President Feroz writes............

Secretary Roy Marsden has spent many months setting up “Member Manager”. This will greatly simplify the administration of IFFR. ‘Member Manager’ makes us each responsible for updating our personal information. No longer will you have to phone your Section leader to report that your details are incorrect in the Membership Directory. What will be printed in the Directory will be what you see and can change on the web. Those not happy with using the internet can still contact their Section leader and ask them to make changes on their behalf but only once they have changed the initial password.

Although the system has been operational for months only 15% of members have logged in and changed their passwords. As Rotarians we give freely of our time and effort to Rotary projects. Now, we are asking you to log to www.membermanager.net/iffr and change your given password. That will only take a few minutes. Roy explains on Page 4 how to do it.

Put a picture of yourself beside the aircraft you fly. Pilots seem to remember aircraft better than people!

On a lighter note, by the time you read this Bulletin Raye and I will have attended the Australian and New Zealand Sections meetings in Woolongong and Ashburton. In May the flying season in Europe really gets under way with three Sections holding their spring meetings. June is Convention month as usual with a fantastic Fly-About to follow. For the first time the whole ten day program can be enjoyed using the coaches provided. No flying, just Fellowship if you want it that way. My thanks go to Rodney Spokes and his team for organising what will certainly be a great event.

Put a picture of yourself on your personal page. How often do we recollect a name but cannot put a face to it? Perhaps more often we remember people we have met at IFFR meetings but not their names. Let’s make things easier and insert a picture or even better one of yourself beside the aircraft you fly. July is usually a quiet time for IFFR so I am off to achieve a dream......to fly around the world in my Bonanza. Should you wish to join our group of twelve aircraft contact me. There are still places for a couple of co-pilots.

For those of us in the Northern Hemisphere the flying season is here again. Enjoy your flying but please change that password TODAY!

Peter More nominated as next W-P

Current Americas V-P Peter More is the unanimous choice of the Nominating Committee for the position of President Elect to succeed Feroz Wadia. The proposal for Peter to hold office 2010-2012 will be put to the Annual General Meeting of the Fellowship in Birmingham in June.

Peter was born in Shanghai, grew up in Hong Kong and completed his high school and Electrical Engineering degree in California. He began his career building recording studios and served as Chief Engineer for director Francis Ford Coppola’s American Zoetrope Studios. Peter later joined Altec Lansing as the Director of Asia/Pacific Operations. He founded More Technologies, Inc. in 1984 specializing in the distribution of audio equipment for television and cinema.

In 1997, Peter joined Westwood Village Rotary and served as its President in 2003-2004; and was selected Club Rotarian of the Year 2005-2006. He served as Assistant Governor for District 5280 in 2006-2008. He served IFFR as Americas SW Section Chair and is currently the V-P of IFFR Americas and also Webmaster.

Peter and his wife Shirley have enjoyed IFFR events in Buenos Aires, San Antonio, Barcelona, Brisbane, Hawaii, Copenhagen, Salt Lake and Los Angeles. Peter and Shirley have three grown up children, Jeffrey, Melanie and Ian. They live in West Los Angeles near Peter’s Piper Turbo Arrow!
Which badge is the IFFR badge?

The answer? They both are. IFFR Members have sometimes enquired why a different badge is often sported by UK members. This is the explanation.

IFFR was founded in America in 1965 and was brought to the UK the following year. At first membership grew slowly, but by the late 1970’s enough meetings were being held for membership to have spread across the whole country. Those attending found that they needed a ready means of recognising other IFFR members among the crowd at a flying event and it was decided that a badge (the upper badge) combining the Rotary emblem with wings was the most appropriate. As many of the membership had gained their flying experience with the Royal Air Force the RAF style of wing (sometimes described as “Angel Wings”) was adopted.

All went without comment until 1984 when several American members of IFFR flew themselves across the Atlantic to the RI Convention in Birmingham where the UK Section held a dinner to welcome them. On seeing their badges amongst the classic motorcycle collection of the National Motor Cycle Museum (www.nationalmotorcyclemuseum.co.uk) which is about a mile from the Convention Centre where the RI events will be taking place. At 7pm we start with an included drinks reception amongst the classic motorcycle collection before a four course dinner. Jacket & tie suggested for men. We already have 81 booked, this Fly Round will be a fun and unique experience – not to be missed. For further details send an e-mail to iffr2009@spokes.biz with “Subscribe” in the subject line – but don’t delay because the hotel allocation cannot be held much longer.

Bonefolds’ Hotel & Resort

Chief IFFR Organiser — Rodney Spokes

Birmingham Convention Round Up

Rodney Spokes writes ……

UK Section members are looking forward to welcoming you to the IFFR events during the RI Convention.

On Sunday 21 June 2009 there is a great opportunity for IFFR members and guests to get together at the start of the convention for the IFFR Dinner when Pheroz Wadia will welcome us all to his home country. This is being held at the National Motor Cycle Museum (www.nationalmotorcyclemuseum.co.uk) which is about a mile from the Convention Centre where the RI events will be taking place. At 7pm we start with an included drinks reception amongst the classic motorcycle collection before a four course dinner. Jacket & tie suggested for men. We already have 81 booked so if you would like to join us, don’t delay. Send an e-mail to iffr2009@spokes.biz with payment details for £50 per person as soon as possible and not later than 7 June 2009. We have chartered two coaches for the duration of the event which means that if weather prevents flying on any day, we will provide a coaching alternative. Also, a non-flying coaching option is available – some husbands and wives are splitting the method of transport! In addition to aviation museums, some of the highlights will be York Minster, one of the great cathedrals of the world; the Eden Project ecological centre; SS Great Britain which in 1843 was the first ship to have a screw propeller and an iron hull; Chatsworth House with Europe’s finest private art collection; and the farewell dinner in the Hall of Jesus College, Cambridge which dates back to the Norman period.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 24 June 2009
13.00hrs
Gallery Hospitality Suites 17-18
National Exhibition Centre
Birmingham
Agenda will be posted in a folder on www.membermanager.net/iffr

With 62 already booked, this Fly Round will be a fun and unique experience – not to be missed. For further details send an e-mail to iffr2009@spokes.biz with “Subscribe” in the subject line – but don’t delay because the hotel allocation cannot be held much longer.
From Private Pilot to Captain.

Former Americas’ V-P Phil Yoder tells of a remarkable career change.

Books are written about the various ‘paths’ to a career in aviation – but none that I’ve found quite describe the one I’ve experienced!

Having obtained my private license in 1968 during my final undergraduate college year, I soon found a way to justify a ‘company’ aircraft. First a Piper Arrow, then a Cessna 337 – then a brand new Cessna 310R in 1976. Our multimedia/computer graphics business grew and by 2003, I had accumulated over 7500 hours, obtained an ATP rating, flown to 30+ countries, and participated in six IFFR International Convention Fly Abouts. (Calgary, Glasgow, Singapore, San Antonio, Indianapolis, & Chicago) Along the way, I served as the IFFR Americas’ VP for a year or so and helped President Feroz get two Bonanza’s from the US to the UK!

It also became obvious to me that I was just ‘working’ in order to support my flying passion. After 9/11, business became more of a challenge and less ‘fun’ - so I explored the local corporate flight departments to see if my experience could be translated into at least a part-time ‘real’ flying job. Fortunately, one local department, who flew two Falcons and two Lear jets took me on as a ‘contract’ pilot to fill in for vacations, overflow needs etc. I quickly obtained a type rating in a Lear 31a and began flying corporately while maintaining my business on a reduced scale.

After a couple years with no turnover in the department (the company treated it’s pilots very well and no one ever resigned!) I became impatient. I was also absolutely certain that I belonged in the air full-time! This led me to explore other options. Netjets, (the world’s largest air-carrier – based on the 780+ planes in the fleet) had a division based in Columbus Ohio with hiring criteria that I could meet. I also had a friend at the Netjets International Division that I could count on to write a recommendation letter – but I did not qualify for that division, which flew Gulfstream’s exclusively – because they wanted pilots with Gulfstream experience.

To cut a long story short, I applied, interviewed and was offered a Citation position at Netjets – but my friend somehow arranged an interview for me with the international division – and much to my surprise, I was accepted into the GIV program. After a year, I moved into the GV/550/450 fleet and, in October, obtained a Captain’s four stripes! I’ll hit the 10,000 hour mark this year - It is impossible to describe the wonderful experience flying a Gulfstream around the world. My schedule is 7 days on – 7 days off – and set a year in advance. At the beginning of each ‘tour’, I line up to wherever the plane is located that I will crew for the next week – and airline home at the end of that week. I now have 42 countries under my belt and have never enjoyed anything more! With a new crew of three each tour (two pilots and a flight attendant) we work ‘half-time’, travel to great destinations, stay in great hotels, meet famous people . . . . and repeat daily (as we break out of the clouds on our way to 45,000 feet) . . . . "Can you believe they PAY us to do this?"

Fredy has had a remarkable Rotary career. Since joining Rotary in 1945 he has had 63 years of 100% attendance. After being IFFR World President in 1990-92 he was a Governor of District 4130 in 1993-94. In his time he has visited over 300 Rotary clubs in 72 countries. He has also been the representative of the President of RI in Venezuela, Colombia, the Dominican Republic and the United States.

Fredy’s “office”.

Phil at his desk!

Phil welcomes Americas’ V-P Peter More’s wife, Shirley aboard.

The Governor makes the presentation to Fredy.
Regional V-P Phil Pacey reports.

Even after a 26-hour flight from the UK, World President Feroz was keen to attend the evening meeting of the Rotary Club of Drury, which has more IFFR members than any other Club in the world.

After a couple of days rest at our home, Feroz and Raye were flown by NZ Chairman Michael Bryant to Fielding for a BBQ fellowship with a gathering of local IFFR members. Two days later Judy and I flew them in our 206 to Ashburton, stopping to see Peter Jackson's (Lord of the Rings) World War 1 Fighter Museum at Omaka. This is quite simply world class with the amazing realism of the various exhibits. With perfect weather we took the inland route over Hamner Springs and Christchurch. The next day we toured South Canterbury with a stop at Geraldine (Car Museum and shopping) and the Tin Shack (more shopping). Brian and Judy Fielder hosted a welcome dinner for 45 at their magnificent home. Great fellowship was had by all, including Past World President Brian Condon.

On Saturday four-wheel drive vehicles took us up the Rakaia Gorge to a high-country Merino sheep station and interesting(!) runway. Morning tea and scones were welcome in the homestead garden surrounded by mountains and glacial braided rivers. After lunch in Methven, we visited a robotic dairy farm where 600 cows are milked, fed and changed from field to field without human contact 24 hours a day; then Brian Fielders more conventional rotary milking shed where 1,000 cows are milked twice daily by 2 men. Both farms' management is incredible.

Saturday evening our group had more fun and fellowship at the Ashburton Aviation Museum (Harrier, Vampire, ATG, to name a few). Dinner in the hangar was followed by a speaker on the Peking to Paris Motor Rally. The 'Sergeant Session' was hosted by Marlene Marsden, helped by three Calendar Girls - World Presidents' wives included as usual! Our official meeting was held on Sunday with much discussion on future Fly-Ins and Fly-Aways. We are fortunate in Australasia that our wives and partners take an active role at the meetings. The NZ spring Fly-In will be in Kataia in the North Island.

Our trip to Wollongong Australia followed. We were immediately welcomed to the IFFR Executive meeting and fellowship dinner. A Saturday bus trip around the heavy industrial areas of the Belmore Basin and Wollong-