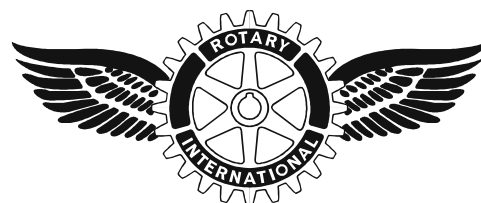


IFFR. newsletter for the Americas

International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians
Box 580
Girdwood, Alaska 99587



**A Membership
Renewal Form is
available at
www.ifframericas.org
If you have not
renewed for 2003,
please visit this site.**

Submit articles and information on
upcoming events to:

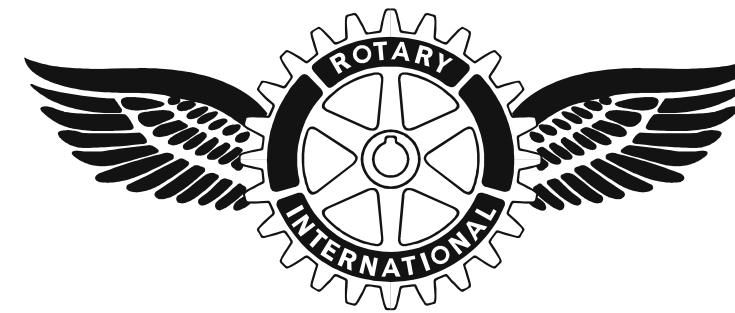
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Baaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa 'til next issue

IFFR. newsletter for the Americas

International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians
Americas Section Newsletter - Summer 2003



PROMOTING WORLD UNDERSTANDING & GOODWILL THROUGH ROTARY FELLOWSHIP

From the Desk of Brian Andersen, Vice President Americas Region

It has been an exciting year with activity from all over the IFFR world. We, in the Americas section, have accomplished much during this time, with many thanks to the section chiefs for planning and executing exciting IFFR events in their areas. Word of IFFR is spreading and the benefits of membership are growing.

Thanks to all of you who attended the Brisbane convention, and participated in a variety of IFFR events. There was a strong contingent of Americas IFFR members on the pre-convention fly-about in New Zealand and the post-convention fly-about in Queensland, Australia. The following articles reflect the observations of some of our members. I would be remiss, however, if I did not specifically acknowledge the fine jobs orchestrated by New Zealand Section Chair Phil Pacey's team of Michael Bryant, Wayne Scott and Colin Kay, and Australian Section Chair Alan Grady, along with Michael Scarce, for the fantastic adventures they planned for us. Together, with their great team of IFFR members, the folks Down Under gave us an unforgettable experience. Take a look at the list at the end of this newsletter to give you a sense of the strength of IFFR around the world!

I am pleased to announce that Diana Stone Livingston has accepted the position as our new Secretary-Treasurer for the Americas region. Diana is a long time member of IFFR who has been flying out of Girdwood, Alaska (near Anchorage). Welcome aboard, Diana! She is anxious to hear from you; see the dues invoice in this newsletter.

Mark your calendar! Our IFFR year begins with our Annual General Meeting (AGM), held this year in Philadelphia, PA, in conjunction with AOPA's Expo 2003 (October 30-November 1). We are again honored to have Phil Boyer, AOPA president, as our keynote speaker at our luncheon meeting on Friday, Oct 31st, which will be followed by our AGM. A very special dinner will be held on Friday evening (costumes optional!). A block of rooms has been reserved for IFFR members at the Doubletree in downtown Philly, a short walk from the AOPA venue. Please call 215-893-1600 or 800-222-8733 to reserve your room; mention IFFR when making your reservation. Contact Herman Hassinger, Northeast Section Chair, for more information (phone 401-466-2687; fax 401-466-8630; email hhassinger@earthlink.net). More information will be forthcoming.

AGM Fly-about plans in the making.....

A pre-AOPA Expo fly-about beginning at the Beech Staggerwing Museum in Tullahoma, Tennessee.

More pre-AOPA plans! Gary Dehnel, IFFR member and retired USCG aviator, has invited IFFR members to visit Manassas, VA. This phase of the plan is to fly into the Manassas airport. To the extent available, we will enjoy home stays, and participate in potential activities such as a visit to the Washington Air Space Museum, Manassas battle fields, golf, a tour of the brand new FAA Potomac approach facility, an evening dinner with an aviation related program. This event will also be at the peak of the fall color of one of the most beautiful forest ranges in the country. This would be a multi-club event that would include participation from DG John Bohm, and DGE Jerry Evans, both IFFR members. Manassas airport is KHEF.

Dale Hall, Peter More, Bev Fogle and Herman Hassinger are working hard on this year's summer and fall events. Check out the enclosed articles and participate in some of the best flying and fellowship in Rotary.

Fly safe and fly often,
Brian Andersen

NEW ZEALAND PRE-CONVENTION FLY-IN YOU "SHUDDA BIN 'DERE"

By Herman Hassinger, NE Section Chair

For the 44 Rotarians who participated in the New Zealand fly-about activities, we were treated to an incredible variety of events, starting with a welcome dinner at the home of New Zealand Section Chair Phil & Judy Pacey of Drury, NZ, on Thursday, 22 May. The following days included great sights and beautiful flying:



Your editor hard at work!

Auckland: visiting a variety of aircraft museums (mostly the men) and a garden tour (mostly the women!). A wonderful dinner hosted by the Rotary Club of Auckland.

Ardmore to Palmerston North and Fielding: Take off points on the North Island for the rest of our adventure. Our aircraft were a mixed bag of Cessna types, one Aerostar, and the queen of the fleet, a Catalina (Consolidated PB7Y; see separate story on the Catalina). The most memorable arrival was Michael Graves, in his TS600 (unpressurized Aerostar), flying from his home base in Plainview, Texas. (Michael's story follows.)

Blenheim: First stop on the South Island. We viewed Peter Jackson's fleet of WWI airplanes (Peter's claim to fame is his directorial work on *Lord of the Rings*). Bus trip to Marlborough, where we had lunch at the Montana Vineyard.

Overnight at **Hanmer Springs**, a beautiful mountain village replete with thermal hot spring pools.

On to **Wigram**, for a visit to the impressive Royal New Zealand Air Force museum. Due to low clouds in the MacKenzie Basin we landed at **Omarama**. The next day we bussed to **Wanaka**.

THE NEW ZEALAND CATALINA (PBY)



If there was ever a labor of love, it's the New Zealand Catalina. It's a private venture of New Zealand air enthusiasts, who have had it restored. It is registered as a private not-for-profit aircraft. The ZK-PBY was constructed in Cartierville, Montreal, and joined the Royal Canadian Air Force on 20 March 1944. It saw war service with the RCAF as an attack and recovery aircraft before becoming decommissioned in 1947 and modified for safety reasons prior to civilian use. The PBY was then operated by at least seven different commercial operations in and around Canada.

In 1988 the aircraft was taken over by a tourist safari company and flown to Africa where it was operated from Zimbabwe, flying tourists all around that continent. It was subsequently purchased by The Catalina Club of New Zealand and flown there in 1994, across the Indian Ocean to Sri Lanka and then down through Indonesia and Australia, taking two weeks and over 90 flying hours.

Today it is used as a touring aircraft for private passengers, taking in the beautiful sights of the North and South Islands of New Zealand. The original artillery "bubbles" on either side of the fuselage still remain, where passengers can get a bird's eye view of the surrounding area. As a private aircraft, pilots and crewmembers receive no pay and are responsible for their share of the trip's expenses.

Sixteen members of our IFFR group flew in the Cat. We traded places with other flying members in order to give everyone a chance to fly in the PBY. There were four crew members (pilots Chris Snelson and Bruce Sinson, and flight crew Roger Leadbeater and Fred Bain). It was an experience we won't soon forget!

For \$10 you can become a worldwide member of the Catalina club of New Zealand. Send for information: P.O. Box 72-527, Papakura, NZ.

(Continued from page 1)

NEW ZEALAND PRE-CONVENTION FLY-IN

Queenstown. We boarded the steamship Ernslaw for a lake voyage to Walter Peak, a high country sheep station – great luncheon, border collies mustering the sheep, sheep shearing, and time to shop for lots of woolen goods! Back to Queenstown for a bus trip through the beautiful Crown Range, and a stop at the historic Cardrona Hotel.

The next day we returned to our planes at **Omarama** to find them loaded with ice. Finally, we flew back to **Wigram** via the east coast, lunch, and then back to **Palmerston North** for a free day which included fishing, jet boating and off road quad motor biking.

Our final day included an impressive aerial topdressing (crop-dusting) demonstration, followed that night by a true "Rotary" experience. Mike Hoggard's dairy farm was the location for a "rotating Rotary dinner," held in a turntable milking barn. We each became cows, with ID numbers hanging around our necks! A preventive vaccine of Bailey's Irish Cream "shots" was followed by a unique dining venue – the automated milking stations were fitted with tables and bales of hay, which became our chairs. The members of the Fielding Rotary Club served an outstanding meal on the rotating platform. The evening was a true Rotary meeting, including the requisite fines doled out by Phil Pacey for infractions incurred during the fly-about!

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

July 29-August 4	AirVenture 2003, Oshkosh, WI Contact Marcus Wegmeyer Tel: 989-732-7548 Email: misai@northland.lib.mi.us
August 15-17	Victoria, BC Fly-In Contact: Bev Fogle Tel: 360-693-9253 Fax: 360-693-9260 Email: bevogle@pacifier.com
August 22-24	Southwest Golden Gate Fly-In, San Francisco Contact: Sam Bishop Tel: 831-728-5000 Fax: 831-728-8228 Email: sambishop@totlcom.com
December 15-18	First Flight Centennial Celebration Contact: Dale Hall Tel: 336-292-4809 Email: Dale.hall@bankofamerica.com
May 23-26, 2004	RI Convention, Osaka, Japan
May 30-June 8, 2004	Post-Convention Fly-About in Hawaii Contact: Joe Kiefer Tel: 808-537-8879 Fax: 808-538-4346 Email: Kiefer@laua.net
June 19-22, 2005	RI Convention, Chicago, Illinois 100 th Anniversary of Rotary

With apologies to Joyce Kilmer and his poem, Trees.....

I think that I shall never fly
In a plane as lovely as a PBY
A plane that lifts its wings to fly
Through rain and fog to a clearing sky

A plane that floats as well as rolls
Her engines calm our anxious souls
Her mission was to search and save
To gather up the fallen brave

Poems are made by fools like I
But only Consolidated made the PBY

By Herman Hassinger, NE Section Chair

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VICTORIA, BC FLY-IN August 15 – 17, 2003

August is a beautiful time of year in British Columbia. Sunshine, flowers, and the waters of the Inner Harbor will greet us.

(Well, I can't guarantee the sunshine!)

Our hotel on the Inner Harbor will allow us to be within walking distance of the historic Empress Hotel, Parliament House, the Royal British Columbia Museum, and downtown Victoria. There's lots of activity in town this weekend, including Dragon boat races, fireworks at Butchart Gardens, and a fascinating paleontology exhibit from China entitled Dragon Bones (including a related National Geographic IMAX film). You won't want to miss this fun time with your IFFR friends!

Hotel: Coast Harbourside Hotel and Marina
IFFR group rate of \$190 (Canadian) per Queen room
Reserve at 1-800-663-1144 using Group Code 3019

Friday Dinner: We'll meet for dinner near the hotel to get acquainted and hangar fly.

Saturday: Afternoon excursion to Butchart Gardens. After strolling the gardens we'll meet together for dinner in The Dining Room restaurant, then have time for nighttime viewing prior to the spectacular fireworks show.

Other Attractions: The Victoria Dragon Boat Festival Dragon Bones exhibit and IMAX show at the Royal British Columbia Museum (in addition to their wonderful regular exhibits of Canadian history and culture).
The Empress – for High Tea or Sunday Brunch or just exploring.

Airport hosts: The Victoria Flying Club will be our hosts at Victoria International Airport.

THINGS TO DO:

- (1) Let Bev know you're coming (1-877-940-1818). There is a limit on dinner reservations.
- (2) Make hotel reservations, using Group Code 3019.
- (3) Familiarize yourself with Canadian air rules, Victoria ATC procedures and customs issues.
- (4) Plan to have a stellar weekend.

CONTACT: Bev Fogle, Northwest Section Chief
Phone: 360-693-9253
Fax: 360-693-9260
Email: bevfogle@pacifier.com

KITTY HAWK, NC FIRST FLIGHT CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION December 15 – 18, 2003

UPDATE

At the time of this writing (July 15th) we are less than 155 days from the historic 100-year anniversary of man's first powered flight – what a historic moment this will be! Listed below is an update on IFFR activities.

· All 32 rooms at The Surfside Motel are reserved and we now have a waiting list. The only motel I know of that may have a vacancy is The First Flight Inn. The number is (252) 441-5007. For those not registered, don't delay - call today!

· At the present time 10 IFFR Members have indicated that they will be flying into Dare County Airport, MQI. IMPORTANT - Flight reservations are required and tie down fees apply based on size of aircraft. Parking forms can be obtained at the Dare County Airport website at www.fly2mqi.com. IFFR has reserved a 16-passenger van for shuttle back and forth from the airport to our hotel. If any of you want a rental car, I suggest you try Enterprise at (252) 480-1838 and ask for Jason.

· Approximately 15 of you have indicated a willingness to participate in a service project during the celebration. This would most likely entail activities at The Dare County Airport, directing airplane ground traffic, refueling, etc. However, in order to get properly registered, all volunteers (including spouses) will need to complete a volunteer form. The form can be obtained at www.fly2mqi.com. So that I can get a handle on the actual number of volunteers, please let me know via e-mail that your form has been sent in.

· Our primary social will be held at Duck Wood Country Club on the evening of Tuesday, December 16. Plans call for a cocktail hour, full dinner, the best DJ in town and dancing. There is a possibility we may even have a surprise guest speaker (details later).

· IMPORTANT – We presently have plenty of room for this exciting event. Please let me know ASAP if any of you have made your own hotel reservations somewhere else and would like to attend this special event.

Further updates will be provided in the next newsletter. In the meantime, please feel free to call or e-mail me with any questions: Dale Hall, IFFR SE Section Chief, (336) 292-4809, dale.hall@bankofamerica.com

IFFR SOUTHWEST GOLDEN GATE FLY IN San Francisco August 22 – 24, 2003

IFFR members from everywhere are invited to join us in the City By The Bay. If you fly in and are careful, you can fly under the Class B airspace and have a gorgeous view of San Francisco, the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz, Tiburon, Sausalito and even the USS Hornet, which we will be touring on Saturday.

Our hotel is the Villa Florence, a moderately priced "boutique hotel," conveniently located near Union Square and shopping. For those of you not wishing to participate in an activity, San Francisco is yours to explore. The Powell Street Cable Car Line is right outside the door.

To make things more interesting, we will start with wine and cheese at the Villa Florence between 6 and 7 pm, then commence our "Mystery Trip." You won't know where we are going until we get there, but after dinner, we'll attend the longest running, hit musical revue in theatre history (how's that for a hint?). Saturday morning is free, or you might like a tour of Alcatraz Island. Saturday afternoon we will tour the USS Hornet, CVS-12 berthed in Alameda. This will be a special "Living Ship" day with elevators in action, planes being moved, etc.

Saturday dinner will be at the GREAT EASTERN RESTAURANT,
649 Jackson Street, SFO 94133
(415) 986-2500.

Sunday morning it will be brunch at ORIGINAL JOE'S, 144 Taylor Street, followed by shuttles to the airport afterwards.

Both Great Eastern (0.8 miles) and Original Joe's (0.4 miles) are walking distance, or a short cab ride from the Villa Florence Hotel.

ARRIVAL BY AIR

If you would like a ride to the hotel, please fly into OAK and park at Kaiser Air. If you are driving and would volunteer to drive our fliers to the hotel, please let us know. Please plan on being ready to shuttle at 1600. This is a Friday and we can expect traffic delays, so we want to allow plenty of time. San Carlos or SFO are optional, but transportation to the hotel will be on your own, unless you can arrange a pick-up by a local IFFR member.

REGISTRATION FORMS AVAILABLE AT:
http://www.petermore.com/IFFR_SW/index.htm

or

Contact Sam Bishop: sambishop@totlcom.com - phone 831-728-5000,
or fax 831-728-8228

**A Sign-up Form for this event is
available at
www.ifframericas.org**

AS SEEN FROM UP NORTH

By Herman Hassinger,
IFFR Poet Laureate

In the land of Down Under
Some things that I've found
That south of the equator
Everything's turned around.

The winter is summer
The springtime is fall
For us from up North
It makes no sense at all.

The weather is fickle
It flips and it flops
It rains cats and dogs
And then suddenly stops.

Go out in an auto
But don't drive on the right
The truck coming at you
Will cause a great fright

They call rugby a sport
It seems more like war
The teams are ferocious
The fans scream for more.

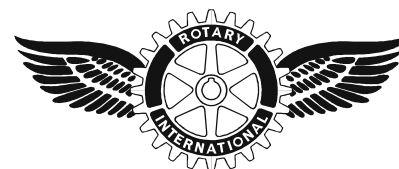
The fuel's not in gallons
It looks like much more
Because it's in liters
Divide it by 4 (actually 3.8!).

The runway's in meters
It's altitude in feet
The distances are nautical
Now isn't that neat?

You're a great combination
Of all of the best
Of the Yanks to the East
And the Brits to the West.

We've made up our minds
Our decision is firm
To settle these differences
We'll have to return

**Do you know a 'flying' Rotarian who is not an IFFR member?
Please introduce them to IFFR and bring in a new member!**



TRAVELING SOLO TO THE LAND DOWN UNDER

By Dr. Michael Graves
IFFR SW Section Chair

As I do most things in life, the concept that I would fly my 600 series Aerostar to New Zealand and Australia, needed some serious consideration. A major conversion of my radios to HF band and other panel modifications, was performed within the 3 months prior to departure. The first leg of the trip was to Palo Alto for the installation of two 107-gallon ferry tanks for auxiliary fuel. This, combined, with the Aerostar's 177 usable gallons, gave me 391 gallons of fuel, or a fuel burn of 30GPH (13 hours of endurance). After a number of tweaks, including a major HF radio swap-out, and a number of test flights off a 2500' runway, my survival gear at the ready, N7542S and the pilot were ready for the trip.



First leg Oakland to Hilo, 2031 NM, flight level 080, 10:40 hours. After three days with Rotarian Elliot Merk, which included daily flights around Hawaii in his Mooney, I was off for the second leg of the trip.

Hilo to Christmas Island (named by Captain Cook for the day he discovered it), 1086 NM, due south of Hawaii, flight level 090, 6:00 hours. 2 nights and 1 day, snorkeling with a marine biologist I happened by chance to meet at the Captain Cook Hotel. A good night's rest and off for Pago Pago.



Christmas Island to Pago Pago (American Samoa), 1268 NM, flight level 090, 6:44 hours. One night was enough! American Samoa may be tropical, but it is not paradise!!

Pago Pago to Auckland, 1567 NM, flight level 090, 8:20 hours. The only real weather encountered on the trip was very heavy rain and moderate turbulence for 2 hours on this leg. I arrived in Auckland tired, and a bit late for Phil & Judy Pacey's welcome party!

After flying about with the NZ IFFR group, I was off to Brisbane to meet my bride Cynthia for the Rotary Convention. This leg, 1253 NM, 6:20, and a very enjoyable 262 Kts GS. We joined the Australian fly-about where we enjoyed more fellowship and great fun with our fellow IFFR friends!

After completing the fly-about in NZ and Australia, I reversed the trip at flight level 010 with Sam Bishop in the right seat. I enjoyed constant HF radio contact on the entire trip! Would I do it again? Well, ask me sometime!!

IFFR MEMBERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE NEW ZEALAND & AUSTRALIA FLY- ABOUTS....

James & Catherine Alexander, UK
Brian & Caryl Andersen, IL
Peter Barnard, St. Lucia
John & Judy Berends, Australia
Elena & Sam Bishop, CA
Michael & Sheryl Bryant, NZ
George & Carol Chaffey, CA
Laurie & Helen Chapman, Australia
Eric Charlez, Belgium
Angus & Alisma Clark, UK
Brian Condon, Australia
Ron & Patsy Davies, Australia
Ern & Nola Dawes, Australia
Emidio Del Conte & Meg Adams, CA
Jim & Christine Drinnan, Australia
Viki & Philip Evers-Swindell, NZ
Brian & Judy Fielder, NZ
Beverly Fogle, WA
Heinze & Susan Gert DeCouet

Alan & Maisie Grady, Australia
Michael & Cynthia Graves, TX
Roger Griffiths, Australia
Robert & Fannie Hall, LA
Doris & Herman Hassinger, RI
Lyn & Mike Hoggard, NZ
Ian & Roslyn Hope, Australia
Ian Jenner, NZ
Tom & Anna Johnston, PA
Colin & Jan Kay, NZ
Joe & Gail Kiefer, HI
Roger & Glenys Leadbeater, NZ
Marianne & Christer Liljenstrand, Sweden
Jim & Marilyn Liston, Australia
Phil & Diana Livingston, AK
Roy & Marlene Marsden, NZ
Bruce & Marilyn McClure, Australia
Malcolm & Phyllis McClure, Australia
David & Sue Miller
Andrew & Joan Mladenovic, Australia
Peter & Shirley More, CA
David Morgan, Australia

Janice Mychajlyk, Australia
Dan & Barbara Nalven, NY
Jim & Fred Newman, TX
Phil & Judy Pacey, NZ
Noel & Annette Ramage, Australia
Joy Ricardo, Australia
Gillian & David Rowe, UK
Michael & Judi Salter, Australia
Michael & Christine Scarce, Australia
Wayne & Robin Scott, NZ
Chris & Vickie Snelson, NZ
Jeanette & Brian Souter, NZ
Trevor & Denise Steel, Australia
Norma Stewart, Australia
Dorothea Evans & Charles Strasser, Channel Islands
Per Stromhaug, Norway
Sue & Mark Sullivan, NZ
Bert & Greta Vos, CA
Raye & Feroz Wadia, Scotland
Peter & Helen Walsh, Australia
Tony, Jane, Nancy & Peter Watson, TX
Ian Wood, NZ

THE AUSTRALIAN FLY-AWAY



New Zealand Bunch

Augmented by more IFFR members, the post-convention fly-away was a continuation of our Down Under adventure.

This is my third fly-away in Australia and I'm just starting to get a sense of the size and scale of the island continent. It's about the size of the continental U.S. Imagine starting in Baltimore. Fly to Pittsburgh, then Rochester. Go to Halifax, back south to Nantucket, then return to Baltimore. You've seen just a small slice of the continent.

Brisbane, Roma, Longreach, Cairns, Hamilton Island, Brisbane; 2000 nautical miles! We began in the cosmopolitan city of Brisbane, then to the outback town of Roma, where we visited the Big Rig, Australia's oldest oil rig

Then on to another outback town, Longreach, the home of Queensland and Northern Territories Air Services (Qantas). A retired 747-200 was on static display as part of an air museum that told the story of two World War I pilots who had a dream and lived to see it become Australia's national airline, the second largest in the world.



Australia Group at the Qantas Museum, Longreach

Our next leg took us up the continental divide to Cairns, where we spent 4 beautiful days on Trinity Beach. Our group enjoyed trips by catamaran to the Great Barrier Reef for snorkeling and scuba diving; we traveled by historic train and cable cars to explore the rain forest; we saw kangaroos and held koalas; and enjoyed aboriginal dance, boomerang throwing, and didgeridoo demonstrations.

Our last stop on our nine-day adventure was in the luxury resort of tropical Hamilton Island. The Australians are known for their barbies, and we experienced some great ones – in open fields, on river banks, under the open skies viewing the Southern Cross, while listening to didgeridoos and the Australian version of country music.

- Herman Hassinger

**It's amazing what can happen when you
are the only shade for miles around!**

