

New Board

Crowning the perfectly organized European Tour 2015, the Annual General Meeting of our ACHAFR held at Urspelt in June elected a new Board for the next term.

I am very pleased that Johannes Zilkens joins the Board as Treasurer and as Secretary Michael Rye will be the communicating and coordinating pivot. And Past President Maarten Kaptein will be the éminence gris in the Board.

In its composition the Board reflects the identity of our Fellowship: international , cooperating and communicating.

ACHAFR indebts great thanks to Maarten Kaptein, who as an ever dynamic president for more than 4 years caused our Fellowship to spread its wings. Where ever there was a Rotary Convention, Maarten was there with his booth and attracted interest in our activities. As a result we were able to welcome new national Chapters in Germany, Spain, Portugal and Belgium during his stewardship.

I am confident, that the new Board will push the expansion of our Fellowship, both in terms of new Chapters and new members.



the newly elected Treasurer (left) and President at their first 'business day'.

This effort will be supported by the recent decision of Rotary International at its Convention in Sao Paulo, according to which fellowship's membership will henceforth be open to all Rotarians, family members of Rotarians, program participants and alumni.

II New Activities

Our Fellowship will continue to increase its attractiveness by organizing local and international Rallys

A) European Tours will be held in

Italy - Brescia Region from June 10-12, 2016

England-Yorkshire in June 2017

The Netherlands in June 2018

Germany- Hamburg in June 2019

B) National Chapters will organize rallies on the occasion of Rotary International Conventions:

South Korea -Seoul, May 28, 2016

USA- Atlanta, June 17, 2017

Canada- Toronto , June 24,2018

Germany-Hamburg, June 2019

Thus, ACHAFR with its national Chapters offer ample opportunities to Classic and Historical Cars enthusiasts to participate in various rallies, be it as car owner, driver or co-driver. For those, who cannot bring their own cars due to distant or oversea areas, co-driver seats can be arranged.

III European Tour 2015

From June 11-14, 2015 the German Chapter organized the "European Tour", which was attended by no less than 31 teams !

For the British and Dutch teams a pre-tour from Hoek van Holland to Luxemburg via the Nürburgring- Formula 1 racing track had been arranged on June 10-11. On a strenuous route that participants could had to exercise their reading and driving skills.

Johannes Zilkens and his formidable team welcomed us on June 11 at Chateau d'Urspelt- a magnificent location, which was our 'home-base' for the rally.

Following a short sleep- which had largely been caused by reading the road book- 11 cars/ teams from Germany, 11 cars/teams from England, 8 cars/teams from the Netherlands and one team from Italy made their way to the Eifel area in Germany.

Luxemburg authorities felt it opportune to increase the degree of difficulty by breaking up the road the day before. Nevertheless, all teams somehow found themselves back in the Mountains of the Eifel.

The uphill and down dale through hundreds of curves put specific pressure on the skills of the (co)drivers and the quality of the vintage cars. The accompanying service car has not been there in vain.

The participants were highly honored by the invitation of a well known brewery in Bitburg. Thirsty throats absorbed such a high quantity of beer, that the production and delivery to other consumers came under pressure.



The next day the teams made their way to the old Roman town of Trier. The impressive Porta Nigra reflects the magnitude of this once Roman citadel.



The unification of the past with the present took place at the vine yard of a fellow-Rotarian, who generously invited us for lunch and wine tasting. Many an empty bottle left the tables and filled ones went across borders.

Following the afore mentioned Annual General Meeting , the Tour was adequately concluded with an impressive Farewell Dinner. Very much to the satisfaction of participants the tables have been 'mixed up' by the different nationalities ; a feature, which reflects the cooperation and friendship of members and thus the essence of Rotary.

Johannes Zilkens and his team deserve our deep and pronounced thankfulness for the organization, arrangement and guidance of the Tour. Bearing in mind that this was the first rally organized by this young member of ACHAFR ,we can only express our well meant respect and gratefulness .

IV European Tour 2016

Concluding the fine Dinner, Mr Christiano Luzzago of Rotary Club of Brescia District 2050 invited us to the European Tour in the Brescia area , to be held from June 10-12, 2016. The Tour will be dedicated to the 1000 Miglia, the world's most famous race, including the visit to its museum. Moreover, the famous RIVA Shipyards has expressed invitations and while rallying through the area we will enjoy the cultural and gastronomic delights that the beautiful province of Brescia offer. For those, who cannot bring their cars with them, Christiano offer rental (vintage) cars.

Thus, I am confident, that I will welcome you in Brescia and in the meantime all of us

KEEP ROTARY ROLLING

with finest personal regards

yours

Matthijs van den Adel

President