The Big Dane’s World Newsletter

August 2017

Get in touch...

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Only 4 months to Christmas. It is hard to believe the time is passing that fast.

Carina and I flew into Chester in England for the annual British fly in, July 14th to 16th. Hawarden airport was the intended point of impact. A great place where Airbus are manufacturing wings for their aircraft. During our disembarkation and lunch, we could observe strange looking planes hauling bits and pieces between Hawarden and other Airbus manufacturing sites. See the picture of the Beluga below.

Chester is an old roman town on the border to Wales. It is known for its Tudor style houses and a two-storey sidewalk, one up and one down.

The second day outing included all that was expected of Welsh weather, it was wet wet wet. Despite the damp environment, we all had a great day with both bus ride through the scenic countryside, a train ride and a visit to the impressive Portmeirion, a small Mediterranean inspired village set in beautiful gardens at the seaside.
The Gala dinner was set in the old Town hall of Chester. A suitable location for our high-profile party of dignitaries.

Ulrich Starke, who had received the Flyer of the year award in 2016, returned the trophy to the founder, James Alexander who will be the future custodian as the physical Trophy will be retired to Kendal. As proof that he was among the few bestowed with this honour, Ulrich received a framed certificate with a picture of the trophy.

Thanks to Peter and Martin for making this possible.

(Photos by Ingo Neufert)
Oshkosh rocks Again.
Only a few years back we had our unforgettable 50-year anniversary at the Oshkosh week. WP James Alexander still hums “Rock your wings” when we talk about it. This year North Central Section Head John Ockenfels had invited about 500,000 of his closest friends to the event. As ever, the Oshkosh week is fantastic and the Mecca where all pilots should go at least once in their flying career.
The venue for the IFFR dinner was well researched and chosen with care. 22 active IFFR members and guests turned up after a long day in the sun at The Fox River Brewing Co.

George Chaffey got his certificate as the past holder of the Flyer of the Year Award. Well-deserved for his odysseys across the north American continent in his beloved 1948 Luscombe, Lady Bird.

As George, John was in the exhibit row with his Boeing Stearman PT-17, nicely decorated with the IFFR Banner.

Turku, Tango – Sauna and the amazing Archipelago
The Scandinavian fly in was this year in Turku, also called Åbo by the Swedish speaking natives. A short hop across the Botnic bay from Stockholm, and the flight rewards you with a fantastic view to around 40,000 small and big islands before arriving at the coastline of Finland. The late afternoon was spent touring Turku with a guide. The city is from the 13th century and has been a trading post throughout the period since then. Sometime Swedish sometime Russian up until 1917 when it declared its independence.

It was good to see so many nations represented, 12 in all. Especially I was happy to see four guests from our Portugese section, including The new Section head Carlos S. Nunes.

On Friday morning we boarded the steam ship UkkoPekka for a ride through the inner Archipelago to the coastal town of Naantali, Finland’s version of Camp David, summer residence of the president of Finland.
Lunch was taken at a seaside restaurant and after that there was time to roam the nice old city of Naantali before returning to Turku by bus. Before the gala dinner we were treated to a visit to the naval museum and a tour on the old sailing ship recently used for training of young sailors.

Saturday morning was dedicated to a visit at Turku Castle, where the early history and background of Turku was shown and told.

The gala dinner was in the restaurant of the museum. The maritime ambiance fits very well with the pilots and their companions. The Nordic Aviation Trophy was this year given to George Ritchie. George spoke with great fondness of his connection with the Scandinavian section and especially Finland. It was good to see that George was chosen like his father before him, who was awarded the trophy 10 years earlier. Einar Tvedt, a new Norwegian member, was inducted and got his official pin.

Another successful Scandinavian fly in. Thanks to Lotta and Erik Rosenlev for a terrific weekend.
1) Outboard motor museum, 2) Einar Tvedt and Arne Krumsvik 3) Portuguese section head Carlos Nunes

Caroline and George Ritchie with the Nordic Aviation Trophy.
Lausanne, Switzerland

After a nice long flight with fuel stop in Karlsruhe, Carina and I arrived at the airport of Lausanne, situated beautifully above the city and Lake Geneva. The runway looked quite flat but sloped downwards, so touchdown seemed to take forever. A slight detail which startled many and surprised a few. We were among the last to arrive, so we did not manage to go for the guided city tour.

François Frochaux was the organizer and had done a very fine job. 23 planes, 60+ participants, an absolutely perfect turnout for a fly-in. The program was well balanced between activities and fellowship. All transportation was based on public transport and it worked very well.

Friday’s optional visit to EPFL (École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne) was impressive. Solar project, material science, computer based testing of drugs for Alzheimer’s etc. In the school of life-science we heard about the research and new results in Bioengineering, cancer and neuroscience.

The gala dinner was at the Olympic museum, a very suitable venue with a great view to Lake Geneva. The dress code was smart casual without ties, so a few gentlemen had to dress down when the first drinks were served. At the gala dinner, we could induct the latest IFFR and new rotary member from Germany, Patricia Funke.

It is a very good idea with the Party dinner on Friday evening, leaves you an extra day before you must fly again.
Finally we, the IFFR bunch, got to congratulate Charles Strasser on his 90 years birthday in person. He got his song, a toast and many good wishes. Later in the evening we could enjoy a massive lightning storm in the mountains from the balcony of the Olympic Museum.

On Saturday, we started the day by boarding a boat for a 1-hour ride on Lake Geneva. The weather was very nice and most stayed on the sun deck. We were set ashore in Vervet, and were taken by public bus to the Charlie Chaplin museum. After the guided tour of the museum, which is a must if in these parts, we were released on our own for the afternoon.

At 16:13 (in Switzerland so precision is mandatory) we boarded the train to the UNESCO-listed Lavaux vineyard terraces. The program suggested a stroll in the wine terraces, reality was a mountain climb leaving us from the flatlands breathless. The treat was however at the other end, as we were wined and dined at the porch of a small winery. Nice wines and a steady stream of creative and very delicious tapas followed for the next hours.
At 9:30 we went down the mountain and got on the train taking us back to Lausanne.

Another great fly-in was over and most of us were heading home.

Up and coming.

In the first week of September, the San Marino fly-in will take place. It is great to see that the Italians are back on the scene. Carina and I look forward to meeting old as well as new friends.

The following weekend September 7th - 10th, the annual meeting in France is taking place in Aix en Provence. The program is on IFFR.org, and looks great.

To you all
Fly safe

Svend Andersen
August 22, 2017

IFFR Members:

The IFFR Hotel for the Toronto Convention is fabulous...the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel. This was Svend's first choice...6 blocks from the Convention Center, on the water, just across from the stunning Billy Bishop Island Airport. Because we ran out of rooms in Atlanta (30 rooms), we reserved 40 rooms in Toronto, but some of those are already gone, and we only have 30 left. And we have a short deadline for those who want to be at the hotel. If you want a room in the IFFR hotel in Toronto, you should act NOW. It’s First Come, First Served. You must do two things:

1. RESERVATION: Email or call George Chaffey (gchaffey@littler.com, 925-699-3343) and tell him you want a room, and give your arrival date (he’ll put you on the list), and
2. **PAYMENT:** Send $494 USD to Steve Henderson, Americas Secretary/Treasurer (that is the first and last nights room, which INCLUDES all taxes and fees—you’re reservation is not guaranteed until Steve receives the money). Payment can be by Check or Pay Pal or Credit Card:

   a. **Check:** If in the US or Canada, you can send a check, made out to “IFFR”, to Steve Henderson, 561 Auto Center Drive, Watsonville, CA, 95076; or....

   b. **Pay Pal:** You can pay by Pay Pal from anywhere in the world. IF you have a Pay Pal account, just send the money to IFFR Americas’ email address... ifframericas@gmail.com. If you have no account, it’s easy to set up and takes only a few seconds (just need an email address and a password). Go to www.paypal.com, select the “Pay or send money” icon at the top of the screen and select “send money to friends or family” which may avoid some charges, and enter the amount to pay and “send”. It’s that easy. Or.....

   c. **Credit Card:** Send Steve your Credit Card info (name, number, expiration date, security code). Fax is 831-322-5004. You can also text him at 831-818-1488.

**ARRIVAL DATE:** Tell George your arrival date. If we don’t know otherwise, we’ll reserve your room for arrival on Saturday June 23. We also have a slightly smaller number of rooms for Friday arrival, so be sure to let George know if you want a room for Friday night. We even have 2 more rooms available for Thursday night.

We have very short deadlines. Some of the room block may cease to be available after October 2. If you change your mind before October 2, you get your money back. After October 2, you forfeit $150. But if the room block is filled at any time, you’ll just be on the waiting list. So, if you think you will go to the Toronto Convention, you should not delay.

**George**

George Chaffey,
VP IFFR, Americas Region
Wing Leader, Low & Slow Squadron
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Be aware that the rooms are going fast, make you reservation today!
The quintessential New England – post convention fly-away

International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians

Toronto Post Convention

IFFR Fly-Away

June 28, 2018 – July 7, 2018

Experience

Historic New York

and

Quintessential New England
PROGRAM

June 23 – 27 Toronto Convention: Fly into either Toronto City Centre Airport or Buffalo Niagara International Airport.

Thursday June 28: Travel to Syracuse Hancock International to clear customs and as time permits visit Syracuse - such as Destiny USA New York State’s largest shopping, dining and entertainment mega-plex.

Friday June 29: For a one-of-a-kind experience, take a day-cruise on the historic Erie Canal aboard the double-decked tour boat Emta II.

Saturday June 30: Travel to Ticonderoga, NY and take a mid-afternoon tour the Ticonderoga Industrial Heritage Museum.

Sunday July 1: Visit Fort Ticonderoga and discover the story that defined North America in the 18th century. Then take a tour of the Starship Enterprise at the Star Trek - The Original Series Set Tour.

Monday July 2: Travel to Laconia in New Hampshire’s Lakes Region. Enroute stop at Concord NH’s McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center with its collection of innovative, interactive exhibits of aviation and space sciences.

Tuesday and Wednesday July 3 & 4: Climb to the Top of Mount Washington, the highest peak in New England, on the world’s first mountain-climbing Cog Railway train, take a cruise on Lake Winnipesaukee, and view the Lakes Region fireworks from the Castle in the Clouds.

Thursday July 5: Travel to New Hampshire’s historic seaport of Portsmouth. Enjoy a guided walking tour of the charming seaport town.

Friday and Saturday July 6 & 7: While still in Portsmouth, take a boat trip to the legendary Isles of Shoals located six miles off the coast and take advantage of the numerous guided tours and museums in the historic Portsmouth vicinity. End your historic & quintessential experience with the Saturday evening IFFR farewell banquet.

Note: A 55 person tour bus will follow the flyers’ route and be used for transport to each of the stop’s activities.

Fly-Away POC: Gary Dehnel, Meredith NH Rotary, 603-677-7910, gcdehnel@verizon.net
Han’s Membership Tips

Fellow IFFR Fellows!

Doing fundamental research in what IFFR is all about and what it could do to attract new Fellows or Friends, I made a couple of observations. First, this is a great Fellowship as is evident in the participation and “being together” at the various section fly-ins that are in full swing in Europe and around the Globe. Taking a prospective Fellow or Friend along is, IMHO, a sure fire to sign up the individuals for IFFR membership.

However, it also, and that is my second observation, is not a done deal for everyone to participate and bring along potential friends. Flying to/from meetings takes time and money, and not every enthusiast is in a position to make the commitment from the household budget and days-off at work, when still active professionally.

So far, the less than good news. But, the good news is around the corner!

The third observation told me, that some sections are working around the “barriers to entry” by scaling the IFFR fun down to geographical manageable size. Two examples: The big country approach is to form regional “squadrons” that organize “fly and town” meetings at airfields that have within a radius of say 2-3hrs driving sufficient IFFR members and prospects to make it attractive to spend a Saturday or Sunday to have hangar talk over lunch, inspect the local airfield and the flying hardware present with perhaps a spin around the block. Add an invitation to local Rotary clubs (find them in the directory!) that meet within shouting distance of the location and a round-up of interested Girls and Boys looking at Toys is assured. Expensive? A couple of hours during the weekend and a tank of gas (or petrol if you live outside the US), that’s a winning proposition for the family budget for a family outing!

I understand these kind of (“local scale”) initiatives are underway in the USA (“Squadrons”) and in Benelux (“Meet and Greet” at airport around Holland and Belgium), and perhaps elsewhere too.

So, think about it and adopt your own program in your section based on the ideas above. Obviously, I am aware of the scale of the sections involved. Cross-country in Benelux is on average 40 minutes until you change culture, language, morals and what have you, while in the US you’re only half way over the Los Angeles area, BUT I’m sure you’ll get the idea!

Go for it!
Han Klinkspoor
Planes, Places & Faces

Around the world flight for Rotary Cancer Hospital, is completed. Ravi is back in the US

Short report from Giuseppe Berardo.

The mission of this round the world flight is to bring awareness for cancer and raise $750,000 to buy an urgently needed MRI machine for 'Rotary Ambala Cancer and General Hospital' in Ambala Cantt., India.

Ravi did it! He made his landing August 20th at KBUF. Please do find attached photos of the stop in Italy, in my village in Ozzano Emilia, in LIKO airport. You can see the video made for Italian television at https://www.facebook.com/etvrete7/videos/1589457047792760/ Also send you photo and article for Rotary magazine, and the presentation in the Rotary meeting in Bologna. We personally made two donations, USD 1,000 as IFFR Italy and USD 1,000 as my eClub Rotary District 2072.

Giuseppe Berardo President, Italian Section 2016-2018

Rotary meeting in Bologna.
The Pilot Ravi Bansal, PhD a retired entrepreneur with a passion for flying and a wannabe Drummer is the pilot/owner of this Cessna 400.

This mission for me is very personal as it not only is an adventure that I have been dreaming about for a while, but will also help bring awareness about cancer in the rural community around Ambala and get the hospital a needed MRI machine now. For further information see www.raviworldflight.com

Donations are still welcomed.
Short report from the Eclipse

Flying to Madras OR. for the eclipse was quite an experience with Vicki, Jeff & his daughter, Jessica in N7101Y.

We arrived at 9:30am, just as the eclipse started. We had a perfect view from Madras, along with about 100,000 others at the airport and fairgrounds.

Attached are a couple of pictures. The time lapse photo was provided by someone else.

Departure was quite slow with over 300 planes ready to go at the same time. We waited over 2 hours to depart and were unable to get fuel. We stopped at Lake County airport along the way to fuel.

We also flew over burning man along our route so Jessica could take some Arial photos.
Tim Puliz
Meet Huub van Heur president of the Benelux section

Since 22 January 2017 I am the new (4th) president of the IFFR section Benelux.

I believe I became a member in 1999 of the IFFR by Egide van Dingenen the past president.

In 2016, I was chosen in the board and I like it very much to do it.

Since 1975 I have my flying license PPL and so I visit whole Europe with my family.

I did have for 5 years a Morane 150 T in the beginning and so I was very free to travel.

Now I am flying Mooney and C 172 at aerodrome Zwartberg EBZW. Both airplanes are from the club Limburgse vleugels.

My hobby is also flying in a B 737 simulator.

Our next fly in is from May 25th -27th 2018 in Groningen, airport Eelde EHGG.

Apart from our meeting in Oostende (EBOS) this year, we had still two meet & greets for the iffr Benelux members.

One in Holland on 17 June on airfield Seppe EHSE (with an old timers show) see appendix.

and one in Belgium at the airport Zonhoven EBZH (at the yearly open door house) on 26 August.

We hope to see many at the Groningen fly-in in May 2018

With Kind regards

Huub van Heur president of IFFR section Benelux.
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Hong Kong Squadron is airborne.

On June 27, 2017, District 3450 (Hong Kong, Macau, Mongolia, PRC- Guangdong Province) Governor Eric Chin made a soft launch, before the end of the All-Star Years 2016-17, to announce the chartering of the IFFR Hong Kong Squadron with 20 charter new members in the 12th JPM. New members were awarded the IFFR pins supplied by VP Ian. Thanks to the support by World President Svend, VP Elect Phil, VP Ian, DG Eric started to form the HK Squadron with regular communication with WP Svend and VP Ian after he first met Svend in DGE Training in San Diego in Jan 2016.

DG Eric spoke in club visit and JPM with the PowerPoint and enrolments from supplied by Ian Jenner and got good response to set up a HK Squadron in Hong Kong. We look forward to meeting WP Svend, WP Elect Phil and VP Ian visiting Hong Kong in November to make a formal ceremony with global leader of IFFR, DG Eric remarked that "It is exciting to connect D3450 Rotarians who are interested in Aviation with the global family of IFFR. I strongly believe that IFFR will become a popular fellowship group in our District".

In Rotary year 2016-17, DG Eric chartered 13 new Rotary Clubs with 400 new members (grow his district members from 2000 to 2400), 9 Rotaract Clubs and 11 Interreact clubs with 600 youths joined into Rotary Family.
News from the World Secretary Ian Kerr:

Use of our new IFFR database of all members - it’s called Membermojo

Firstly, from a computer or tablet

1. Go to iffr.org
2. Press the tab at the top on the home page with label 'Membermojo'
3. On the next page enter your email address and select 'Sign in with email'.
4. Within a minute you will receive an email - in the email message press 'click here to sign in'.
5. Scroll down to 'My details' and select 'View or edit details' to see your own entry. If you select 'Edit' at the bottom you can amend any of your details then press 'Save' at the bottom.
6. Now go back to the top and select 'Your membership'. This then shows the earlier page and if you go down to select 'Member directory' you can enter a name of any IFFR member in the world in the box, using last name followed by first name, and when it displays in an orange color press on the name and you will see the member's details. You can return to 'Your membership' page at any time to select another member.
7. Please ignore the 'Payments' option as payments are made via your section.
8. If you wish you can select ‘Set password’ but this is not necessary as you can simply sign in using your email address.

Secondly, from a mobile phone

Go to iffr.org
Press the button with lines on the right side of the blue bar at the top
Press the word 'Membermojo'
Continue as from number 3 above

Ian Kerr