NOTAM from IFFR World President Peter More

March 25, 2012
Message from the World President
Dear IFFR Members,

My two year term serving you in this honored position will come to an end in May. I paged through many photographs reflecting on the wonderful time with my IFFR friends. I remember my first attendance at the Americas AGM meeting in Palm Springs in 1998. Then Secretary Tom Surowka and SW Section Chair Bert Vos were very welcoming and made me feel at home with the group. At the 1999 Singapore Convention, I recall the gracious invitation by PWP Ern Dawes to the exclusive Tanglin Club banquet. At the 2000 Buenos Aires Convention, we attended our first IFFR banquet. It was a great evening sharing a table with the Aldermans, the Vos and (Dale) Halls. The next year we participated in Southwest USA Fly-away following the San Antonio Convention. We got hooked! For the past decade, Shirley and I have made the IFFR convention events our annual vacation. Flying is great, but it is you, the members of IFFR, that is the essence of this organization. It is all about fellowship...and flying.

My term as the 20th World President started at the 2010 Montreal Convention immediately followed by the Five Star Canadian Fly-Away. A month later we made a visit to the Isle of Wight for the U.K. Section meeting. Before the end of that year was the Americas meeting in Long Beach. 2011 kicked off with a gathering in Truckee, California. A month later I went on a trip to Dubbo, Australia for their AGM. Then came the 2011 New Orleans Convention and the Southern Skies Fly-Away. Last August, we attended back-to-back weekend meetings in Helsinki and Leipzig. Shirley and I then flew home for our company’s fiscal year end then a week later returned to Europe for meetings in Lyon and Torino. On the way home, we stopped in Hartford for the AOPA Summit and the Americas AGM. That’s three meetings in one trip. Add all this to my business travels, hence my motto: Work Hard, Play Harder! 2012 began with a March meeting in Hamilton New Zealand. Later the same month, I visited the SE Fly-in at Leeward Air Ranch (FD04) and Sun n Fun in Florida. Thanks to IFFR, it has taken us to many destinations we never dreamed of visiting. Furthermore, we have made many friends along the way.

A big thank you to the members who looked after Shirley and I during our visits: Rodney and Pam Spokes in London to the Isle of Wight; Lee Dunayer in Truckee; Gustav Rosenlew and Raimo Makkonen in Helsinki; Gerhard and Nessie Wrede from Berlin to Leipzig; Ian & Ros Hope for trip to Dubbo, Joan & Andrew Mladen for the rare souvenir; Bruno Latil in Lyon; Diego Andreani in Torino; Ian Jenner in Auckland and Ian Wood for the flight in the Cub; Peter & Ellen Wenk in Florida.

There are many members who helped made my term special. Regional VPs Mike Graves, Ian Kerr, Michael Bryant and Peter Blaine. Webmaster Simon Barlow and Newsletter Editor PWP Tony Watson. The hard working Section teams under their respective Chair: James Alexander - UK; Rolf Mikkelson - Scandinavia; Karel Waagenaar – Benelux; Dominique Brice – France; Ulrich Starke – Germany-Austria; Roland Marrek – Italy; Jose Carlos Cardoso – Portugal; Thomas Morf – Switzerland; John Berends – Australia; Brian Fielder – New Zealand; then in Americas Mark Hagen, Bob Mercier, Tom Johnston, Bev Fogle, Jack Welge, Dale Read and Larry Wolsf. Immediate PWP Feroz Wadia sends me words of encouragement from time to time, I value this positive energy! PWP Sam Bishop, the guy on my time zone, that I can call for advise and help. The legal counsel for the World President, Sean McMillan. The gentle lady who does her work quietly, competently and efficiently to serve us, our World Secretary Lynn Miller. I am most grateful for all your good work.

Closely linked to our interest is our vigilance in conducting safe flights. We cannot overlook the important work of our safety committee members Angus Clark, Sam Bishop, Brian Souter and chairman Ted Richey. We meet online from time to time to discuss possible concerns and whether the safety guidelines require updates. Please check the website periodically for updates.

During the past two years, I had very close support from our World President Elect Michael Graves. Mike was the one who managed the Montreal and New Orleans Fly-Away with excellent local help from Dean Pepper, Bob Hunter, Dale Read, Marilyn McClaskey, Buddy Hall, Paul Lamb, Stan McNabb and Rankin Whittington. For the New Orleans and Bangkok event, PWP Sam Bishop was the registrar & advisor, and Steve Henderson was the treasurer.

Then there is my bride Shirley. Those who met her knows she is smart, beautiful, cheerful and helpful. She enjoys IFFR so much over the years that I made her IFFR #8584. She is largely behind the tour in Bangkok working with the travel agent. She was hostess to a fun party of sixty guests at our house during the 2008 Convention in LA.

Here is a Rotary announcement: Rotary’s Code of Policies now welcomes Rotarians, spouses and Rotaractors to all Fellowship. Come enjoy IFFR and spread the word to your friends with an aviation interest.

This is my last newsletter address to you as your World President. Thank you for this great honor to serve you.

Best wishes for good health, happiness, safe flight and may God Bless. Come Fly with Me.

Yours in Rotary Service and Safe Flying,

Peter More
Peter More, IFFR World President 2010-2012
WORLD PRESIDENT NOMINEE 2014-16 JAMES ALEXANDER

The IFFR World President Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the nomination of James Alexander (#5723) to be World President for the term 2014-16, to follow Michael Graves. The formal election will be held during the AGM in Bangkok. Many of us have enjoyed getting to know James and Catherine at various IFFR events over the years. I first met him as he was taxiing out at Sinson Airport in San Antonio to join our 2001 Southwest Fly About. James has given an abbreviated autobiography which I now quote for the remainder of this article. James in his own words:

I was the first born son of a typical Australian farming family. After attending Scotch College in Melbourne, I spent the next 8 years at home on the property in eastern Victoria. A series of unusually bad drought years led me to decide in 1975 that farming wasn’t for me. I boarded a Q707 and headed for London. It certainly wasn’t long before I realised my money was rapidly depleting, and I needed to eat! So, was it to be hotel or airline management? At this time hotels appeared to give the better opportunity. Was the London West End ready for me?

The Intercontinental Hotel took pity and I started there as a trainee. Five fantastic years later I was married to the Lady Catherine (not really a Lady) and Kirsty (our daughter) was a toddler. We moved to Cumbria in The Lakes District, sold our house and purchased our own home.

My interest in flying probably started way back in the fifties, when the annual fertilizer contractor duly arrived in early spring at the property, first with two Tiger Moths and latterly Pawnee Piper. This fascination was encouraged with the fact two of my uncles took active roles in the RAAF (one in Mosquitoes and the other in Beaufighters) in the New Guinea theatre, concluding their distinguished careers with Qantas. Both their sons became Qantas captains.

My first lesson was in 1968 in a Victor Airtourer of Westmorland in ‘92 and it was not long after that I was introduced to IFFR.

Our colleagues in the Portuguese Section of IFFR have arranged an excellent cultural, historic and tour of Portugal during the week immediately preceding the Lisboa Rotary International Convention. The convention dates are 23JUN2013 to 26JUN. OUR OFFICIAL IFFR PRECONVENTION TOUR WILL BEGIN COLUMBUS, LISBOA AND RETURN TO LISBOA SATURDAY 22JUN. OUR FAREWELL TOUR DINNER WILL BE COMBINED WITH THE ANNUAL IFFR WORLD BANQUET ON SUNDAY 23 JUN IN LISBOA. I have had the good fortune to visit Lisboa a decade ago with my worldwide IFFR family. I especially look forward to seeing old and new IFFR friends around the world at these events.

Our European Region colleagues have worked together seamlessly to make it possible to enjoy three consecutive outstanding IFFR events in conjunction with the Lisboa RI convention. We have the IFFR PRECONVENTION PORTUGAL TOUR, followed by the RI annual convention which includes our annual banquet and IFFR annual general meeting, followed by one more special IFFR event, the celebration of the French Section’s 40th anniversary with the 40TH ANNIVERSARY FRANCE FLYABOUT which will be a ten day fly-about and coach-about in France commencing on 22JUN.

I give my sincere thanks to our IFFR friends in Portugal, France and throughout the European section for these wonderful holiday opportunities. Please see our website Iffr.org for details now and as they develop over the next few months.

Michael Graves IFFR #L37

IFFR World President Elect 2012-14

LETTER OF APPRECIATION TO NZ SECTION

March 15, 2012

Dear IFFR Members of the New Zealand Section,

I want to express my gratitude for your very kind hospitality during my attendance at the Hamilton fly-in. Arriving Hamilton by car with Ian Jenner was fun as I got to enjoy the scenic country drive. It was great to see old friends and make new ones. There was Brian Fielder, Murray Smith, Fred Bain, Eric Linklater, Peter Armstrong, Owen Moore, Greet van der Helm, Lance Weller, Ian Wood, Phil Pacey, Michael Bryant, and Roger Leadbeater.

Brian Fielder was an efficient chairman during the annual general meeting and looked after the AGM with his usual efficiency. In recent years, New Zealand made significant contribution to the IFFR World organization through the services of VP Phil Pacey and VP Michael Bryant overseeing Australasia. It was a delight to work with the calm and intelligent Michael Bryant. There is the good work of Past World President Brian Souter and Past World Secretary Roy Marsden that must be recognized. You should be most proud of your fun and energetic New Zealand Section members. That’s what good fellowship is about.

Before I sign off, I must send to Former First Lady Jeanette Souter my warm wishes for a fast and full recovery.

When you come to Los Angeles (an Air NZ hub), please be sure to let me know so we can meet and dine.

Thank you for your generosity and especially the warm welcome. I had a grand time.

Yours in Rotary Service and Safe Flying,

Peter More #51 Portable President 2010-2012

POST-AOPA SUMMIT BLOCK ISLAND, RI FLY-IN

The Northeast Section of IFFR Americas had a fly-in to Block Island, RI following our Americas annual meeting at the AOPA Summit in Hartford, CT. We enjoyed some glorious features of the Island and came to appreciate why the Nature Conservancy designated it, “one of the twelve last great places in the Western Hemisphere.”

On Sunday afternoon, September 25 at 3PM we gathered for a barbecue at the Old Town Inn. Michael Graves, IFFR Americas President, with Karen Hicks, flew in following our annual meeting in Hartford. Newport, Block Island, and Point Judith...
Sandy and Molly Whittington (North Carolina), and Peter and Ellen Wenk (Ocala, FL).

Sunday late afternoon Doris and Herman Hassinger invited our group and Inn hosts to their home for a lavish cocktail party. Herman is distinguished not only for being the poet laureate for IFFR but for his architectural accomplishments, memorable meal collection and a fifteen foot map of the USA with all his flying destinations marked. We watched a spectacular sunset from their deck. We then went to an Italian restaurant for some of the succulent seafood available there.

Not only did we enjoy IFFR fellowship but also some of the many scenic, historic, and recreational features of the island. John and Tom had a four-mile hike on beautifully groomed conservancy trails. Dorothy and Gerd enjoyed a splendid two-mile beach walk. Burt, May, and Anna had a two-hour taxi tour that included visits to lighthouses, cliffs, lakes, and harbors. Tom had a long, invigorating ocean swim.

The Old Town Inn’s flying hosts proved to be exceptionally accommodating. Their Inn is only a short walk from the airport. No pilot and passengers were held responsible for weather-related cancellations or early departures! They welcomed us into their island “family” and introduced us to others who helped make our time together memorable.

Tom Johnston (#7006), Chair Northeast Americas

BISHOP, CALIFORNIA SAFARI 2011

The Southwest Americas Section of IFFR designated the 2011 Bishop Safari to be a special activity for them. It was the same weekend as the AOPA Summit in Hartford.

I decided it was finally time to take Jane to Bishop to enjoy the hospitality and scenery. Besides, PDG Bob (and Bea) Tomko of Vista (San Diego) Rotary summer at Aspendell near Bishop, and he was in my dad’s class of District Governors, who trained in Lake Placid, New York in 1968. The Tomkos have remained in correspondence with our family for well over 40 years.

The event was hosted by the Rotarians of Bishop, California and the current District 560. The Safari celebrates the beauty of the area for outdoor activities and is timed to be close to the peak for autumn colors in the Sierra Nevada foothills.

Yes, there was Rotary fellowship, with a welcome party Friday evening the 23rd, a banquet held outside on Saturday morning, and a trout breakfast on Sunday morning with some District business conducted. There were 7 activities to choose from (in advance) on Saturday morning through lunch, including fishing, hiking, petroglyphs, trap shooting, 4x4 excursion, trip to radio observatory, and our choice, the fall colors photographic tour.

PDG Lew McConnell also is active in Bishop Rotary during the summer (winters in the Banning area) and has been a member of IFFR for many years. He and wife Betty and the Tomkos live over 3000 feet up the mountain from Bishop in the little town of Aspendell (population 75). Lou and Betty hosted a welcome luncheon for arriving flying Rotarians at their home on Friday afternoon. We were thankful to our IFFR friends Bert and Greta Vos from Banning, California for giving us ground transportation to everything during our visit there, including the trip to Aspendell that opened the event.

IFFR fly-in event organizers included PDG George Chaffey and Bruce and Ronda Christensen. George had the idea of putting up sectionals on the wall of the hangar to show where IFFR members had flown from. He had to bring many more charts to take my route into account. He used some red yarn to show these things, and you can see how much further I came. My flight time in the Bonanza to get there was around 8 1/2 hours, stopping twice. One of those stops was Sedona for my birthday, a great way to celebrate it with some of the best of nature’s beauty.

REPORT OF THE IFFR FLY-IN TO CANBERRA, ACT, OCTOBER 2011

Approximately 40 members from NSW, Tasmania, Queensland, Victoria and, of course, the Australian Capital Territory attended the IFFR Fly-in to Canberra in October 2010. We gave a warm welcome to Andrew Ling, this being his first IFFR Fly-in. Andrew is a member of the same Rotary Club as IFFR members John and Judy Berends and Sam and Natalie Graham.

Canberra means “meeting place”, so it was the ideal opportunity to meet with fellow IFFR members - as we do every 6 months. Unfortunately, some of the members had to travel home by private aircraft earlier than planned due to the Qantas planes being grounded.

Some of the places of interest visited and activities were:-

► Dinner on Friday night at the Forrest Italian Club.
► The National Museum. Opened in 2001 there is much to see and experience of Australia’s past.
► Saturday lunch at the Botanic Gardens.
► The Tidbinbilla Deep Space Tracking Station. It was opened in 1965 and is the only NASA tracking station in Australia still in operation. During the Apollo program, Tidbinbilla was used for tracking the Apollo Lunar Module. As of mid 2010 the Station has three large antennas in use. The Station also uses the Parkes radio telescope in central NSW at busy times to receive data from spacecraft. There are plans to build up to three additional 34m beam waveguide antennas by 2015.
► Joint meeting on the Saturday night with the Rotary Club of Canberra South at the Canberra Yacht Club. District 9710, DG Rob and Beth Woolley also attended with the guest speaker being Dr David Headon.
► Tour around Canberra seeing the various Embassies and High Commissions. There are more than 80, all with their unique style and architecture.
► The National Art Gallery (although there was some debate whether a complete canvas painted red or blue was actually ART!!)
► BBQ on the Sunday put on by the Aero Club and the Rotary Club of Canberra South. We thank them very much for their assistance.
► The Australian War Memorial. It “stands as a sober reminder that the price of democracy is sometimes harsh and cruel.” It is a shrine to the courage and commitment of members of the Defence forces so that we Australians can enjoy the freedom and prosperity that we do. The Hall of Memory holds the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and on each side of the courtyard the Roll of Honour records the names of over 102,000 Australian servicemen and women who have died in wars since the late 19th Century. It was a most interesting visit with so much to see. Five of us visited the National Institute of Sport on the Monday, which was most interesting.

We do thank Lynne Duckham very much for organising the Fly-In and all the work that she had done to ensure that everything went well. Well done, Lynne.

On Sunday the 15th of January 2012, fifteen members and their wives or partners flew into the Walsh Memorial Scout Flying School at Matamata. (Matamata is located about a 15 minute flight east of Hamilton.) They flew there for the presentation of a NZ$5,000.00 donation to the school. The monies from the donation are to be used for camp equipment the idea being that everyone attending this camp at Matamata would

NEW ZEALAND SPECIAL MEETING AT MATAMATA

Photo shows members gathered at the BBQ. The next Fly-In will take place on the Mornington Peninsula, Victoria from April 13 – 16, 2012.

Report by Judy Berends
The camp is held in mid January (mid-summer in New Zealand) each year for 10 days and will have been in operation for 50 years in 2016. It has a high profile in the Aviation industry, all time is donated and a number of ANZ pilots are heavily involved. The students are usually secondary school age and have to apply and be selected for the camp.

Our donation was well received. New NZ Section Chair Eric Linklater made the presentation on behalf of IFFR NZ.

This annual statutory meeting mustered no less than 44 attendants, among whom 20 were members of the French Section ; it was also the opportunity for us to greet many a representative of the UK Section ; we were moreover honoured by the presence of Jean RECULET, French section Honorary-President, of Peter MORE, WP, of Ian KERR, European WP, of James ALEXANDER, UK Section Chairman, of Angus CLARK, PWP, of Jean-Pierre GABERT, our PP ; the meeting was brightened by the presence of their spouses Shirley (MORE), Catherine (ALEXANDER), Alisma (CLARK), Dany (GABERT) and ... by the smile of our dear Chairwoman, Dominique.

It was planned for a long time to meet at LYON-BRON (LFLY) airfield, which is a dedicated GA airport close to Lyon downtown since the opening of LYON-Saint-Exupéry about 30 km away for Commercial Aviation. Fair flight conditions for those who came from the South, much more demanding for those (that is most of us) coming from the Northern countries; a flight from England and another one from Strasbourg must have been cancelled and we did regret that some friends were missing.

Greeted by Brigitte and Bruno LATIL, the local organizers, after much hugging and kissing for the old buddies, after getting acquainted with some new friends, after some formal works (check-in, seeing the treasurer, revisiting the schedule and the list of attendants, ...) we quickly settled down in our respective rooms at the nearby hotel, and in a light outfit, cap and sunglasses (it was quite hot), the coach brought us at the top of La Colline de Fourvière in the heart of the town. The first inhabitants settled down at the foot the hill on the bank of the Saône River, a place of passage and trade during the Gallo-Roman era, called at this time Lugdunum. Another hill on the left, La Croix-Rousse, is reminiscent of Les Canuts who were working the silk of Lyon with their famous métiers à tisser (after Jacquard). From the square of the Basilique, we enjoyed a vast panorama all over the town down and as far as St-Exupéry airport and up to the first buttresses of the Jura Mountains. We were then expertly guided for the visit of the basilica.

We then walked down the hill throughout the gardens and the traboules (typical passage-ways or corridors among and under closely packed houses and their small yards), we passed by the grand Roman Amphitheatre, we paid a visit to Saint-Jean Cathedral, the place of the Bishop's great power. Still a few steps on the bank of the Saône River, and we were all together at the table of 'Chez Abel', a typical Bouchon Lyonnais on the ‘presqu’île’ laying between Saône and Rhône rivers. We did appreciate typical dishes like la quenelle and la poularde à la crème.

Saturday was utterly devoted to the discovery of the northern Lyon’s country, namely Les Dombes and Le Beaujolais. The coach took us first at Pérouges, a Middle-Age village built at the top of a rocky elevation overlooking the vast plain of Uîn River. It was likely founded by a Gallic colony coming back from Perugia in Lombardy (both places look indeed quite alike, the ancient spelling is the same and those of us who were flying-about with the French section in Lombardy in 2010 are in a position to confirm this tenet ...). The place is however very clean and well kept, you wouldn’t say its so old.

The lunch was given in the hostellerie of a small village in the heart of Les Dombes, the tables being laid outside under the arbour’s shadow. Everybody would have for sure appreciated la cassolette de cuisses de grenouilles (frog’s thighs), even our British Friends ... since for most of them it was actually a first try ! ...

The visit of Beaujolais’ vineyards and winemakers was at the menu of the afternoon, after which, back to the hotel we held our statutory AGM. We took this opportunity to devise the plan of our future activities. Our next annual meeting (September 2012) is very likely to be held at Aubenas (Ardèche-Méridionale). Next year (2013) will be our 40th anniversary, you were likely to be held at Aubenas (Ardèche-Méridionale).

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At the time of the meeting I was 26 years old President of Rotaract in Denmark. Together with my new Danish IFFR friends I realized that these fellowships are open to Rotaractors as well, and with greeting from the world President Peter More, I had absolutely no worries about signing up for this tour.

As a Rotaractor I was excited when I decided to go to Bruges together with my upcoming IFFR friends. But as every other setup in the Rotary Family I experienced a great weekend together with my new flying Rotarians friends.

The day raised and together with my two new IFFR friends we went to EKBI (Billund, Denmark) and within short time we were on our way to Bruges with a stopover in EDDG (Münster Osnabrück, Germany) in the F33A Bonanza.

Before the tour I didn’t think that much about what age my new friends would be, but to be honest I was a bit surprised when we arrived since I was absolutely in the younger part of the age-scale. But since it was the only time that weekend I had this thought I can only think of this age-span as irrelevant when it comes to fellowship, friendship and flying.

Well arrived to EBUL (Ursul, Belgium) and welcomed by IFFR friends, we were on our way to Bruges the first program point – “Brugse zot” - a typical Belgian beer brewery. A beer is always a good start.

There are many good things about flying but one of them is that you’re always full of energy after a flight. Instead of seeing transport as a time-consuming challenge that you have to overcome, it is changed to be a great experience you looking forward to.

Saturday we started with a guided tour so we could have a better understanding of Bruges as a city.
After lunch we visited a chocolate museum and finally there was time for shopping. The program was as I know it from Rotaract. Not too compact, not too loose, but right as it should be. There was time for the important thing: Chatting.

Saturday evening contained the traditional gala dinner with speeches. But still the tone was un-formal and friendly, so it was yet another chance to meet new friends and talk about flying.

On Sunday we had a boat trip among the canals of Bruges. The city is very old and what caught my attention were the many old houses—very beautiful. And with the final experience, before I re-entered the Bonanza to fly back home, a small sightseeing tour in a new glass cockpit Cirrus SR22, I can only think back of the tour as a great experience. (Thanks to Ian for taking me into the Sky).

The trip home was via EHLE (Lelystad, Netherlands) and back home at EKBL we landed safely with a lot of good memories behind.

Already now I’ve promoted IFFR and other fellowships a lot among Danish Rotaracters. In future I’ll do my best to keep promoting and can only say that to me, IFFR is the best of two worlds: Flying and Friendship.

Niels Kaare Hjeltelin Rasmussen
www.nielskrasmussen.dk

SWISS SECTION REJUVENATED

The Swiss Section of IFFR has been around just about as long as the French Section, with Mark Bonnet being asked to form the section by the late PWP Vic Bracher during the Houston RI Convention in 1972. However, the numbers were usually small, and often times the section would do things with either the French or German sections on each side.

The section has recently refreshed its leadership and grown some. The Chairman for 2011-12 (or longer) is Thomas Morf. The first Fly-In in recent years was at Zermatt (near the Matterhorn mountain). It was a wonderful weekend with perfect weather and 45 participants! We covered this event in our last Flyer through the eyes of Ian Kerr.

Thomas announced new cooperative procedures for Fly-Ins between the German-Austrian Section and Swiss Section:

- In the years 2012, 2014, 2016 (and even years in the future), the German-Austrian Section will organize two Fly-Ins (spring and fall). In the years 2013, 2015, 2017 (and odd years in the future), the German-Austrian Section will organize one Fly-In (spring) and the Swiss Section one Fly-In (fall). The next Fly-In in Switzerland will be on August 23rd - 25th 2013 in Luzern (Lucerne) at Buochs Airport (LSZC).

There are 14 new members in Switzerland (year 2011)! A great success! (Thomas is justifiably proud).

Members in Switzerland now total 39. “That’s great—we are a very small country!” reports Thomas.

Bruges is a very beautiful city. The city center is very well maintained. The buildings have a lot of decorations and details.

Thomas is an active pilot, and his aircraft is a RUSCHMEYER R90-230RG. This is a single engine airplane from Germany, build as serial number 006 in 1993. He has flown it 2,000 hours, VFR and IFR. He’s made it all the way to Johannesburg twice and has flown it to the USA twice.

LEIPZIG FLY-IN, AUGUST 2011

The German-Austrian Section had a meeting in Leipzig last August, and UK Section members Graham Browning and Jim Hull made the trip together in Graham’s aircraft. Jim navigated and also made a report published in the UK Section’s The Rotating Beacon. This report is based on an edited version of Jim’s report.

After arriving on Thursday and enjoying an evening meal with Charles Strasser and Feroz Wadia, we had a walking tour Friday around the city center starting beside a mural depicting the time of the Berlin Wall. We visited the St. Nikolai Church which had been the centre of the peaceful revolution in 1989. It was then on to St. Thomas Church which has had boys’ choirs singing since 1200. Outside a statue of J. S. Bach reminded us of his links with Leipzig, the Church and the choirs.

After a refreshment break we visited the Stasi headquarters. Now a museum, it records the awful system of repression and spying that East Germany suffered over the years. We saw tools of the trade, hidden cameras, record systems, uniforms, and medals for the regime.

After lunch we went on a bus tour around Leipzig suburbs. Old surface coal mines were being transformed into lakes for recreation. We drove to the Battle of the Nations Memorial. This commemorates Napoleon’s defeat at Leipzig by the coalition armies of Russia, Prussia, Austria and Sweden in 1813. We were given time to explore this, then returned to the St. Thomas Church to attend a service with the organ playing and the boys’ choir singing.

In the evening was our Gala dinner, with Section Chair Ulrich Starke and World President Peter More making short speeches. Saturday a bus took us to Naumburg to see the Cathedral there. It was amazing that it had survived both the War and Communist rule. Artifacts were laid out to present the Christian message. Some of these were models of what we would see in the Cathedral. Load bearing stones were carved with statue figures depicting human feelings. The Cathedral layout depicted moving from one state to another – life, purgatory, judgment, heaven or hell. Figures depicting all of these states were well carved and very expressive. To realise that this has been in existence since the 12th century and is in such good condition was an inspiring and thought-provoking experience.

Next we went to Freiburg to visit wine cellars. We had a guided tour and several tastings, followed by a buffet lunch featuring wine, of course.

We had some free time back at the hotel, which we used to plan our trip back home. Angus Clark had made a recommendation of a stop on the return to the UK, and Feroz Wadia introduced us to a website where we could easily file our flight plans. (Nice to have helpful fellow members of IFFR, isn’t it?)

The evening meal was a short walk away in a cellar at a Town Hall. Afterwards, many of us had a session at the hotel where we learned much more about helpful aviation websites.

Jim Hull via The Rotating Beacon

TURIN, ITALY FLY-IN MEETING

16 – 18 SEPTEMBER 2011

The Italian Section held their meeting in Turino (Turin) the weekend after the French held theirs in Lyon. PWP Angus and Alisma Clark attended both meetings, finding interesting places to visit in the 4 days between the meetings. Angus wrote an article about both meetings for The Rotating Beacon, which he edits. I have used his article as the basis for this edited version of a report on the Italian Section meeting.

The approach into Aeritalia Torino was clearly specified but was tight both in terms of height and routing. Ian Kerr and his crew were already there when we landed as were Feroz and Raye Wadia who had flown in commercially. Friday’s activities were split in two. In the afternoon we visited the Museo dell’Automobile—one of the largest museum in the world and truly innovative in terms of presentation. Among the inevitable Ferraris and Fiats there was a Mini, an E-type and even an Austin 7. After dinner we had a late night tour of Turin not only to see the sights that were not apparent during the day but also to visit it when it was less crowded. Just by walking around an interesting city with a knowledgeable guide you learn so much more. This was again apparent on Saturday when we visited so many interesting sites – Palaces, Cathedrals, Parliament Buildings and the home of the Turin Shroud. At the Gala Dinner in the evening we were joined by the President and members of the Rotary Club of Cirié – Valle di Lanzo.

Saturday night was punctuated by a series of violent thunderstorms. On Sunday morning the weather was “on the deck.” We decided with Ian to forego the Sunday morning programme and wait for the weather to clear. Ian, with the benefit of his FAA IR, was able to leave a couple of hours before we were, but by the time we could leave, the weather was good for our return flight to the west.

PWP Angus Clark in The Rotating Beacon

SCANDINAVIAN SECTION MEETING - HELSINKI

18 – 21 AUGUST 2011

Helsinki, Finland was the location for the fly-in and annual meeting of the Scandinavian Section last year. George Ritchie of the UK flew there on commercial airliner and his report is edited from the UK Section’s The Rotating Beacon.

After arriving by airline at midnight, I caught
up with the party over breakfast on Friday, in time to join the 0900 bus back to Malmi for the day’s flying trip to Vampula, about 90 nm northwest of Helsinki. At the UK meeting in Newcastle, Svend Andersen had kindly offered that I could fly with him in his Bonanza. So, with Karl-Göran Eriksson in the back, we departed, last of the group of 4 aircraft: one Danish, one Finnish, one Norwegian and one Latvian, cleared to leave the zone to the south not above 700 feet. This route takes you to the coast and then offers a spectacular waterfront view of Helsinki city and its islands. 5 minutes of 700 ft. cloud just west of the city saw us following the motorway closely before we reached the zone boundary and could punch through on top at 1500 ft. Another 5 minutes and blue sky all the way with air so clear and smooth that it makes you wonder of the God of the skies and waterways of the Helsinki archipelago. With the sun shining, we enjoyed an afternoon of warm sunshine, cold beer and warm friendships.

It was back to the city on Saturday night for the Gala Dinner at a traditional themed Lappish restaurant. Around 30 of us sat down to mushroom soup served in the traditional wooden Kuksa cups, reindeer steak kebabs and a dessert of bitter berries, served in a bowl made of ice, onto which one applied liberal quantities of hot caramel sauce. If you got the mix right, it was the perfect temperature and not too sweet or too bitter. WP Peter More expressed his and Shirley’s appreciation of the weekend, conveyed the congratulations of IFFR to the Scandinavian Section for their 25th anniversary and in return was presented with personal Kuksa cups.

Audun’s personal computer beeped and after much fanfare conveyed the result of its deliberations. Gustav Rosenlew was this year’s winner of the Nordic Aviation Trophy. The AGM was held on Sunday morning, but many not in the section missed it to start their return trips.

George finished his article by thanking IFFR Scandinavia, and especially Raimo Makkonen and his team for a great weekend.

**George Ritchie in The Rotating Beacon**

Since 2003, with varying call signs, “Angel Flight” has become increasingly prevalent on the Aviation Frequencies throughout Australia. The calls are made with pride by pilots reflecting their attitude to the service they provide to patients through the charitable organization known as “Angel Flight”. Angel Flight is a relatively new organization in Australia, and is in fact, based on the U.S.A model, which has been operating for many years. Australia is a continent around the same size of the U.S.A 48 contiguous states, but is relatively sparsely populated, with around 30% of its 22 million residents living in rural areas, and without ready access to hospitals and specialist medical care.

In the early years, emergency health issues in rural towns, coupled with the major distances from assistance, were major issues. This resulted in the formation of the now world renowned Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia, which for the last 84 years, has provided, and continues to provide, extensive emergency medical services to Outback Australia. Whilst this organization provides urgent medical transportation and treatment, it is not able to address the ongoing transportation issues of hospital and specialist treatment.

Bill Bristow, a qualified pilot and the Chairman and Managing Director of Bristow, Cornwell, Moreland, (BCM Partnership), the 3rd biggest Advertising Agency in Australia, realized, whilst witnessing the difference that Angel Flight in the U.S.A. was making, that rural Australia desperately needed a similar service. In early 2000, on his return to Australia he set out to investigate the possibility of such a service in Australia. He found excellent co-operation from the Aviation Regulator in Australia and as a consequence “Angel Flight Australia” was established in April 2003. Angel Flight as established in Australia, is a charity that co-ordinates non-emergency flights for financially and medically needy people. All flights are free, and assist patients or compassionate carers travelling to or from medical facilities anywhere in Australia. Angel Flight differs from the Royal Flying Doctor Service, in that pilots do not carry aero medical staff or medical equipment.

Angel Flight obviously hit the right spot with pilots in Australia as there are currently 2,400 registered volunteer pilots (including many IFFR Pilots) who all provide their aircraft and their time to the service they provide to patients through the charitable organization known as “Angel Flight”. Angel Flight was established in 2004 has subsidized fuel costs to 50% of fuel used on Angel Flights. In 2006 this was increased to 100%. Generally, all airports throughout Australia waive landing fees for individual missions, and Air Services Australia, which manages air traffic in Australia, waives en-route charges. Angel Flight receives no Government funding nor are any of the pilot aircraft expenses tax deductible. The tax deductibility is an ongoing issue as donations of money or property to Angel Flight are tax deductible, but the Tax Office does not recognize the donation of aircraft running through venues such as the U.S. Air Force.”

**We understand that PWP Brian Condon is back flying his Cessna 182. Here he is with his trusty steed.**

**Angel Flight in Australia**

“Centre, this is Angel Flight, Uniform Zulu X-ray, maintaining 9,000.”

**Centre, this is Angel Flight, Uniform Zulu X-ray, maintaining 9,000.”**
Bill Bristow, the Founder of Angel Flight Australia, has been given the following recognition:

Queensland Australian of the Year-2005
Australian Bicentennial Cup by the Guild of Air Pilots and Navigators-2006
Honorary Membership of the Guild of Air Pilots and Navigators

Member of the Order of Australia-2009
The ranks of the Angel Flight Volunteers continue to grow as Angel Flight through its volunteers, makes an ongoing significant contribution to the non urgent medical needs of those people living in the rural and remote areas of Australia.

Further information is available on the Web Site http://www.angelflight.org.au/
Trevor Steel - IFFR (Australia) Inc (Member # 1803)
Angel Flight Volunteer Pilot

ANGEL FLIGHT NEW ZEALAND

Australian IFFR member Lance Wellner (#8443) has been successful in starting Angel Flight New Zealand. I’m sure we’ll hear more about this continuing noble use of our aircraft for humanitarian purposes.

PWP TONY GIVES PORTUGUESE GSE TEAM DALLAS TOUR

In April 2011 Dr. José Carlos Silva Cardoso, Chair of the Portuguese Section, contacted me via e-mail. He was to be a GSE Team leader of 4 young Portuguese in a visit to Rotary District 5930 in south Texas in late April to early May. His team would be passing through Dallas – Fort Worth International Airport and the time and heading west on IH-30, the Tom Landry Highway. We needed to be back at DFW Terminal D by 15:35, so we were only able to see Cowboy Stadium and the Ballpark at Arlington from a distance. Everyone was very appreciative of this mini escorted tour. José had been in Dallas 10 years ago at a conference hosted by Texas Instruments, so he remembered a few things around the former Adams Mark Hotel (now the Sheraton again) and in the West End.

This connection promoting international goodwill and understanding was made possible by participation in IFFR by José and myself. This is another good use of our Directory, and more Flying Rotarians should use it in this manner.

It also reminds me that we all have IFFR friends and more in Portugal, and I hope many of us can make the Rotary Convention in Lisbon in 2013.

SPACE STATION ASTRONAUTS IN ITALY

In mid-July, Italian IFFR Section Chair Roland Marrek “had a breathtaking and unforgettable encounter with Paolo Nespoli and Catherine “Cady” Coleman, back from the International Space Station in May. He enclosed pictures of Paolo and Cady during the presentation, and a picture of him with Cady.

SMYRNA HOST PAUL LAMB LANDS ON A CARRIER

Thanks to the Navy’s “Leaders to Sea” program, Paul Lamb, IFFR member M5777 and Wings of Eagles Flight School Chief Instructor, had a once in a lifetime opportunity! Lamb was able to fly in a Navy C-2 Greyhound aircraft; land on the USS Enterprise; spend the night learning and observing flight operations; and catapult off the next afternoon. The Enterprise was located approximately 100 miles off the coast of Jacksonville, FL. It was amazing just seeing the catapult shots of the F-18s while standing only 20 feet away.

The USS Enterprise is 50 years old and about 5,000 people are on board at any given time. It’s basically a floating city. They even have a Starbucks. Lamb, who spent four years in the Air Force and 26 years in the Army National Guard, said he left the trip proud of the work the military does. The captain of the ship told us, “Last year, most of these sailors’ biggest concern was going to prom.” Lamb said “It really brings home the importance of the Navy.”

Paul accompanied fellow Smyrna Rotarian and Smyrna Airport Executive Director, John Black. Black, whose father was in the Navy in the South Pacific during World War II, also led the trip with a renewed sense of patriotism.

“You realize just what we have in the people who are defending our freedom” Black said.

Paul is a 20-year Rotarian and Past President of the Smyrna, Tennessee club and retired Postmaster of Smyrna. He and his wife Cathy (incidentally, they met via the Smyrna Rotary Club) are partners in a Piper Arrow. They fly for pleasure and Paul volunteers for Angel Flight Missions. Those on our fly about last summer will remember that Paul and Cathy helped host us during our visit to the Smyrna and Nashville area.

The pictures show Paul standing on the carrier deck with a F18 on final approach, one of John Black and Paul and one of the C-2 Greyhound in which they flew.

UPCOMING MEETING GERMAN-AUSTRIAN SECTION

LINZ, AUSTRIA
17 – 20 MAY 2012

Spring of 2012 will take us to Linz, Cultural Capital of Europe in 2009 – a city of variety and unusual experiences. Here is the program:

Thursday, 17 May 2012 until 1300: arrival at the Blue Danube Airport (LOWL). Snack at the airport restaurant. 1630: 1 hour city tour with the “Linz City Express” to reach the most important sights of Linz in comfort. 1845: bus to Gasthaus Waldschänke Exenschläger in Urfahr – to reach the most important sights of Linz in comfort. 1845: bus to Gasthaus Waldschänke Exenschläger in Urfahr – to eat a variety of Linz Dumplings – an experience! Return about 2200.

Friday, 18 May 2012 @ 1000: Bus to the ARS ELECTRONICA CENTER, a show of Ideas, Visions and possibilities of the digital world. 1030: Guided highlight tour, followed by light lunch at the Restaurant CUBUS with a view over the city. Free afternoon. 1700: Members meeting at the hotel. 1900: bus departure
to our Gala Dinner at the Pöstlingberg Schlössl. The Pöstlingberg – one of the landmarks of Linz – offers an impressive view over the whole city and the brothers Gallistl will serve us an equally impressive dinner!

Saturday, 19. May 2012 @ 0930: Bus to Schlogen – little cruise on the Danube to Aschach an der Donau, small lunch on board, thereafter bus transfer to Linz and the VOEST works area. 1400: Guided tour through the Multimedia Show “Steel World”, followed by bus tour inside the 6 square kilometres works area of the VOEST – Alpine, one of the most modern steel works of the world – worth seeing! 1930: dinner at the Hotel Restaurant “Domviertel.”

Sunday, 20. May 2012: 1000 bus departure to the airport.

NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

We were late finding out that Betty Poyser, widow of the late PWP Ned Poyser, passed away 27 April 2010 in Pinehurst, North Carolina. We did find this out from PWP PDG Mark Crotts while at the RI Convention in 2011 but failed to pass along in our last newsletter. Betty had joined the Rotary Club of Pinehurst.

Kurt Bjorneby was one of the founders of the IFFR Scandinavian Section, and over my years as editor the first time (1983-94) I had frequent correspondence with him, and was pleased to get to meet him a few years ago when I visited Sweden. Kurt sadly passed away on the 23rd December 2011. Bo Johnsson wrote in his notification, “Many of us have had the privilege to meet Kurt, as happy and cheerful as always.” Kurt was a member of the Rotary Club of Hallstahammar.

Chuck Medicus and Donna participated in our Southern Skies fly about in 2011 as well as the Southwest Section’s fly-in to Bishop, California in September, and had participated in other fly abouts over the years (we remember his black Comanche).

WAYPOINTS

2012 Events:
March 29 – 31 Americas South East Section - Fly-In to Ocala and Sun n Fun, Florida
April 13-16 Australian Section Meeting - Mornington Fly-In
May 6 - 9 IFFR House of Friendship booth at the RI Convention in Bangkok. Come visit us.
May 6, 1830hr IFFR Annual Banquet at the Four Seasons Hotel, Bangkok. US$60 by reservation only via Sam Bishop
May 9, 0830-1000hr IFFR Annual General Meeting at “Four Points Sheraton Hotel Sukhumvit 15”
May 10-20 Post RI Convention - IFFR South East Asia Jetaway 2012
May 17 – 20 German – Austrian Section Meeting - Linz, Austria
June 1 – 3 Benelux Section Meeting - ‘Tiel, The Netherlands
June 15 – 17 UK Section Meeting - Oxford
July 25 Americas North Central Section Fly-In to AirVenture. Rotary lunch and dinner BBQ. Contact NC Chair Mark Haga
August 17 – 19 Scandinavian Section Meeting - Oslo
August 23 – 26 European Region Fly-In Prague, Czech Republic
September 14 – 16 French Section Meeting - Aubenas
September 28 – 30 Portuguese Section Meeting - Santa Cruz Fly In
October 11-13 Americas SW Section Fly-In to AGM and AOPA Summit Palm Springs
October 19 – 21 Australian Section Meeting - Cessnock, NSW

2013 Events:
At the Bangkok AGM, we will officially launch the promotion of the “2013 Pre-Convention Portugal Tour” hosted by our Portugal Section. It will be a fabulous one week event from June 15-22.
June 15 - 22 Portuguese Section “Pre-Convention Portugal Tour”
Immediately after the RI Convention in Lisbon, the French Section will kick off their 40th Anniversary Fly-Round
June 27 - July 06 French Section 40th Anniversary Fly Round
August 22 – 25 Swiss Section Meeting - Fly-In Lucerne, Switzerland

2014 Events:
May 25-28 Rotary International Convention - Sydney, Australia

Disclaimer: The International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians is a group of Rotarians dedicated to promoting aviation as an opportunity for fellowship and service. This Fellowship operates in accordance with Rotary International policy, but is not an agency of, or controlled by Rotary International.