From The Chair

July 22, 2020

Americas VP for the last couple of years has been Tim Freudenthal of Wautoma, Wisconsin and Pine Island, Florida. Tim is DGN for his Rotary District in Wisconsin now and new World President George Chaffey has appointed Alan Dias to be the new VP Americas, head of the 7 sections that make the Americas Region of IFFR.

It is a privilege to follow in the footsteps of previous Americas Region Vice Presidents. Jennie and I are looking forward to the next two years and the opportunity to meet many of you and enjoy with you our common bonds – Rotary and Aviation. As is the custom, let me take a moment to introduce myself.

Jennie and I live in La Canada, CA – a relatively small community north of downtown Los Angeles and west of Pasadena. JPL is next door. Jennie is a Real Estate Broker and I work with her. Our Company is called Al-Jen Holdings Inc. and is affiliated with Dilbeck Real Estate where Jennie is a Broker-Associate.

I have been an active Rotarian for several years, first as a Member of LA 5, the fifth Club of Rotary International where I was on the Board, and am now a member of the E Rotary Club of Aviation and the Club’s 2020-2021 President.

The picture of Jennie and I was taken prior to the International Convention in Toronto. We spent three weeks traveling across Canada from Vancouver to Toronto with fellow Rotarians and IFFR – Phil Pacey and his lovely wife Judy. Also, in our group were Mike McFarlane and his lovely wife, Sali. Coincidently, it turns out that Mike is now the current IFFR Vice President – Australasia and Asia. As large as we grow it is still a small IFFR world.

I earned my Private Pilot’s license in 1979. I am instrumented rated with over 2000 hours. We are co-owners in a 1976 Cessna 182P based at Whiteman (KWHP) Airport. Since 1995 many of my hours were booked flying Missions for Angel Flight West (AFW) throughout the Western States. If you are not familiar with AFW its mission is to provide free air transportation for non-emergency medical and other
compelling human needs (angelflightwest.org). Over the years I held several volunteer leadership positions in AFW and was the organizations Executive Director for six years. In addition to flying missions together Jennie and I enjoy taking trips in our plane to interesting destinations throughout California and surrounding States. We are looking forward to meeting you at IFFR Fly-Ins during the next two years.

I graduated from Kent State University with a BA in Industrial Psychology. My professional background includes seventeen years in progressively more responsible Human Resource Management positions culminating as Vice President Human Resources for an international insurance holding company. I resigned that position to create and develop Personalized Relocation Management (PRM), an international relocation management company contracting with corporations to move staff from where they were to where they were needed in the world. After twenty years we sold PRM to Crown Relocation an international moving company headquartered in Hong Kong.

What excites me about the IFFR is clearly stated in our Mission Statement: The International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians (IFFR) is a group of Rotarians dedicated to promoting Rotary and aviation as an opportunity for fellowship and service.

Fellowship and Service – this is what it is all about.

Over the years – and especially recently – Jennie and I have expanded our friendships around the world. It has been and continues to be both enjoyable and enlightening. We have learned so much more about our Country, as well as other countries, and enjoyed the fellowship of other Rotarians. And, at the same time, have been able to contribute as Rotarians.

Service – it is the underlying premise of being a Rotarian. And, through the IFFR, we have the unique ability to provide service to our communities by giving back through flying.

In my two years as your Vice President my goal is to add value to your membership. This will be done by continuing our opportunities to interact through Fly-Ins, but also by expanded communications. Dealing with the Coronavirus has provided acceleration to virtual interaction. I intend to incorporate this into our communications and expand the benefits available to you.

Very soon, I will be announcing a new affiliation that will provide access to local volunteer flying organizations. My hope is that this will encourage IFFR members, if not already involved, to learn more about volunteer flying opportunities in their areas.
But – I need your help and involvement. I have learned that the more you commit to this Organization the more you will get out of it. Please reach out to me – archer6911p@gmail.com – and let me know your interests. Let me know how you would like to get more involved, and what you would like to see added as a benefit to your IFFR membership.

Here is to -

Blue Skies and Tailwinds,

Alan M. Dias
IFFR AMERICAS
Vice President

From Your Editor

We had an Americas Newsletter published January 17th that anticipated many activities for 2020. As we prepared to assemble a new edition in mid-March, things began to unravel, and by April along with everyone in the world we’d had tocancel events into the summer. We’d already covered some wonderful events in 2019, and few events had occurred in 2020, so we just couldn’t get motivated to publish a newsletter with no news. That’s just too frustrating.

Things are opening up gradually. You know what we’ve missed, too painful to recap that. But we will be back beginning this summer with activities limited to a small number of us.

Alaska has already had some work days with a limited number of people. Californians are planning to fly single legs of the Golden State Fly Away out of Concord beginning later this month, as early as July 18th. We hope that the F1 event in Austin will be held as planned, but even if not, our annual event hosted by now DG Jack Welge in La Grange has always had other interesting activities and could be expanded this year.

We will probably have several gatherings planned from the start to be for smaller numbers of people as we finish out 2020 and go into 2021. If we can get these far enough in advance to publish in the newsletter, we’ll do that, otherwise, watch your email inbox.

We look forward to Sun ‘n Fun 2021, the Rotary Convention in Taipei for 2021, a special trip (by airline) after the convention planned by the Hong Kong Squadron of IFFR, and Oshkosh 2021 as being our major events for 2021. It will be so great after this time of feeling deprived.

My June flight was to ferry PDG Bill W. Dendy’s Cherokee 180 to Poteau, Oklahoma, where they have the “world’s tallest hill.”
We thank Tim Freudenthal for his 2 years of service as VP Americas, and wish him the best as he trains to be District Governor. Now Past World President Phil Pacey did a great job, has been one of my favorite people since I met him in New Zealand 17 years ago. Now we can look forward to enjoying the leadership of Alan Dias as VP Americas and George Chaffey as World President. It’s going to be a great 2 years.

George has appointed me to be his editor for the international IFFR newsletter (formerly known as the IFFR World Bulletin). So Alan and I will be looking at someone to take my place in editing this publication.

And, don’t forget that Peter More wants to step away from being webmaster for Americas Region. If you have interest or talent in that area, please contact Peter or Alan.

--- Tony Watson, Editor, IFFR Americas Region Newsletter tony.watson@mac.com

**IFFR PRESIDENTIAL CITATION TO AMERICAS SOUTHWEST SECTION MEMBER TUCKNOTT**

As you might know, IFFR’s World President during our Annual General Meeting (AGM) can present a PRESIDENTIAL CITATION recognizing a member for outstanding service to Rotary, the IFFR, and their community. At our recent AGM (Past) World President Phil Pacey chose to present the Citation to one of our own, a long-time member of the Americas Region.

And – it just so happens I have known the awardee for years and Phil could not have made a better choice. If you were able to attend the AGM (and over 130 of us did) you know of whom I am writing.

Phil commented that he had met the awardee on several occasions and quickly gained knowledge of what he does for his community. Phil mentioned that he had been described to him as an “uncut diamond” … “a bit ragged around the edges, but with a splendid heart.”

When Phil announced that the Citation was going to Bob Tucknott of Livermore CA., I knew he had made an excellent choice.

Bob is a Deputy Sheriff for his town, a forensic witness, a Pilot with the Civil Air Patrol, and a Command Pilot with Angel Flight West (AFW). It is with the latter that I got to know Bob. He was and continues to be supportive of the organization and our paths crossed many times during the years I was Executive Director of AFW. Among many other unique experiences, Bob was one of the very few – if only – General Aviation Pilot flying on the evening of 9/11. With dispensation from the FAA and ATC he was delivering blood from Northern to Southern California.

Here is a link to Bob’s presentation about the IFFR and why it is a wonderful organization. [Click here](#).

Please join me in congratulating Bob on a well-deserved honor.

--- Alan Dias, Vice President, Americas Region IFFR
IFFR International Annual Meeting
JUNE 8, 2020 @ 2000Z VIA ZOOM

In case you missed it, we held the first videoconference Annual General Meeting of the International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians on Monday, June 8th. This was the day we would’ve held the AGM at the Convention. We used the now ubiquitous Zoom service.

The meeting was well prepared for, both by host Secretary – Treasurer Ian Kerr (UK – Scotland) and by several in the presidential chain of IFFR: PE George Ritchie (UK – England), incoming President George Chaffey (USA – California), and outgoing president Phil Pacey (New Zealand). It was particular fun to see the chain of office passed from Phil to George.

You can access a recording of the meeting by clicking on this link.

Congratulations for a fine 2 years as World President, Phil Pacey. And to George Chaffey, congratulations on assuming the office of World President of IFFR.

Other changes happening at the international level are that Ian Kerr has handed the responsibilities of Secretary – Treasurer to Ian Jenner (New Zealand). Kerr is not giving up all the responsibilities, though. The IFFR Board has created a position of database manager, and he will be taking those reins. And George Chaffey has asked me to edit his newsletter for the next couple of years.

South Central Section Chair Jack Welge Installed as Governor of District 5830

An early luncheon was held in Longview, Texas at Pinecrest Country Club on June 27th as District 5830 installed the district officers and committee chairs.

Social distancing was generally observed during this event. Really the only ones there were those being installed and their families. The event was also on Facebook Live.

The picture (a snapshot of the Facebook Live shot) shows Jack being installed by the speaker that day with the outgoing DG standing to one side.

Congratulations to Jack. I think he’s going to be using videoconferencing for at least his first few official visits.
FLIGHT TO END POLIO
IFFR PILOTS PETER TEAHEN AND JOHN OCKENFELS
POSTPONED UNTIL 2ND QUARTER 2021 - DATES TBD - EASTBOUND

While Covid-19 has everyone’s focus right now, and rightly so, Rotarians and others will be planning to get back to the business of finally eradicating polio completely very soon. A fundraising flight planned for 2020 now has set sights on a 2021 push.

North Central Section Chair John Ockenfels will back up Peter Teahen in Peter’s Piper Lance for this special flight to raise more money for the End Polio Now campaign of The Rotary Foundation. This will also be used to raise awareness of the devastation polio has brought to the world and why it is so important to eradicate it.

They have established a website at [https://www.flighttoendpolio.com](https://www.flighttoendpolio.com). The Gates Foundation will be matching all donations two-to-one.

There’s a brochure PDF you can look at: [brochure](#). Also, a newspaper article that gives more information is here: [article](#)

John writes, “We can really use the Support of IFFR worldwide to help take this message to Rotary Clubs, and other interested venues, in their areas.

“If you know, or know of someone who has had a personal experience with Polio, either through infection or through relationship, we are collecting short stories about their experiences and will make a book to take with us on the flight. If it is easier to get an audio recording, we will happily accept that as well.”

John’s email

NOTAM about NOTAMs
NOTAM SYSTEM NEEDS FIXING

PWP Sam Bishop has forwarded this information about a push to modernize, organize and clarify the NOTAM system. This might start in the United States but really affects pilots and other users of airspace all around the world. The link we’ll share below will have a short presentation basically showing how ridiculous the system is right now, and a link from there to a petition you can sign.

Notams are hard to read, not sorted in order of reverse importance, and it’s easy to overlook an important one with all the noise from the not so important. We are also fed many more than we need for a particular flight.

Here’s the link: [https://fixingnotams.org/reel-of-telegrams/](https://fixingnotams.org/reel-of-telegrams/)

Hopefully we can get something rolling to take us into the 21st century from the 19th!
A Member-to-Member Fly In

Minden, Nevada (KMEV) - July 18, 2020

We haven’t started up yet with our well-planned events, but what’s to keep some IFFR members from agreeing to meet at an airport some distance away for that $100 hamburger, or omelet as the case may be? Minden was to be a fly-in earlier this year and also a part of the fly out itinerary for our Concord-based Golden Fly Out tour.

So, on July 18th, an “unofficial” IFFR get-together was held in Minden, with nearly a dozen of our South West Section members from California and Nevada showing up, including new World President George Chaffey. Everyone was there by 10:30, so a late breakfast was in order. A couple of hours later everyone started heading home. Of course, facemasks were worn most of the time, but you can’t eat while wearing those things.

Steve Lewis poses at tail of the plane he co-owns with Tim Puliz, and looks like we left Bob Tucknott’s buddy Dave out of the group photo, but he photobombed this photo.

First-time IFFR Fly-in participant Mike Fish even more impressed that he can talk to an RI Director Elect at one of our events.

Formula 1 Racing in Austin, Texas – And That’s Not All!

La Grange, Texas - October 22 – 25, 2020

Just a few of us IFFR members have enjoyed meeting with native son Jack Welge in La Grange each year for a long weekend of either going to the F1 races in nearby Austin or taking in some of the local interesting sites, such as the beautiful painted churches. We don’t know the status on how many fans will be allowed into the stands at the races, so may have a more limited access than in the past for true race fans. But there’s more to do than the races, or painted churches nearby.

Watch for more information in our next newsletter, or even an email blast. If you’re curious, write Jack Welge: Welgelaw@sbcglobal.net
IFFR DUES BEING REINSTATED

As many of you are aware, we have not charged membership dues since 2016. We now need to begin charging a nominal amount in order to maintain the best possible service to our members.

“Standard” members, whose memberships expired in 2019, will be invoiced $25 annually, beginning January 1, 2020. A 5-year membership is available for $100, a 20% discount. As always, “Partner” and “Rotaractors” memberships will continue to be free. We truly believe the value received with an IFFR Americas membership is much greater than the nominal dues to be charged. We hope you feel the same.

Please note: Only memberships expiring in 2019 were invoiced in 2019 for January 1, 2020 payment. Members paid through a later year will not be invoiced until their membership year expires.

Membership dues invoices began being emailed in December. Dues were payable January 1. Please understand that Americas IFFR memberships not renewed by January 31, 2020 were deleted from our membership rolls.

If you have questions about this, please contact: Steve Henderson, Secretary/Treasurer IFFR Americas, (831) 818-1488 (cell) Email: ifframericas@gmail.com, PayPal: ifframericas@gmail.com.

Walleye Canadian Shore Lunch – for Dinner
August 21, 2020 --- Wautoma, Wisconsin (Y50)

This event just popped into our inbox. The Rotary Club of Wautoma is sponsoring this event at Wautoma Airport on Friday evening, August 21, 2020, from 5:00 until 7:00. This will also include a raffle for over 40 baskets and other items. A limited number of tickets available at $15.00 each, with an arm’s length of raffle tickets going for $10.00. Meal is pan fried walleye, potatoes, beans, beverage (or beer, but you’d best stay overnight if you partake of that). Contact Tim Freudenthal for more information and purchase instructions. Email: Tim_Freud@hotmail.com or phone / text (920) 295-9956.

Jennie & Alan Dias

Blue skies and tailwinds,

Alan

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2019
7/22 - 28 Oshkosh - EAA AirVenture
7/20 - 28 Longview, TX
8/3 Nanaimo (CYCD), BC
9/8 Beckworth, CA
9/13 - 14 Tullahoma, TN - AOPA
9/11 - 15 Reno, NV
9/14 Fredricksburg, TX
9/21 Flabob (Riverside), CA
10/19 -20 Galveston, TX
10/31 - 11/3 La Grange, TX

US F1 Gran Prix
Plus Area sites
11/9 Kingsbury, TX

2020
4/2 - 5 Leeward Air Ranch, FL
4/4 Sun ‘n Fun
4/18 Madera, CA
4/29 - 6/4 Concord, CA
5/22 - 26 EAA AirVenture, OSH
5/30 -6/2 Madera, CA “unofficial”
6/21 Wautoma, WI
6/22 - 25 La Grange, TX

US F1 Gran Prix (Austin)
Plus Area sites

2021
6/12 - 16 RI Convention, Taipei
6/14 IFFR Internat’l AGM
(tentative, hybrid?)
6/17 - 27 IFFR Group Tour
Hong Kong, Tibet (?)