Volunteers Needed for the Booth!

The ITHF Booth at the Rotary International Convention in Lisbon, Portugal, will be one of the busiest booths in the House of Friendship. Volunteer to help for a few hours: share the ITHF experience with the world!


A Unique Opportunity: Phil Komornik

Again this year ITHF members have a unique opportunity at the convention to really experience meeting and making new friends, rekindling old friendships, and just having a great time telling other Rotary members what it is like to live and travel the ITHF way. Every year ITHF has a fellowship booth in the House of Friendship that allows convention goers to see us, talk with us, and become members of our wonderful fellowship.

This year in Lisbon, the capital of Portugal and a true “Global City,” we will have a booth which we know will be extremely busy. The 35,000 + Rotarians who are registered will give all the booth volunteers unlimited opportunities to meet and greet old friends and invite others to become an active part of our ITHF family. We have learned from past years that we need at least three, and preferably four, ITHF members in and around the booth at all times because of the sheer numbers of people who stop by. We all like to share our feelings and thoughts with these folks; it takes time to really let them know who we are and how we feel about our experiences, so we need many volunteers. I am asking all of you to become a part of this special event in Lisbon by becoming a booth volunteer for an hour, two hours, half a day, or whatever you can spare out of your busy convention schedules, and enjoy yourselves while doing it.

The House of Friendship and our booth will be open the following days and hours:

- 22 June 10:00 AM - 18:00 PM
- 23 June 09:00 AM - 17:00 PM
- 24 June 09:00 AM - 18:00 PM
- 25 June 09:00 AM - 18:00 PM
- 26 June 09:00 AM - 16:00 PM

If you are interested in experiencing this new level of involvement with fellow ITHF members, contact Phil Komornik through email, pkomornik@ithf.org, providing your name and date(s)/time you would like to volunteer, etc. He will get in touch with you by return email in follow-up, and coordinate a schedule with you.

The Meeting of our Board of Directors will be held on Saturday, 22 June at 11:30 AM in Room #5 in Feira Internacional de Lisboa, the convention center for the 2013 RI Convention. Please see the convention center’s layout in the Convention Program to find the location of the room.
ITHF Hospitality in the Phillipines
AL & BELLA ANCHETA
Quezon City, Philippines

On December 9, 2012, I received an email from JORGEN JENSEN of Copenhagen, Denmark, advising me of a forthcoming visit with his wife BIRTE JEXEN to the Philippines. They had a couple of days in the Manila area at New Year’s before proceeding to Palawan, one of the tourist destinations in the Philippines. I enthusiastically responded that I would be most happy to welcome them to my country, the Philippines.

A slight complication arose in that on the day before their arrival on December 29 I had to be in Tagaytay City for an urgent meeting on the 30th. Hence, I was not in Manila when they arrived. Tagaytay is about 1 ½ hours drive from Manila, where we have a small family vacation home. The next best thing I could do was to book Jorgen and Birte for 2 nights into a Manila hotel. I also arranged with a tour agency to pick them up at their hotel on December 30th for a city tour the whole of that day, a tour which included the Spanish ruins of Intramuros. After the tour Jorgen and Birte had some free time in the evening to move around the commercial stores and restaurants close to the hotel.

On Dec 31, my chauffeur drove Jorgen and Birte to our home in Taygaytay City, where Bella and I, our daughter Beni, and her family welcomed them. After lunch we drove Jorgen and Birte around the city, whose main attraction is a relatively active volcano, nearby, whose crater is surrounded by a lake; the inner crater itself is under water. We stopped by the Taal Vista Hotel where one could have a good view of scenic Taal Volcano.

It is customary in our country to have food and drinks during the evening of the New Year culminating with family members having a midnight meal together (called the Noche Buena). We greeted the New Year in front of our place with just electrically induced “firecracker” sounds (firecrackers are prohibited because of various accidents involving live firecrackers). Anyway, we contented ourselves with watching the glowing and multi-colored fireworks display in the sky coming from the direction of Tagaytay Highlands.

The following morning, January 1, our guests returned to Manila to catch their plane to Palawan, a nature-rich tourist attraction, which I am sure Jorgen and Birte enjoyed. My family and I enjoyed the company of Rotarians Jorgen and Birte, and I hope they likewise enjoyed the limited hospitality, friendship and fellowship we extended to them.
The Opportunity to Make New Friends
KATHLEEN & DAVID TANSEY
Solana Beach, California, USA

One of the best reasons for being a member of the ITHF is the opportunity to make new friends. After the 2012 RI conference in Bangkok we traveled through Northern Thailand on the ITHF Friendship Tour with 75 fellow members.

While on the tour we became acquainted with Susie and Phil Komornik. Since they live in Maryland, USA, which borders Washington, DC, the federal capitol of the USA, we contacted them when we decided to attend the January Presidential Inauguration. Phil and Susie immediately invited us to stay with them, but our schedule did not allow for commute time from their place, so we decided on dinner in Washington instead. They knew an incredibly good Belgian restaurant near where we were staying with relatives. We spent a delightful evening with them, which they sneakily arranged to pay for, and the next morning we were welcomed as friends to Susie’s Capitol Hill RC meeting.

We look forward to seeing them again at the RI Conference in Lisbon and making still more acquaintances while on the ITHF Friendship Tour of Northern Portugal that will proceed the 2013 Conference.

First Hosting Experience
JAN LAWRENCE
Hamilton, New Zealand

On February 5th I had the pleasure of hosting GIVONNA DEBRUIJN from Vernon, BC, Canada, for two nights. Givonna was on an extended trip to New Zealand and was my first hosting experience after several attempts.

Givonna first attended several Frankton Rotary meetings, which was a great way to meet her. Our club even enlisted her help to join our table tennis night hoping her skills would help us to a win, but it was not to be, more to the pity.

On Waitangi Day my friend Dawn joined us on a trip to the Tauwhare Arboretum which is near Hamilton, New Zealand. We enjoyed the visit on a rather hot day, and as we were leaving the arboretum we mistakenly turned left instead of right. Thus followed a rather long trip through great farming country until much to our surprise we ended up in Matamata better known now as Hobbitville. As it was by now rather late in the day, we made good use of the information bureau’s mock-up of a hobbit dwelling. Great photo opportunity.

In true Rotary Kiwi fashion we ended the day with good food, good wine and fellowship.
President's Visit to Nepal
SITA RUPAKHETI
Kathmandu, Nepal

On 3rd of Feb I went to Tribhuwan Airport to receive ITHF President PETER IBBOTSON and his lovely wife ROSEMARY. I had met them once before once in Bangkok during International Rotary Convention. I was so glad that they were coming to stay with me and my family. The first day we went to the Royal Museum and visited some other places of Kathmandu.

On the second day we flew to Pokhara, the most beautiful valley of Nepal surrounded by big white beautiful mountains. The view of Pokhara is just awesome, but since it was raining and full of clouds, we couldn't much enjoy the view.

I had arranged meetings in two of the Rotary clubs there. We went to the meetings and Peter gave them more information about ITHF, its fellowship and its facilities. Many Rotarians were impressed and are looking forward to being a part of ITHF family.

After a two days' stay in Pokhara, we returned to Kathmandu. As we left, the sun popped out of the clouds and the sky was pretty clear, so we could enjoy the beauty of Pokhara.

Then the next day we went to Bhaktapur a beautiful city of Kathmandu Valley and after that, we visited Boudhanath Stupa, a UNESCO World Heritage Site about seven kilometres from Kathmandu. On the last day of the visit, we went to my Rotary Club of New Road City to attend a meeting. We already have 8 ITHF members in our club, but after Peter's visit, more of our Rotarian friends are interested in ITHF. A highlight of the meeting was Rosemary dressed in sari, a surprise gift for her; she was looking very beautiful.

After the meeting we all had breakfast together. Three of my Rotarian friends took Peter and Rosemary for sight-seeing to Lalitpur while I returned home to arrange a farewell dinner for them. 15 of my ITHF friends joined us. We all had a great evening, and we all thanked Peter and Rosemary for visiting Nepal.

While they were here I got to learn many things about ITHF. Peter not only shared about ITHF but he also gave ITHF pins to the new members. I'm very happy and privileged to host Peter and Rosemary in my house. I feel great to be an ITHF member.
A Very Full Day Visit
DAVID & BEVERLEY GARLAND
Tauranga, New Zealand

Paul & Marta Stewart, members of Marietta Metro Rotary near Atlanta, Georgia, USA, who were introduced to us by ITHF members RENE & LYNN LANIER, emailed us, telling how much they enjoyed our visit to their club in 2011 and my speech encouraging them to come and see our wonderful country. They told us they would be on the Diamond Princess, visiting our city, Tauranga on Saturday, Jan 26 and asked if we had the time, they would love meet us and view our town. An immediate reply set the wheels in motion along with special greetings to Rene and Lynn who were wonderful hosts for us during our stay with them.

8.30 am January 26, mid-summer here in New Zealand, and the very full day commenced.

Our city is set on a beautiful harbour and only 300 yards away is the Pacific Ocean. What better way to see the sights that a walk around our iconic mountain, Mauao, and along the beach. After that exertion we went off to the Kiwi ice cream shop for the New Zealand specialty “Hoky Poky Ice Cream”. We explored Mount Maunganui, one of the surfing capitals of New Zealand, and Tauranga History with a visit to one of the oldest buildings in New Zealand, “The Elms”

After a lunch of Kiwi Fish ‘N Chips on the wharf, we went to our home where Beverley prepared a special Kiwi afternoon tea. Then we took Paul & Marta to a Rotarian’s Kiwi Fruit orchard where they learned about this special New Zealand fruit. Back at our home, very different to Marietta, we enjoyed another Kiwi delicacy “Pavlova cake with whipped cream, Kiwi Fruit and Strawberries”

The very full day ended back at the Diamond Princess after wonderful Rotary fellowship brought about by membership of Rotary’s International Travel & Hosting Fellowship

Connections is ITHF’s quarterly newsletter published for on-line viewing and downloading by its members and other interested website visitors in January, April, July, and October.

The ITHF is recognized as an auxiliary organization by Rotary International. It operates in accordance with R.I. policy, but it is not an agency of nor controlled by R.I.

The Mission of the International Travel and Hosting Fellowship is to stimulate and facilitate connections and cultural sharing throughout the Rotary world by contact, hosting, visiting and travel.
ITHF Store

Four years ago, we introduced our light weight, blue windbreaker jacket with a hood hidden in the collar. It was so much of a hit that we sold out of them very quickly. At the AGM Breakfast meeting in Bangkok in May, we debuted ITHF’s new dark blue jacket. After strong sales there we have added it to the ITHF Store inventory.

Other items for sale in the ITHF Store include a stylish Golf Shirt with ITHF logo, a sew-on/iron-on ITHF Logo Patch for use on your favorite casual wear shirt, blouse, cap or hat and self-adhering Luggage Stickers that can be placed on your luggage for easy identification at airports, hotels, bus, and train stations worldwide.

Prices (and shipping charges per item) in US dollars are as follows:
- Jacket - $34.00 ($9)
- ITHF Golf Shirt - $18.00 ($4)
- Logo Patch - $4.00 ($0.50)
- Luggage Sticker - $1.00 ($0.25)

Please go to [http://www.ithf.org/ithf_store.php](http://www.ithf.org/ithf_store.php) for ordering and payment instructions. Sizing charts are available through a link in that page. Members attending the RI Convention in Lisbon may pick up their order after the AGM breakfast and avoid the shipping charge.

ITHF 2014 SYDNEY CONVENTION TOUR

The tour commences in Cairns Queensland on Thursday 22 May where we will take a trip to Green Island on the Great Barrier Reef, and visit other local scenic attractions including a Daintree River Cruise and travel on the Kuranda Scenic Rail.

On Day 5 we fly to Longreach, Qld. where we experience various facets of the Australian Outback, including the famous Stockman’s Hall of Fame, a visit to a Sheep & Cattle Station, Opal Walk Display and the Waltzing Matilda Centre.

From Longreach we will fly to Sydney on Friday 30 May, where we will be delivered to our individual hotels.

This is an opportunity to see memorable facets of Australia not on many tours. Tour cost is AU $3392. Full details of the itinerary and booking form will be posted shortly at [www.ithf.org](http://www.ithf.org). The maximum number we can accommodate on the tour is 50. Please contact PP John Steven before submitting your booking form.

For more information contact:

PP John Steven
R C of Camberwell
johnsteven@bigpond.com
Tel: +613 9882 6184
Fax: +613 9882 2151
Doors to Friendship
LOLITA & HANS WEISNER
Red Deer, Alberta

ITHF isn’t just for faraway or three-night connections. ITHF opens the doors to friendship. In February we found ourselves in Hilo for the day on a cruise to the Hawaiian islands. Past ITHF President STEVE YOSHIDA & NOKO picked us up at the ship and spent the day with us. They showed us many places including the yacht club, Rainbow Falls, the outdoor market with gorgeous orchids and huge chunks of ginger, and took us out for a delicious lunch. We ended the day at their house sipping delicious mango smoothies, after which they delivered us back to the ship, and we sailed on to our next adventure. A bonus was that we discovered we have quite a few Rotary friends in common, giving us the immense pleasure of feeling we were part of a huge network of close friends.

To continue with brief but wonderful connections, in early March we met our Connections editor, PAT GRAF & her husband COLEMAN. Turns out we’re both snowbirds and like to get away from the long Canadian winters. By chance, we winter in the same area of Arizona, USA, so we got together for dinner and lively conversation, discovering we have much in common besides Rotary, including an appreciation of wine and travel. We both sometimes visit friends and relatives where the other couple lives, so we’ve promised to visit each other, too, next time we find ourselves nearby.

Home Run for Hearing
ELLEN HAGGERTY
Pleasant Valley, New York, USA

Recently, I was hosted by ITHF members PHIL & SUSAN KOMORNIK and had the opportunity to introduce Jacob Landis from Annapolis, Maryland to Phil's Columbus-Patuxent Rotary Club. Jacob, who has been hearing impaired since age 2, has worn hearing aids since age 5, and had lost all but 5 to 10 percent of his hearing by age 10, received a cochlear implant in 1999, which cost his family $600,000. Jacob wants to give other profoundly hearing impaired children the opportunity that he had to go to regular schools and join the hearing world. Jacob will combine his 3 life passions - biking, baseball and helping the hearing impaired - by biking 10,500 miles around the USA, attending 30 Major League Baseball Games from April 3-September 25, 2013 and raising over $1 million for cochlear implants for needy hearing impaired children. With help from various organizations, cochlear implants and therapies cost closer to $10,000 a piece. For more information, please visit www.JacobsRide.com or email Ellen Haggarty.
ITHF Connection at Sea!
LYNNE & HOWARD POWERS
Glendale, Arizona, USA

Here is another twist to the ITHF Connections: Lynne and I recently cruised from Buenos Aires, Argentina round-trip to ports south and cruised the Drake Passage to Antarctica.

Because we were both wearing our Rotary windbreakers, many fellow Rotarians introduced themselves to us - one couple from France, several couples from the United Kingdom, Australia, and other parts.

Among them were LARRY & JEANNE MCLAUGHLIN, Aurora, Colorado, USA. While sharing Rotary experiences we have had throughout the world, Larry and Jeanie told us they belong to the ITHF, and they had connected with a Rotarian from Buenos Aires. Needless to say, we enjoyed many evenings and shared experiences with Larry and Jeanne that would not have occurred if we had not been members of Rotary International and ITHF as well. We are thankful for the opportunities we have through ITHF.

Project Fair in El Salvador
LINDA JENKINS
Lafayette, California, USA

Recently, while planning a trip to Cuba, I called LIGIA CORREDOR in Miami to ask about spending a night or two in “Little Havana” as part of the prep work for our trip. However, by the time she called me back, our trip had been cancelled. When I explained, she didn't miss a beat but said, “Well, if you are not going to Cuba, why don’t you come to the Project Fair in El Salvador?” I jumped at the chance! Well that was a bit like jumping into a 10 foot swimming pool and then realizing I probably should have learned to swim first...but how glad I am I took the plunge.

In El Salvador our visits to many project sites prior to the fair made the Project Fair itself much more meaningful. Having done many mission trips to Guatemala & having fallen in love with Ligia & the wonderful group from Canada that I travelled with, I can barely wait to see them all again at next year’s Project Fair in Guatemala. What a wonderful way to see a country, meet Rotarians , learn about matching grants and the good works of our Rotary Foundation.
Kenyan Hospitality at its Best
GRACE MAANO
Sydney, Australia

To quote Lonely Planet-Kenya: "Few destinations the world over, can evoke such powerful and visceral images as Kenya, one of East Africa's premier safari destinations... But, to simply focus on Kenya's wildlife and nature is to ignore the very people that make this country so dynamic. While internal political life is at times tumultuous, it seems that Kenyans retain an innate self-confidence, a belief that things are improving, and a desire to see their homeland take a prominent place on the world stage."

Despite the warnings of post-national elections violence, I pushed through with my trip to East Africa with Nairobi, Kenya as my first port of call on the 11-17th of March 2013. Hence, I experienced first-hand what Lonely Planet was talking about.

Through an ITHF connection, I was hosted by lovely Kenyan Ms JANE GITAO, member of Rotary Club of Nairobi North. Her generosity is outstanding as she opened her beautiful home to a fellow Rotarian, but a stranger nonetheless. There were other ITHF members contacted but not everybody responded, and of those that responded, not everyone had time to make connections.

The day after I arrived, I was on my way on a tour of Lake Nakuru National Park and Lake Naivasha with an excellent driver arranged by Jane. Later that week I attended their Rotary club meeting; the rest of my time in Kenya was spent visiting various other Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) Projects.

Even though I stayed with Jane only four days, it is enough to make an impression of a good-hearted person and warm hospitality. It wasn't just a tourist connection, as I look forward to tie-up some worthwhile projects between her club (Rotary Club of Nairobi North) and my own Rotary E-club of Sydney.

It has been a lovely one week in Kenya... but the trip has just begun. This is a journey in progress as I will be in East Africa for two months visiting not just Kenya, but Tanzania, Uganda and Ethiopia.

Editor’s Note: As a follow-up to Grace’s story, her hostess Jane Gitao, also wrote to tell about the connection.
A Friend for Life
JANE GITAO
Nairobi, Kenya

This is my first experience as a Rotarian to host and when I signed up with ITHF at Bangkok back in May 2012, I never imagined I would eventually be a host to a young Rotarian from Sydney, Australia! So from March 11-14th, and again on Mar 28-31st, I got to meet and spend time with GRACE MAANO, who has added fun and excitement into my life and made me see Rotary in a different light.

We visited my Rotary Club where Grace spoke about the proposed project donating medical equipment to various remote resource-poor clinics and hospitals via Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) and the DAK Foundation. As a follow up we formed a committee for RC Nairobi North, to include Dr. Benjamin Wachira, David Burton, and myself. We hope to work towards drafting a project proposal for the club to adapt in coordination with DAK foundation and RAWCS towards Hope and Health Aid in East Africa.

We also visited my grandmother to give her a Rotary wheelchair. She lives in Githunguri, about one hour from the city of Nairobi. Since she has suffered a stroke, she is paralysed on the left side. It was a day well spent (Good Friday) when relatives came as well to visit their old folk.

On Easter Sunday, Grace attended church with me and interestingly she enjoyed my gathering with the Ridgeways Baptist Church. She said the preaching had inspired her, and felt that she was at the right moment, at the right time! After church, my daughter and family gave us a lunch treat at the beautiful Tribe Hotel, where great food and great company were shared.

I am glad to have connected with Grace, such a joy to be with, so cheerful, interesting, and adaptable, doesn’t matter whether in town or in the province.

My family loved her...I made a friend for life! She is leaving in one hour as I write this and I will miss her terribly. I hope to connect with her again soon.
I recently completed a two week cruise on the *Diamond Princess* departing Sydney, Australia, and circling New Zealand. My first connection was BRIAN LAWRESON in Sydney, who met me at the cruise ship terminal. Brian has been an exceptionally active Rotarian and has been club president of the Rotary Club of Greater Sydney twice. Most interesting was the large number of books he has published. He showed us around Sydney with an interesting dialogue about the sights. We also talked about how ITHF could be made stronger. Brian suggested a new brochure and talks to Rotary Clubs. We both feel that ITHF needs to “toot its own horn” more loudly! I hope that Brian will take up on my invitation to spend a few days at our home in Sarasota, Florida.

My next connection was with JOHN & HELEN MORIARITY of Wellington, New Zealand. Helen belongs to the "Sweet Adelines" a singing group, that meets the cruise ships at Wellington. John joined her and met us at the gate to the port. We had a good visit. We share a lust for sailing and both of us own sailboats. New Zealand is a Mecca for boating enthusiasts.

As my wife was unable to accompany me on this cruise, I was with my friend and travelling companion, Jim Haws; a non-Rotarian, he found the connections very interesting.

In what may be one of ITHF’s records for international connections, we recently connected for the third time with COMMODORE MAFIZUR RAHMAN and his wife DR. ANJUM, of Chittagong, Bangladesh. Commodore Rahman and Dr. Anjum first stayed with us in 2008 following the Los Angeles RI Convention. Two years later they hosted us for two weeks in Bangladesh, truly a life-changing experience. We travelled with them through more than half the country, met and enjoyed the warmth and hospitality of many of their friends and relatives, and saw first-hand some of the incredible projects that Rotary supports. Rotary is truly making a visible difference in Bangladesh.

And now for our latest connection! Last fall, Commodore Rahman let us know that as District Governor Elect for District 3280, he and Dr. Anjum would be attending the January International Assembly in San Diego. Following that, they flew to Fresno; we were delighted to host them for a visit in Hanford. An unexpected additional pleasure was that their son Dipu, a longtime resident of Minnesota, happened to be visiting a friend in San Francisco; he rented a car and drove down to join us for several days. Belonging to ITHF has enriched our lives, and has led to a friendship that promises to be enduring.
ITHF Taiwan Members’ Reunion

Medicare Hsu

In keeping with President Peter Ibbotson’s emphasis on local get-togethers, 28 Rotarians, spouses and guests met at Taipei Caesar Park Hotel on March 26. Also present were R.I. President Nominee for 2014-15, Gary C.K. Huang, Rotary Club of Taipei; and new members AMY WANG and EUGENE TSAI. Future R.I. President Gary Huang accepted the invitation to attend ITHF Breakfast Meeting at Lisbon on June 25, 2013.

Zone 10B Rotary Coordinator, Fred Hsieh, promised to help promote Taiwan to the ITHF membership. Incoming governors of Districts 3480 and 3520 have assigned ITHF Committee Chairs to promote the ITHF membership at district levels.

It was a wonderful evening! We not only enjoyed the reunion but also promoted the membership, signing up two new members: DAVID HSU and YVONNE CHIU. We encouraged each other to take active participation in international travel and hosting activities to show our Taiwanese hospitality. We also paid respect to Malcolm & Pat VaiSSiERe, who visited Taiwan in October 2011. His host Lively Chen recalled many happy moments they shared together during their stay.

ITHF mourns the loss of member Malcolm VaiSSiERe, New Zealand on March 11, 2013. Malcolm, along with his wife Pat, was an active, enthusiastic member of ITHF, who enjoyed the benefits of membership both as host and guest. Loved by all who met and knew him, Malcolm will be sadly missed. ITHF sends its condolences to Malcolm’s wife Pat, his family and friends.
ITHF’s first members from Columbia would like to introduce themselves. HUMBERTO & RUBY ROBLEDO live in Palmira, Valle de Cauca, Colombia. Humberto manages a pizza restaurant, and Ruby is lawyer who specializes in conflict resolution. They have four grown children, the youngest of whom was an exchange student to Germany two years ago. A Rotarian for eight years, Humberto and Ruby attended the 100th anniversary RI Convention in Chicago.

“Our country has a privileged position, because we have two oceans, the Atlantic and the Pacific; an exuberant nature, large rivers like the Amazon, extensive lagoons, cloud forests. The city of Palmira is surrounded by large tracts of sugar cane and twenty minutes away from Cali, the ‘world capital of salsa’, with more than two million habitants. We live in a beautiful residential complex of 105 houses.”

AMBALAKAT & NIRMAL RAM MOHAN of Kerala, India, hosted PDG Helene Calfuss and her GSE team from California, USA, when they were en route to the District 3201 Conference.

“We called all the Rotarians of our club with their family for a good fellowship. It was really nice to interact with the youngsters.”

ADA KAHN, Evanston, Illinois, USA enjoys looking for musical souvenirs when she travels. Last year, while in Taipei as GSE team leader, she discovered a book of flute and piano music. She and her accompanist have performed for the Evanston Music Club, at a local retirement home and in a recital. A friend helped her to obtain a second volume of the composer Ching-ju Shih’s music. “This music provides ongoing remembrances of my time in Taiwan and continues to bring joy to others. They are the best souvenirs!”

SURAIYA KASSAMALLY, London, England, had the pleasure of meeting RI President-elect Ron Barton and RIBI President-elect Nan Macreadie in February at the RIBI assembly.