PHOTO: San Antonio’s river walk captures the attention of most visitors. Restaurants and gift shops line the banks of the river as a small sight-seeing boat circles the historic downtown area. Events on both Saturday and Monday evenings will bring most Rotarians to this popular part of the city and many of the convention hotels are on the river.

Harold Friend “IFSR Annual General Meeting 3pm Monday June 25”

International IFSR Chair Harold Friend requests that all Scouting Rotarians attending the R.I. San Antonio Convention be present at the fellowship’s Annual General Meeting 3 pm Monday June 25. The location will be posted in the IFSR booth in the House of Friendship.

Please inform your Region Chair, Section Chair, or send an email to Chairman Harold indicating your willingness to help staff our booth. It’s a really great way to meet Rotarians involved in scouting.
IFSR Secretary Bud Allison hosts

Scouting Rotarians from Russia

This fellowship’s international secretary, Bud Allison, was on the host committee when the fifth annual conference on “Rotary Expansion in Russia and Eastern Europe” came to the Nassau Bay Hilton in Clear Lake City, Texas, 9-11 February. Under Bud’s experienced supervision, IFSR members assembled and staffed a large and eye-catching information booth that was visited by conference participants from 19 countries.

This annual event features speeches, discussions and presentations aimed at assisting and guiding Rotarians and Rotary clubs in developing a strong network of Rotary clubs in Russia and Eastern Europe. In addition, the meeting offered opportunities for Russian and U.S. Rotarians to strike partnerships for club creation and mentoring, exchanges, World Community Service projects and Rotary Foundation programs.

Hammering home this year’s theme of Create Awareness and Take Action, RI President Frank J. Devlyn told attendees that Rotary needs to grow in order to serve more effectively at the club and international level.

Conference participants enjoyed a rare opportunity to meet both the incumbent and the incoming international presidents of our worldwide organization. Both are Life Members of IFSR. Entertaining the audience with several examples of his quick wit, President Devlyn said he is a Tenderfoot Scout at heart.

President-Elect Rick King must have visited the IFSR booth before going to the podium, as he told a memorable story (reprinted on page 2 of this issue) about his own Rotary club’s sponsorship of a Boy Scout Troop.

Outlining ways in which Rotarians across the world can help promote Rotary in Russia, Russian Rotarian Alexey Khoklov said that the long-term future of Rotary in Russia would best be secured through strengthening the culture of service in the country, especially by promoting Rotaract and Interact clubs. “The Rotary idea of serving others is in conflict with the old Russian [communist] concept that one should serve the state,” he said. Paraphrasing a famous quote from U.S. President John F. Kennedy, Khoklov said; “Don’t ask what Rotary can do for Russia. Instead ask what Russia can do for Rotary.”

“Let’s do a Scout Project!”

WOSM’s new publication for scout leaders titled Let’s do a Scout Project! sounds like a natural fit with a Rotary Service Project — you might provide a mentor to the scouts, or maybe you’ll do a joint project combining their youthful energy with your wisdom and vision.

Just released last September the new booklet suggests a step-by-step project approach as a way to motivate youth to plan achievable goals and then carry out the plan. You can download the document from this website:
www.scout.org/wso/publications.html

Do you recognize these acronyms?

WOSM/WAGGGS Meeting

Representatives of WOSM (the World Organization of the Scout Movement) and WAGGGS (the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts) met at Pax Lodge in London recently to “share perceptions, clear up misunderstandings and hopefully encourage a realization that there are few differences in the fundamental principles and educational methods of WOSM and WAGGGS.”

Regardless of pendulum swings in the relationship between those 2 international organizations, down at the Rotary club level it makes a lot of sense to support local troops of both genders. Current and former professional executives of both Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting recently participated in the organizational meeting of a Rotary District Scouting Liaison Committee in central Texas (see page 4 article), and all were members of Rotary clubs in their home communities.

Take a look at the local headquarters for Girl Guides / Girl Scouts as well as the Boy Scouts when recruiting members for your Rotary Club, and for IFSR.

This issue Scouting Rotarian adds the websites for Girl Scouts International and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts to our page 4 list of web sites.

CALENDAR

(If you can represent IFSR, contact Harold Friend)

11-13 May = Eurasia Scout Conference, Belarus
7-13 July = European Scout Conf., Czech Republic
16-25 July = Austrian National Jamboree
23-28 Sep = Inter-American Scout Conf., Bolivia
7-11 Oct = Asia-Pacific Scout Conference, India
28 Oct - 2 Nov = Arab Scout Conf., Saudi Arabia
16-25 Nov = Africa Scout Conference, Gabon

PHOTO: Scouting Rotarians and family members at Lord Baden-Powell’s House in London.
RI President-Elect Rick King:

“Our club sponsors a Boy Scout Troop. The boys in this troop are blind and sometimes mentally incapacitated. A great deal of time and love is needed to work with them.

“From time to time, the Boy Scout Troop is brought to lunch at the Rotary Club. One day my fellow lawyer and I were seated at a table with three or four of the blind Boy Scouts. The boy sitting next to my friend was having trouble getting the food from his plate onto a spoon and into his mouth.

“I watched as my busy Rotarian friend put down his own spoon, let his lunch get cold, and carefully and tenderly helped the blind scout bring each spoonful of food up to his mouth. He patted the boy on the back, wiped his mouth, and fed him. I was reminded of the words of Christ: ‘Feed my sheep.’

“Which of these two was helped the most? The blind Scout — or the Rotarian? Who received the greater service? Or for that matter, how can I describe how I felt just watching? Can it not be argued that the miracle of Rotary changes the lives of both the servant and the served? Isn’t this really the most exciting business to be part of? And are we not fortunate to be the leaders of Rotary in a brand new century of opportunity? People need Rotary. Those served — and the servants as well. They too — are Rotary’s business.

“My colleagues — I believe with all my heart and soul — it is Rotary’s destiny to become the most important nonprofit, nongovernmental, and nonreligious organization in all the world’s history. In the words of one 20th century statesman, ‘Rotary has a rendezvous with destiny.’

“Mankind is our Business.”

International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians Membership Application

[Renewing members need only enter complete name & indicate changes]

Name (printed) ________________________________________________________________
Address ______________________________________________________________________
City ___________________________________________ State/Province ____________________
Country ___________________________________________ Member in good standing of Rotary Club of ____________________________
Classification: ___________________________________________ Email Address: ____________________________

Phone Number: ___________________________ FAX number: ___________________________

* Check one of the 4 IFSR membership categories. Fees may be sent in U. S. dollars or British pounds by check or money order. New member confirmation will be sent with your pin or tie. A notation on your next International newsletter will confirm renewals.

[___] New member (Include US$25 or £17.5)  New members receive choice of: IFSR lapel pin [___] or Rotary/Scouting blue necktie [___]
[___] Renewing member (Include US$12 or £7.5) per year
[___] LIFE member (Include US$120 or £84)
[___] Associate member (Include US$10 or £7) per year

In North America send to: Brian Thiessen, 100 Los Balcones, Alamo, CA 94507; phone 925-820-1309. OTHER AREAS send to: PDG Harold C. Friend, MD, 1500 NW 10th Ave #105 Boca Raton, FL 33486
### Rotary District 5870 establishes “Scouting Liaison Committee”

Rotary District 5870 Governor-Elect Rex Weaver, an Eagle Scout himself, has asked all IFSR members in his Texas capitol area district to serve on a new “Scouting Liaison Committee” to be chaired by 50-year veteran scout Ed Smith, an Assistant District Governor and IFSR member.

During their organizational meeting, Ed told committee members their first task would be advising the district, primarily through the Governor’s newsletter, that the new Scouting Liaison Committee will be the central point of knowledge and information on Scouting.

The committee will be available to local Boy Scout Councils, and to Girl Scouts, as a source of information on support possibilities from D5870 and its clubs. Committee members are currently gathering data on current club activity involving Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of all ages.

The Scouting Liaison Committee expects to be a visible participant in the District Conference, and many of the committee members will be involved in the R. I. Convention in San Antonio where IFSR will have a booth and meeting.

IFSR Secretary Bud Allison and two past district governors are assisting the new committee which might become an example for other Rotary Districts.