International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians
Americas Region, Vice President George Chaffey

June 15, 2014

TO IFFR Americas members:

This is the first of monthly reports that will go to all IFFR Americas Members. A LOT has been happening, and a LOT is Coming. So hold your hats, it’s going to be fun. Here’s a quick overview:

A. Monthly Report. You’ll be receiving a monthly report of activities, photos, and news to keep you involved and informed. OK, to keep you jazzed about all the possible activities that are available through IFFR Americas. Sometimes, it may be more frequent, but we’ll do our best to pass on information at least monthly.

B. New Southwest Section Chair: Vicki Puliz.

Vicki Puliz is now the new Southwest Section chair. She is currently Governor of District 5190 (California/Nevada), and next year (starting in 2 weeks) will be a GETS (Governor training) Trainer and her District’s Trainer. [Vicki’s bio] She and husband Tim are co-owners with PDG Steve & Ginny Lewis of a twin Comanche aircraft, that was on the cover of the May 2014 issue of the International Comanche Society Newsletter, and includes a great story about, not only their plane, but about Rotary. Click here for that story and photos. Vicki will be adding great energy and experience to a Section that is already on fire and growing quickly.

C. Americas Region is now the Most Active in the IFFR World.

A Firestorm of activity. Beginning last Fall, the Americas Region began activities that have quickly made it the most active in the IFFR world. Look quickly at the following chart to see what’s already been happening... and some of what’s coming during the rest of this year. Since last fall, we’ve had 10 major Fly-In Events, and at least 13 more already being planned for the rest of this year.. and there will be more. Notice that this year, we are having at least one, and often many more, major Fly-Ins every single month. Something every month, and something for everybody...somewhere. Visit our website www.iffrAmericas.org to see what you may have missed, or to relive the experience if you were there, and to get an idea of what’s coming. There is a lot going on and a lot coming down the pike.

What’s for Lunch? On top of the major fly-in events, we’ll be initiating “lunch” get togethers around the country so that members can periodically fly a modest distance to have the famous “$100 hamburger” lunch with IFFR friends and colleagues. So, if you can’t make a major Fly-In, there’ll be lunch get togethers to get you into the air and in contact with fellow IFFR folks.

1/3 Santa Monica, CA
2/27 Reno, NV
3/2 Sun ‘n Fun, FL
4/25 Sacramento, CA
4/26 San Marcos, TX
5/10 Manassas, VA
6/21 Eagle Field, CA
7/12 Plymouth, MA
7/26 OSH: IFFR Events
7/30 OSH Rotary Lunch
7/30 OSH IFFR BBQ
7/28 Longview, TX
8/14 Kalispell, MT
8/26 Brantford, ONT
9/5 Sacramento, CA
9/20 Chino, California
9/26 AGM Bishop, CA
9/30 Smithville, TX
Oct Wilmington, NC
There’s more... for Partners and Others. IFFR is not simply a Flying Club, it’s a Rotary Fellowship...with activities and events for pilots and non-pilots, for those who crave flying and for those who don’t. It’s not just about flying and aviation. During 2014 events, in addition to flying, and air shows, and air museums and all things “aviation”, there have also been, and will be, a range of things for partners and pilots who have other interests, which include among many other things:

Modern Art Museums & Antique Fairs
House and Mansion Tours
Glacier National Park and other scenic areas
A variety of different restaurants and foods
Baseball games, Railway Museum, dinner dances
Hot Air Balloon championships and races
4 wheel treks into the Sierra Nevada mountains
Bristlecone Pine tours (oldest living things)
Pistol shooting & Fall color photographic tours
Bird watching
And much, much more.....
Or.....doing Nothing at all... just relax and enjoying the company of other folks during an IFFR event.

Past World Presidents Advisory/Mentor Group. Our Past World Presidents and Immediate Past VP Americas have all agreed to work directly with our section chairs to ensure that we continue growing membership and increasing the number of great events for our members.

D. Oshkosh Special. The Rotary Club of Oshkosh will hold its regular meeting at AirVenture on Wednesday July 30. That evening, Section Chair Mark Hagen will have the traditional IFFR BBQ at his motor home. In addition, George Chaffey’s 1948 Luscombe “Lady Bird”, the 1983 Reserve Grand Champion Classic, will again be parked in the Return of Champions area near the Red Barn, a convenient meeting point. There may be a quarter of a million people at AirVenture, but at Lady Bird, AirVenture becomes like “Cheers”... intimate, and a place for IFFR’ers to go “where everybody knows your name and they’re always glad you came.”
E. **Brazil.** Big news if you’re going to the Rotary Convention in Sao Paulo in 2015. It’s the largest metropolitan area in all of North and South America (27 million) with the largest fleet of general aviation aircraft outside of the United States. So, we’ll be there trying to forge ties with Brazilian general aviation pilots and aviation enthusiasts, and hoping to bring many of them into the IFFR. This will be the first serious effort to expand IFFR into Brazil and perhaps other parts of South America…and it’s a fabulous city for a Convention.

F. **Eagle Field Fly-In or Drive-In.** This weekend (June 21-22) is the event at Eagle Field, near Dos Palos, California. [http://www.eaglefield.net/?p=339](http://www.eaglefield.net/?p=339). 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 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.

If you have any questions, let us know.
If you have information on events we might participate in, let us know.
If you’ve done something of interest you want to share with other IFFR folks, let us know.
If you just want to have some fun, join us at any of the IFFR events.

Tail winds to ya’,

**George**

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