March 24, 2016

MARCH MADNESS

They say March “comes In like a lion, goes out like a lamb”, but not for the IFFR. We’ve just been warming up, and things will kick into high gear next month. Sun ‘Fun is just around the corner. “In like a lamb, and out like a lion.” That’s IFFR. Read on!

What’s Happened

Alaska & The Yukon - COMING SOON!

It’s big, bold, beautiful, brawny, and ... bodacious! It’s a place of superlatives. It’s Alaska and the Yukon Territory.

If you’re accustomed only to paved strips, long runways, level surfaces, flat land, and wimpy weather, you’re in for a surprise ... a wonderful, awesome, exhilarating surprise.

Coming next month ... stories and photos of the invigorated Alaska/Yukon Section of IFFR.

To whet your whistle, here is a short video on the annual Alaska Bush Pilots Competition. To demonstrate WHY short field landing skills are important, click on a video that follows the first one titled “Alaskan Pilots Amazing Landing Skills.” Stay tuned. [Link]. Or check posting at our website, www.ifframericas.org.
Can’t Get Enough Parumph!

As reported last month, we kicked off the year with a fly in to Pahrump, and ... we can’t seem to get enough Pahrump. Great name, great place. The following is a personal recollection of the event and folks by PWP PDG Dr. Michael Graves. He titled it “Alaska Section Fly-In, Parumph, Nevada, January 1 - 3, 2016.”

I began the adventure by stopping to see a fellow Rotarian, physician and pilot. I first met Dr. Don Havins at our 2012 Palm Springs IFFR meeting. Dr. Don had then joined IFFR and had regularly communicated with both Peter More and myself. Since our first meeting he had married his sweetheart and become president-elect of the Nevada Medical Society. Don is both an attorney and ophthalmologist whose service to his medical colleagues statewide, college students and patients is typical of IFFR. Our reunion was brief but inspiring.

Early the next morning I hopped the hill for the twenty-minute leg to Pahrump, where I was greeted at Calvada Airpark by Pahrump Rotary president Roy Mankins. Rotarian Roy met my aircraft, assisted with parking, and promptly joined IFFR. As I had arrived early, I was able to get a feel for our Alaska chairman Craig Bledsoe’s Nevada home's climate, geography and aviation friends. We immediately joined the EAA chapter breakfast on the field, meeting Craig’s friends who live at the Airpark. Then we were off to a unique collection of modern and vintage amateur radio equipment operated by Foster Paulis. We had no luck in trying to raise fellow IFFR Ham Jose Carlos Cardoso in Portugal.

Our next stopped filled my aircraft oxygen bottle in the laboratory of another of Craig’s fellow engineers. We next feasted at Pahrump Valley Winery’s Symphony restaurant with another Ham radio devotee and his bride.

Following this Craig drove to the biggest oasis in the Mohave Desert, Ash Meadows national wildlife preserve. Ash Meadows is home to 30 species of plants, animals and prehistoric fish found nowhere else.

The drive back home was special. We spent some time in the opera house at Amargosa, just inside the California border. This magnificent structure was created by a New York artist who brought culture to the region decades before.

We arrived at Craig’s Pahrump home just in time to change and dine with his neighbors ... both Past District Governors ... of the Lion’s District, which is all of Nevada. Retiring to Craig’s home brought review of his son’s underwater wedding off Kona, Hawaii and his daughter’s adventures after Wellesley College.

The following morning we toured the Pahrump valley museum with it excellent displays of the history of nuclear weapon testing in the region. On the museum grounds was a well-preserved WW II Dodge weapons carrier, the vehicle I learned to drive in on the west edge of this vast desert, at age 12.
After an excellent brunch in town, Craig helped me load and prep the Aerostar for the quick and high trip home.

I departed the first fly-in hosted by Craig, during his current Alaska chairman term, having come to admire one of the most accomplished aviators, engineers and Rotarians in our worldwide family. Craig shared tales of flying cargo into Mogadishu after dark, and of chasing a bear around the island in his Alaska kitchen while his wife strongly admonished, “Don’t you shoot that bear in my kitchen!” Craig hosted adventures in Alaska during his earlier tenure as Alaska Chairman decades ago, including after the Calgary convention. Be alert for opportunities to spend time with Craig and Ruth Ann in Alaska or Nevada ... they are world class hosts!

--- Michael Graves IFFR #L37

IFFR At the International Assembly

In the February newsletter, we reported that there were six IFFR members as Governors-Elect or Training Leaders at the high-powered International Assembly. We just learned that there was a seventh IFFR member:

· Steven Quast, of the Benelux Section, was there as the District Governor Elect for District 1610 in the Netherlands. See Steven and wife Françoise with PRID John Germ, and also Steven in front of one of the Spitfires that periodically visit his home airfield. The other six IFFR members at the IA were:

• DGE John Dehnel (District 1070, UK—UK Section). His photo and that of his plane were in the February newsletter.

• DGE Bill Dendy (District 5810, Texas—South Central Section). Better picture to follow, but here he is at a recent Texas function with his wife Lisa.

• DGE Kim Waters (District 6910, Atlanta—Southeast Section). Her photo was in the February newsletter.

• DGE Eric Chin (District 3450, Hong Kong, Australasian Region). His photo was in the February newsletter.
· Former Training Leader PDG Dave Stovall (District 6910, Atlanta--Southeast Section). He was there this time as husband of DGE Kim Waters. See Dave’s cockpit photo, and that of his beautiful Pitts S1S.

· 2nd Year Training Leader PDG George Chaffey (District 5160, Lafayette—Southwest Section). See the photo of George with his award-winning 1948 Luscombe “Lady Bird”.

IFFR isn’t just about flying... it’s about great fellowship and great leadership... at all levels.

--- VP PDG IATL George Chaffey

AVIATION AT DISTRICT 5810’S ASSEMBLY

Flying Rotarian DGE Bill Dendy (known as Bill 16 versus another PDG Bill Dendy, known as Bill 14) decided on a special program at the end of the Spring 2016 District Assembly March 19th. He had Jacob Pavelka speak to the group about application of “The Four Way Test.” I decided to head to Hillcrest High School, my Alma Mater, where the Interact Club, assisted by Park Cities (Dallas) Rotary, hosted the event, since we cancelled our trip to MODAERO in Conroe for IFFR South Central.

Jacob, also known as “Jake the Bachelor” has worked as a pilot for Atlantic Southeast Airlines, attended Embry-Riddle, and is from Denton, a university town in the Dallas – Fort Worth metro area. His talk on “The Four Way Test” brought in both the experience of flying as Captain with the FAA sitting in the jump seat behind him as well as his experience on “The Bachelor.” It was entertaining but also showed the integrity that occurs when you use The Test.

--- PWP Tony Watson, Editor

IFFR MEMBERS LEADING THEIR ROTARY CLUBS:
CURRENT AND PAST CLUB PRESIDENTS

Rotary and flying have always been linked.... Orville Wright, the first person to “fly”, was a long-time member of the Rotary Club of Dayton, Ohio. IFFR members have regularly been Rotary leaders. See our complete list on the website [LINK]. If you or someone you know has been omitted, let us know at gchaffey@Littler.com. Almost 70 current members of our Region have served as Club President, at least 25 as District Governor, and dozens in many other ways. This month, we start by recognizing those who have served as Club President. Our congratulations and thanks to ...
Alaska: Craig Bledsoe, Harry Kieling, Phil Livingston, Diane Livingston, Dick Sutliff.

North Central: Brian Andersen, Mike Close, Mark Hagen, John Ockenfels, Ginger Scott, Phil Zepeda.


Northwest: Craig Clarke, Greg Luring

South Central: Walter Branson, Dave Daniels, W. W. “Bill” Dendy (DeSoto), William “Bill” Dendy (same name, different guy, District 5810 E-Club), Michael Graves, Karen Hicks, Elliot Merk, Mark Merritt, Lynn Miller, Mike Pinson, Dave Robinette, JB Roberts, Tony Watson, Jack Welge, Elton Wilson.

Southeast: Mark Crotts, Paul Lamb, Dale Read, Dennis Reeves, Rick Stevens, Richard Storey, Bob Ridgeway, David Stovall, Joe Saloom, Rankin Whittington, Kim Waters.

Southwest: Ann Aldridge, Sam Bishop, Dave Brown, Buddy Burke, George Chaffey, Penelope Cornwall, Ken Dally, Mike Forney, Steve Henderson, Steve Lewis, John Massey, Peter More, Clark Osterhout, Tim Pinkney, Vicki Puliz, Sue Royce, Ravi Saip, Phil Sammer, Bob Tucknott, Sam Wilbanks, Lori Williams, Bob Wilmeth, Larry Wolfsen.

Larry Wolfsen & Mt. Shasta
What's Coming

SOUTHERN COMFORT
JEKYLL ISLAND, LEEWARD AIR RANCH,
AGM, SUN ‘n FUN
APRIL 7 - 10, 2016

Return to Ocala for our third Bi-annual Sun n Fun adventure. Join your IFFR Friends for a great three night event, beginning on Jekyll Island, Georgia followed by two nights at Leeward Air Ranch in Ocala, Florida. We’ll also plan our regional annual meeting (AGM) during this event, and this will take place at Peter Wenk’s home at FD04.

Beginning Thursday, April 7th, we arrive for fellowship and relaxation at Jekyll Island (09J), where we plan to enjoy the island and have a happy hour and dinner together, staying at the Hampton Inn there. Late morning on Friday the 8th, we’ll depart for lunch at Flagler County Airport (KFIN), following the coastline south. After lunch, we’ll head for Leeward Air Ranch (FD04), paying attention to airspace issues. We’ll have a happy hour, then a dinner in Peter and Ellen Wenk’s hangar. Saturday the 9th we’ll plan on spending 6 hours at Sun ‘n Fun, using a rental van to get there and avoid the air traffic hassle. That evening, another group dinner, then depart for home after breakfast Sunday morning the 10th.

Peter Wenk’s neighbors in Leeward Air Ranch are once again offering lodging accommodations in their homes for the first six registrants. Additional accommodations available at Holiday Inn Express, Silver Springs, Florida, 800-HOLIDAY or 352-304-6111.

Southeast Americas IFFR Chair Dale Read has circulated a flyer with more detailed information, which includes the registration sheet, and this sheet is also available on our website. Basic registration for the event is $60 per person if you have your own vehicle, but with the ground transportation for dinner and getting to Sun ‘n Fun, the registration is $85 per person. For more information, download the flyer, or contact Dale: daleread@readwindow.com. Flyer: SunNFun Flyer 2015
Seoul Is Coming Soon
IFFR at The Convention
May 28 - June 1, 2016

The IFFR will be at the Seoul Convention full bore... at the IFFR hotel, at the booth in the House of Friendship, at the AGM, at the Banquet, and at the post-Convention Tour of Korea. If you haven’t registered for the Convention yet, now is the time to act. Save the dates of May 28 – June 1, 2016.

IFFR Hotel: Our official IFFR hotel (Lotte Hotel World) is a fabulous, 5-star hotel, and will be the place to meet and gather and see one another when not at the Convention itself. A November 28 email was sent to all IFFR members worldwide with details on registering for the hotel...but you have to hurry, it’s first come, first served. Details are in that November 28 email. Or you may go to the following website for information: RI Convention Extended Trip page (or http://portal.clubrunner.ca/50010/SitePage/ri-convention-korea-extended-trip) and click on “Lotte Hotel Reservation Form” and “Additional Lotte Hotel Info”. For additional views of the hotel, you can go to its website http://www.lottehotel.com/world/en/.

IFFR Booth: Our booth in the House of Friendship is the place at the huge Convention where IFFR members can meet, congregate, hang out and feel like “Cheers”... “Sometimes you want to go where everybody knows your name, and they're always glad you came.” A convention isn’t quite the same without our booth... and we’ll be there! Lynn Miller is again in charge of the booth, and would welcome help in staffing the booth from any of you attending the Convention. Our World President-Elect (WPE), Svend Andersen, feels the IFFR Booth is very important and has already signed up, as has Americas VP George Chaffey and a number of others. If you are interested in meeting fellow IFFR members coming by, and greeting potential members, and talking flying , and hanging with other members, then join us in staffing the booth, and let Lynn Miller know at cbrookgull@aol.com... hey, if you are attending the Convention, you’ll be coming by the booth anyway... so join Svend, George and the cast of characters each spending a little time there.... our home away from home.

Annual General Meeting: While the main body of our AGM is scheduled during the special Berlin Fly-out in July, we will commence our AGM during the RI Convention in Seoul before recessing to Berlin. This will be held on Monday, May 30 at 2:30 pm in Exhibition Center 1. This will be a great opportunity to meet our WPE Svend Andersen from Denmark. More details to follow.
IFFR Banquet: The annual Convention IFFR Banquet will likely be held on Monday evening, May 30. The details of time and location are still being planned. Those of you who attended in São Paulo will recall the memorable churrascaria Brazilian-style banquet. And now we’ll see what Seoul has to offer. More details to follow.

Post-Convention Tour of Korea: This is an unexpected treat. District Governor DJ Sun of District 5280 (Los Angeles) has great contacts in his home country of Korea and has arranged a personalized 4-day, 3-night Tour of Korea that few Convention attendees will be able to experience. Details were in the November 28 email sent to all IFFR members worldwide. To register, you may also go directly to RI Convention Extended Trip page (or http://portal.clubrunner.ca/50010/SitePage/ri-convention-korea-extended-trip) and click on “Airline/Extended Trip Registration Form” and “Extended Trip Itinerary”.

Special Prices Korean Air Tickets: At detailed in the November 28 email, and on the District 5280 Website at RI Convention Extended Trip page (or http://portal.clubrunner.ca/50010/SitePage/ri-convention-korea-extended-trip) District 5280 has arranged for a block of tickets through Korean Air at significant discounts for flights from Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle and Honolulu. If it can meet your needs, you can check with the Travel Agents listed there.

Aviation Event at the Convention: The IFFR is trying to arrange an additional aviation-related event for us at the Convention, but that is still in the works. We’ll send out details in the future if it works out.

This should be a good Convention and IFFR gathering according to Svend and George.... the Seoul Brothers.

“THE EAGLE FLIES”
EAGLE FIELD, CALIFORNIA, USA
JUNE 11 - 12, 2016

The annual event at Eagle Field (CL01) in Dos Palos, California, will see some IFFR involvement again this year. There will be lots of vintage aircraft there. Stay tuned for more information next month.
The IFFR will have a major fly-Out event in Berlin, Germany, July 16-23, 2016. This will be a biggie! The genius of this event is that, although there will be numerous fly-outs and ground tours, no one has to move from hotel to hotel. We will stay in our hotel in Berlin, and, for those wishing to fly, there will be a flying event to some destination, returning that afternoon. At the same time, for those not wishing to fly, there will be ground tours and activities to other locations, also returning in the afternoon. And people may choose to fly or go on a ground event, depending on their interest in the particular activities or destinations.

This will be the first major IFFR event under new World President Svend Andersen of Denmark, who has been overseeing the development of this program. There will also be an IFFR Annual General Meeting, presided over by Svend, the first of his Presidency. Details and registration forms are available at the IFFR main website, www.iffr.org. The main event is sold out but we understand there may be a wait list.

EAA AirVenture 2016
July 25 - 31, 2016
Oshkosh, Wisconsin, USA

We will have the usual Rotary Club meeting at noon on Wednesday and we anticipate the annual get together hosted by Mark Hagen on Wednesday evening. We’ll look forward to seeing many IFFR
Pop Up Events

With the use of our modern communications methods and the right circumstances a “pop up” fly in or fellowship event is always possible. $100 Hamburger pop ups could happen anywhere, especially if weather looks good and we don’t have to invest a lot of planning effort.

So, always watch for those broadcasts from IFFR – it can mean a fun flight and a fellowship event that will keep you wanting to come back for more.

Tail winds to ya’,

George

George Chaffey
IFFR Vice President, Americas Region
Wing Leader, Low & Slow Squadron
925.927.4502 direct 925.699.3343 mobile 925.946.9809 fax
GChaffey@Littler.com
Treat Towers, 1255 Treat Blvd, Suite 600, Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Webmaster: PWP Peter More
Newsletter Editor: PWP Tony Watson