THE FLYING SEASON IS ON!!!

We survived some crazy weather back east and in Texas, and now... the flying season is upon us! So stay tuned, whether you are in the East, West, North or South. We’re flying!!

What’s Happened

2015 South Central IFFR Fly-In – March 2015 $100 Burger
Silent Wings Museum
Lubbock International Airport (KLBB)
Lubbock, Texas – March 28th

Flying Rotarians and one new recruit, local Rotarian Steve Moffett, enjoyed fun and fellowship with a good measure of history and a superb tailgate lunch in Lubbock, Texas at the Silent Wings Museum on April 28, 2015. PWP Tony Watson and Jack Welge flew in Tony’s Bonanza from Lancaster, Texas and were joined by PWP Michael Graves and Karen Hicks in Lubbock on the field. Steve Moffett met us at the Silent Wings Museum, and purchased admission for all.

We found the Silent Wings Museum on the field adjacent to the FBO with a number of models and one assembled WACO CG-4A World War II Glider, the most widely used US troop/cargo military glider of World War II. The WACO Glider is fabric-covered wood and metal with fixed main wheels and tail wheel, and crewed by a pilot and co-pilot. The CG-4A can carry 13 troops with equipment. Cargo loads of a ¾ ton
truck (Jeep), a 75 mm howitzer, or a ¼ ton trailer all loaded through the up-hinged nose section were common. Military C-47’s were used for towing, although a few C-46 tugs were used during Operation Plunder.

Following our history and aerodynamics lesson, Karen and Michael hosted a tailgate lunch with the aid of Steve, who brought chairs, and we look forward to Steve Moffett joining our fellowship in the near future.

The successful fly-in ended after an extended visit and picture taking session, and Texas weather served up CAVU for our trip home.

-- Jack Welge, Chair, South Central Americas Section, IFFR

**Special Challenge Air “Mini” Fly Day Event**

**Rotary District 5810 Conference**

**Kerrville, Texas (KERV) - April 18th**

Flying Rotarians partnered with Challenge Air enjoying fun and fellowship assisting and flying special needs youngsters and their families at the Rotary 5810 District Conference on Saturday, April 18th, in Kerrville, Texas.

PWP Tony Watson, a regular volunteer pilot with Challenge Air for over 20 years, flew in from Lancaster, Texas for the Conference including the Fly Day, and was joined by Flying Rotarians DG Bill Dendy (RI District 5810) and Jack Welge at Kerrville Airport. For the past five years, DG Bill has been a volunteer pilot for Challenge Air for Kids and Friends, a nationwide non-profit which helps youth with special needs build self-esteem and confidence.
through the experience of flight. We were also joined by Kerrville Rotarian Joe Kennedy, President of Kerrville Aviation, flying his Cessna 172. We look forward to Joe joining IFFR in the near future.

We served 11 kids and families in conjunction with staff from Challenge Air, with a total of 25 passengers flown in the span of just over 3 ½ hours. The flights Tony Watson and Joe Kennedy gave through Rotary and Challenge Air were best summed up by a Mother present with her child: “When William flies with the Pilots in their planes, he comes back believing he can do anything, and in that frame of mind he can do anything”.

Lunch was served in the Hangar of the FBO. Following lunch, the successful fly-in ended after an extended visit and picture taking session, and Texas weather was kind enough to allow us a break from convective weather long enough to stage the event. See last page for photo captions.

-- Jack Welge, Chair, South Central Americas Section, IFFR

What's Coming

SALINAS AOPA FLY-IN – MAY 16, 2015

The IFFR Fly In before the AOPA Regional Event in Salinas, California is coming up May 15-16, 2015. For a registration form, click here: http://www.ifframericas.org/events/2015SalinasReg.doc

Remember that if you want to stay with the IFFR group at the Courtyard Salinas Monterey, you need to make your own reservations. The book date for our block expired on 4/24/15, but you can still call to try to book.

IFFR Fly-In is the online booking link, and the dates are 5/15 to 5/17. http://www.marriott.com/hotels/hotel-photos/snscc-courtyard-salinas-monterey/
Friday evening there will be a dinner at Gino’s Fine Italian Food in Salinas (1410 S. Main Street). This is a great reason for coming early to the event, and enjoying some IFFR fellowship over some great food.

If you are attending the AOPA event, and not coming in on Friday, you can find your IFFR Friends at the Ice Cream Social (hosted by Sporty Pilot Shop) at 3:30 pm in the Exhibit Hall. Or call Aleene if you want to connect earlier in the day.

Special thanks to Aleene Althouse for putting together a great event for us to share friendship and enthusiasm for aviation. Contact Aleene at Aleene10@gmail.com or at 831-818-9782 if you need more information.

**THE $100 HAMBURGER – SOUTH CENTRAL IFFR FLY-IN – MAY 2015**

**HOUSTON LONE STAR EXECUTIVE AIRPORT (CXO)**

**CONROE, TEXAS - MAY 30**

**BLACK WALNUT CAFÉ – GALAXY FBO – CONROE AIRPORT**


Here, unlike other airport diners, the Black Walnut Café – Conroe at the Lone Star Executive Airport does feature a $100 Burger on the menu that actually comes with a great burger and a $100 Gift Card! There are also salads, tacos, sandwiches, beer & wine (for non-pilots) and more! Located on the third floor of the Galaxy FBO, the Black Walnut Café - Conroe features a patio view overlooking the Runway 14-32. Come dust off the rust and fly (or drive) in and join us for lunch at the Lone Star Executive Airport (CXO) in Conroe!

Plan to see all of us personally this year, fly more, share Rotary, and explore more local fly-in destinations the last Saturday of each month. See you there!

- Jack Welge, Chair, South Central Americas Section
  Telephone: (903) 753-5683
  Facsimile: (903) 753-0906
  Mobile: (512) 773-5163
  Internet: Welgelaw@yahoo.com

**ON TO BRAZIL ... PRE CONVENTION TOUR & IFFR GATHERING**

The IFFR will have a 6-day Tour before the Brazil Convention. This is a chance for pre-Convention IFFR fellowship .... as we visit the two most sought-after attractions in Brazil .... pulsating Rio de Janeiro and the spectacular Iguacu Falls on the Brazil - Argentina border.
The initial 40 available places have been filled and there is now a waiting list. However, to check as to available space, check out the information at www.ifframericas.org. If you have questions, check with Howard Tours, or with me (George Chaffey).

**Housing:** It was not possible to get a satisfactory “official” IFFR hotel this year. So everyone who is going to the Rotary Convention in Brazil (from the Americas and around the world) should make their own individual arrangements for housing. Go to the Rotary International Website, where you can find lists of RI-approved hotels, and alternative hotels, and check on availability.

http://www.ifframericas.org/events/2015BrazilTour.PDF
http://www.howardtours.net

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HELPFUL TIP: For those of you going on the pre-Convention Tour, the Tour Company has a small block of rooms at the Staybridge Suites and you may easily and quickly get a reservation for any remaining rooms by contacting Howard Tours directly (Jolene Bortz at 510-834-2260 or toll free at 800-475-2260). However, the block of rooms are only available to those going on the Tour, and only available until the small block of rooms are used up. FURTHER TIP: If you wish to seek a hotel in the general vicinity of the Staybridge Suites, the following hotels are clustered somewhat close (this list gives the name of the hotel, and its number on the RI Reservation Form): (1) Clarion Faria Lima; (26) Radisson Faria Lima, (29) Staybridge Suites, (39) Melia Jardim Europa, (48) Adagio Sao Paulo Itaim Bibi, (58) Mercure Vila Olimpia, (65) Tryp Sao Paulo Iguatemi, (66) Tryp Sao Paulo Itaim, (67) Tryp Sao Paulo Jesuino Arruda. The foregoing is just for your information, and it is not necessary to stay in this area or any of these hotels. We don’t know availability in these or other specific hotels, so you should check on them as quickly as possible. You may also check availability of hotels at www.onpeak.co/rotary.
IFFR Booth: Lynn Miller is in charge and she has been working with the IFFR Secretary and they have reserved our traditional IFFR Booth for the House of Friendship. So, IFFR members will again have their traditional gathering place at this Convention. Lynn Miller will have more information to report as we get nearer to the Convention.

Banquet & AGM: The IFFR Banquet is designed to give you the absolute best, unique, “Brazilian” dining experience...you aren’t going to Brazil to dine just like you may have done in other parts of the world. You will experience the traditional Brazilian Rodizio...a unique way of presenting and serving over 60 kinds of meats, salads and other delicacies....it’s a show! The banquet is set for 7:30 pm, Sunday, June 7, 2015 at the highly acclaimed Fogo de Chao restaurant at Avenida dos Bandeirantes 538 in Sao Paulo,(http://www.fogodechao.com) a location that is closer to the hotels where most folks will be staying. Banquet includes everything from the appetizers to desert, and includes, beer, caipirinha (national drink), a huge buffet with salad/vegetables/cold cut offerings, traditional Gaucho side dishes, and the Rodizio presentation of 18 different cuts of selected beef, lamb, pork, ribs, chicken and more. (http://www.fogodechao.com/traditions) Wine and other drinks are extra. The cost of the complete Brazilian dining experience (including the meal, tax and tip) is $53 USD per person. (Also accommodates gluten free and vegetarian diets). Reservations are required for us to hold the room for IFFR. Our AGM will be held in conjunction with the fellowship of the Banquet.

IFFR Banquet Date: 7:30 pm, Sunday, June 7.
Where: Fogo de Chao Restaurant at Avenida dos Bandeirantes 538 in Sao Paulo
What: Complete Brazilian Rodizio dining experience, from appetizers to desert.
Cost: $53.00 USD.
Reservations: Required to hold the room. Send a check for $53 USD per person, made out to IFFR, to:
George Chaffey
3260 Judith Lane
Lafayette, California, USA 94549
ghaffey@Littler.com (work), ghaffey@comcast.net (home)
(925) 699-3343 (cell)
Mail in your reservation quickly as we are only 6 weeks from the convention.

We’ll see you in Sao Paulo...at the Convention, at the IFFR Booth, and at the Banquet. Bom Dia ...&...Bom Proveito!!

BACK TO THE 40S ... AT EAGLE FIELD
EAGLE FIELD FLY-IN OR DRIVE-IN - JUNE 14TH & 15TH
June 14th and 15th is the Dinner - Dance and Fly-In event at Eagle Field, near Dos Palos, California. http://www.eaglefield.net/?p=344. This is an annual event to raise money to keep up this historic World War II air field in the middle of the San Joaquin Valley. There will be War Birds, general aviation, 50’s dress, old-time Dinner -Dance. A big contingent of IFFR members is probably already signed up. This is one of those little know, but big fun events that we’ll be unearthing during the year. If interested, contact Larry Wolfsen at ljwolfsen@aol.com.

**IFFR NORTHWEST SECTION AT**
**ARLINGTON FLY-IN**
**JULY 10 – 12, 2015**

More details later, but section chair Bev Fogle is planning to have some IFFR participation at the Arlington, Washington Fly-In this summer. Now’s the time to get this on your calendar.

More information will be coming as the event gets closer. Check out our homepage at:

www.ifframericas.org

**OSHKOSH 2015 ... IFFR’s 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

IFFR World President James Alexander (devoted husband of Lady Catherine) has planned both a single destination fly-in to a town near Oshkosh (Wautoma) followed by a weeklong fly about, with a great time to be had at EAA Airventure in Oshkosh and then a visit heading west from Wisconsin into Minnesota.

During Oshkosh, on the EAA Grounds, plan to attend the annual Joint luncheon meeting of Rotary clubs on Wednesday July 22, hosted by the Rotary Club of Oshkosh. Then on Thursday, July 23, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at the Nature Center on the Oshkosh Grounds, IFFR will hold its Gala 50th Anniversary Celebration. We’ve been around for 50 years, and this is where almost 10% of the entire worldwide membership of IFFR will be gathering for great fellowship. For details, contact Mark Hagen mark@mbedl.com or (218) 849-2294.

The details and sign up information are available at the IFFR International website, www.iffr.org. At the very least, plan on joining with fellow IFFRs while you attend the greatest fly-in of all at AirVenture.
IFFR at AOPA Regional Fly-In
October 10, 2015 - Tullahoma, Tennessee (THA)

Southeast chair Dale Read will do something with the fall event in Tullahoma. Rotary Clubs in the Tullahoma, Tennessee area are offering home hosting to Flying Rotarians coming to this event.

Tentative plan will be for IFFR members to arrive around 11:00 on Friday the 9th. We would drive into town for lunch with the Tullahoma Rotary club. We could have later arrivals, too. We would then be driven to the member homes to get settled in and relax. We would return to the airport around 5:00 for evening activities.

Our group would be housed in Rotarian homes and returned to the airport Saturday for AOPA activities. We should have more information within the next couple of months.

**Special Stories**

**French Memorial to American Pilots in the Great War**

Before America entered WW I, American pilots fought and died in the French Foreign Legion and then with their own squadron, the Lafayette Escadrille and later as the Lafayette Flying Corps. These 265 volunteers were much decorated and credited with 199 victories. Sixty-eight of these heroic pilots lost their lives in the engagements.

The Lafayette Escadrille Memorial is to honor them and provide a final resting place. Located in a lovely park just outside of Paris, the impressive memorial includes a half-scale Arc de Triomphe and lovely stained glass. It is an inspiring tribute to the all-American Flying Corps who supported the universal cause of liberty under the flag of France before America’s entrance into the Great War. At the monument’s dedication, the American Ambassador stated: During three terrible years, when the sting of criticism cut into every American Soul, these pilots were showing the world how their countrymen could fight if they were only allowed the opportunity. To many of us they seemed to be the saviors of our national honor, giving the lie to current sneers upon the courage of the nation.

IFFR member Richard Cody has a relative buried there. He wishes to alert us to the need for help to complete major restoration on the site. Additional information about this history, the first pilots, and the monument is available through: [http://www.lafayettepilotsmemorial.com/](http://www.lafayettepilotsmemorial.com/) (click on the pictures for more pictures and information). Tax free donations may be made by credit card through the site: [www.kbfus.org](http://www.kbfus.org). Click on “Donate Now” and select “Lafayette Escadrille” under “Giving Option 1: Non-Profit Partners Overseas”. The site also indicates how to contribute by check. I have contributed, and in the spirit of IFFR, I hope many more will do so, too.

- Tom Johnston, North East Americas Chair, IFFR

**Rotary Club Involvement – Tacoma and U.S. Open Golf**

As Tacoma Narrows Airport gears up for an influx of traffic to the U.S. Open Golf Championship in June, the airport community also is making plans to welcome visitors from closer to home. Volunteers are constructing a viewing area and picnic shelter at the Gig Harbor, Washington, airport, so that people of all ages can enjoy the view.
The Rotary Aviation Zone, a wheelchair-accessible observation tower and picnic shelter with picnic tables, is taking shape near the control tower. The product of an effort by the Friends of Tacoma Narrows Airport, the Rotary Club of Gig Harbor, and Pierce County, the area is designed as a place for families to learn more about aviation and connect with their airport community.

It’s also a tribute to the potential for community organizations, businesses, and government working together to change the face of their airport and strengthen its ties to the community. Rotary Club members, county officials, leadership of the Friends of Tacoma Narrows Airport, and the AOPA Airport Support Network volunteer spoke with AOPA April 14 about their involvement in the project, and how they combined their enthusiasm for the airport with their skills to create an inviting, educational space for the public.

**SPOTLIGHT ON EXPANDING YOUR FLIGHT EXPERIENCE**

Flying Rotarian Richard Pearl is another enthusiastic glider pilot, along with our IPWP Michael Graves. Richard is president of Soar Truckee, Inc. a commercial glider port that operates from the Truckee-Tahoe Airport during the summer, and has established a Fall and Spring seasonal commercial ride and flight instruction program from Auburn and Lincoln airports. He offers a couple of different courses there: one to get your add-on glider rating, and one shorter course for power pilots to gain confidence in no power landings.

Course I is designed to get you your FAA Glider rating (private or commercial). Another IFRF member, Tim Pinkney, is currently in the program and already has four flights under his belt (as of mid-April). Why get your glider ticket? As one of the other students said: “the reason I’m in the class is because I want to know where all that ‘free’ lift is, and how to use it - especially when I fly in the mountains... and who can better teach that than a glider pilot?”

Other reasons to get a glider rating: (a) no medical is required (only self certification), (b) although gliders are in a different class of aircraft, no written test is required for currently-rated pilots, (c) the requirements are not that onerous: for pilots with more than 40 hours of fixed-wing time, it’s three hours of glider flight time with at least 10 training flights and 10 solo flights. It typically takes 12 +/- flights to solo on an accelerated basis for a current power pilot, at a cost of approximately $1,500. Added to this are costs for the solo flights and flight check with a D.P.E. for the rating, and (D) perhaps most importantly IT’S FUN.

The instructional program will be going on at Lincoln Regional Airport through mid-May, when it moves to its summer base at Truckee (1.916.587.6702; www.soartruckee.com).

Course II is a four (4) hour ground and flight session labeled “Emergency Landings for Power Pilots” and is
designed to provide the student with knowledge about how to handle situations when the “fan” up front quits. As is said in the glider world: “every normal landing for a glider pilot is an emergency for a power pilot”. When it gets very quiet in the cockpit, how do you best maneuver for a successful dead-stick landing.

The program is given at Truckee and consists of a ground school on the theory of unpowered landing (angles), a session in a computer simulator showing you what your upcoming flight experience will look like, and two flights is a glider where the ship can be configured for a 8 to 10:1 glideslope. Minimum class size is 4 students, and the total cost is $225.

Richard can be reached at: 1.916.715.9666 (cell), or at: pennyrich@aol.com

Kerrville event photo groups: CA Exec April Culver with one of the kids flown; DG W. W. “Bill” Dendy in the middle, with past Prestonwood Rotary president “Sonny” Friedman, April Culver, Juliet Siddons (fly day coordinator), and Challenge Air Board chair Joseph Montag (a Lions Club Past District (and higher) Governor); Surrounding me in front of my plane are my club president and our assistant district governor: Jennifer Hoffman, Tony Watson, Sandra Moudy; April Culver is shown again presenting a certificate of appreciation to local Kerrville Rotarian and FBO / flight school owner Joe Kennedy.