



INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF FLYING ROTARIANS

Promoting World Understanding and Goodwill Through Rotary Fellowship

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THE VIRTUAL PODIUM Tony Watson - IFFR World President

WORLD PRESIDENT TONY'S TRAVELS

I have traveled many miles in 2003, and appreciate the wonderful reception and hospitality shown to me and my family.

We first traveled to New Zealand in May for the Fly About there, and greeted the Rotary Club of Auckland. The Kiwis put on a nice event, with wonderful hospitality and a beautiful country.

After New Zealand we traveled to Brisbane, Australia for the RI Convention. Australians gave us excellent support there, helping us man the booth and get my pilot certificate and checkout. With my wife and two of my children we flew over 2,000 statute miles in Australia.

We had just a few weeks to recover after returning to the USA before I made two trips on my own to Europe to attend IFFR Section Meetings.

In late August I was in Kolbäck, Sweden. Bo Johnsson and Audun Johnsen helped make the plans and played host while in Sweden and Norway. Bo met me at the Stockholm Airport and took me on a tour before taking me to his hometown, Vasteras. He flew me from there in his Malibu to Kalmar for the Scandinavian Section meeting. We had great fellowship and fun there. Several of us got to fly a Diamond aircraft with a diesel engine. We had members from all over Europe there.

I got to make up at Rotary Clubs in Kalmar, Sweden and Kløfta, Norway. Audun took me to Kjeller, Norway



in his Cardinal RG, and I got to see Oslo and the environs before heading back to the USA.

After eight days in the USA, I used some frequent flyer miles for a round trip to Paris to attend IFFR Meetings in Germany and France. At Lille, France, I was met by the Clarks and Charles Strasser, and given a ride in Charles' Seneca to Nürnberg, Germany for a small but excellent meeting of the German – Austrian Section of IFFR. After three nights there, I got a ride in the Clarks' Robin to Empuriabrava, Spain (via Dijon, France), where we were hosted by Feroz and Raye Wadia of Edinburgh, Scotland. The Rotary Club there wasn't meeting due to a Fiesta Day, but several of the members heard we were in town, and a small group met anyway for a Rotary dinner. Then, for the weekend, to the French meeting in Marseille, riding in the Wadia's Bonanza 33.

I was privileged in Marseille at the formal dinner to present special certificates to long time leaders in France and Switzerland, Jean Recullet and Marc Bonnet. Both men led their respective sections for over 20 years. While they've retired from being chair they are still active in IFFR activities.

Then, on the Monday after the Sunday luncheon that ended the French meeting, I headed home.

I appreciate the hospitality of all these sections and their leadership, and the home hosting of the Johnssons, Johnsens, and Wadias, and the generosity of the sections and their leaders.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S LAPTOP

It is a great privilege of my life to be able to not only attend the RI Conventions and run our meetings there, but also to be able to attend meetings of IFFR anywhere in the world by making just a few e-mails.

Like IFFR everywhere, you find friends you didn't know you had whenever you find a meeting of these like-minded Rotarians. Everyone is genuinely interesting to get to know.

This is true not only halfway around the world from where you live, but also right in your own region of the

world – even close by.

So, make it a pledge to yourself that you'll try your best to attend an IFFR Fly-in event of some kind in the next six months. You don't have to go far to enjoy the fellowship and fun of our group. But if you do go far, you will certainly not be disappointed, and possibly may have the adventure of a lifetime!

This is how we have the fellowship that develops acquaintance as an opportunity for service.

27-day journey for Brisbane IFFR gathering

By President Tony Watson

(Editor's note: President Tony prepared the following report for his local club newsletter. Even though some information may be redundant for members of IFFR, the story provides complete information as a reminder to those who attended and a great account for those who couldn't make the journey.)

Jane and I, along with 2 of our children, Peter and Nancy, spent 27 days away from home this summer so we could attend the Rotary Convention in Brisbane, and enjoy some touring with members of our Rotary recreational fellowship, the International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians, which we just call "IFFR."

FairPark Rotary has a history with this organization, with longtime member the late PDG Vactor Stanford having been World President of IFFR twenty years ago after being the 54th person to join the fellowship. Several of our members have been a part of IFFR, including Dr. Paul Mathai, Theron Wright and myself. Due to what "Vac" got me into over 20 years ago, I am in the middle of my two year term as World President, and had to run our annual Board and General Meetings while in Brisbane.

Once in Brisbane, we were met at the baggage claim

by friendly Rotarians offering help in meeting transportation, and giving information about the transportation system arranged by Rotary. We arrived Saturday night, and headed to the Convention Center via a convenient bus on Sunday morning. We stopped off at a church near the

end of the route (Ann Street Presbyterian, suggested by now DGE Gilbert Brown), then headed to the Convention Center, where we picked up our registration packet and headed for the House of Friendship.

The Plenary Sessions were held in a large hall, but it was too small to hold all those who wanted to attend sessions on opening day or closing night. Final registration numbers put total official attendance at the Convention of over 15,000. Brisbane is a nice, clean, modern city of a million and a half or thereabouts, so our presence



Above: convention hall where plenary sessions were all held.

Below: Official photo" of Annual General Meeting.



Clockwise from top left:

IFFR board of directors meeting.

DJ performing at dinner dance.

IFFR booth at convention center in Brisbane.

Dance floor during our dinner dance in Brisbane.

Banquet hall as we awaited being-served our dinner.

didn't overtax anything but we were still appreciated for being there.

The big day for IFFR was Monday, when we held our annual meetings: first the Board meeting, which was held in the morning and lasted about 2.5 hours, next the General Meeting, over 100 attending, which lasted about an hour and was followed by a briefing on the Queensland

fly about by the Australian leaders, which lasted nearly another hour. That evening, we had the Dinner Dance with over 100 present, with presentations, good humor, and a fun night of dancing with a dj who had a good handle on the age group of the audience. In the meantime, I had gone to the Australian CASA, their version of the FAA, to get my Australian pilots license.

For me, Tuesday was spent away from the Convention, as I had to get checked out in an aircraft before leaving on the fly about, and then we spent most of the day Wednesday at the IFFR Booth in the House of Friendship and nearby. Trying to make arrangements for next year in Osaka, we wound up missing the closing ceremony at the time we were booked to go.

We enjoyed 9 days in New Zealand before the Convention, and following the Convention, we enjoyed a 2000 mile tour of Queensland for another 10 days.

IFFR hospitality in New Zealand warm

New Zealand IFFR members planned a one week trip that prior to the 2003 RI Convention in Brisbane. A fly about started and ended at Palmerston North in the south central portion of the north island, and with 3 nights spent on the south island. In addition, arrangements had been made with



The Catalina Group (www.catalina.org.nz), to participate in the fly about. Many of the club members just happen to be Flying Rotarians. This plane could accommodate 16 of our travelers in addition to 4 crew, thus eliminating the search for aircraft, license validations and checkouts plus giving an opportunity to fly in this vintage warbird.

Saturday morning after a group weather briefing, we headed for our aircraft. Our first attempt to fly to Palmerston North was vetoed by low clouds and fog. After lunch, we tried again, going a different route, and things went well this time. One of the 11 aircraft participating in the fly about was an Aerostar flown from Plainview, Texas by Dr. Mike Graves, chair of the IFFR Americas South Central Section.

Sunday to Marlborough on the northern part of the south island for a museum and winery. Then, it was a flight to Hanmer Springs where we enjoyed individual dinners and the famous hot springs pools. The airport was another grass strip, this one doubling as a sheep pasture, and the sheep had left their



many signatures on the ground.

Monday morning had us at Wigram Airport, a suburb of Christchurch. This was the location of the NZ RAF Museum. The next leg took us toward our planned stop near Wanaka. Due to weather we set down at Omarama. The organizers had the bus come to pick us up.

Tuesday the bus took us to Queenstown, the furthest south we went. A steamboat took us across the lake to the Walter Peak High Country Farm for lunch and demonstrations of sheep herding by dog, at the farmhouse (a lovely building in a stunning setting). While there, we saw a demonstration of how sheep are herded by a sheepdog, what kinds of wool different sheep produce, and saw a sheep sheered.

We wish to thank all those New Zealanders who made the trip possible. The leadership (and humor) of Section President Phil Pacey, the help of Wayne Scott in Auckland, Ian Wood who made lodging arrangements elsewhere, Colin Kay, who did ground arrangements, Michael Bryant, who did the flight briefings and air planning, Mike Hoggard, who provided the dairy farm with "the Rotary," and of course the crew of the PBY, Chris Snelson (Capt.), Bruce Sinton (FO), Roger



Leadbeater (crew) and Fred (only non IFFR crew). Some of these guys had so much fun, they joined us on the Australian fly about (Pacey, Bryant, Leadbeater) or at least met us there (Snelson).

Photos - top to bottom:
New Zealand hosts pose with PBY
Ardmore Airport tour group with
beautiful Staggerwing Beech
Fly-about group in front of PBY at
Hanmer Springs

Aussies planned great IFFR members visit

For nearly 2 years members the Australian IFFR Section had been planning a 2000 statute mile trip to show the extremes of Australia's Queensland State. The trip, starting in the Brisbane area, would visit a couple of towns in the "outback," then go to two resort areas on the coast in



tropical Queensland. The final count of participants was just short of 100 (97), using 31 aircraft.

After getting my Australian license and getting an airplane checkout, we flew to Roma. That evening we were bussed to a "station", what we would call a ranch. There, the Rotary Club of Roma held a dinner with us, providing their own "barbie." Banners were exchanged, and we all enjoyed the fellowship.

Up early the next morning, we took off for Longreach, flying 319 nautical miles across country resembling west Texas.

We stayed at a motel near the airport terminal, and almost immediately after checking in were taken to the School of the Air, a distance learning facility for children in the outback. Teachers communicate with students via shortwave radio transceivers, often times holding a "class" with multiple students on the air at the same time.

An early start a day later for the long flight to Cairns, the furthest north we would be going. Cairns is a resort city and area in tropical Queensland on the coast, with beautiful beaches and a harbor used as a base for trips to the Great Barrier Reef, not far offshore.

We caught a large catamaran one day (with engine and sails) and went to a small island that is part of the Great Barrier Reef for SCUBA diving and snorkeling above the coral.

The next day was our visit to the tropical rain forest nearby. A steam locomotive took us up a rail path originally built to transport workers and materials for mining ventures in the mountains.

The next morning we flew to our next stop, the resort of Hamilton Island. Flying up the coast was spectacular, but I climbed to a higher altitude to top the clouds.

Our farewell fellowship dinner was Friday, June 13 and we announced that Brian Souter of Wellington, New Zealand, had been chosen President Nominee of IFFR for 2006-08.

We chose Gladstone for our refueling and refreshment stop. Our flight from Hamilton Island to Gladstone was 273 nautical miles and took 2:30. Continuing after fueling us and our plane, we flew the remaining 197 nautical miles in 1:40.

We spent our last full day in Australia on foot in the Noosa area, down a well known shopping area called Hastings Street.

On Tuesday, June 17, returning home we had a total airborne time of 16:41, crossed 9 time zones and the International Date Line (as well as the equator). And you wonder why it took 3 weeks to get over the jet lag?



Photos - top to bottom:
On board the "Duck" at Rainforest Station,
near Cairns.

Instructor explains School of the Air and
shows large geographic area covered by the
school at Longreach.

Entire group poses at Qantas Founders
Memorial at Longreach



IFFR at Wright Brothers Centennial Event,



Above: Some of the group enjoying fellowship and food. Below: Dale and Brenda Hall relaxing after successful event. More fellowship.

Bottom right: Admiral Furlong, PDG Marcus Crotts and Bob Hinson.

Next page, top, more of the group enjoying fellowship activities. Insets (top to bottom): Dall Hall accepts plaque from Americas's Immediate Past V-P PDG Brian Anderson, Buddy Hall and Admiral Furlong and bottom inset, Past IFFR President Ned and Betty Poyser enjoy dinner.

Photos by IFFR President Tony Watson



By Tony Watson

A couple of years ago, banker Dale Hall, new Southeast Section Chief of IFFR, suggested that many members might want to participate in December 2003 activities at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, noting the 100th anniversary of the first powered flight. So, he blocked about 20 rooms at a motel in Nags Head, NC, and put out the word to our members.

We left a day earlier than necessary to attend the 4-days of festivities, to allow for weather delays and visit friends in western NC. After overnighing at Muscle Shoals, Alabama, we found out the weather along our direct route of flight was icy, so we changed our routing to get a bit closer, overnighing the second night in Athens, Georgia. The remainder of the flying was in good to gorgeous weather, both to Manteo, NC and all the way back to Texas via western NC.

(Manteo is on Roanoke Island, and history buffs will remember that the first English colony in North America, was established there several years prior to Jamestown, Virginia. This is the site of the famous "lost colony" of Sir Walter Raleigh.)

PDG Mark Crotts and his wife Margo picked us up at the airport. We stayed at the Surfside Motel in Nags Head with other IFFR members from as far away as Germany, the United Kingdom and Washington State. We had procured tickets for Monday and Tuesday activities, but not the big event day on Dec. 17. So, we went to the national monument and checked things out late Monday afternoon, including Kill Devil Hill, the original location, stone distance markers, and at least 3 replicas of the Wright Flyer.

Monday evening about 35 IFFR members joined for dinner. The next morning we went back to the monument and a couple overheard my conversation concerning our lack of tickets for Dec. 17. Since they had just heard of a death in the family and would have to go home that afternoon, they offered us their tickets.

Tuesday evening, Dec. 16, we had our own IFFR big event - a dinner dance and a talk by Admiral George Furlong of the Naval Air Museum in Pensacola, FL. Immediate past IFFR Americas V-P PDG Brian Andersen of Downers Grove, IL made a special presentation to Hall to recognize his planning and efforts for the motel, dinners, transportation and other details.

December 17, 2003 turned out to be meteorologically unfriendly to the event. We were stuck aboard a bus in a heavy rainstorm while President Bush spoke to the group.



Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, December 17,

I decided to stay and see what would happen and I did see Air Force One do a fly-over and the one attempt to fly the Wright Flyer replica that day.

That evening, about 40 of us enjoyed a good meal and even better fellowship. Dale and Brenda Hall were beginning to relax a bit.

IFFR World President-Elect Angus Clark and Alisma from England were there, as was Ulrich from Germany. Dan and Barbara Nalven gave him a ride in their A36 Bonanza to Dulles Airport for his return trip to Germany. Angus and Alisma had rented a car at Reagan National, and made an early departure to head back to catch their flight to another USA airport, then back to Manchester, England.

We discovered a mountain snow event in the Appalachians when checking the weather the next morning, but I decided we could visit our friends in western NC on the way back to Dallas. So, we stopped in Morganton-Lanier, NC, where our friends picked us up and transported us up into the mountains and into a winter wonderland. Four inches of snow fell that night and we almost didn't get their car out of the driveway for the trip back down the mountain Friday morning. Flying south of the high country, we made it to Helena, Arkansas for refueling, then on back to Addison in time for a slightly late dinner with our kids.

Statistics: 1944 nautical miles for the entire trip made in 13.3 tachometer hours.



HANGAR TALK

CLARK NOW PRESIDENT ELECT 2004-06

Luis Henriques of Faro, Portugal, resigned this spring as President-Elect of IFFR. A practicing dentist, he decided to fulfill a long-time dream of becoming an architect. With all the other demands, he realized he'd not be able to devote the necessary time.

The nominating committee then met by e-mail and nominated Angus Clark of the Rotary Club of Sheffield Vulcan, England, presently serving as Regional Vice President – Europe, to be President for the term 2004-06. At the Annual General Meeting in Brisbane, he was elected President-Elect for the 2004 – 2006 term.

Angus had served just a year of his 2 year term as VP – Europe, and will name his own team next year.

Angus and his Flying Rotarian wife, Alisma, have both been active in IFFR for many years. They fly a Robin from a small airport near Sheffield, England.

SOUTER NOMINATED FOR PRESIDENT 2006-8

Brian Souter of the Rotary Club of Karori, Wellington, New Zealand has been nominated President for the term 2006 – 08.

Because of the problems associated with the resignation of Luis Henriques, the nominating committee had first concentrated on getting his replacement and was not able to do its full process for 2006-08 prior to the Board Meeting and AGM in Brisbane.

However, the entire committee was together during the Australian Fly About and was able to make its decision.

Brian's nomination will be voted on at our Annual General Meeting in Osaka next May when he will officially become President-Elect.

A retired Air New Zealand captain, Brian had served 3 years as Regional VP – Australasia as of June 2003. He will now serve on the Executive Committee and Board as President-Nominee.

Brian and his wife Jeannette have attended IFFR events

JOHN LINFORD: SEPT. 2, 1922 - MAY 2, 2003

John Linford was born and raised in Oakland, Calif. and lived there his entire life, graduating from high school in 1940

He began his engineering studies at UC Berkeley, but soon enlisted in the Army Air Corps where he served as a B-24 pilot in England. He flew some three dozen combat missions including piloting the lead B-24 in the Eighth Air Corps' last mission over Europe.

Upon his return home from England, he went back to complete his engineering degree at Berkeley, then went to work for Scott Company, a plumbing and heating contractor in which his father was a partner.

In 1954 Linford started his own company and over the next 35 years he built Linford Air & Refrigeration Company into the second largest mechanical contractor in northern California.

He married Louise Talcott on March 15, 1944. They had a son and two daughters, two grand-daughters and four grandsons.

Linford was a longtime Rotarian and IFFR member. He was president of the Oakland Rotary Club and Aircraft Pilots of the Bay Area, among others.

on several continents and are well known to many members. He flew an Arrow to Australia from New Zealand to fly the Queensland tour.

MCCLURE NEW VICE PRESIDENT

Aussie Section leader Malcolm McClure has been appointed to complete the term of Regional VP – Australasia by World President Tony Watson. The appointment, effective 1 July 2003, lasts at least through 30 June 2004, the end of Tony's term as President. Malcolm now serves on the IFFR Board and Executive Committee.

Malcolm is a member of the Rotary Club of Castlemaine, Victoria, Australia. He and his wife, Phyllis, have been active in IFFR events in many places in Australia and around the world, including many Rotary Conventions outside Australia.

AMERICAS REGION CHANGES

The Americas Region of IFFR was scheduled to hold its combined AGM during the AOPA Expo in Philadelphia. At that time, Americas Chair and IFFR Regional VP PDG Brian Andersen of the Rotary Club of Darien, Illinois, plans to hand over the reins to PDG Phil Livingston of the Rotary Club of Girdwood, Alaska. World President Tony will recognize that change then and appoint Phil as Regional VP.

Also, Diana Stone Livingston, Past President of the Rotary Club of Girdwood, Alaska, spouse of Phil, has assumed the office of Americas Secretary-Treasurer.

Phil and Diana have been active in several IFFR events at an international level, including the Queensland trip last June.

FLY-IN IN ITALY JULY 27-29, 2003

The Italian Section fly-in to Verona attracted 10 aircraft carrying 40 individuals, most of them coming from outside Italy.

A wonderful presentation of the opera "Carmen" in the Arena welcomed participants on Friday night. Saturday morning the aircraft left Boscomantico airport for the grass runway of San Nicolò aerodrome at Venice's Lido. The flight gave everyone a chance to have a breathtaking view of the city. A boat trip through the lagoon allowed us to visit the famous islands of Murano and Torcello.

After a quick return to Verona an elegant dinner in a historic club concluded the pleasant two day stay. During the dinner the Andrea Corte, IFFR member and president of the Italian AOPA Chapter, was presented a Paul Harris Fellow for his work supporting Italian general aviation.

BILL BARNES, 1980-82 PRESIDENT

William A (Bill) Barnes, 1980-82 president of IFFR, died Oct. 17, 2003, at age 75.

He lived in Muncie, Ind., USA for the last 65 years. Barnes was active in numerous civic affairs as well as the Republican Party and still maintained his membership in IFFR. He held a commercial pilot certificate with instrument rating.

In addition to his flying interests, Barnes was also active in road racing, serving for three years on the AAA 500 mile race scoring and timing team and 22 years on the AAA and USAC 500 mile race technical committee. He participated in the coast-to-coast Great American Race in 1991 and 1992.

Barnes was a graduate of Purdue University and was a consulting engineer with Borg-Warner for 12 years before forming his own company.

IFFR Calendar of Events

For latest listings and additional details, go to: www.iffr.org

2004

Mar. 5-7: New Zealand - Gisborne

May 7-9: UK Section - Cambridge

May 15-16: French Section - Amiens

May 20-23: German/Austrian Section - Gorlitz

May 30-June 7: Hawaii Flyaway - Hawaii

June 11-13: Benelux Section - 10th anniversary

Midden Zeeland

July 7: UK Section - Bletchley Park

July 10-11: IFFR Celebration - Chez Clark,

Sheffield

August 18-22: Scandinavian Section

Fredrikstad, Norway

September 3-5: German/Austrian Section

Black Forest, Tongau

September 10-12: French Section - Caen

September 24-26: Bishop, Calif. Rotary Club fly-in

October 21-23: North American Section AGM,

Long Beach, CA during AOPA Expo.

Accommodations in HMS Queen Mary.

More details available later on Americas -

SW Section website.

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In the future, please download the bulletin and send an e-mail to Secretary - Treasurer Surowka so he knows he doesn't need to mail you a copy. This will save IFFR many dollars. If enough members get the bulletin on the web (or via e-mail), we can keep from having to raise dues and get out more newsletters.

To get the bulletin online, go to:

www.iffr.org

If you will download the bulletin, send a note to Secretary-Treasurer Tom Surowka so we can stop mailing a copy to you.

Tom Surowka

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