

## Message from the President:

When I try to think of a solution to today's tense world situation, I come up with the following: We need to feel more positive about people outside our homeland, they need to feel more positive about us, and we all need to feel more positive about ourselves.

The Friendship Caravan can help accomplish these goals.

Let's face facts: most folk would not be attracted to simply hearing how Westerners and Arabs and Muslims share a multitude of positive cultural commonalities. So we will embrace our audience with a concept that is so exciting they feel compelled to look and look again.

No preaching, no politics. Lots of real-life cooperation among people of different cultures.

We will demonstrate to our worldwide audience that Americans are a warm, hospitable people, and that Americans have much they can learn and enjoy from opening their hearts to people the world over, especially Arabs and Muslims.

*Hailing from Kentucky, Caravan president Michael Kirtley has spent much of his adult life living in the Arab World and other Muslim countries of Africa. An international photojournalist, he has worked extensively for such publications as National Geographic, Life, Geo, and Paris-Match. He has founded several humanitarian organizations in France and in Africa, and interviewed numerous Heads of State.*

*Michael has crossed the Sahara Desert some thirty times, and trekked hundreds of miles on camelback.*



Design and printing by International Graphics Tel: (301) 595 3999



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The Friendship Caravan is a recognized American charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Donations can be made on our web site [www.friendshipcaravan.org](http://www.friendshipcaravan.org), or by check made out to "Friendship Caravan" sent to:

The Friendship Caravan  
985 Quimpiac Avenue  
New Haven, CT 06513  
Tel & fax: (203) 468-8313  
Email: [info@friendshipcaravan.org](mailto:info@friendshipcaravan.org)

THE FRIENDSHIP

CARAVAN

قافلة الصداقة

## OUR FOUNDING PRINCIPLES

- I. Despite reports to the contrary, most Arabs and Muslims do not hate Westerners; and most Westerners do not hate Arabs and Muslims. Today, fired by the drums of war, this situation is volatile, and persons of other races or cultures unfortunately become stereotyped in negative ways.
- II. The Friendship Caravan seeks to remind all people of our common humanity and the need for mutual respect and caring.
- III. Friendly people-to-people communication must become an integral component of international relations.
- IV. Current models of cross-cultural discourse have not led to widespread changes in attitudes; therefore new models are needed in which the mass media and educational community must play an essential role.
- V. Cooperation towards mutual goals helps foster understanding, esteem, and peace.

an expedition for hearts and minds