



THE SNOW LINE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SKIING FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARIANS

Ski Town, U.S.A.

Following a most unusual ski event in Alaska during 2006, ISFR returned to the “lower forty-eight” this year at Steamboat Springs, Colorado, in February. Situated in the Yampa Valley right in the heart of the Rockies, Steamboat offered everyone a great variety of excellent terrain from long cruising runs, to bumps, to tree skiing – you name it and it was there waiting for you.

The weather accommodated us quite well also with a two-foot snow-fall mid-week which offered some of the best champagne-powder skiing imaginable. It was an experience that most of us only dream of, but the fine Rotarians of Steamboat made good on their promise of exceptional conditions.

The week’s schedule was quite normal for ISFR events. Starting with the opening reception Saturday evening, home hospitality on Sunday evening, a sleigh-ride dinner outing Monday, a joint meeting with the RC of Steamboat Tuesday, the annual

membership meeting on Wednesday, an optional visit to another nearby ski area Thursday (more on this later), the NASTAR Race Friday, and the grand finale – the gala on Friday evening. No coats and ties this year as the gala was “cowboy formal” which translated means: boots, jeans, vest and topped off with a ten-gallon Stetson. As you can see, every day had a planned event.

Steamboat Springs town center was only about two miles distant from our hotel at the mountain and was quite convenient via the hotel shuttle for dining, shopping, bar hopping – whatever your choice was. And if you chose not to go into town, there were ample selections within walking distance of the hotel.

Of significant note was our excursion to Winter Park, CO, which is the acknowledged Mecca for adaptive skiing worldwide. Following a two-hour ride on snow covered roads across Rabbit Ears Pass in a pair of large vans we were greeted at Winter Park by the manager of the adaptive program who provided an over-

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Entire group following the Joint Rotary Meeting.

Notes from Your President

Thank you for the opportunity and privilege to serve as your President of our fun-loving, friendship-oriented and service-minded Fellowship. I will strive to continue in the able footsteps of the former presidents of the ISFR.

To everyone that had a hand in planning and conducting our very successful week at Steamboat (even though there were 105 mile per hour winds Friday morning on top of the mountain), I want to express my sincere appreciation and thanks. To the members of the Rotary Club of Steamboat Springs, to Jeff Bricker, our Tour Director, and to Marc and Allison Bokoff, our Tour Contractors, thank you for all that you did to make the week enjoyable and memorable.

I want to extend a heart-felt thank you to our immediate Past President Bill Schneidereith for his leadership during the past three years, and for his continuing commitment to serve as our newsletter editor. I am just beginning to discover the time it takes as President of our great group and I know of the time it takes to prepare a great newsletter from my previous role as the District Governor of District 6000 here in Iowa, USA. Thank you Bill!!!

A thank you is also extended to our fellow members Ray Coombs, Huntsville, ON, Canada; Peggy Martin, Solana Beach, California; Zack Cooper, Benicia, California; and Hidetake Ueda, Chuo-ku, Sapporo, Japan, all of whom have completed their service on the Board of Directors.

Each of you is encouraged to extend a welcome to our newer ISFR Board members for their willingness to help guide our Fellowship. They are: Guy Zeller from

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Guess who just won the raffle for a free week at Whistler in 2008? None other than Stan Lowe, shown here with John Centner who is the current president of the Steamboat Rotary club and was our MC/auctioneer extraordinaire.

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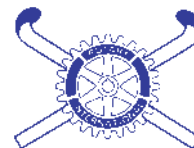
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Download the application form from the ISFR web site

www.isfrski.org

or call/fax our Executive Secretary,

Ms Gayla Self,

who can be reached at

817-563-0340, or

e-mail: isfrsec@isfrski.org

Send membership form with your

check payable to:

ISFR,

and mail to:

PO Box 151711,

Arlington, TX 76015.

Dues for *new* memberships are \$50 USD and any prior members with a *break in consecutive membership* are \$50 and are categorized as "new." Thereafter, annual dues will revert to \$35 USD annually.

The International Skiing Fellowship of Rotarians is a group of Rotarians dedicated to promoting skiing as an opportunity for fellowship and service. This fellowship operates in accordance with Rotary International policy, but is not an agency of, or controlled by, Rotary International.

A Message from Your Tour Director

On January 26, 2008 you can find me at 50° latitude, 122 ° longitude, skiing with good friends from ISFR. If you check a map, you will see that we will be going to Whistler, British Columbia, Canada. Whistler is one of the largest ski resorts in North America. The best thing about the area is that you get two mountains (Whistler Mountain and Blackcomb Mountain) for the price of one. Both mountains have over 5,000 feet of vertical drop with a combined skiable terrain of over 7,000 acres. The 33 lifts provide a capacity of nearly 60,000 skiers per hour.

The last time ISFR visited Whistler was in 1999. That is when the Whistler Rotary Clubs set the “standard” for future ISFR trips. I have been working with Lyn Stroshin and Noel Villard from the two local Rotary clubs at Whistler. We have come up with a great program for the week which will appeal to both skiers and the ski challenged.

Non-skiers can enjoy an art lesson with Isobel MacLaurin, a day trip to Squamish (eagle viewing, tour old copper mine and visit the Squamish National Cultural Center) or take the Whistler Village Art Walk. Also, the new “Sno-Limo” can take you places on the mountain where you never thought you could go.

We have Cat and Heli skiing for all you hot shots, but the Peak-to-Valley Four Times will be a great day. Two runs down each

mountain give you four miles of vertical in one day. We are looking to make this event a fundraiser for the week. More on this at a later date.

Your evenings will be filled with many dining and fellowship opportunities. In addition to home hospitality, the Annual Meeting/dinner and the Gala Banquet, we will have a hockey night in Canada. This will be a fun night.

The Westin will be our headquarters but rooms will also be available at the Listel Hotel. If you don't have the registration materials, go to our website (www.isfrski.org) and print them. I encourage you to send your registration ASAP. You only need to send in a small deposit to hold your room. Toward the end of July, we have to give back all unbooked rooms to the hotel. Beyond July, we will ask for more rooms as we receive registration forms. Rooms may, or may not, be available, so please act now and assure yourself a room.

I look forward to seeing you at Whistler. With the Winter Olympics coming to Vancouver/Whistler in 2010, there is a lot of buzz in the air. It will be a great time to visit the area.

– by Jeff Bricker,
Tour Director

Past President's Message

Three years has gone by in the blink of an eye, and it has certainly been an interesting three years. There have been Maalox moments to be sure – the lack of snow 24-hours before we arrived in Fernie; the reports of a volcano eruption in Alaska just weeks prior to our visit to Alyeska; and a couple other minor scares.

On the plus side has been the incredibly fulfilling experience of greeting so many old friends each year and meeting so many new friends, especially during the biannual European ISFR events that I have had the pleasure of attending. In addition is the rewarding knowledge that what we are doing is helping to make the sport of skiing which we all love more accessible to those with disabilities.

There have been disappointments to be sure. Why so many of our members chose to sit out this year's North American event still baffles me. I have heard about six different spins on why attendance was down for this, our first year with a professional travel manager. Steamboat was a success this year and our new professional managers, Marc and Allison Bokoff, did an excellent job. Thus, I earnestly hope the “let's wait and see” attitude of our members who did not attend is reversed next year.

All in all the three-year experience has been a most positive aspect of my life. I thank all of the ISFR Board members who so willingly gave of their time and talents and endured long meetings to advance the work of ISFR when pristine ski slopes beckoned. Likewise I thank all who gave of their friendship and support.

It has been a distinct honor and a pleasure to serve ISFR.

– by Bill Schneidereith
Past President



Two illustrious Past Presidents: Richard Geist and Michael Vervuurt.

Has your e-mail address changed?

Keep ISFR updated on any changes in your e-mail address since most of our correspondence is done electronically.

**Be sure to advise our
Executive Secretary at
isfrsec@isfrski.org of any changes.**

Hospitality – Italian Style

The European ISFR surely knows how to put on a good program. During January of this year 170 Rotarians from 16 nations joined together for a week of skiing and camaraderie in the Süd Tyrol region of Italy. Just under Austria and around the mountain from Cortina, Innichen/San Candido possesses some of the most lovely vistas in all of Europe.

A bit thin on snow when we arrived, but this situation was quickly remedied with a 75-centimeter snow fall. For you Americans a bit slow with the math, 75 centimeters is about 30 inches. There were different accounts of the actual depth depending on where it was measured, but I assure you it was a huge amount. It was light, powdery and a thrill to ski through.

As is the custom in recent years a central meeting area was open daily with wine, cheese and other delicacies offered every evening before dinner. This was an ideal setting for meeting Rotarians from around the globe and excellent conversations. Even with the different languages involved, everyone was able to make themselves understood.

The opening ceremony was held Saturday evening in the town square with the mayor, the district governor, officials of the local organizing committee and preceded by the Italian Alpine Truppe marching band. All quite festive and energized us for the week ahead. In mid-week was held the first of the three-day ski race competition. The course was not only very challenging, but the addition of 30-inches of new snow on the mountain added another layer of difficulty. I seem to recall a number of face-plants that first day. The Europeans did once again prevail in the overall number of skiing awards.

The concluding ceremony was held in the same town square with the dignitaries previously mentioned presenting the medals

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Looks like Caryl is about to rope Brian . . . again!



Pre-dinner conversation. In the middle are Tony and Prue Sheer from Australia.

Booth at Copenhagen Convention

The House of Friendship which included the ISFR booth was a delightful setting to greet veteran and prospective members of ISFR during the RI Convention in Copenhagen. Thirty-four Rotarians along with their spouses from seven countries became new members during the convention. The new members included 22 from the USA, four from Denmark, three from Sweden, two from Canada, one from Greenland, one from Norway, and one from Italy.

The veteran ISFR members who helped staff the booth should be very proud of their efforts to achieve that level of success in gaining members. The following members donated their time in the booth: Jon Skauan, Don and Doris Goering, John Lowe, Jeff Bricker, Brian and Caryl Andersen, along with Ted and Carole Wier. They accomplished that success by explaining the benefits of membership and the fun enjoyed by members when they attend a ski week, whether in Europe or North America.

Many who stopped at the booth were interested in the work of the Davis Boyd Memorial Foundation. Photos of adaptive skiers attracted attention and gave the volunteers the opportunity to talk about the good and valuable work of the Foundation.

Many Rotarians visiting the booth had not been aware of ISFR and were pleased to know they could spend a week skiing with fellow Rotarians from around the world.

– by Ed Goering
Booth Chairman

P.S. from the ISFR President: Many, many thanks Ed and Lois for heading up this effort for ISFR each year at the convention. Well done !

News from the Davis Boyd Memorial Foundation

Super STARS of Steamboat Springs

What a phenomenal time we had in Steamboat Springs this year! A dedicated and fun-loving group of Rotarian skiers and guests converged on this beautiful ski town – greeted by the super star local Rotarians.

The Steamboat Training Adaptive Recreational Sports (STARS) adaptive ski program is fortunate to have Dave Wikman as its administrative head. His passion to help challenged athletes provided the inspiration to succeed, and succeed we did! Another great year – thanks to all who participated!

Who will forget the eventful bus ride in high wind conditions to Winter Park? Upon arrival we were treated to an all-inclusive introduction to adaptive skiing by Beth Fox, the administrative head of the National Sports Center for the Disabled (NSCD). We enjoyed some great skiing with local guides and adaptive skiers. The bus ride home was filled with fun stories *du jour* and some great spirits – fellowship and fun at its best.

Did you know that the NSCD is the Mecca of adaptive skiing? All current adaptive programs have their roots in the Winter Park program through the brilliant leadership of its founder, Hal O’Leary. The Davis Boyd Memorial Foundation is donating \$2,500 to the NSCD to provide training this summer for adaptive skiing instructors. Check out the April issue of the *Rotarian* and *Rotary World News* for articles on the ISFR/Davis Boyd Memorial Foundation!

Our Friday morning ski race proved to be interesting as high winds shut down the top of the mountain. The course was in a protected valley – but what a challenge to get there with the gondola and upper-mountain lifts shut down.

It is amazing what happens when you mix some good old ISFR spirit with the enthusiasm of the super STARS Rotary Club of Steamboat Springs. The spirit of this Rotary club to rally ‘round the needs and support for adaptive skiing is as good as it gets. President John Centner’s brilliant approach to auctioneering produced wonderful results and great entertainment during our Friday night gala. And who can forget that wild dessert auction?

Congratulations and many, many thanks to the incredible super STARS team from Steamboat Springs – Suzanne Schlicht, Mignon Kimm, Karl Bunker, and Cam Boyd, who provided the organization and marketing talent to round out a perfect week of fun and fellowship.

Our thanks to all who attended and the Steamboat Springs Super STARS. Through our combined efforts we raised \$25,381; the Davis Boyd Memorial Foundation is donating \$12,734 to the Rotary Club of Steamboat Springs for a matching program to benefit the STARS program.

On a closing note, David Malaher has decided to pursue other interests (such as his involvement with the Whistler Olympics)

and is leaving the Foundation. We thank David for his years of service to the Foundation, and his many valuable contributions to the board and adaptive skiers.

– by Brian Andersen

President, Davis Boyd Memorial Foundation

Whistler Rotary Club Hosts an Adaptive Ski Race

Thirty-one adaptive skiers enjoyed a Giant Slalom ski race on Whistler Mountain, April 27, 2007, hosted and organized by the Rotary Club of Whistler. Working together on fund raising projects for the Whistler Adaptive Sports Program for a number of years, WASP was well aware that the Rotary Club also has

members highly qualified to handle the complexities of running ski races. From many World Cup races and past Winter Olympic Games with experience in all aspects of ski races, the Rotary Club fielded an expert Race Organizing Committee.

Other volunteers from the Rotary Club and elsewhere in the Whistler community came to a grand total of fifty-one race workers. This number, by the way, is typical of the number of volunteers needed to put on any high-level alpine ski race. Adaptive non-racers also volunteered for office jobs in the race secretariat. Medals were presented by community dignitaries including Ross Harlow, Rotary Club President.

WASP was keen to offer a race opportunity to the regional adaptive skiers as a new feature of their growing adaptive sports program. Representatives of Alpine Canada, the Olympic level sport governing body, and British Columbia Sports agency, a key sanc-

tioning body, attended the race to inspect the quality of the event. One of the senior coaches exclaimed, as he surveyed the scene at the Start Gate, “This place looks like a World Cup race!” The Alpine Canada coordinator for adaptive racing scored the event as a 10-out-of-10 success. A fine barbecue at the end of the day, also organized by Rotary Club members, helped send everyone home happy.

The five key officials for the adaptive race are also heavily involved in the ISFR Ski Week plans for January 2008 along with the whole Club. Visitors will find the same enthusiasm and attention to details next January. If you stick around until April (not hard if you want to enjoy great skiing) you can join the Rotary team putting on the anticipated 2nd Annual Rotary Recreational Giant Slalom Race for Adaptive Skiers.

– by David Malaher

Whistler Rotary Club



The Start Gate

ISFR Officers for 2007-08 Year

President Donald H. Goering	Assistant Treasurer Bill Bergler
Secretary / Treasurer Richard O. Geist	Immediate Past President C. Wm. Schneidereith
Tour Director Jeff Bricker	
Regional Vice-Presidents	
Australasia Martin Shanny	Scandinavia Jon Skauan
Canada Esio Marzotto	South America Dr. Leon Koifman
Europe Aldo del Bò	Southeast Asia Francesco Cavazzoni
Middle East Selcuk Somer	United Kingdom Margaret Hutchinson
Orient, Japan Yohichi Karasawa	Legal Counsel (non Board member) R. Stanley Lowe

ISFR Board of Directors for 2007-08 Year

Bill Bergler	Yohichi Karasawa
Aldo del Bò	Dr. Leon Koifman
Jeff Bricker	John P. T. Lowe
Francesco Cavazzoni	John "Pete" Olhasso
Janet Holland	C. Wm. Schneidereith
Esio Marzotto	Martin Shanny
Richard O. Geist	Jon Skauan
Donald H. Goering	Selcuk Somer
Ed Goering	G. Michael Vervuurt
Margaret Hutchinson	Guy Zeller

International Board Appointments and Decisions 2007 Annual Meeting, Steamboat Springs, CO, USA

Resolutions

- Crested Butte, CO was selected for the 2009 North American event.
- Esio Marzotto appointed to the Board of Directors and also appointed as a Regional Vice President for Canada.
- Yohichi Karasawa elected to the Board of Directors and also appointed as a Regional Vice President for Orient, Japan.
- Janet Holland and Guy Zeller elected to the Board of Directors.
- Bokoff-Kaplan Travel Services appointed by ISFR to handle the Whistler 2008 event.
- ISFR will host a booth at the RI convention in Salt Lake City in June of 2007.
- Questionnaire will be e-mailed to members to solicit insight and suggestions.
- Contract was renewed for our Executive Secretary, Ms Gala Self, for the year 2007.
- Dues remain at \$35 USD per year for continuing membership and \$50 for new memberships or lapses in dues payment.

LATE BREAKING NEWS

The first chapter of ISFR has now been formed in Turkey. Effective April 1, 2007, the "Snow Flakes ISFR Turkish Chapter" was duly chartered by ISFR with 14 charter members. This is the direct result of much effort on the part of our long-term board member and Regional Vice President, Selcuk Somer. Congratulations to the 14 charter members and the first chapter president, Mazhar Izmiroglu.

Notes from Your President

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Coronado, California; Past President Janet Holland from Mineral Wells, Texas; and Ed Goering from Corvallis, Oregon.

Yohichi Karasawa from Asahikawa, Japan and Esio Marzotto from North Vancouver, BC, Canada, have been appointed to the Board of Directors. Yohichi and Esio will serve as the International Vice-President representing Japan and Canada respectively, while Guy, Ed and Janet serve as "At Large" members on the Board of Directors.

Ed Goering and his Rotary Partner, Lois, have graciously agreed to organize and staff the ISFR booth during the RI convention in Salt Lake City, Utah in June, 2007, along with assistance from several other ISFR members. Also planned is a social get-together on Tuesday afternoon during the convention at the Mikako Downtown Restaurant. This social event has been most popular at recent conventions. Thank you Ed and Lois for your great work on these activities.

Guy Zeller has accepted the assignment to chair our Host Site Selection Committee. His committee is in the process of soliciting potential resort areas for 2010. If you have suggestions as to possible resorts and cooperating Rotary clubs, please notify Guy. Guy's e-mail address is: guyandbritt@aol.com

I sincerely hope each of you will join us at the 2008 North America Ski Week to be held at Whistler, BC, Canada. It will be very interesting to view and hear about the area's preparation to host the upcoming 2010 Olympics as well as a great week of skiing and fellowship.

The Rotarians of Crested Butte, Colorado, and the Crested Butte Ski Resort have started to plan for our arrival on February 7, 2009. In addition, we will be celebrating our 35th year as a Fellowship at Crested Butte. We hope you will start making your plans now and join us for our 35th birthday party.

I am looking forward to serving as your President. Please share with me your ideas on making our Fellowship a greater experience for all of us.

– Don Goering,
President, ISFR



Pete, are you really going to eat all that? But, yes, it was really good.



Board of Directors member, Margaret Hutchinson with husband, Henry Blowey. Two very loyal, long-term ISFR members.

Hospitality – Italian Style

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for first, second and third place awards in various disciplines and categorized by age groups. These very attractive medals were specifically cast just for the occasion and each was presented with the recipient on a tiered podium just like the Olympics. Adding to the festivities was a repeat performance of the marching band.

Following the ceremonies was the concluding banquet. This was a five-course, gourmet dinner with various wines of the region. Banquets would not be complete without speeches; and speeches there were. That evening there exuded the warmth of old friendships and the kindling of new ones.

Enough praise cannot be said for the local inhabitants of Innichen. They were the most friendly and helpful folks I have ever met. Nothing was an imposition and they were eager to be of assistance. Special thanks goes to Aldo and Laura del Bó for the tremendous amount of effort expended to make this event the

great success it was. Also thanks goes to Hanna Erharter for her hours of arranging lodging and answering an avalanche of questions, and likewise a special thanks to Karl Fritz Schmidhofer, President of the Organizing Committee. It was truly a wonderful experience.

– by Bill Schneidereith
Editor

Ski Town, U.S.A.

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view of the program, followed by a tour of their facilities. As expected, the facilities were a beehive of activity; the results of which were evident on the hill with numerous adaptive skiers – young and old alike. Naturally we all had to sample the snow conditions on the mountain in the afternoon.

The Friday annual Gala banquet was a most enjoyable evening. The Steamboat RC president, John Centner, acted as our MC and auctioneer extraordinaire. Remarks and speeches were kept to a minimum – fun and festivities were definitely in the fast-lane that evening. The proceeds of the ski race, dessert auction, and the silent and live auctions amounted to \$25,381. Have you ever seen a chocolate something-or-other cake sell for \$150.? Well, it did and John was able to pry open many wallets in a big way. Great job president John!

A big *thank you* to all the members of the Steamboat Springs RC who helped make this a memorable week for ISFR. And a very special *thank you* and appreciation goes to those local stalwarts who provided us with home hospitality – a relaxed evening of companionship and marvelous cuisine. By all accounts it was an outstanding evening.

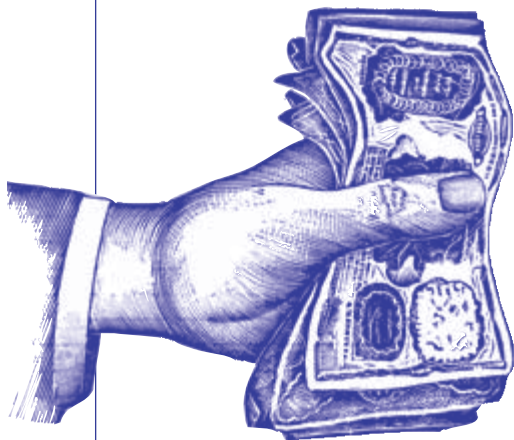
. . . and another year is recorded into the ISFR annals of wonderful events.



(l. to r. in foreground) Herb Bridge, with legendary American Olympic skier, Billy Kidd, and Bill Bergler. The expression on Billy Kidd's face tells me he cannot believe these guys really are skiers!



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USA



Keep Your Dues Current

If you have not paid your ISFR dues for 2007, please remit to stay current. Payment can be made on our web site – select the “join/renew” section – or send payment to our Executive Secretary, PO Box 151711, Arlington, TX 76015.

*New memberships are \$50 USD annually and any prior members with a **break in consecutive membership** will be \$50 and be categorized as “new.” Thereafter, annual dues will revert to \$35 USD annually.*

ISFR needs to have a stable base of members and that means remitting dues even if you are not planning to attend that year’s ski event. Also, by consistently staying current on your dues you will remain on our mailing list and always have a listing in the ISFR directory of members.

Thank you for being a part of ISFR !



Visit ISFR’s Web Site www.isfrski.org

Keep current with ISFR activities and future ski events which are posted on our informative web site. A complete listing of all officers and directors is provided for your use, along with a convenient, direct, e-mail link to our Executive Secretary.

Interested in joining ISFR? You can apply for membership directly on the web site, or you may down-load an application and use mail or fax to remit.
This is a great web site, really first-rate – check it out.