September 16, 2016

BERLIN BLOWOUT - SUMMER FLYING CONTINUES

The official IFFR Post-Convention event in Berlin was a great success. If you were in Berlin... you’ll see some people you know in this Newsletter (Read on), but more importantly, if you were in Berlin, you are definitely featured in living color on the Americas website [www.ifframericas.org].

What’s Happened

BERLIN “POST-CONVENTION” FLY-ABOUT
At the Berlin event (July 16-23, 2016), we installed a new IFFR World President (Svend Andersen of Denmark), we had 5 days of tours in the Berlin area, and we had 3 days of Fly-outs around Germany for the many pilots and planes in attendance. Others have written about it. Now you will see it. If you were in Berlin, you’ll see people you know in this newsletter, but more importantly, YOU are featured on the Americas Website [click].

Oregon Shakespeare Festival
Ashland, Oregon
August 12-14, 2016

Ashland, Oregon is beautiful. Its Shakespeare Festival is famous. And IFFR members were there from California, Nevada, Washington.... and Denmark.... Yes, World President, Svend Andersen joined us. And he got there the hard way... he flew from the SF Bay Area with George Chaffey in his 1948 Luscombe (Lady Bird). Svend is very tall... Lady Bird is not. It was a beautiful... and memorable... flight. Svend can give you the details.

George & Sandy Gilman (from Medford) coordinated the event, with Ashland-resident Larry McClaskey arranging some great activities during the weekend.
On Friday night, Larry hosted an opening cocktail party and buffet dinner at his home overlooking the town and valley. After eating, some of the attendees headed to the Theater.

On Saturday morning, Larry arranged a “Backstage Tour” of the Shakespeare Theaters. This was one of the best, most interesting tours many of us had been on. If any of you go to Ashland, definitely arrange to take this Backstage Tour. Some people attended the theater Saturday afternoon and evening. Others shopped. Others just hung out to enjoy downtown Ashland and the surrounding areas. Great IFFR camaraderie. Saturday night was an IFFR dinner at the Ashland Springs Hotel.

Sunday was more theater for
some people. Others had a leisurely breakfast and headed for the picturesque airport to start the trip home. If you’ve never been to this Festival, plan on doing so in the future. You won’t be disappointed, especially if it’s an IFFR event.

BECKWOURTH ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST
NERVINO AIRPORT, BECKWOURTH, CALIFORNIA
SEPTEMBER 11, 2016

The scenic town of Beckwourth, California is nestled in a high mountain valley in the northern Sierra Nevada Mountains. At the Nervino Airport in Beckwourth, the Rotary Club of Portola holds its the Pancake Breakfast, welcoming planes from California and Nevada. We had three IFFR planes this year: a Twin-engine Comanche owned by Tim and Vicki Puliz (our South West Chair), a 1948 Luscombe (Lady Bird), flow in by Americas VP George Chaffey, and a new Evektor Sportstar (Czech) owned by local-
resident, PDG Sam “Woody” Wilbanks, who is now a professional pancake-flipper. In addition to our established IFFR members, we are attracting newer blood as well: Matt Thayer (husband of George’s niece) is about to get his pilot’s license and flew up to the event with George. Matt’s parents came because they had just moved to Beckwourth, and it turns out Matt’s father spent many years flying with the Air Force. Also flying in with Tim & Vicki were Steve & Greta Mestre; Steve is past president of the very large Reno Club and the incoming membership Chair for his district. Great pancakes, great new relationships for IFFR.

What’s Coming

LAKES REGION, NEW HAMPSHIRE FLY-IN
THIS WEEKEND - SEPTEMBER 16 - 18, 2016
LACONIA, NEW HAMPSHIRE, USA (KLCI)

IFFR Americas North East Section and Meredith Rotary Club are hosting a New Hampshire Lakes Region fly-in this weekend, September 16 – 18. This scenic fly-in will take place in Meredith NH on Lake Winnipesaukee (http://winnipesaukeegateway.org/), just south of the famous White Mountains and Mount Washington. If you haven’t signed up yet, you may have an opportunity, contact Gary Dehnel at (Home) 603-677-7910 gCDehnel@verizon.net for possible homestay or other suggestions. At last check
(9/14) there were still rooms at The Ballard (http://www.ballardhouseinn.com) too. Information available on Details sheet or check the www.ifframericas.org site. Be prepared to complete the registration sheet:

There will be a fellowship dinner at 6:30 PM Friday evening in Meredith. Saturday morning will start with breakfast at 8:00 AM at one of the local Meredith restaurants, then some activities all day including a cruise and a dinner. Details on this have been passed on to registrants.

Fly into Laconia Airport (KLCI). Two FBOs (Emerson, Sky Bright); ILS or LOC, RNAV (GPS), NDB; Car rentals: Avis (Sky Bright), Enterprise, Hertz (Emerson).

CALIFORNIA CAPITAL AIRSHOW
SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 1, 2016
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA, USA

The California Capital Airshow is one of the TOP FIVE (5) AIRSHOWS in the country, the Blue Angels have confirmed they’ll be there, and this is an IFFR Event you should not miss.

THE PLAN: The IFFR group will meet for dinner on Friday, September 30 (location being decided) and attend the Airshow on Saturday, October 1. IFFR member Tim Pinkney, who heads the Capital Club volunteer staff, recommends getting a ticket to the “Capital Club” --- a tented area with the best view of the Airshow, includes a continental breakfast, lunch and all your favorite beverages. If you have questions, contact South West Section Chair Vicki Puliz at (775) 378-5914. For details on the Airshow, visit www.californiacapitalairshow.com.

THE SUGGESTION: Reserve your hotel room at the Sacramento Marriott Rancho Cordova, 11211 Point East Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742, phone 916-638-1100, or online at http://www.marriott.com/hotels/maps/travel/sacmc-sacramento-marriott-rancho-cordova/. Located close to the field, this hotel is the top choice for the Airshow performers, exhibitors, and ... the IFFR. Room rates are currently $132, fully refundable if cancelled by September 29. This hotel will book up, so make your reservations now if you plan to attend.
Up, Up & Away.... in BALLOONS  
October 2-4, 2016  
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO, USA

IFFR members will gather toward the beginning of this week-long event. Plan to arrive Sunday. We’ll have an IFFR gathering for dinner on Monday night, October 3. The location and time is being set by IFFR member and organizer Dave Daniels. For those that will be there Monday for dinner, contact Dave at (915) 203-8922 or danielsroofelp@abcglobal.net. Monday will be a full day of watching and participating in the extraordinary spectacle. From Dawn Patrol, Mass Launch, Races and more. After Monday, IFFR members will be on their own to stay further during the week or head toward home. If you’ve never witnessed this Balloon Fiesta, there is a treat in store for you.

FORMULA 1 UNITED STATES GRAND PRIX  
- CIRCUIT OF THE AMERICAS  
OCTOBER 21 - 23, 2016  
IFFR FLY-IN AT LA GRANGE, TEXAS (3T5)

The South Central Region will host a fly-in to the LaGrange, Texas airport as a part of this event held at a track just southeast of Austin, Texas. IFFR member George Alderman of Delaware has brought a car and team to race at this event in the past and still comes to Formula 1 events. At this event he bases himself in this town southeast of Austin.

We’ll look forward to fellowship, and perhaps a day or two at the races. We did this as a “pop up” event last year and it was successful even on short notice, so we look forward to seeing a few of you there. Look for more on our website from Section Chair Jack Welge. Details: [click]  Contact Jack Welge: [email]
The details on the Alaska section’s premier event are coming together. We will have a detailed report on plans to date next month. Stay tuned.

**Editor’s Musings**

**SURVEY SAYS**

South Central IFFR Chair Jack Welge was commissioned by the IFFR Americas Board of Directors to accomplish a survey of our members this summer. I’m always a tough nut personally to crack on surveys but even I acknowledge that one can get good information from a well-designed survey. We had about a 30% response to our survey, and while we wish it was better, that’s actually pretty good in the context of surveys in general. We had 62 responses to tally.

Jack has summarized the responses here, and I’m sure we’ll have more comments about them later from our Board members. I thought the general membership might find some of the answers interesting.

1. Are you a pilot? 87.69% yes
2. What do you fly? Responses varied from Aeronca Champ, Cessna Sky Master to Cessna 182, to Citabria, to Mooney Acclaim, M-20-R and Ovation 2, Piper Archer, Luscombe Navajo, Saratoga, Socata Trinidad and Beechcraft Debonair and Bonanza. Some of the more interesting responses were an Airbus A380, DC-10, Decathlon, Great Lakes bi-plane, Gulfstream, Stearman, T6 and B-747.
3. Have you participated in local or regional IFFR flying events? 62% participate.

4. If yes, what did you like or not like? Answers were: The fellowship is everything; flying to places I haven’t been before; the gathering of friends; the group events; the fellowship; the camaraderie; socializing with other people in the aviation community.

5. If no .. It must be close; they must be regional events; there needs to be local communication of events nearby; it must occur on the weekends – shorter is better; they must be closer to me; the events need to be in Brazil; and the members are not using the website.

6. Is the monthly newsletter of value to you? 89% agree.

7. Why did you join IFFR? Answers varied- As Rotarian with a non-Rotarian spouse pilot I joined so he could participate in Rotary activities he would enjoy; I believe in the benefit of Rotary Fellowships; to fly to new places with other Rotarian Pilots; to meet other Rotarian Pilots; fellowship and flying; fellowship with Pilot Rotarians; and as a make-up opportunity while at AOPA events. One summed it all up... Because I fly and I am a Rotarian!

8. What do you like best about IFFR membership? Answers varied - Friendships we’ve made and places we visited; flying opportunities; the ability to share my passion for flying; post-convention fly outs and regional fly-ins; fellowship and group travel; and the extension of Rotary to others with like interests or passions.

9. Is there anything you would like IFFR to do more (or less)? Answers varied – More local (two hours or so) fly-ins; less excessively structured and controlled IFFR activities; get more Rotarians to join; find ways to involve members in activities; and more frequent one day flying in destinations planned around other events.

Editor’s comments: so 11% of you don’t find this newsletter of value to you? Gee.

**SUPPORT YOUR DISTRICT GOVERNOR**

One function of the individual members of our fellowship is to help support the local Rotary programs and infrastructure. You and your airplane may be able to help.

We’ve had a couple of IFFR members as a part of our Governor string here in north Texas for several years. This has led to helping scout out a District Conference site, extra entertainment for a President’s Representative after a District Conference, and even helping at a sample fly day for Challenge Air during a District Conference.

Our current DG is a pilot. As a CFI I checked him out in an aircraft belonging to a PDG. This has helped him be able to continue his work (which involves travel in Texas) and keep making his official visits on time. I might add that if your DG is a pilot you might volunteer to back him up as safety pilot in any flying he needs to do during his year.

Just some things to think about. I feel fortunate to have been in the position to both be known and to be able to help.

**ROTARY REMINDERS**

We made a quick trip to Colorado with daughter Nancy and her husband Grant about a month ago. On the way into Estes Park was this nice sign, where people can pause and have their pictures made, overlooking the city. You can see this was a gift from the local Rotary Club. We saw things like this a few times on our recent trips but this is the only one I photographed.

Rotary is a great organization and I love its geographical and
geopolitical diversity. But it does start locally, so it’s always pleasing to me to see something like this. Makes me proud as a Rotarian.

**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.

**Coming Soon ...**

Next month and beyond ... look for more news on Alaska and Iditarod; Austin Formula 1 Racing; and more events into 2017.

Tail winds to ya’,

**George**

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**International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians**

1965 - 2015
50 Years of Fellowship

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**2015**
7/23  IFFR 50th Event, KOSH
7/25 - 8/1  IFFR Fly Out, Minnesota
8/28 - 30  Bar Harbor, ME
9/11-13  Greenville, SC
9/13  Beckwourth, CA
10/2 - 4  Sacramento, CA
10/9 - 11  Tullahoma, TN
10/11  Cameron Park, CA

**2016**
3/16/- 19  Modaero Nextgen Festiv. Conroe, TX
4/5 - 10  Lakeland FL Sun ’n Fun
5/20 - 22  Columbia, CA
5/21  Beaufort, NC
5/28 - 6/1  RI Conv, Seoul, S. Korea
6/11 - 12  Eagle Field, CA
6/26  Auburn, CA (with 99s)
7/16 - 23  Berlin, Germany
7/17  Cedarville, CA (i.f. brkfst)
7/25 - 31  Oshkosh WI AirVenture
8/13 - 15  Ashland, OR
8/20  Bremerton, WA
9/11  Beckwourth, CA
9/17  Battle Creek, MI
9/16 - 18  Laconia, NH
9/18  Oakland, CA “Open Cockpit Day”
10/1 - 2  Sacramento, CA
10/1 - 9  Albuquerque, NM
10/21 - 23  Austin, TX vicinity