



THE FELLOWSHIP ADVANCER
A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE ROTARY
INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE
Issue 6 - October 2009

INTERNATIONAL 2009 – 2010 FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR:

Rotarian President John's theme really does mean that the Rotary Family of Fellowships really do have Rotary in our hands. By our Fellowship activities, we promote not only Rotary activities but we have so many changes to become a new sponsor of a new fellowship Rotarian and new friend.

Our Fourth Object of Rotary sometimes doesn't get its due. "To encourage and foster the advancement of international understanding, good and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service. Freedom, justice, truth, sanctity of the pledged word and respect for the human rights are in Rotary inherent principles and vital to the maintenance of international peace and order and to human progress".

In that vein, Honorary Rotarian and Canadian Prime Minister once asked this question "How can there be peace in the World when people do not know each other, and how can they know each other if they never met?"

We have been advised that Rotarians in District 2490 (Israel) have liaised with 6 Rotary International Fellowships and now have members in each of those Fellowships at the end of the last Rotary year. And they are planning to have Rotarians in 6 other Fellowships in this Rotary year.

International Rotary have just release the details for the House of Friendship in Montreal. If your Fellowship is going to have a booth, we strongly recommend that you get the forms as soon possible as the dead-line is Friday, 29 January, 2010 and space could be at a premium.

As most who get this newsletter know, we depend on those who get it to forward it on. We send it to all Fellowship Chairs for their membership and District Fellowship Chairs so they can forward it to their Clubs/members.

We welcome articles and pictures but edit articles to no more than **300** words and **1** picture per issue.

We can print in all Rotary languages but I only speak/write articles. If a Fellowship wants to provide an article in another Rotary language we can do it but please provide an English translation. I get loads of spam which I delete it if I don't have an English copy.

FELLOWSHIP - GLOBAL NETWORKING GROUPS – CHAIRPERSONS
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR: and
SUBMITTED QUARTERLY REPORTS

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Our meeting at Birmingham at the Premier Inn Hotel lead to activity and to spread IFCR in this part of the world. All credit goes to my friend PP Chittaranjan Choudhury of my Rotary Club!! Nepal was a part of us - RID 3290. This year, our District was split and we are RID 3291 and Nepal RID 3292. The match has also given a boost to the IMAGE OF ROTARY while serving to spread UNDERSTANDING, GOODWILL & PEACE!

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Report Activity from 01-08-2008 to 31-07-2009

PAUL HARRIS PIONEER OF A NEW WORLD

With support of the Rotary Club SPA-Francorchamps-Stavelot (D-1630 in Belgium) was published in Esperanto the book: " Paul Harris: Pioniro de Nova Mondo ". After the publications of this book in English and French, the version in Esperanto will allow the spread of history and objectives of ROTARY INTERNATIONAL and of his founder in countries where our members do not belong to those who understand English and French. The publication of the book was possible thanks to Laurent Darreau and Michel Darreau, authors and owners of the idea. They allowed the publication of the translation in Esperanto, without copyright, under the condition, that part of the sales is destined to the Rotary Foundation POLIO +. Several RADE members translated this fascinating story so demonstrating that Esperanto on Internet really permits worldwide collaboration and understanding.

RADE booth in Birmingham

During the 100th World Convention of R.I. in Birmingham, our Fellowship gathered at our stand RADE members from many countries. This year our meeting point was even more interesting, because of the presentation of the first Esperanto book about PAUL HARRIS. Our member Afrouz Novin from Milano, Italy, pianist of international renown, was officially invited to present a concert at the plenary sessions. The R.I. President DONG KURN LEE received the first copy of the book about the life of Paul Harris. Some of our members participated the annual meeting of the R.I. Fellowships, which are becoming better every year. It is a very good idea to publish the FELLOWSHIP ADVANCER! We are glad, that appeared in the 5th edition our contribution about RADE even in Esperanto. And we will go on to collaborate with this excellent initiative.

RADE in Poland Bialystok

The Polish city of Bialystok hosted the 94th World Congress of Esperanto in the period from July 25 to August 1. The Congress, attended by 2000 Esperanto speakers from 63 countries, celebrated 150 years since the birth of Leyser Ludwig Zamenhof, initiator of the International Language Esperanto. During the Congress RADE members from Belgium, United States, Brazil, Italy and Serbia met at the RADE booth at the international cultural exposition fair.

Language situation in Rotary International

During a special meeting, RADE members discussed the language diversity and the high cost of translations in conferences and conventions, where Esperanto is not used. Therefore was decided to start a research on the linguistic situation in Rotary, compared to the trend of increasing number of official languages, now twelve. Contacts between RADE members are performed exclusively in Esperanto on the Internet and during friendship visits and Foundation programs. But on the other side, millions of dollars are spent for translations, which could be used for humanitarian projects, especially the first item of the *Objectives of the New Millennium*, eradicate hunger and extreme misery. Rotarians using a neutral common language are very concerned to take action concerning Peace and Understanding worldwide.

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Interact and Venturing. An Interact Club cross registering in Scouting opens huge adventure and summer slump alternatives to Interact which generally start closing down as annual vacation season approaches and have to regenerate interest and enthusiasm when school reopens after vacation. Nowhere is this more successful than in Orange County, California where D-5230 PDG and Orange County Council Youth Program Director Lane Calvert (lanec@ocbsa.org) cross registers Interact Club members into Venturing. The results have been superb and he will be happy to share this with Rotarians everywhere. Lane also cross registers most of this District's Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps programs which allows the JROTC leadership to use Scout camps for training – facilities they urgently need.

Fellowships Promotion at Zone Institutes. The International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians (IFSR) has been active in promoting Fellowships generally (distributing RI's "Sharing the Magic of Membership Retention" and other Fellowships flyers) – and Scouting in particular – at Zone Institutes in Zone 21 (Oklahoma City) through the leadership of Jack Mayo and others, at Zone 24 (Edmonton, Alberta), Zones 25-26 (Monterey, California) and at many District Conferences. We have also paired with the Yachting fellowship under Clint Collier at some venues.

The IFSR/Scouts Canada recently approved "Chief Scout Award" and "Queen's Venturer Award" certificates were unveiled to Rotarians for the first time at the Zone 24 Institute in Edmonton, hosted by IFSR Life Member Doug McDonald, Scout Executive of Chinook Council, Scouts Canada - giving Canadian Rotary Clubs the opportunity to directly connect with Scout receiving the highest Scouting Awards in Canada.

Our IFSR Newsletter under Steve Kesler and Mark Francis has also spread the good news of Scouting and IFSR via email and even snail mail to members who are not yet into cyberdots.

IFSR in RIBI has taken on renewed vigor under PDG and Past IFSR President David Judge and we

expect to soon hear of a “Queen’s Scout Certificate” being approved by The Scout Association for use there.

Our thanks to Bob Stewart and Robin Schaefermeyer for ably serving as Treasurers of IFSR and IFSR-IAR during the last year. With special kudos also to our Executive Secretary Randy Seefeldt!

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“The future of ITFR is in your hands”

Some words from Marco Marinaro’s speech at the closing ceremony of ITFR World Tennis Championship “Wien 2009”.

“Dear friends,

This year Rotary International has celebrated its 100th Convention in Birmingham. It's been an extraordinary experience all the more because the “Rotarians with a racket” from 11 countries from all over the world have met again on the lawn courts of the oldest tennis club in the world. It's been a delightful occasion, for which I would like to thank again the organizer David Jones.

During the different plenums of the Convention all the highest leaders of Rotary International, the President Lee, and the General Secretary Ed Futa have used one word constantly. The word is “fellowship”.

Obviously “fellowship” is meant in the deeper sense of “Rotarian friendship”. Especially in the past three years, years in which Rotary has lived difficult moments for the membership in some areas, Rotary has intended to improve and promote the activities of the Rotarian fellowship, which means the international organizations acknowledged from Rotary, which reunite the Rotarians not only around the principle “Service above self” but also with the sharing of interests, which could be a passion, a hobby, or a professional activity.

The sharing of interests may they only be recreational ones, which come together with the Rotarian spirit is able to upgrade the ideals of friendship and tolerance between people of the world, supporting and realizing important humanitarian and social projects.

Tennis, as I often said and wrote, is a sport, which perfectly integrates with values and actions of Rotary. Our fellowship hasn't yet had its 5th anniversary and it nearly has 1000 members from 62 countries from all over the world (last year in the final speech of Barcelona the members were 526 from 36 countries).

Thanks to these numbers the Fellowship of tennis is actually (amongst the active 62) on the 5th place amongst the fellowships around the world in terms of collocating and is still expanding. And this is surely the result of the enthusiasm of many friends, like you, who after having discovered the pleasure of being together with the rotary tennis spread this pleasure amongst their friends with whom they share the passion for this great sport.

This is how the success of our fellowship explains itself, a success that seems ... contagious. The

success is really in that same word that frames the sense of the membership to Rotary. It is not a coincidence that “fellowship” has become the name of these associations within the Rotarian family.

Therefore the “fellowship” also constitutes the deeper sense of our “Tennis Fellowship”!

Being together and sharing Rotary throughout tennis is our mission. And the aim of all our action. And if you have been contaminated by the sharing of Rotary throughout tennis, participate actively to realize new projects of Rotarian tennis around the world.

As you all know the funds collected during this event are going to be distributed pro quota to two remarkable Rotarian projects: I'm referring to the Project Srebrenica (for a Rotarian medical center) and to the project Polio Plus to sustain Rotary International in the donation-challenge of the Gates-Foundation.

Since the meeting in Barcelona of 2008 and after the invite of the International President our Fellowship has decided to support the program POLIO PLUS with priority in the two-year-period of 2008/2010; and I am able to confirm that we will also support this historical challenge “END POLIO NOW” in the two-year-period of 2010/2012. The end is planned for the 30th of June 2012.

Within the other initiatives I would like to point out the “official tie ITFR” and the communication campaign of Rotarian tennis, which will help us in the entire world to achieve the eradication of Polio.

So I thank you all for the support that with your participation you have given to these important humanitarian projects of Rotary.

The responsibility you have chosen to impose on me for the next mandate of leading this great group of friends also involves the responsibility for the next World Championships and I am sure that with your affection we will be able to mark a lot more “aces”.

I await you at the next World Championship and I would like to point out the next tournaments in Brazil (Santos), Italy (Garda Lake), Turkey (Istanbul), Egypt (Alexandria) and India (Chennai).

I will come to an end now and would like to greet you with the motto of the RI's President John Kenny:

“The future of our Tennis Fellowship is in your hands”!

“Thank you! Danke! “

Rotary, Tennis and Vienna! What a wonderful week!

The capital city of Austria with all its cultural and historical treasures, was the venue for the 5th ITFR Tennis World Championship from 24th to 30th August 2009.

The Colony Club was the superb setting for the matches, with more than 100 active members of ITFR participating. Alongside the competition, which was supported by ATP, PTR, Tennis Europe and Tennis Austria, many visits were arranged. These included Schonbrunn Palace, a day trip to Wachau and Castle Muhlbach, and visits to the Spanish Riding School and the Musikverein.

However, the matches and visits were the backdrop for the main objective of the event which was to raise funds for Polio Plus and the Rotarian Medical Centre in Srebrenica.

You will all know that for more than 20 years Rotary International has been working to eradicate polio. Now the partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation means that we are on the brink of eliminating it once and for all.

One decade after the end of the war in former Yugoslavia, the Srebrenica Project aims to improve the precarious medical care for pregnant women and thousands of landmine victims.

On the Thursday afternoon there was a break from tennis and visits when the Board Meetings were held followed by the Annual General Meeting. The main points from these meetings were the unanimous re-appointment of Marco Marinaro as Chairman for another two years, and the welcoming of our new secretary Paride Cipullo. Thanks were expressed to the retiring secretary Valentina Dell'Acqua for her hard work. Marco gave a presentation of the events held throughout the year including the successful booth in the House of Friendship at the Convention in Birmingham where more than fifty new members joined our fellowship. Past and future tournaments were discussed including the Edgbaston Tournament at the oldest lawn tennis club in the world and our first on grass! Tomislav Maravic, Past Chairman of ITFR, discussed membership figures and the use of the website.

At the end of the week, a gala dinner was held when friends old and new celebrated the winners of the competitions and the fact that the magnificent sum of \$22000 had been raised. The thanks of all those who took part go to Josef Gudenus and his team for their hard work in arranging a wonderful week of fellowship and tennis in Vienna, and for enabling us to support two of Rotary's most important projects-Polio Plus and the Rotarian Medical centre in Srebrenica..

David Jones, ITFR UK TD



Josef Gudesun and Marco Marinaro

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ANNOUNCING AN ENTIRELY NEW CONCEPT IN ROTARY FELLOWSHIP

One of the oldest notions about Rotary is that "fellowship" is the grease that enables the wheels of Rotary to go around. Check it out in your club, in your district, at your conference, and during the international convention. If "fellowship" lags, "membership and service" suffer. and, what purer form of fellowship is there than that embodied in the activities and programs of Rotary International's current roster of sixty-one (61) fellowship organizations, ranging from appreciation of wine, to motorcycling, to RV'ing and caravanning, to chess, to bird watching, to skiing, and, of course, to TRAVEL AND HOSTING.

By definition, "Rotary fellowships offer Rotarians the opportunity to make friends with others in Rotary who share a common vocation, hobby, or recreational interest".

HOWEVER, MAJOR DIFFERENCES DO EXIST.

Many of the other 60 fellowships are not purposefully inclusive of spouses and partners. In ITHF, spouses and partners frequently are the prime movers in joining, and no self-respecting Rotarian would ever join ITHF without his or her spouse or partner being fully committed to the concept. In ITHF, singles and couples and spouses and partners are equal members of the fellowship in every way.

Most of the other 60 fellowships focus on a material object or process as the core of their existence, such as the motorcycle, the bottle of wine, the chess board, the birds, the act of skiing down the slopes, etc. In ITHF, our focus is on enjoying pure, unadulterated "fellowship" with each other, regardless of interests, and whether visiting at your home or hosting you at ours, whether on tour with a group of fellow members from all over the world, or whether sharing wonderful times with each other during convention at "the booth," at our annual Dinner With The President, or at the general membership breakfast meeting.

AND, NOW FROM ITHF, PRESIDENT STEVE YOSHIDA INTRODUCES A REMARKABLE NEW CONCEPT IN ROTARY FELLOWSHIP.

You've heard of Rotary's Friendship Exchange program. Perhaps you've even participated in one. In such event you know personally how rich and rewarding the experience can be. Similar, but distinctively different, now comes the concept of "Fellowship Exchange".

Friendship Exchanges are almost always a group of Rotarians and partners from one district visiting and being hosted by another district with the notion that such exchange would be reciprocated.

A Fellowship Exchange, by contrast, is an exchange of fellowship members from all over the world congregating at a single point and being hosted by a variety of Rotarians as arranged and coordinated by a fellowship member or members. Such might be to a single location such as Anchorage, Alaska with side trips or it could be a series of hostings throughout a larger area as arranged by the fellowship member or members. The difference is that the participants are all members of a particular fellowship. In the future, this concept may be expanded to include travel participants from multiple fellowships. Adding substance to his announcement, ITHF President Steve also unveiled the very first Fellowship Exchange in Rotary.

ITHF's FELLOWSHIP EXCHANGE TO ANCHORAGE, FAIRBANKS, WASILLA, AND THE KENAI PENINSULA OF ALASKA, USA, JUNE 24 THROUGH JULY 7, 2010

This post Montreal R.I. convention exchange will be coordinated by ITHF members in the Anchorage, Fairbanks, Wasilla, and Kenai Peninsula areas. We expect the costs to be about \$1,500 per person exclusive of air fare, but will not have final numbers until we get hosting assignments from the clubs. There will be some occasions when participants will stay in hotels.

The itinerary is:

1. ITHF reception in Anchorage on arrival (1 night).
2. Drive a van to Whittier to observe glaciers, drive to the host city of Seward. See the world famous Seward Aquarium and walk to the Exit > Glacier. Potluck or barbecue. (2 nights)
3. Drive from Seward to be hosted by Soldotna/Kenai/Kenai River for reception and presentation, see the world famous Kenai River, walk the Cook Inlet beaches (2 nights)
4. Drive from Soldotna to Homer. Hosted by Homer Kachemak Bay and Homer Downtown

- Rotary clubs. Fishing or cruising Kachemak Bay in Steve's boat. A fresh seafood dinner at Steve and Noko's house, overlooking spectacular Kachemak Bay (2 nights)
5. Drive back to Anchorage (1 night)
 6. Drive from Anchorage to Wasilla. Hosted by Wasilla area clubs, who can arrange flight seeing Mt. McKinley, hiking in Hatcher Pass, a gold mining area of the Talkeetna Mountains, visiting a Musk ox farm, visiting the Iditarod Sled Dog Race Headquarters, visiting the sled dog kennels of Martin Buser (4 time winner of the Iditarod Sled dog Race), rafting down the scenic Matanuska River, and flightseeing the glaciers in the Chugach mountains (3 nights)
 7. Drive to Fairbanks, go on a river cruise, visit North Pole, the home of Santa Claus (2 nights)
 8. Fly or take the train back to Anchorage (1 night) Weather and transportation play such a big factor in Alaska that there may be substitutions or additions to the itinerary.

This first Fellowship Exchange is limited to 10 ITHF couples or combinations of singles. We desire to accept registrants on a first come/first served basis, but we also want this to be an international group for the benefit of exchange members and hosts.

Register or inquire by emailing Steve and Noko Yoshida at [steveyoshida@gmail](mailto:steveyoshida@gmail.com)

THE VALUE OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN ITHF JUST WENT UP!

WELLNESS AND FITNESS - Harold Friend <hfriend@pol.net>

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YACHTING <www.iyfr.net> **Terance Stretton** <commodore@iyfr.net>

115 members attended the AGM at Birmingham Botanical Gardens, where we had a change of officers. Following the Convention we travelled north to Scotland for our Post Convention Cruise – 18 yachts and approx. 100 folk representing 10 countries, enjoyed sailing on the Clyde, bbq dinner, a dinner at Stonefield Castle which included the piping in of the haggis, a trip to Oban Distillery, and finishing with a farewell dinner in Largs where we were piped in and entertained, with much hilarity, when members all put on an item from their own country. A great, well organised 4 days.

As the Rotary “world” begins to prepare to gather in Montreal, Canada for our annual Convention District 5550 will be there with historical displays and lots to do. Early in our efforts, we realized that Winnipeg does not have the capacity to stage such an event, hence Montreal.

But as we Winnipeg Rotarians travel around the world and meet other Rotarians, their first words are “The Club That Made Rotary International”. When we were in Chicago, we noted that the Chicago Club had a plaque on their wall. We now have a plaque on the wall of building where the first Rotary meeting outside of the United States was held. (next page)



**THE ROTARY CLUB OF WINNIPEG #35
"THE CLUB THAT MADE
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL"**

On November 3, 1910, the first Winnipeg Rotary Club meeting took place in this building which was, at the time, the Y.M.C.A. building.

A motion approved the formation of the Winnipeg Rotary Club - the first Rotary Club outside of the United States. In attendance were: P.A.C. McIntyre, William N. Brown, W.T. Pearce, R. Kershaw and A.W. Morley.

Winnipeg Rotarian, Rev. Dr. Leslie Pidgeon, served from 1917 - 1918, as the first President of Rotary International from outside the United States.

