servas held a three-day national conference or area representatives and other leaders in New York in May 1978. Four who attended were later elected to these offices in

(12) Graham Thomas of London, now international president, who was in New York to attend meetings of the UN session on disarmament; (b) Reva King of New York, now assistant general secretary; (23) Martha Simon of Long Island, New York, now international vice-president and (31) Don Fawcett of Los Angeles, now editor of Servas International News.

Others shown during a pause in proceedings at the Brooklyn home of Kay and

(1-5) Lesley Herzog, Tish Grant,

Ruth Hakan, Janet Wegner, chairperson of the U.S. Servas board of directors, and Kiku Tcmita, (7-11) Armeana Baum, Debbie Lawton, Thelma Brown, Kay Lazarus, and Its Siavin (13-17) Charles Anderson, Elise White, Lydia Tabor, Betfrene Trexel, and Jeannette Slavin, (18-22) Hope Coburn, Ruth Kauf-Jan, Joyce Fuller, Dick Lazarus, and Norma Rosenberg, (24-30) Michael Carver, Charles Kanev, Horace Coburn, Elsie Krevitt, Mary Emma Hibbard, Sam Simon, and Karl Kosok,



WHAT'S IN IT FOR US?

"Educational and cultural exchange" are words we bandy about so much that we scarcely stop to think what they mean.

In general terms, any exchange involves swapping one item for another. Each party to the trade determines the value of what is to be bartered, and then decides whether it is worthwhile to participate in the exchange. Each side must feel it is getting a fair return for what is given.

When we as a nation participate in cultural exchanges, are we getting fair value for what we give?

Ask some people who have "exchanged"!

Ask them: "What did you learn about country A that you didn't know before Mr. Y from that country visited you?"

Ask them: How is it you know so much about family life in country B or the role of men vs. women in country C, the type of government in little-known country D, the scientific progress in the field of energy development in country E, the religions of country F or the extent of freedom of the press in country G?

How did you know the capital of obscure country H? And how did your children know that the most important product exported from country K is phosphate? What made you want to read the book on country Q that I see on your bookshelf?

"You seem unusually well informed about your own city. Is it true that you learned so much about it through having to explain it, show it and discuss it with foreign visitors?"

"And do you feel, as thousands of others like you do, that you and your family have become better educated because of your personal contacts with people from other countries?"

Ask these questions of

The English Language

It is the most incredible linguistic phenomenon in the history of man. It has spread partly as a result of British imperial expansion, partly due to the rise of the united States as a global power, and partly because of its accumulated efficiency in certain areas of international life.

If you define a world language as one which has at least two hundred million speakers, coexists with local languages, has been adopted by at least ten countries as a national language, and has spread beyond the continent of its birth--then clearly the only candidates are English and French.

--Dr. All Mazrui of Kenya, Professor of Political Science, University of Michigan, USA, quoted in Unesco Features

volunteers who work with international visitors...who have "exchanged" in their own homes and offices, laboratories and classrooms, factories and news centers, with visitors from abroad.

And then let us ask ourselves what our lives would be like today without educational and cultural exchanges that open the door to the rest of the world so that we can share with others our uncommon heritages and our common concerns about life and better understanding.

--from the newsletter of the National Council for Community Services to International Visitors (COSERV), Washington, D.C.

FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

It was a great honour to be elected president of Servas at the international conference in Denmark in August.

Special thanks go to Birgitte Damsgaard, Danish Servas secretary, for all her hard work in arranging for the conference to be held in such a perfect setting as the International People's College in Elsinore.

We were sorry that illness prevented Servas International News editor Harry Steinmetz and his wife from attending the conference and leading a tour of Eastern Europe. We are happy to learn of his recovery and his willingness to continue as a contributor to the magazine.

Our grateful thanks go to our retiring president, Reva King, for preparing the conference agenda, background notes and all related correspondence. The end of her tireless service as president coincides with her departure from work with the New York Health Department, but everyone who knows Heva King knows she will look upon retirement as an opportunity to become even more involved in work toward world peace and racial harmony.

Many former duties of the president now pass to the newly created position of general secretary. Barbara Whitehead brings to that office a wealth of experience. I am sure you all join me in wishing her success.

--Graham Thomas, London

Our informal survey of worldwide public opinion (actually, we asked three people who live on our street) reveals a unanimous opinion:

Airports should be located near the center of town, and should be served by fast-as-sound, silent, non-polluting jet planes that will not fly over any houses or schools.

C A L L A D O C T O R !

A traveler becomes ill in a foreign country. How does he/she know what doctor to call?

Members of IAMAT (International Association for Medical Assistance to Travelers) can call one of 3000 subscribing physicians through one of 450 IAMAT centers around the world, with assurance that the doctor speaks English (or another language besides his or her native tongue) and has agreed to a fixed fee schedule.

It costs travelers nothing to join IAMAT, but the organization audits International Center for the Study of the Medical Aspects of Travel are financed mostly by donations from IAMAT members.

Material available to members includes:

--Traveler's clinical record card, with space for emergency medical data, immunization record, eyeglasses prescription, and other information;

--A list of required and recommended inoculations for all countries, and of the countries with highest risk of malaria;

--For those who donate \$15 or more to IAMAT, world climate charts covering 1440 cities and listing temperatures month by month, advice on clothing, and notes on the quality of the water supply, milk, and food.

Doctors' fees in 1978 were: US \$15 for an office visit, \$LCD for a house (hotel) call, and \$25 for a Sunday, holiday, or night call.

Nonprofit IAMAT claims more than two million members, mostly in the USA and Canada.

Information and a membership application are available from: IAMAT, Empire State Building, 350 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10001, USA. (Tell them you read about IAMAT in Serval International News.)

SERVAS IN AUSTRALIA

The first newsletter (11, '78) from the new Servers national secretaries for Australia, Joan and Richmond Rikard-Hell of Sydney, is ambitious, ambitious, and wide-ranging. One feature is this account of early days of Servas in Australia.

Mandy and Mike Grenby of Vancouver, Canada, had a great deal to do with the launching and growth. Mandy, a nurse from Sydney, went to Canada, where she met and married Mike, and they became members of Servas.

They travelled widely and arrived in Australia around the end of 1968 full of praise at their treatment in the hands of Servas hosts everywhere. On their recommendation, Janet and Ken Gunn attempted to join as hosts. The organization had a tiny foothold here. They wrote to Doris Wheeler of Victoria, but at first received no reply.

Some time later a New Zealand traveler, Marge Goldman, arrived and set out to visit some of the original Servas hosts.

[Editor's note: Here Richmond takes time out for "orientation" Ken Gunn and Mandy had attended kindergarten together. Their teacher was Peggy Vincent, mother of Judy Ebner, Judy and John Ebner are New South Wales host co-ordinators (and regional co-ordinators for the South Pacific for Servas International) And Marge Goldman was a friend of Reva King, described as "the leading light of Servas International. for years and years." Back to the chronicle.]

The Gunns offered to assist Marge, and became our first national secretaries. There was no official host list, but a letter did at last arrive from Doris Wheeler, with 11 names. Six were still active hosts--

ORE SPONSORS FOR SERVAS

New Servas international sponsor Lanza del Vasto is known as both "The French Gandhi" and "Shantidas" (Servant of Peace), a name given to him by Mahatma Gandhi when they met in 1937. He is well known in the world peace movement,

Pastor Konrad Luebbert, a disciple of famed anti-Nazi Pastor Martin Niemöller, has traveled from Germany to many parts of the world in the interest of peace. He was a new Servas host when he gave the keynote speech at the Servas international conference in Los Angeles in 1976.

and are today. They are Doris, the Gunns, Lexie Roberts of Tasmania, and three who are now host co-ordinators: Margaret and Torn Whittle of Western Australia, Evelyn Masterman of Tasmania, and Barbara Whitney of South Australia,

In about 1971 Kurt Schmidt, then Servas International head, visited Australia and spoke on a radio programme. As a result of that broadcast Maris and Ron Golding became hosts. They later took over from Janet and Ken as national secretaries.

Many members of this distinguished cast, and other N.S.W. hosts, attended a large gathering at the Rikard-Bells in October. Reports Richmond, "The roll-up was tremendous,"

Defense force. (Japan does not have anything called an army.) Again my reactions surprised me. The sight of Japanese troops brought to my mind a series of images from movies of World War II, in which the Japanese were portrayed as cruel, menacing and evil men. I was shocked at the realization that several weeks in Japan had not erased the effect of such movies seen 20 years earlier.

Back in Canada I read Run Silent, Run Deep, a novel about American submarine warfare in the Pacific. Some of the characters said vicious things about the Japanese they were fighting, and again my reaction caught me by surprise. I kept wanting to say, Hey, wait a minute! I know these people. They are my friends. They are not evil things." It appalled me to think that anyone would describe the Japanese in such terms, and especially that the book might be read in Japan by people who knew me, and who might think I subscribed to the same views!

..Hiroshima, Reactions to Japanese troops. World War II movies and novels. Bitterness and hatred. Friendship. Destruction. Hiroshima.

I suppose some psychologist could explain why I have not yet sorted out my thoughts, and why I am still wondering about my reaction. I know that I am still thinking about what I saw. Hiroshima is still with me. Perhaps that is as it should be.

--Duncan Meikle
Servas national secretary
Maberly, Ontario, Canada

QUOTE ..UNQUOTE

--from Earthscan, the media Service of the International Institute of Environment and Development London

When Dr. Carroll Behrhorst left the U.S. the late 1950s to work among the Indians of Guatemala, his prescription was simple; eradicate disease by curing the sick. But he found that "no sooner was the patient cured than he returned to poverty that once again felled him."

He now lists his priorities as: social and economic justice, land reform, improved agricultural production and marketing, population control, improved nutrition, health training, and --last-curative medicine,

§

One of the most imaginative primary health care programs in the world is that of Thailand's Community-Based Family Planning Service. Its staff members hand out contraceptives as visiting cards and as tips (gratuities) in restaurants. They teach children in schools to recite family--planning nursery rhymes and to sing family-planning songs

In its first two years CBFPS converted 6 to 8 million people to the use of contraceptives.

&

To insure clean water for those who currently do not have it, the world community must find \$9,000 million per year for the next 14 years, or \$3 for every man, woman, and child in the developing world.

The world arms budget is currently over \$100 per year for every man, woman, and child in the developing world

SORRY, WORLD WAR II HAS NOT
QUITE ENDED

Hiroshima is more than just another city; it is a symbol, and something of a shrine. I made the pilgrimage in 1972 and still have not sorted out my thoughts. I recall having to force myself to go, somehow knowing that it would be a depressing experience. (Others have told me they felt this same reluctant obligation, and cannot explain it.) It was not a morbid fascination; it was more of a personal reparation--an attempt to free myself from a sense of guilt. Guilt? Why should a Canadian who was only eight years old in 1945 feel guilty about a decision made by U.S. officials during the pressure of war? The fact remains that I felt something (shame? concern for the future?) and still do. That is why I am writing about Hiroshima

Hiroshima. You don't see much destruction there now. The city has been rebuilt since the bomb, except for the old city hall. It was near the centre of the blast, and its brick walls have been retained as a reminder. It stands by itself just across from a park on a small island. The park is like most parks: fountains, benches, old men playing games, small children running about. But this park is dedicated to peace, and its main feature is the Peace Museum.

Exhibits inside the museum take the visitor slowly, and at first gently, through the story of Hiroshima. The first section shows the development of the city, and what it was like many years ago. Then there are descriptions of modern Hiroshima. Then you come to a model, perhaps seven feet across, showing the extent of the bomb damage. The buildings in the model are very small--a half inch at most. They appear only towards the edge of the model, or in the

shelter of small hills. Most of the model represents rubble.

The next exhibits show some of the rubble as it appeared after the blast. I recall a cement post, blackened on one side, and a rack of milk bottles, fused into a mass but still recognizable.

Then a number of department store mannequins, dressed in clothes worn at the time of the blast, represents individuals whose stories are known. One in particular sticks in my mind: a young girl wearing a school uniform, with a pile of charred books at her feet. Her name, age, and brief history are provided. She was on her way to school when the bomb went off. She managed to crawl back home, but died a few days later. Her mother donated the clothes and books to the museum.

This person and others like her make the idea of destruction very real, very personal, so that the last exhibit has a terrible impact. This is a series of photographs of persons who were dead or dying. No attempt has been made to soften the blow the visitor receives.

What made it even worse for me was the sight of a souvenir counter near the exit, with a dozen or more people standing there, buying slides and post cards, chattering, laughing, making plans for dinner. I wanted to yell, to make them react, to demand they respect my feelings, anything. I felt sick. I went out and sat and stared at a fountain for a long time. About the only thought that I can recall is that it was fortunate that the photographs at the end of the exhibit were not in colour.

A week or so later I happened to see a convoy of trucks carrying members of the Japanese

ISSUES--WOMEN AND PEACE

--from the Bulletin of the
United Nations Decade for
Women, 1976-1985:

Women do not participate in the decision-making process in society in general, and especially not in decisions whether nations will go to war against one another. But by remaining silent when such decisions are made, women share in those decisions and their consequences.

Because the role of women traditionally has been in nurturing and caring for the family, especially the children, it is widely believed that women are peacemakers "by nature." Is this true?

If it is true, why do women in most cultures bring up male children who are aggressive?

Women have to analyze their role in war and peace, which is directly related to the question of how they see their reproductive role (as producers of human resources for the army?) and how they, together with men, see themselves as parents of future generations.

How can we bring about an alternative to the present aggressive society--a gentler society where co-operation prevails?

This new society will not come about by the non-participation of women in the process of making decisions.

Non-compliance or protest against war and aggression is not enough. Participation in curing the ills of war, such as nursing wounded soldiers and finding shelter for war orphans, is not enough.

Women have to join in all decision-making structures, be they political, economic, or social, that exist at present to promote and maintain aggression in human relationships, which in the final analysis is the main cause of war. Then,

P E N P A L S

A friend of Servas at Stanford University in California says these individuals would like to exchange letters in the English language with members of Servas anywhere:

Sergei Timofejv
Levitana Street
Kalinin, USSR

Oleg V. Evgrafov
Andrianov 2/133 or 2/11;
Orel, USSR

Anders R. BO
6386 Mandalen
Romsdal, NORWAY

And this Pen Pal would enjoy
correspondence in German:

Irena Walach
ul. Bob, Stalingradu 40/9
31-032 Krakow, POLAND

Notice: Are any readers actually writing to--and receiving letters from--any of the boys, girls, men, or women whose names and addresses appear here or in previous issues of the magazine? If so, the editors would be delighted to receive information about the exchange, or copies of letters, if we do not, it seems only sensible to discontinue this feature.

together with foresighted men, they must change the structure from within.

One thing to remember is that peace is not just the absence of war. Peace comes from satisfaction with life when all the basic human needs are met. And these basic needs are not only enough food, clothing, and shelter, but also the opportunity to develop one's abilities and increase one's knowledge of the world in order to live in human dignity.

SERVAS:PEACE ORGANIZATION OR FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY? SOME VIEWS

We think it is incorrect present Servas; as it is now, as a peace movement, because its main activity seems to be simply the recruiting of hosts and travelers.

Therefore the real nature of Servas is that of a friendship organization. In our opinion it could present itself as a peace movement only if the main activity were non-violent action against war and for the real nature promotion of human rights (through seminars, studies, collective meetings, etc.).

--Lino & Rose Canepari
Servas National Secretaries
Milan, Italy

I have always thought that Servas was, in its way, as much a peace organization as any other. But some people seem to feel Servas should provide its "Open Door" only for those who "qualify" by working in other peace organizations, or who think and talk about peace in a certain way. I hope the latter view will not prevail. Finding the best way to help people from different parts of the world to meet one another in their homes is peace work. My wish for Servas is that we keep working toward one ideal, one goal: that all doors in the world may some day be open.

-Inter Amundsen
Servas National Secretary
Haslum, Norway

I'd like to hear about more Servas members working for-- or at least talking about-- a freer society where people

share more equally and exploit each other less. Working for peace means trying to create institutions and ways of life based on those values. It doesn't mean simply propagandizing for pacifism--Bob Luitweiler

A founder of Servas Ferndale,
Washington, USA

During the first ten years of Servas, members were recruited from elsewhere in the peace movement. They were strongly opposed to the cold war, the Korean War, the arms race, and the stealing of taxpayers' money to develop electronic, nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons. Common goals of hosts and travelers were far more profound than just the meeting of nationalities. But the original Servas "Work-Study-Travel" program seems to have been reduced to "Vacation--Travel." Recent Servas travelers seem no more devoted to ecological or social efforts than other tourists I talk with. I seriously hope that again in the near future Servas will serve world peace better than it does now. The aim must be a more just peace, including "greenpeace," peace with nature.

I am addressing this to the Servas international conference in Elsinore, Denmark, the town of Hamlet, to say: To serve, or not to serve; that is the question.

--Ulf Christensen

Servas host for 26 years Oslo,
Norway

Dear Ulf,
Unfortunately your letter arrived too late to be taken up at the conference. And I am not an executive in Servas International any more. But that does not prevent me from commenting on a fundamental issue I have been concerned about.

I share your ideas about

SERVAS IN ESTERN EUROPE: Problems and Opportunities

The most significant growth of the Servas organization since 1976 has been in several countries of Eastern Europe; Contacts may remain difficult in the Soviet Union and East Germany in the near future; no private visits by "outsiders" (except West Germans in East Germany) can be arranged. And at the end of 1978 we had no hosts in Czechoslovakia or Rumania. But elsewhere, Servas is discovering some open doors. Our co-ordinator for Europe, Antonie Fried of West Germany, supplied the information from which the following details and suggestions were excerpted:

POLAND: Servas now has dozens of hosts in ten cities, with local co-ordinators in Cracow and Posnan in addition to the national secretary in Warsaw. Most Polish hosts are university-educated and middle-aged. A number of students have become affiliated with Servas to act as guides. Many Polish hosts ask that Servas travelers bring sleeping bags and many do not limit their hospitality to the usual two nights. To arrange Servas visits, travelers to Poland must send a copy of the approved Letter of Introduction to the national secretary. Even to or from Western Europe, letters of-ten take as long as two weeks. Travelers applying for visas to visit Poland must exchange currency in the equivalent of US \$12 per day, except that students, other persons 16 to 25 years old, and those of Polish origin may turn less of their currency into Polish zlotys,
BULGARIA: Servas has a "main contact" in Plovdiv and a new daytime host in Sofia.

YUGOSLAVIA: The November 1977 host list comprised four hosts.in and near Ljubljana. Our main contact indicates that others have joined since that time.

HUNGARY. Many Hungarians interested in meeting foreign travelers may be unwilling or unable to provide overnight accommodations. For a Western visitor to stay overnight in a family's or individual's private home, host and guest must register with the local police. So it is suggested that letters to hosts ask that a meeting be arranged, and reservations secured in a hotel or "contracted private room" (tourist room). Other arrangements may be possible after the individuals meet. The host list contains more than 50 names, It is available from the European co-ordinator. Most of the hosts (,some of whom do not speak English) live in or near the small town of Kiskunhalas near Szeged in southern Hungary, rich in folklore and crafts, especially lacemaking. In Budapest a local co-ordinator may introduce travelers to people who are interested in the aims and people of Servas but prefer not to have their names on the hostlist. Earlier requirements for exchanging currency were ended in 1978, Visas should be obtained in advance from a consulate or the Hungarian travel agency IBUSZ. They cannot be obtained on trains, and issuance at border-crossing points is often slow. The International Visitors Council in Detroit, Michigan, USA, suggests: "Before you leave home to pick up a visitor at his or her hotel or at the airport, print his or her family name with a felt-tip pen on stiff paper (a shirt cardboard from a laundry is dandy). Hold the cardboard against the car window as you approach the hotel or airport terminal, or take it with you into the building. Visitors, seeing their names, will identify themselves to you." We have found a sign with the word SERVAS handier, for use again and again.

HOW DOES SERVAS WORK?

Servas representatives from 19 countries gave these answers to a questionnaire circulated at the 1978 Servas international conference:

Does Servas in your country charge an annual membership fee? Only USA and Japan said Yes. West Germany charges a one-time fee at the time of joining. What fee do Servas travelers pay?

The average answer amounted to half a typical day's wage in each country's economy. Are Servas travelers asked required to leave a deposit for their use of host lists, refundable when they are returned?

In six of the 19 countries yes.

Are you satisfied with the number of returning travelers who actually submit the promised reports on their trips?

Generally the countries that charge a deposit receive travel reports from a larger percentage of travelers than those countries that do not.

Exception: USA charges a \$15 deposit on the lists, and receives few travel reports.

A suggestion: the deposit should be returnable only when the traveler returns the host lists with a report.

From The World Set Free

Nothing could have been more obvious to the people of the early twentieth century than the rapidity with which war was becoming impossible. And as certainly they did not They did not see it until the atomic bombs burst in their fumbling hands.

--H G. Wells, 1914

GET OUT OF THE WAY, PLEASE

When you meet Servas travelers and potential travelers, encourage them to get off the sightseeing route of the ordinary tourist. Less-well-known areas will give them a better look at the countries they visit. The experience of these travelers is typical of many.

Dear friends,

We are travelers from Israel who joined Servas in the USA through our friend Jaime Alvarez of Amherst, Massachusetts. On our trip across the USA and Canada to British Columbia we learned much more about the two nations and their people than we could ever have learned without our 18 Servas hosts. Sometimes when we left we were leaving a family we had been part of for years.

We found our biggest welcome from main tourist routes. For instance, in Little Arkansas, where first Servas visitors of the wonderful McCaleh family. We thank all who took us and send greetings around the world to all members of Servas.

---Ram' Molcho & Gall Ha paz

A railroad man, at the time of his retirement, is nostalgic for the International Voluntary Service" of long ago, a Peace volunteers or peacebuilder's forebear of Servas. (it still exists.) H.J. Snwin of Sussex, England, thinks that as Servas travelers we should be: Not too fastidious or sophisticated; glad to cut wood or wash dishes for host families; interested in the great variety of mankind; and eager to be friends.

ecology and related problems. I Share your opposition to the arms race. But I do not share your ideas of limiting Servas to people who already have all the "right" ideas.

We have a lot of hosts, too, who snare most of your concern but think that hospitality restricted to a select few is no hospitality, and that Servas is an excellent opportunity to reach out to those who are not yet especially conscious about the problems the world face or who don't feel they have the answers about solving them.

The idea of excluding for Servas all individuals who not "have a mission in life" repugnant to me. It would have excluded me, I assure you, when I joined Servas. Now I feel I do have something of a mission, and I believe the same is true of a considerable number of people who were not particularly dedicated before joining. How can we help build world peace, good will, and understanding if we admit only people who are already saved? On direct questioning hosts may admit that in rare cases one or another traveler didn't give much in return for food and lodging. But they certainly don't consider withdrawal from Servas for that reason. Some hosts even consider that kind of traveler That

LATE SERVAS NEWS

(Servas travel interviewers and others take note)

England, Scotland, and Wales: national secretary is now Graham Thomas, 80 Bushwood, London E11 3Bw, telephone (01)989 1720 (succeeding Barbara Whitehead).

Italy: national secretaries Lino and Rose Canepari have moved from Milan to Via Pascoli 11, Pove del Grappa (Vi), telephone 0424-804003.

Is the kind of spirit I like.

Everybody Who, like me, has a burning desire to meet people and share their lives when traveling abroad is good enough for me and, I hope, for Servas.

.Birgitte Damsgaerd
Screen National Secretary Valby, Denmark

The excerpts above and the one that follows, written earlier in 1978, were selected by the assistant editor from longer statements and letters. And what are your opinions?

Servas members try, as hosts guests to be non-partisan respect to one another's national politics, but to uphold a policy of universal peace in recognition of their common humanity. This requires a constant search for mutually acceptable ways and means of preventing war, eliminating violence, and furthering acquaintance and understanding. Servas is no substitute for either general peace organizations or other specialized ones.

Servas specializes in host-guest relationships, and believes that all peace-seekers who wish to fulfill the host or guest role or both should join.

Belgium: national secretary now Flo Verwinp, Vijverstr. 2A 1700 Asse (Brussels), telephone 02/452 9261 (succeeding Trees De Vlieghe-Dernytenaerei)

West Germany: national secretary is now Peter Brock, Bergeergweg 70, 2000 Hamburg 65, telephone 040/60.1 2150 (succeeding Antonie Friedl).

Servas now has two hosts in Papeete, Tahiti (last page of host list for France) and one in Suva, Fiji.

THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE IS ALIVE AND WELL, THEY TELL US

Wanted: a planeload of people in a city outside the United States who would like to visit in the homes of their counter-parts in an American city.

Also needed: enough hosts in the same city to provide one or two four-day home stays for 180 or 252 or 380 visitors from the United States.

Purpose: peace through friendship. (Something like Servas!)

Problem: the Friendship Force, organized in 1977 to arrange such exchanges, has a waiting list of American cities. But

Reports last summer of the death of the Friendship Force were "premature." The newspaper article reprinted at the right reports on the organization's activities as of November 1978.

parallel organizing in other countries has not proceeded as fast. The founder of Friendship Force writes, "Until we have more destinations outside of the United States...many of our American cities that desire to be involved right away are going to have to wait. However, it is anticipated that in 1979, instead of 14 exchanges, we'll be able to do at least 20."

What to do, The editors urge readers outside the USA who can help organize such exchanges to write or telephone the nearest embassy of the USA, or the headquarters of Friendship Force, 575 South Omni International, Atlanta, GA 30303, USA.

(Australia and New Zealand are excluded at present because of the high cost of flights between there and the USA.)

All the cities involved in exchanges through the end of 1978 want to participate again, the organization says. Those outside the USA have been:

Newcastle Upon Tyne, England;
Dublin, Ireland; Caracas, Vene-

Reprinted from the Atlanta (Georgia) Constitution

In March 1977, headlines noted that President Jimmy Carter would help launch an international citizens' exchange program known as the Friendship Force, in which Americans and people in other nations would visit in each other's homes for the simple purpose of becoming friends.

With first lady Rosalynn Carter serving as the program's honorary chairperson, the private, non-profit Friendship Force organization launched 14 exchanges during its first year.

In each case an American city was paired with a city overseas. Then a planeload of people from each city landed in the other, for home visits that are more effective in building mutual understanding than a dozen college courses in comparative government.

People who went on the trips raved about them and the chance to live with a family overseas rather than merely play tourist. More than 15,000 families in the United States and abroad participated. Letters of appreciation poured in. States lined up to join the program. But...

zuela; Tel Aviv, Israel; Mexico City, Mexico; Brussels, Belgium; Maracaibo, Venezuela; Genoa, Italy; Copenhagen, Denmark; Zurich, Switzerland, San Jose, Costa Rica; Seoul, Korea; Berlin, Germany; Hannover, Germany, USA: Atlanta, Georgia; Des zees, Iowa; Nashville, Tennessee; Hartford, Connecticut; Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Richmond, Virginia; Westchester County, New York; Madison, Wisconsin; Pocatello, Idaho; Tacoma & Olympia, Washington; Minneapolis, Minnesota; New Haven, Connecticut; Helena, Montana; northern Virginia; Birmingham, Alabama.

But there were problems. Last May, another series of head-lines noted that the Friendship Force seemed to be folding its wings°--a good idea about to be shelved by a lack of money.

Accounts of the program's de--se happily have turned out to be untrue, says the organization's founder and president.

(Item: five exchanges took place in October, November, and December of 1978.)

(Item: Mrs. Carter gave a reception in November for more than 50 Friendship Force flight directors from the United States and abroad at the White House.)

(Item: these directors under-went an intensive three-day aining workshop, and then returned to their home cities to prepare for the exchanges scheduled for 1.979,)

"We did have a problem last May, how to cope with our success," asserts the founder, an Atlanta minister, whosays 43 of the 50 states wanted to set up exchange programs, but the organization found it could not expand overseas as quickly as he had originally hoped, -'Our problem was that we didn't have enough places to send them. This was an error I made."

He says the organization "al wayshad enough money" to keep its doors open, but it would have needed a "huge influx" of grants from foundations or others to organize all the sought--after exchanges quickly. And that would have "violated our principle" that flights should pay their own way, he notes.

Faced with the dilemma, the organization reassessed goals and procedures, and regrouped. Its present procedure is to charge "ambassadors" going on an exchange \$250 for flights to Canada, Mexico, or Central America or \$300 elsewhere.

The state committees that carry out most preparations for individual flights will con

tinue to seek a cross-section of citizens to participate. "We are not -trying to fill up a plane with just lawyers and wealthy people," says the new executive director.

A demographic profile of each exchange city is prepared be-fore citizens are invited by their state committee to go on a flight, insuring that people in all walks of life make each trip. Five percent of the plane seats are reserved for low-income persons who cannot pay the full fee, but receive a subsidy from their state group.

Except for second-time ex-changes involving the same cities (one in 1979 will be a second Atlanta-Brussels swap), participants do not know before paying their fee where they will be sent on their goodwill mission.

In the swamp of administrative detail, the director says there's sometimes the temptation to forget that "what we're here for is to help people from around the world get to know one another better." But then the reminders pop up everywhere.

Like the 55 people of the 254 from Maracaibo, Venezuela, who went on an April exchange to Des Moines, Iowa--and later returned to Iowa on their own to spend the summer with their American friends.

Or like Muhammad Ali, who serves on the organization's advisory board and recently sent a congratulatory telegram to Max Schmeling, former world heavyweight boxing champion and a respected German businessman -- because Schmeling has become the honorary chairman of the Friendship Force in Germany.

Or like the Georgia woman who persuaded a seed company to package flower seeds---without advertising-to be distributed by Americans going overseas on Friendship Force flights as a concrete symbol of the planting of the "seed of friendship."