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International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians



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International Fellowship Scouting Rotarians  
Annual General Meeting - Bangkok  
9 May 2012

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

1. Invocation was done by President Brian ID. Thiessen
2. Self Introductions proceeded for all those in attendance which included among others those who signed in Bud and Jeanne Allison (Texas - Past IFSR President), Steven I. Aloga, (Nigeria), Maged B. M. Badawy (Egypt), David Barton (Australia - Chair of Asia Pacific Region), Patrick Biluk (Canada), Holger Dybdahl (Denmark), Joe Grabill (USA), David and Christine Judge (England -Past IFSR President), Marcos Ricardo Klitzke (Brazil), Zdenek & Jarmila Michalek (Czech Republic), Ray and Carol Paler (USA), Ranjan Rajavasan (Sri Lanka), Katherine Shields (Australia), Rachaneewan Sirinawin (Thailand), John Sokol (USA), Carolyn and Brian Thiessen (California - President IFSR), Harmonie Wong (Canada), Prof Yongyudh Vajaredel (Thailand).
3. Danish Jamboree 21-29 July - Holstebro. We will have an IFSR booth at the upcoming Denmark Jamboree - interested folks who can help were invited to contact President Brian and/or Holger Dybdahl.
4. Minutes of last meeting were discussed as shown in Scouting Rotarian/Web site and Treasurer's Report related to present solvency and business activities.
5. It was announced that there are 650+ Cliff Dochterman award recipients - 1100+ active members of IFSR and 50± nations now actively represented.
6. Silver Wheel presented to Zdenek Michalek. IFSR presented IFSR's highest award for service to IFSR - the Silver Wheel - to Zdenek Michalek of the Czech Republic. Zdenek was a Scouter when Scouting was illegal in his homeland - he taught Scouting skills and character development when it was punishable by prison time. After the fall of the Iron Curtain Zdenek was instrumental in redeveloping Scouting in that area and then raising funds and building a \$1 Million+ Scout Center - dedicated to Czech and International Scouts - in the Czech Republic and used also by the community.

7. Other Business items discussed:

\* Staffing IFSR booths. Members are encouraged to staff future Exhibit areas including Intl. and World Jamborees as well as Rotary Zone meetings. Lists of upcoming areas are listed in Scouting Rotarian

\* Membership Roster. There was lively discussion regarding availability of the membership roster on the website, and suggestions included password protecting the database, offering online specific queries only, as well as a member's ability to "opt out" of a directory. The present policy is intended to offer maximum member privacy, and queries may be made directly of any officer or the Executive Secretary directly. It was suggested that this continue to be discussed with the incoming IFSR administration and leadership in an effort to be as responsive as possible to the IFSR general membership.

\* Newsletter and Web Site. Members were encouraged to submit Photos of youth in action together with Rotarians - along with brief narrative article for publication in the Scouting Rotarian and the web site.

\* WOSM Memorandum of Understanding. There was an extensive discussion of the present and past positions of the World Organization of Scouting Movements vis-a-vis IFSR. After strong lobbying, WOSM has agreed to enter into a Consultative Memorandum of Understanding which shall automatically renew in the absence of any action taken to dissolve it - IFSR will be invited to participate in World Scout Conferences, Regional Scout Conferences, etc. and WOSM to participate with IFSR at IFSR events at Rotary International Conferences, Zone Institutes, etc. Final wording is in the hands of the attorneys. [Ed. note: May God help us all!]

\* It was estimated that 35 new members were added to the rolls at this Convention and that 5 countries are either new to IFSR or have their first active members now. It was suggested to the assembled membership that recruiting is everyone's job and that District Conferences, PETS, and Zone Institutes are ideal recruiting ground.

\* A suggestion was made to increase Scout/Guide participation in RI Conventions - in flag ceremonies and in the IFSR booth. While it appears unanimously popular with our membership, it appears that RI Board members and the RI staff in particular, do not yet endorse this view as a whole - although it varies from RI President to President depending on their Scouting/Guiding history .

Further discussion focused on opportunities for Scouts/Guides to work hand in hand as volunteers together with Rotaractors and Interactors. A member from the Sri Lankan contingent noted that some Governors appear to suffer from an allergic reaction to Scouting, and after hearty laughter, the consensus seemed to be that only continued strong exposure can cure them of this malady - i.e. education to show them that we are not in competition but complementary to New Generations Avenue of Service.

8. Election of 2012-13 officers of ZFSR. Joe Grabill made a motion to approve the slate of officers for the new year as recommended by IFSR's Nominating Committee. The Motion was seconded by R. Subrmanian. The voice vote was unanimous for approval and election.

David Judge made the Motion to Adjourn, and the membership affirmed it by voice.

Respectfully Submitted  
Joe Grabill  
Roseland Rotary District 6540  
LaSalle Council ESA

Certified as Minutes of the Annual General meeting

Brian D. Thiessen  
President, International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians