Our Chairman’s Column

“The Judge’s Verdict (II)”

On behalf of IFSR Christine and I continue to travel the world (although like most Rotary roles - at our own expense). We greatly enjoy the opportunities to meet many Rotarians and IFSR members and hear of their Scouting and Rotary projects. It is my belief that in IFSR we are two way ambassadors – Rotary for Scouting and Scouting for Rotary.

We were at RI Brisbane Convention and took the opportunity to revitalize the two branches in Australian and New Zealand. Thanks to Geoff Schahinger (Aus) and Bruce Scott (NZ) for heading up these branches. We also returned to Thailand and met with Niels Colov who is making progress with IFSR in that country.

At the annual Gilwell Reunion we were fortunate to have meetings with several UK Scouting people including Chief Scout George Purdy (rtn), Gill Clay, Baden-Powell’s Grand-daughter and Robin Clay, Baden Powell’s Grandson. IFSR had a booth/stand at the reunion. It was a happy weekend with much emphasis on World Jamboree 2007.

The following weekend again with Brian and Carolyn Thiessen, Christine and I attended the World Scout Foundation event at Kolding Castle in Kolding Denmark and I was installed as a Baden-Powell Fellow. There were several IFSR members attending including Harold Friend, Ted Olson, Dick Burdick, Jergen Rasmussen, Brian Thiessen and Bruce Trefz.

We held an IFSR meeting, which may become a regular meeting of WSF events. I continue to promote IFSR’s Rotary and Scouting’s Centennial project and urge all IFSR members to do likewise particularly at the Rotary District level. We are hoping to launch a campaign to mail all next year’s 2004/2005 District Governors to ask them to support the IFSR Centennial Project.

Please mail, fax or e-mail the details of YOUR Next DG to me.

This Judge’s Verdict is that IFSR is progressing but could do a better and I hope you will all “Be Prepared” to spread the IFSR word and recruit new members. Enjoy Rotary and Scouting, David

Check Your Mailing Label

Your Label will show your current dues status. Any delinquent members at year’s end will have their membership dropped for non-payment. Please stay current. We value your participation!

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Highlights of IFSR Annual Meeting in Brisbane

Highlighting our Annual General Meeting on June 4th were remarks from the Asian Pacific Region Vice Chair Kristy Brown. She highlighted the 154 associations in that region (WOSM). Seven countries have no Scouting and the Region includes 66% of the Scouting population of the world with a membership of 17 million Scouts. Efforts are underway to reintroduce Scouting in Afghanistan. Currently no membership exists in Vietnam or China.

The AGM was well attended with representatives from many countries. A partial list included Our International Chair David Judge, PDG Suthep Nimitakpong of Thailand, Chris Goninon and Brian Brown, Geoff Schaninger, David Medlow, Rod McLean, Diane Grocott, Matt Gees, Don Simpson, Stack Haycock of Australia, Jones C. H. Wong of Hong Kong. USA attendees included Brian Thiessen, Maynard Gross, Maurice Sarono, Tom Schneider, Lincoln Cathers, Patty Merritt, Clint Collier, Keith Thomas, Del Raby, and Brian Stanfill as well as others.

Our Treasurer Brian Kimberly reported that IFSR is solvent and has $4,500 (US) in reserves.

Regional reports were as follows: Australia-New Zealand has things going well and are contacting former members to rejoin. Ireland & British Isles (RIBI) Now has 130 members and they exhibit at a national conference and 2 District conferences. Their major project is to help in the Brownsea Island rehabilitation. Rotarian Richard Oscroft is Scoutings liaison for the 2007 Centennial Jamboree. Hong Kong- James Wong reported growth is happening in Rotary and Scouting in that area. Inter American- a report by James Miller Jr. indicated growth to over 500 members. Their web site is being developed and their treasury now has $14,000 due largely to LIFE memberships. Thailand- a report submitted by Neil Colow was read reviewing IFSR meetings that were held at the World Jamboree in December 2002.

Election of Officers

The only positions open in this AGM’s election cycle were for Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Vice Chair Brian D. Thiessen was reelected. Our International Secretary position that the incumbent had held for the maximum 2 terms is vacant. We are trying to find a paid part time person to handle the heavy paper work needs for both International and the Inter American Region. Bud Allison was elected Treasurer.

Dues Structure

Was thoroughly discussed and some members had asked if annual dues should be adjusted based on countries. After thorough discussion it was agreed that LIFE & annual dues were consistent with what is affordable for Rotarians. No funds are used to reimburse officers at all. Funds are used for newsletters, mailings, meeting expenses. The reserve is occasionally used for targeted small donations to especially worthy Scouting or Rotary projects.

The next AGM Meeting

Will be at the RI Convention in Osaka May 2004.

Following the AGM meeting a strong contingent visited the Scouts Australia World Conservation Scout Park outside of Brisbane B. It was a Magnificent experience arranged for by Brian Stanfill.
IFSRS Leaders to Meet

A group of members will meet during the period October 24-26, 2003 in Valley Forge Pennsylvania. Specific projects to discuss are IFSR involvement in the Centennial project, Brownsea Island project, Crimea Scout Center, participation in the BSA National Jamboree in 2005, the Canadian Jamboree in 2005, BSA’s National Meetings in Chicago 2004. Also the growth in Central America, Caribbean, South America. Also to be discussed will be IFSR/IAR Membership growth, administration details & follow through responsibilities, IAR newsletter and any special projects.

Brownsea Island Project

The birthplace of World Scouting and Guiding - Brownsea Island - will be celebrating its Centennial in 2007 and is in urgent need of sea defense and other work. The island will feature in 2005 the European Scout Jamboree and the 2007 Centennial World Scout Jamboree. Tour your financial donations will be greatly appreciated, payable to Brownsea Island Camp Centennial Fund and should be sent to Mr. D. W. Bennett FCA, Treasurer, Heathersett, Downsviw Road, Headley Down, Hampshire GU358JH, U.K. USA donors should send their check payable to the “USFund for International Scouting,” 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, POBox 15279, Irving, TX. 75015-2079. Be sure to indicate on check ‘donation is for Brownsea.’

Interamerican Scout Foundation

by PDG Harold Friend, MD, Past Chair, IFSR

IASF was founded in 1991 as an outgrowth of a group of interested Scouters who recognized the need to establish a long-term source of funding for the Interamerican Scout Region. The Trustees are volunteers from throughout the Americas (with no professional staff) who devote hundreds of hours to ensure that the Interamerican Scout Region can support the Scout organizations throughout South, Central and North America. The International Committee of the Boy Scouts of America further supports IASF and BSA provides financial management and accounting functions including receipt and processing of donations. All monies received by the Foundation are handled through BSA bank accounts for security.

The Order of the Condor is the Foundation’s primary fundraising recognition. Individual levels of giving are recognized with lapel pin & plaque. Levels are: Bronze= $1,000 (US), Silver=$3,000 and Gold= $10,000. Send Donations to “U.S. Fund for International Scouting”, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, TX. 75015-2079. Be sure to indicate- for IASF. Receipt for possible tax purposes will be sent.

Leaders Asking Questions- A new section on the web site provides the answers to questions frequently asked by leaders. The questions were originally on web site "Dr. Scout". The site has been re-packaged by subjects and is now more accessible. This section in the World Scout Resource Center invites leaders to submit questions. To find http://www.scout.org/wsrc/questions/indexen.shtml

These items and many other can be found periodically by clicking on WorldInfo as described on page 2. See “Click on to Important Information’s” article.

News Briefs

Lord Baden Powell has been voted one of the 100 greatest Britons in a poll taken by the BBC. A new proficiency badge on investing has been launched by Scouts Canada in cooperation with Canadian Securities Administrators. Requirements include knowing about different kinds of investments, internet resources, risks, etc. The 21st World Scout Jamboree will be held in the United Kingdom in 2007. The theme for the worldwide centenary and for the Jamboree is: "2007: One World One Promise". Don’t forget to invite your Scouting/Rotarian friends to membership in the IFSR!

Contact With Your Next District Governor

Please send to David.a.Judge@virgin.net the name, address and contact details of your next DG 2004/2005. This will enable us to inform them about IFSR’s Centennial Project, which was featured in the last IFSR Newsletter. This is an important way in which IFSR can be involved in the World Jamboree as well as support for Scouting in the World.

Other IFSR members in attendance who are currently B.P. Fellows include: Harold Friend, Ted Olson, Jergen Rasmussen, Brian Thiessen and Bruce Treffz. The World Fellowship was created to support Scouting worldwide and funds are used to help finance worthy projects. The Foundation is one of the King’s worthy major participation programs.
IFSR asked to help with Scout Uniforms for India

RI district 3180 is asking for your help in securing Scout uniforms. Many children from rural poor areas find that there is no money for a coveted uniform. Rotary Club of Shimoga North has taken on the project to provide Scout uniforms to 500 Scouts. The cost for a complete uniform (shirt, knickers, scarf, woggle, stockings, shoes, cap and badge) is only Rs.500 ($10). Total cost will be $5,000 and the Rotary Club 3180 will Contribute $1,250 and are asking RI to participate under matching grants. Anyone wishing to help please contact: PDG Prof. A. S. Chandrashekar District Scout Commissioner and IFSR member Shashwathi HIG 73 Kallahalli SHIMOGA 577204 Karnataka, India.

R. I. Board Fellowship Directive

To conform with Rotary International's decision at the May 2003 Board meeting we should ensure that a statement similar to that below, appears on all IFSR publications, printed statements, letterheads, websites, etc.- "IFSR is a group of Rotarians dedicated to promoting Scouting through Rotary for fellowship and service. This fellowship operates in accordance with Rotary International policy, but is not an agency of, or controlled by, Rotary International.

Internet Matters

The European Scout Region has published: "The Internet: Opportunities and Challenges for Scouting". It covers how to develop a Scout website, recommendations for child safety on the internet, and ideas for young people on safe use of the internet. It can be downloaded as a pdf document (190k): http://www.scout.org/europe/downloads/ESD2002blue3e.pdf

IFSR Life Member Knighted

Jergen G. Rasmussen of Denmark, who has held many national and international positions in Scouting, was made "Knight of the Order of Dannebrog" for his service to the education of young people through Scouting. Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II conferred the honor on October 7th at the Royal Palace in Copenhagen.

IFSR-MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (PLEASE COPY AND SEND)

Make checks to: INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF SCOUTING ROTARIANS (In UK, send in POUNDS STERLING, Outside USA or RIBI, please send Credit cards, checks, or Travelers cheques). INTERAMERICAN REGION-United States, Russia-East of the Urals, Canada, Mexico, Central & South America, Caribbean. Send to: BRIAN THIESSEN, Int'l. Vice Chair, 100 Los Balcones, Alamo, CA 94507 USA email=bdtalamo@pacbell.net

In RIBI, send to: BRIAN KIMBERLEY,43 Hither Green Lane, Abbey Park, Redditch, Worcester B98 9BN U.K. email=kimbo@eupony.net

MEMBERSHIP: New $25.00/L17 (includes blue tie and pin (s&h) Renewal $20.00 or L12 or $25 (for all others). Associate Member $20.00 or L12 or $25 (for all). Life Member=$200 (US) or L120 may be paid by Credit Card indicate card type_____ Number_________________________ Expires________________ Signature__________________________

International Fellowship of SCOUTING ROTARIANS

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