

ROLL OF HONOUR
PAST INTERNATIONAL COMMODORES
John G Barrett -1947 (Founder Commodore)
Brixton-London

1952-1953	A Leslie Mower	Stoke Newington (Gt Britain)
1953-1954	Leonard C Horsnell	Goodmayes (Gt Britain)
1954-1955	Jack A Hope	Goodmayes (Gt Britain)
1955-1956	Alfred Bellamy	Goodmayes (Gt Britain)
1956-1958	A Norman Cooke	Worthing (Gt Britain)
1958-1959	Robert Stuart	Chicago (USA)
1959-1960	Denis Dalby	Barking (Gt Britain)
1960-1961	Chas Ed Dearnley	(USA)
1961-1962	Courtney G Beckett	Durban (South Africa)
1962-1963	Sherman Bushnell	Seattle (USA)
1963-1965	Leo P Keating	New South Wales (Australia)
1965-1967	Carl R Miller	Los Angeles (USA)
1967-1969	Charles E Neale	Ireland
1969-1972	Donald Lowness	Rio de Janiero (Brazil)
1972-1974	Richard Willis	New South Wales (Australia)
1974-1976	Earl Brannock	Cambridge (USA)
1976-1977	Carl Beck	Philadelphia (USA)
1977-1979	AI Natkin	San Diego (USA)
1979-1981	Bill N Thomas	Massachusetts (USA)
1981-1983	Bert Collins	Gold Coast (Australia)
1983-1985	Dr Ken Warr	Cape Town (South Africa)
1985-1987	Martin Lockney	Newport Beach (USA)
1987-1989	Dr Les Vasconcellos	Honolulu (USA)
1989-1991	George Kent	Victoria (Canada)
1991-1993	Andrew C Mitchell	City & Shoreditch (Gt Britain)
1993-1995	Jack Keyser	Victoria (Canada)
1995-1997	Frank McDonald	New South Wales (Australia)
1997-1999	Arnold Verkade	Westzaan (The Netherlands)
1999-2001	Joe Phillips	Honolulu (USA)
2001-2003	Ken Winters	Auckland (New Zealand)
2003-2005	Ferit Berin	Turkye
2005-2007	Bill Robinson	Seattle (USA)

The International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians

1994 - 2006



THE INTERNATIONAL YACHTING FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARANS

1994 Rotary convention Taipei (China)

The 1994 Rotary Convention was for many of our members a difficult one as it was held in Taipei Taiwan (China). A successful AGM/Dinner was held under the command of International Commodore Jack Keyser at that meeting he reported on his recent trip to



Osaka Japan Chartering of New Japanese Fleets

Osaka where he had the privilege of chartering the main Japanese Fleet followed by the chartering of two others.

the R I Convention in Glasgow Scotland. Past International Commodore Andrew Mitchell authorised, produced, and distributed copies of the Golden Jubilee 1947-1997 a book commemorating the fifty years of IYFR history

The John Barrett Bell was produced and presented to the Yachting Fellowship in the late forties by Past International Commodore Denis Dolby in honour of our Founder Commodore John Barrett and this Bell is presented to all International Commodores when taking office for safe keeping during their term of office.

Today we are not only the oldest, but also one of the largest of all Rotary Fellowships according to Rotary International. We have over a period of time lost many Fleets but we continue to Charter new ones. We now have over 100 yachting fleets in some 23 countries throughout the world. Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, British Virgins Islands, Canada, Finland, France, French Polynesia, Germany, Great Britain, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Poland, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, and the USA. Our membership is in the region of 3000 members, including about 250 independent members that are not affiliated with any of the fleets.

HISTORY OF IYFR

The International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians was formed in 1947 in Great Britain and is recognised as the oldest of the Rotary Fellowships, the first of many recreational fellowships formed with the World Fellowship activities of Rotary International.

In 1947 Rotarian John Barrett members of the Rotary Club of Brixton London England conceived the idea of flying a burgee bearing the Rotary Emblem on the masthead of his yacht. He enlisted the help of Fellow Rotarians from his own and Neighboring clubs and proposed a new yachting association of Rotarians. Rotary International approved this new Rotary recreational fellowship under the name of "Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians" Issuing a Charter in 1947.

This Fellowship quickly spread all over Gt Britain and then throughout the world.

In 1956 at the Rotary International Convention in Chicago Bob Stuart of Chicago Illinois was elected Commodore of the Yachting Fellowship and the name of our fellowship was changed to "International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians"

The first International rendezvous of IYFR was held in 1964 in conjunction with the Rotary International Convention of Toronto Canada. Since that time the fellowship has expanded greatly with new fleets being added under the enthusiastic leadership of the many International Commodores who have been elected from a diversity of countries within the world of Rotary.

The Golden Anniversary of IYFR was celebrated in 1987 at



*At Korayand Y.C. Istanbul
L to R Koray and Ferit Berin, Kay and Jack Keyzer,*

The Iforian get together that year took place in Hawaii, where under the leadership of IRRC Joe Phillips a sailing event had been organised. Admiral William Retz US Navy, at the request of IRRC Joe Phillips arranged for "Rim Pack" war games. Fighting ships from Japan, Korea, Australia, and Canada together with unit's from the U S A steamed into Pearl Harbour while the IYFR Bridge and distinguished guests inspected them from the Admirals elegant Barge. Not since World War II had so many warships been in Pearl Harbour. A Truly wonderful historical event.

The following day having received special permission, Iforian's sailed to Pearl Harbour to once again visit the various warships, Submarines, Aircraft Carriers etc. In the afternoon a sailing race took place for the Les Vasconcellos Memorial Cup. The highlight of the festivities came that evening at the Commodores Banquet when Madelin Vasconcellos presented the cup to Charles Kinsey. The last day again saw a sail to Pearl Harbour where a farewell brunch was served before Iforian's said their final farewells.

Eight new Fleets had been chartered in 1994 they were. In the U S A the Russian River Fleet with 20 members, The Coronado Fleet with 28 members, The Atlantic City Fleet with 20 members. From N S W Australia the Lake Macquarie Fleet with 36 members, from Jutland Denmark the Aaland Fleet with 10 members, from Japan the Osaka Fleet with 92 members, Kii Channel Fleet with 12 members, the Kobe Fleet with 41 members, and it was reported that we now had 62 paid-up active Fleets with a total membership of 2,250

It was also with deep regret that we learned of the passing of Past International Commodore Alfred Natkin who was our Commodore in 1977-1979. He had for many years supported in various ways many of our functions and was an avid sailor. He was a member of the Rotary Club of Encinitas and was very active in the San Diequito Boy's and Girl's club. He was 83 years of age when he sadly passed away.

Saturday 14th May the Great Sabot Race took place. 11 Iforian's from Newport Beach attended plus members from the San Diego Fleet. Trophy's were displayed at the Oceanside Yacht Club and some US\$580.00 was presented to the Oceanside Youth Sailing Programme. After three races it was reported that PIC Marty Lock-

AGM. Arrangements have already been put in hand for our Post Convention Cruise which is due to take place in the Washington State San Juan Islands with day cruises on boats. Thursday it is planned for members to spend one night in Seattle, Friday it is planned for the group to travel by the Victoria Clipper catamaran from Seattle to Friday harbour. Saturday will be a day cruising and on the Sunday it is planned for members to be taken to Roche Harbour where the day will end with the famous Roche Harbour Flag Ceremony. Monday following breakfast members will then depart to make their own way home.

The plans being formulated for 2007 are indeed exciting for all members, and appreciation must be passed to Int Cmdr Bill Robinson and his 1st Mate Katia for not only the smooth running of our fellowship but for the updating of our computer systems and the work put in to make the new regulations etc that Rotary International has placed upon us acceptable to us. It is indeed good to know that the high moral and ethical standards set by many past International Commodores who have led and served our Fellowship with great expertise is still being maintained.



Charter Presentation Fleet Cmdre Antonio Gigante with IVC Bryan Skinner

The year 2007 will again be a red letter year for us all as this year will make our Fellowship some 60 years old. Many plans are already in the pipeline. In March the GB Fleets will be meeting in Chester to celebrated the 60th anniversary, and a black Tie succulent dinner has already been arranged on Saturday 16th March this will be followed by a service the following morning in Chester Cathedral. On the International scene our first IYFR meeting in Salt Lake City has been arranged to take place on Saturday 16th June at the historic Peery Hotel where a 4 course dinner is being arranged so that IYFR members can meet without a formal agenda. Our annual AGM meeting is due to take place at Christopher's commencing at 11.30 a.m. for appetizers followed by a luncheon prior to our

ney finished 3rd and Fleet Cmdre Pete Barrett 5th.

A new Fleet was chartered in the Philippines on November 30th In February they participated in the overnight trip to Hamilo Bay, April found them sailing around the Marila Bay, and in April found them busy with the Manila Bay Yacht Club Easter Regatta and Subic Bay races

1995 Rotary Convention Nice (France)

We all thoroughly enjoyed a wonderful International Convention in Nice culminating in a fine luncheon in the Grand Aston Hotel with in excess of 100 Iforian's and Friends in attendance. We witnessed the inauguration of Frank McDonald (NSW Australia) as our International Commodore, Arnold Verkake (The Netherlands) as Vice Commodore, and Joe Phillips (Hawaii U S A) as Rear Commodore.



International Rear Commodore Joe Phillips,

It was reported that during the current year the following Fleets were established, they were:-

The Izmir Fleet Turkiye	(20 members)
The Philippines Fleet	(62 members)
The German North Fleet	(14 members)
The Mid Baltic Fleet	(14 members)
The North Baltic Fleet	(57 members)
The Sound Fleet	(24 members)
The South Baltic Fleet	(33 members)
The Skaw Fleet	(55 members)

It was also reported that the San Francisco (USA) and the Mare Nostrum Fleet (Spain) are also in the process of returning to our ranks.

Following the Nice Convention Iforian's travelled by coach to the site of the Eastern Scheildt Storm Barrier. Surely an 8th wonder of the world? A Ferry trip with lunch aboard took us to Medierikzee where we were able to wander about this ancient port and learn of it history. That evening whilst enjoying another wonderful meal we were entertained by an all male choir made up of Officers of the Pilot service of the Netherlands.

The final day saw us board a wide variety of vessels before being taken to Lake Grevelingen. It became very cold and a force 6 wind started to blow up, however all enjoyed the adventure before returning to our hotel for a final night of fun and entertainment.

Immediate following the Nice Convention our new Commodore Frank McDonald together with his first Mate Edith travelled to the United Kingdom to visit Fleets there. During his stay he visited six fleets in all, they were The East Coast, Lakes, Solent, Sussex,



FC Michael Fischer and IVC Bryan Skinner

November also saw V Cmdre Brian Skinner being met at the Railway Station in Tarento to charter the newly formed South East Italian Fleet. He had traveled from Naples where on the previous day met members of the Italy South West Fleet. So, on the 18th November attended by 24 members and their mates, together with Assistant District Governor (District 2120) Antonia Siggillino and members from the District IYC Brian Skinner presented the Charter to the new Fleet Commodore. Gifts were exchanged and the new Fleet Cmdre Antonia Gigante proposed the toast to the new Fleet. The following day our Vice Cmdre was invited to attend the annual Grape Harvest Festival at the winery of Mandchunia some 300 people. After a grand wine tasting a 16 course meal was served

well and was their Cmdre 1989 to 1992.

October 9th saw IVC Brian Skinner attending the chartering of the Germany South Fleet at the Water Haven Centre of the University of EriangenNurberg in Plainfield some 28 members together with their mates attended the ceremony. Members of the Fleet had previously completed a cruise around the island of Kos in the Aegean and it was on this cruise that preparations were made to form the Fleet.



Chartering of German South Fleet

Thanes, and Suffolk Fleet. When visiting the Sussex Fleet they were given the prevalence to be present at the disabled children's outing. This was followed by a visit to the Thames Fleet to participate in the "Admiral Cruise" in the area of the River Medway where they participated in the procession of some 60 vessels to assist the Mayor of Rochester and Maidstone to beat the boundaries "by ship" This ancient tradition dates back to 1479 and is re-enacted every year. After this event our International Commodore joined the Suffolk Fleet to participate in their two day project to entertain handicapped people of all ages aboard the Thames Barge Hydrogen which is now over 100 years old.



Embarking on THISTLE is always a matter for care and concern, but never more than when handling the wheelchairs and occupants—a great joy once accomplished.

This is an annual event undertaken by the Suffolk Fleet. The ship sails up the Orwell River to Ipswich and then cruises the Stour River before returning back to Harwich where all those on board are given a hot meal ashore. Following this event farewells were

said to Commodore Frank and his First Mate Edith as they returned



The "Thames Barge Hydrogen" with a group of handicapped people on board sailing out of Harwich with the tug "Ganges" approaching. International Commodore Frank & Edith at the Stern.

home to Australia.

Immediate following the Nice Convention Past International Commodore Jack Keyser together with his first Mate Kay then made a visit to International Vice Commodore Arnold Verkade in Amsterdam before proceeding to Sweden to visit members of the Swedish Fleets.

He was greeted by IRRRC Bent Solve who because of the great number of Iforian's he had gathered together made them into Five Fleets They were:-The Skaw Fleet based in Goreborg with 55 members, The Sound Fleet Helsingborg with 24 members, The South Baltic Fleet in Karlkrona with 33 members,

In the 3rd week in August the 24th Annual International Rendezvous of the Canadian and U S Fleets took place. This year the rendezvous took place in Sidney Harbour British Columbia when some 95 attendees from eight fleets within the six Rotary Districts. The first gathering took place in 1983 and has been an annual event ever since. This year the rendezvous was spearheaded by Cmdre Patrick Hunt of the Vancouver Fleet (Canada) who organised the three day event The first evening featured a potluck social under a large tent on the docks. The next evening saw Rotarians boarding busses to be taken to Capital City Yacht Club for dinner, this was followed by a visit to the famous Butchart Gardens for their weekly firework extravaganza. Each year this event brings more and more people and has become one of the highlights of the summer boating season.

In September the Victoria Fleets gathered some 33 children and took them aboard the 118 foot "Thomas Spirit" for a day's sailing and as the Vancouver Fleet Cmdre said it is hoped that this experience will be something they'll remember for a very long time.

It was with regret that we learnt that due to ill health Rear Comdr John Milne had now resigned and under the guidance of IPCmdre Ferit Berin the nomination committee elected as Int Rear Cmdre Terry Stretton (Auckland New Zealand) who immediately assumed responsibilities for Area 3 (Asia Pacific Region) for the balance of John Milne term of office.

In November a real red letter day occurred and all Mariner's/ Iforians throughout the world congratulate Past G B Commodore Wilf Taylor on his reaching his 100th Birthday. He served for many years under Cmdre Silver Carter who in those day's almost ran the G B fleets entirely on his own. Wilf Taylor took over at a very difficult time at the retirement of Silver Carter He served the G B Fleets



24th Annual international Rendezvous of US and Canadian Fleets 2006 Vancouver Island, Canada



Fantastic food, fellowship and fun

The Mid Baltic Fleet Arkosund with 14 members, and finally, The North Baltic Fleet Stockholm with 57 members.



I.P.C. Jack Keyzer presents the Charter to the Commodore of the Mid Baltic Fleet



Helsingborg—Sweeden Chartering Sound Fleet at Harina Hotel IRRC Bengt Solve at right



From left: Our host Fritz mattsson, our skipper Tor Strandberg, Cmdre. Edgar Karlson. Sect. Ray Soderholm, Cmdre. Visiting an Island in Aaland

At a celebration dinner Immediate Past International Commodore Jack chartered the new five Fleets. This dinner was followed by a visit to Aaland to visit one of the new chartered Fleets.

It should also be noted that during the term of command by I P Cmdre Jack Keyser the following Fleets were also established. They were:-The Izmir Fleet with 20 members, The Philippines Fleet with 62 members, The North German Fleet with 14 members. Other reverent news was, that the San Francisco Fleet had been re-formed. It was also reported that at the Nice Convention some 78 new members were enrolled.

In January 1996 the Japanese reported the terrible disaster of

In the evening a celebratory dinner was held in the Royal Southern Yacht Club where the Solent Fleet were joined by members of the Sussex Fleet. A very welcomed guest was Cmdre of the San Francisco Fleet and IYFE Webmaster Clint Collier. The next day IC Bill and Katia were transported to Gravesend Rotary Club to meet members of the Medway Fleet. Here Bill gave a very interesting talk in IYFR and his involvement with Rotary in Russia.

The following day IVCmdre Brian Skinner took IC Bill and Katia up the M1 to meet the President and friends of the Flying Fellowship before proceeding back to Heathrow and home.

A chance meeting by IC Bill Robinson and Patrick Hunt Cmdre of the Vancouver Island Fleet last year when they were anchored in Winter Cove Saturna Island came to the conclusion that it would be a wonderful idea if the Pacific Northwest Region IYFR members of both Canada and the U S could meet informally each year. So, the plan was hatched for members each year to gather together in "Winter Cove" in the Canadian Gulf Islands to celebrate Canada Day on July 1st and then meet up in Friday Harbour in the San Juan Islands to celebrate America's Independence Day on July 4th. This year the celebrations on the 1st July consisted of some 11 IYFR boats and their crews where fun and friendship was the order of the day, and on the 4th July at Friday Harbour celebrations took place to celebrate U S Independence Day this was sponsored by the Rotary Club of San Juan Island where they sung and danced along with the "oldies but goodies music" Fantastic Food, Fellowship, Fun, Fabulous Music, and Fireworks expanded the fabric of goodwill between two countries IYFR at its best.

lent lunch was served, greetings made, and Fleet Cmdre Rodney Davis presented IC Bill with a book of aerial photographs of the Thames. IC Bill together with 1st mate Katia then left with Christopher Bishop and his wife Jane who were hosting them for the night. On the way they stopped at the Gardens of Wisley and enjoyed a walk together, then, after a light supper IC Bill and Katia were taken to an English Pub where they sampled some (warm) beers.

After an early start the following day to get to the River Hamble they boarded a 50 ft motor yacht where they cruise through the Solent to Beaulieu mooring at the Master Builder Hotel in the historic Bucklers hard. The return journey went via Cowes where they moored in the private marina of the Royal Yacht Squadron they were taken on a private tour



IYFR members at the Royal Yacht Club.

the earthquake there. Funds were sent to assist them in some way to restore things back to some normality, and the Kobe and Osaka Fleets raised funds to assist in helping those in distress.

IRRC Masami Hiroka reported that the Osaka and Kobe Fleets held a Naval review in the sea off Yura of Awaji Island at Osaka. He reported that some 93 members together with their families took part in some 20 boats.

Returning once again back to his native country Australia, Our International Commodore Frank together with his first Mate Edith visited the Gippsland Fleet in Victoria, A visit was also made to Queensland Fleet to celebrate their 35th anniversary.



A Happy group of IYFORIANS with International Commodore Frank McDonald and International Rear Commodore P.R. Colin Dodds during a recent visit by the New South Wales Fleet to the Port Lincon Fleet, the southern most Fleet of mainland Australia. The ocean to the top left of the photo is a direct line to Antarctica

Following this visit our International Commodore Frank

McDonald together with his First Mate Edith took part in a grand Fleet exchange between the New South Wales and the Port Lincoln Fleets (The most Southern Fleet in Australia) Our hosts the Lincoln Fleet produced a most comprehensive and interesting programme for us all.

In November our International Commodore and his First Mate travelled to the Gippsland Fleet and then on the Tasmania to charter the Fleet there.



A visit to the Gippsland Lae Fleet for AGM group aboard Spray to include IC Frank and Edith, Skipper Bob and Betty

In November 1996 it was with a great deal of sadness that we received the news that Commodore (G B) Silver Carter had passed away. He was a most dedicated Rotarian and Iforian and well known throughout the world. For many years he ran almost single handed the Fleets of Gt Britain. Our fellowship will be much the poorer at his passing to a higher plain He will indeed be greatly missed by his many friends around the world.

first. We then all returned to Marstrand for the evening “Vikings Party” Here we were accompanied by soldiers and drummers all in historical uniform from the quay to the old Carlsten Castle (Dating back to 1660)

In the old knight room we were served a delightful meal and again Fleet Cmdre Tom Selberg was our toastmaster. Sunday Morning saw us tour the city and learn of the history of Sweden and Denmark. Following this tour we then sailed back to Gothenburg. On arrival all boats were berthed in the lilla Bommen Marina at the Iopera House and a tour of the city took place. The final dinner took place at the Royal Bachelors Club. Here Past Cmdre Hans Hol-lander was Toastmaster for the evening, and jazz music welcomed the guests into the garden. ICmdre Bill Robinson Thanked the organising committee of the Skaw Fleet for a wonderful job well organised and carried out. After breakfast the following morning it was time for the hosts to say farewell to the guests who then wended their way back to their respective homes.

They came, they saw, they conquered, when IC Bill Robinson and his 1st Mate Katia visited the U. K. they won the hearts of all who met them. they were hosted by IVC Brian Skinner, where, at his home awaited some 35 IYFR members from the Suffolk, Fenlands, and Broads Fleets to welcome them to these shores. A most enjoyable BBQ supper was enjoyed by all and IC Bill and Katia talked to everyone. The following day they were taken to meet Cmdre Rodney Davis (Thames Fleet) where they boarded Rodney's boat for a trip down the Thames where, they passed through Cleeve Lock there they were joined by three other boats from the Thames Fleet, then on to the Swan Hotel at Streatly where everyone moored up for lunch.

This lunch was attended by some 32 members of the Thames Fleet including District Govenor (1090) David Buckland. An excel-

The following day yachts started from different places to sail to the fishing village of Skarhamm. At Skarhamm the Swedish Rescue Association demonstrated one of its modern rescue boats, and dinner was served in the Restaurant Kompasser and Past Fleet Cmdre Gunnar Jardelow of the Skaw was toastmaster for the evening. The following day (Saturday) was the day of the Volvo Ocean Race so all boats made their way to Marstrand.



Guards at their post—Carlstein Castle

At Marstrand all attendees boarded the “Pacific Mermaid” to go to the entrance of Gothenburg to see the final stages of the race. We were very lucky in having a vintage point to witness the finish of the race where the Yacht “Pirates of the Carribban” finished

Prior to attending the R I Convention in Calgary International Commodore Frenk McDonald together with his First Mate Edith flew via Los Angeles to Tampa to join IRRC Charles and Nancy Carroll. Over a six day period visits were made to the Tampa Bay Fleet, The Naples-Marco Fleet they also attended the District 5320 Convention in (Orange County California) visiting the Newport Harbour and San Diego Fleets. They then travelled to join IRRC Jack McCarley to visit the Russian River Fleet, before finally ending up in Victoria to visit the Vancouver Island Fleet prior to travelling to Calgary to attend the 1996 R I Convention.

1996 Rotary Convention Calgary (Canada)

1996 saw us once again return to Canada for our Rotary Convention this year it was held in that lovely city of Calgary. The Canadians certainly made the opening ceremony something to be remembered for they presented the parade of flags as an ice spectacle. Our booth was as ever kept as busy as ever and our AGM/Luncheon was served at the "Hospitality Inn" where some 120 Iforian's and their mates enjoyed a succulent lunch.

Amongst the members and guests at this Convention was the GB Commodore John Billingham who presented to IYFR the "JOHN BARRETT BELL". Denis Dalby a Founder Member of our then Fellowship in 1947 had the bell made in honour of our Founder Commodore John G Barrett and presented it to our Yachting Fellowship. No records were found as where, or, where it was made, nor when Denis Dalby actually presented it to our fellowship. The only record discovered was a very short note informing us that during the early days of IYFR it was presented

yearly to the "Yachtsman" who had sailed the longest leg during the year. Then, for a very long time it disappeared and had only recently been found amongst the memorabilia of the late Commodore (GB&I) Silver Carter. Commodore (G B) John Billingham was the one who discovered it, He had it restored, and presented it at this AGM into the safe hands of IYFR. This certainly was the highlight of our AGM in Calgary and grateful thanks must go to (GB) Commodore John Billingham and his associates in Great Britain for presenting such a trophy to IYFR

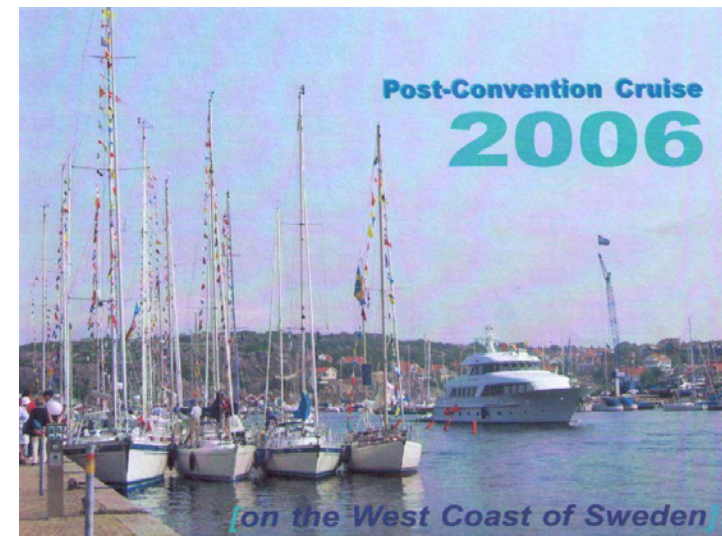


THE BARRETT BELL

Probably the most significant symbol of history associated with our Fellowship is the John Barrett Bell.

(USA)

Due to new legislation being placed in operation by Rotary International which will affect all Fellowships we were extremely fortunate to have IC Bill Robinson to lead us, and thanks must be passed to him for the wonderful effort he has put in to smooth the course running of this legislation. In other business PIC Andrew Mitchell presented to PIC Ken Winter's his belated Past Commodore Jewel. In closing IC Bill Robinson thanked the many members for their contribution and efforts to improve our Fellowship.



IYFR Skaw Fleet sailboats and Pacific Mermaid at Mar-

Following the Copenhagen/Malmö Convention members travelled by coach from Copenhagen to Gothenburg to our hosts the gathering took place in the GKSS Marina (Gothenburg Royal Yacht Club) some 17 yachts place PIC Ken Winters "Pacific Mermaid"

And we were very much the interest of passers by.

The highlight of the evening was when our IC Bill Robinson bestowed on incoming R I President Bill Boyd honorary membership of IYFR. Auckland (NZ) Commodore Terry Stretton and 1st Mate Meryl welcomed Bill Boyd to the New Zealand Fleet and presented him with a pennant and lapel pin.



Auckland Fleet Commodore Terry Stretton and First Mate Meryl present the IYFR pennant to Rotary International President Bill Boyd.

Our AGM/Luncheon took place at the Langelinie Pavillon in Copenhagen where IC Bill Robinson welcomed some 105 IYFR members and mates before a very succulent luncheon was served. Area reports were received from IVC Brian Skinner (GB&I), IRC John Milne (Australia) and Cmdre Gary Bruner

The Barrett Bell

Probably the most significant symbol of history associated with our Fellowship is the John Barrett Bell. As we enter our fiftieth year of existence it is significant that the Barrett Bell has been relocated, restored and presented by IYFR—GB & I to our International Commodore Frank McDonald at our Annual General Meeting in Calgary in 1996. The inscription on the back of the ship's wheel says it all.

The Barrett Bell

Presented by
Past International Commodore
Dennis W Dalby G.B. 1959-60

To commemorate the Founder of the
International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians
John G. Barrett G.B. in 1947

“Lost”, Retrieved and Restored
And presented by IYFR—GB & I 1996

To be held in the custody of future International Commodores of IYFR and used to maintain order at our Annual General Meetings.



The Barrett Bell Presented by Past International Commodore Dennis W. Dalby G.B. 1959-60 to commemorate the Founder of the International Fellowship of Rotarians John G. Barrett G.B. in 1947

During the R I Convention in Seoul in 1989 an agreement of affiliation was signed by Past Commodore George Kent and the Past G B & I Commodore Geoffrey Pearce which was the first major step taken to heal the rift between the World and Gt Britain. Since then several meetings had taken place on both sides with a view to once again create one Fellowship. Prior to the Convention in Calgary in 1996 Rotary International issued a directive that only one fellowship would be recognised by them in any category. At this Convention a very cordial and friendly meeting took place between the International and G B & I Bridges with a view to how we could once again be truly united as one fel-

Further very sad news was received when we learnt of the passing of Colin Dodds (NSW Australia) He was a charter member of the Rotary Club of Concord where he served as Club President and Director, He was appointed District Governor of District 9690 in 1981-1982. Colin served as Commodore of the NSW Fleet (Australia) and later served as Regional Commodore South East Australia. His boat "Contessa" was always generously available for the service of Rotary and Friends. Colin had a great sense of humour and will be greatly missed by his many friends both in Australia and around the world

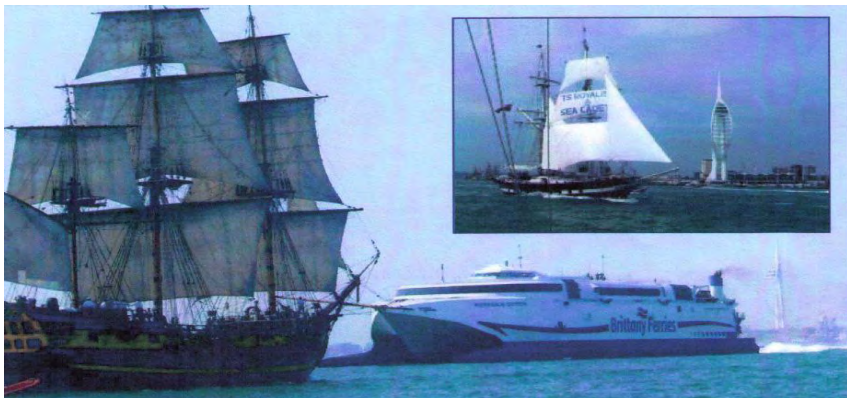
2006 Rotary Convention Copenhagen (Denmark)

This year our Rotary International Convention took place in the beautiful city of Copenhagen. The evening prior to the opening of the R I Convention saw some 85 members of IYFR assemble aboard the PIC Ken Winter's magnificent ship "Pacific Mermaid" which was berthed alongside the Queens berth in Copenhagen. All dressed in white we were welcomed with a glass of Champagne.



1st Night Welcome Aboard

by a remembrance dinner IVC Brian Skinner also asked permission from IC Bill Robinson to “Spice The Main brace” and on this occasion IC Bill reply was “By all means as representatives of IYFE please Splice the main brace with the assembled company”, as you would expect our members of IYFR dutifully carried out this seafaring tradition.

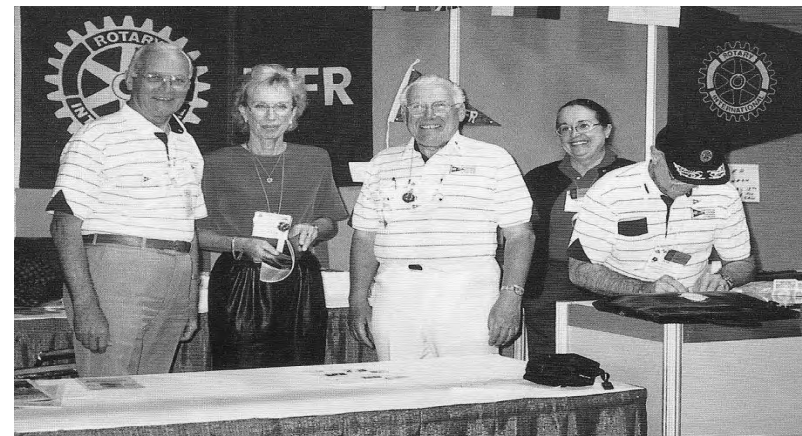


The ‘Grand Turk’ and the ‘Normandy Express’ in the distance. Inset: ‘The Royalist’ leaving Portsmouth.

In March our fellowship received the very sad news that our Rotafloat Editor had passed away. Dorman Anderson was a member of the Rotary Club of Seattle and within two years after joining Rotary he and his 1st Mate Sandy became very involved with the Seattle Rotary Mariner’s and he ably served as its Commodore in the mid 1990’s They cruised their own sailboat “Espirito” in the fabulous waters of the U S and Canadian Pacific Northwest. Dor did a great job producing our Rotafloat and we can only from the bottom of our hearts thank Sandy for carrying on the good work as our Rotafloat Editor. Dorman Anderson did a great job as our Editor and will be sadly missed by Iforian’s/Mariners throughout the world.

lowship. At the end of the meeting it was agreed by both parties that a “Deed of Intent” be signed by International Commodore Frank McDonald and Commodore John Billingham behalf of G B & I.

The Deed of Intent provided for a total integration of both organisations over a period of three years commencing 1st July 1997. This proposition was considered firstly by the executive of G B & I in September 1996 and subsequently in February 1997 by all Fleets attending their A G M. At that AGM an overwhelming decision was made to totally integrate our two Fellowships into one homogeneous and truly International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians in accordance with the “Deed of Intent” submitted. It is most significant that this important event has occurred in this our 50th year of continuous yachting Fellowship.



*Helpers at the IYFR Booth at the Calgary Convention.
Left to right: International Commodore Frank McDonald, Eva Allerstorfer. Past international Commodore Andrew Mitchell, Marda Phillips and International Rear Commodore Joe Phillips.*

Following the Calgary Convention Iforians once again returned to Victoria (Canada) to enjoy a further 3 day's of Fellowship together. After an overnight stay at Maple Bay and a visit to a theatre at Chemainus famous for its murals and theatre.

The following day was "Canada Day" a very special day to be enjoyed by all. The three International Bridge Officers were ferried and put aboard the Royal Canadian Mine Sweeper "HMCS Chignecto" under the command of Lieutenant Commander F L Zebruk.



HMCS Chignecto

Here the International Bridge were to take the salute from some 20 vessels in line formation. Located off Saanich Inlet on a bright sunny day It was a sight to see each vessel sail past and dip their pennants. Following the Sail past they then proceeded to Todd Inlet for an extensive raft up for lunch which was followed by a visit to Bchart Gardens'



Left to right: RC South Pacific John Mills BOI FC Doug Gallbraith, IC Bill Robinson, BOI FVC Murray Wilderson, IRC John Milne, BOI S/T David Welch and Auckland FC Terry Stretton.

It was reported in Melbourne (Australia) that Past Regional Commodore Arthur Hodge was presented with the "Australian Yachting Federation Race Administration Award" Arthur Hodge is one of the most respected, accurate, and sought after on water racing managers for some of Australia's top sailing events. He is dubbed as "Mr Excellence on the water" Congratulations, well done Arthur.

21st October this year was the 200th anniversary of the "Battle of Trafalgar" where Admiral Nelson defeated the French. IVCmdre Brian Skinner with members of the East Coast Fleet, and Solent Fleets watched the International Fleet Review. They reported that the celebrations ended dramatically with a mock sea battle. A dozen tall ships took part with cannon, fire, and fireworks followed

chartered with 34 members, and 68 people were on board “Pacific Mermaid” for the chartering. Adding to the occasion were 1st Maye Katia Robinson, IRC John Milne with his 1st Mate Merrill from Australia, and from the South Pacific Regional Cmdre John Mills and his wife Marcia, IC Bill pointed out that this was a very unique occasion as this was the first charter ceremony to take place on the “high sea’s” and thanks were given to PIC Ken Winter for making “Pacific Mermaid “ available for such a wonderful event.



Chartering the New Zealand Boy of Islands Fleet

Returning to Port Sydney we were then transported by buses to McMorran’s Restaurant on beautiful Cordova Bay for a farewell dinner of great proportions. The next morning saw Iforians wend their way home.

During 1996 the Japanese reported the terrible disaster of the earthquake there, Funds were sent to help them in some way restore things back to normality.

The Hawaiian Fleet reported that 13 events had taken place during the year. IRRC Eric Bakkos reported that the Marc Nostrum Fleet in Spain was continuing to function effectively, IRRC Geoff Crockford was to charter a new Fleet in Tasmania. IRRC Ferit Biren “Turkye reported that 8 of his Fleets were working very effectively together and IRRC Robert Gubbels (France) was busy recruiting new members.

1997 Rotary Convention Glasgow (Scotland)

1997 saw us assemble in the land on the bag pipes and haggis, in other words Glasgow Scotland. Our AGM which was this year our “Golden Anniversary” took place at the Queen Mary Suite Glasgow Marriott Hotel. A succulent luncheon was served. Following the AGM Immediate Past Commodore Jack Keyser Installed Ken Winters (Auckland New Zealand) as Rear Commodore, Joe Phillips (Hawaii U S A) as Vice Commodore and Arnold Verkade (Westzaan Netherlands) as Commodore.

Following the Glasgow Convention some 20 Iforians together with their First mates attended a post convention rally in Reading England. Following a welcome at the Calcott Hotel we

boarded seven long boats to sail the Kennet-Avon Canal. This was a total new experience for most of us as we are used to sailing in open waters. The boats were more than 22 meters (73 foot) long and 2.30 metres “eight foot “ wide , with only one engine and without any mechanical help, we had to manoeuvre through a narrow canal through locks and bridges. All locks had to be opened and closed by hand as we passed through them, which on the whole was quite hard, tiring, and heavy work.



The IYFR Bay of Plenty Charter Members

12 hours after becoming a charter member of IYFR “N Z Bay of Plenty Fleet Roy Marsden took off from Taupo airport climbing his Cessna 177 Cardinal into a brilliant clear sky with three IYFR passengers on board. With a sparkling lake below in this spring morning he flew IC Bill Robinson with his 1st Mate Katia and fellow Charter member on a sightseeing flight of the area. Both IC Bill and 1st Mate Katia thought the flight was a wonderful gesture by Roy. The flight actually was the icing on the cake.

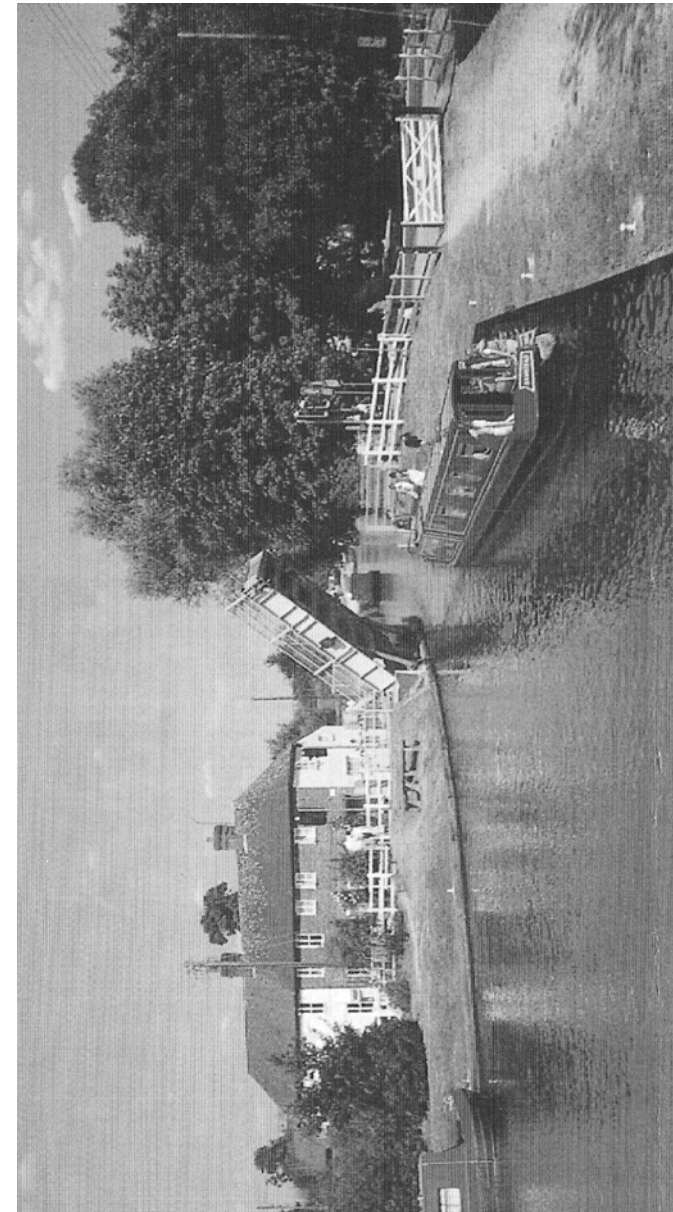
Also in November a charter lunch took place aboard the 105 ft luxury Motor Yacht “Pacific Mermaid” after cruising the bay the anchor was dropped in tranquil Puhutakawa Bay Moturoa Island. Following lunch and a social afternoon IC Bill Robinson then Chartered the “New Zealand Bay of Islands Fleet” the fleet was

The combined evening was a wonderful and unforgettable event for the 100 guests, dignitaries and charter members.



French Polynesia Commodore Nicolas Spillmann accepts charter from IC Bill Robinson

Also in November at Lake Taupo in the centre of the North Island Hugh Corrigan President of the Rotary Club of Taupo hosted a charter event at the Club's new venue adjacent to the swift flowing Waikato River. Fleet Commodore was the master of Ceremonies, and International Bill Robinson presented the Fleet Charter to the Fleet and commissioned the Bridge. International Rear Commodore John Milne presided over IYFR member burgee presentations. The fantastic dinner catered by Rotarian members included delicious smoked rainbow trout caught earlier that day by Rotary Members. Everyone felt very much at home the function had a wonderful atmosphere and was enjoyed by all those present.



Kennet-Avon Canal



IYFR Gathering, England

Unfortunately for us the weather played havoc with us as 1997 in England was the wettest and coldest month it had been for centuries. However, despite all the termoids that were sent to try us. We did in fact enjoy a great deal of fun and frolics together, and with out doubt everyone really appreciated the enjoyment of a really hot Shower or Bath on our arrival back to the Calcott Hotel in Reading. Sadly the following day of course saw us all making our final farewells before returning to our homes. July 1997 saw once again the Suffolk Fleet (G B) entertain the physical disabled people for a cruise on a Thames Barge cruising the Orwell and Stour Rivers. Together with International Commodore Arnold Verkade and his first Mate Koosje they boarded the Thames Barge "Thistle".

In the September some 80 inbound Exchange Students were hosted by the Chicago Fleet. The Rotary Mariner;s rounded up some nine sail boats and two power boats to take their chaperones out for an afternoon of fellowship and fun. The event commenced at the Columbia Yacht Club where everyone was treated to a "Chicago Hot Dog Lunch" Sailing some three miles off shore anchors were dropped and our Students had a great time swimming before they returned to Columbia Dock.

Also in September a party of Iforian's from Turkye in the Yacht "Surprise" sailed along the Turkish Riviera. The sailed from Kis to Bodrum and then to Gocek where another Yacht was rented and some 15 Iforian's with their 1st Mates from the Skaw Fleet (Sweden) sailed to Kalkan. Kastellorzon (Greece) then to Fethiye where a third yacht joined us with four Iforian's with their 1st mates. They also were from the Skaw Fleet (Sweden) this then totalled some 29 people. They then visited Kalkan, Patara, Myra, Katellorizon. The mixture oof ancient cultures, marvellous sailing waters and Turkish hospitality with delicious food was irresistible. Our final get together was celebrated at Port Gocek Marina where sadly we said our farewells.

In November at the "Intercontinental Beachcomber Hotel" of Moorea the Rotary Club of Moorea was chartered under the presidency of Yves Pasquiet. Later that evening our IC Bill Robinson chartered the French Polynesia Fleet in atten dance were 9920 District Govenor Colin Nicholas with his lady Judy, N Z Fleet Cmdre Terry and 1st Mate Meryl, Past Fleet Cmdre Roy and Barbara Budgen (N Z) Past District Govenor Beryl and Colin Robinson, and Past Papeete Rotary Club President Emmanuel and Marie-Claude Porlier. After accepting the Fleet Charter frim IC Bill Robinson Fleet Cmdre Nicholas Spillman introduced the Bridge Officers to the Rotary Club, IYFR Fleet and their guests.



Many of the 23 new fleet members are not pictured because they were out doing what good Mariners do in August in the Pacific

In October we celebrated the birthday of PIC George Kent when he reached his 90th Year of Age. During his lifetime He served as President of the Rotary Club of Victoria, Fleet Commodore of the Vancouver Island IYFE Fleet and later as International Commodore of IYFR. He put together many mixed choirs and raised more than \$100,000. He also took part in replacing the dinghy dock at English Camp on San Juan Island. PIC George Kent expresses total commitment to IYFR. It is hoped that George will celebrate his birthday in great style and we look forward to celebrating his centenary in a few years time.



Thames Barge Thistle. Steel Barge 86 Foot in length built 1895

This is a two day event which over the periods caters for some 100 very disabled people. At the end of the day all are provided with a hot meal in the Schooner Club Wolverston. during this visit our International Commodore and his first Mate were invited aboard the “Admiral Nelson” This is a ship specially built for disabled people (mostly for people in wheelchairs) They can board the ship themselves either at the stern, or they can wheel themselves along the Bow-splice. Once aboard they are shown how to use and fit safety harnesses, life jackets etc after which they all sign ships papers to qualify them as able seamen. They are then given full run of the ship (which includes all decks). They are usually at sea for at least a week and, at the end of the voyage are awarded certificates of competent at sea. The excitement and keenness these disabled people show is quite phenomenal.



Aboard Lord Nelson

October 1997 saw two Fleets chartered in Germany and we welcomed members of the Weser-Jade Fleet and the Northwest Washington Fleet. Also in October our International Commodore Arnold together with his First Mate Koosje travelled to South Africa. A wonderful programme was prepared by IRRC Tony Whitehead and Fleet Commodore Anto Wolheim and Chris Middleton. The Western Cape Fleet (South Africa) was initiated in 1972 and therefore was celebrating its 25th Anniversary. The Fleet has many projects which include Sailing trips for the underprivileged children and the handicapped. Together with Past International Ken Warr and first Mate Molly, both very active sailors, also with IRRC Fleet Commodore Harry Braun and 1st mate Sadie they



Left to right: PIC Frank McDonald, PIC Joe Phillips, PIRC Max Cribb, PIC Ken Winter, IPIC Ferit Biren, IC Bill Robinson and PIC Andrew Mitchell

August 19th to 21st saw a large gathering of Rotary Mariner's from Washington State (USA) and British Columbia (Canada) this is an annual meeting which rotates each year more than 86 attendees from five Rotary Districts attended on board some 35 boats to enjoy a weekend of fellowship and to help charter the San Juan Islands Fleet. The Fleet Charter dinner was held at the San Juan Vineyards winery. At this meeting IC Bill Robinson presented the Charter to Fleet Commodore Jack McKenna and the Vancouver Fleets present a "Ship's Bell" to the newly chartered fleet

We were invited to join the Chicago Architecture Association Cruise to view the fascinating architecture of the river. and in the afternoon we visited the Shedd Aquarium. Our final farewell dinner was held at Harry Caray's famous restaurant, where our final farewells were made before we all returned back to our homes.

Immediately following the Convention we were all very shattered to learn of the very sad news of the passing of PIC Joe Phillips. He was a member of the Rotary Club of Waikiki, and later he was responsible for the formation of the Honolulu Sunset Rotary Club. He also assisted in the formation of the Rotary Club of Diamond Head. He also was mainly responsible for the formation of the "Rotary International Bridge Playing Fellowship". Joe was extremely ill on his arrival in Chicago to attend the Rotary International Convention but so great was his love of IYFR that he was determined to say farewell to all his old friends, and this he did. His passing is a terrible loss to our fellowship, He was a wonderful International Commodore, and there was always fun and laughter whenever he was around. And we shall always remember his slogan a legacy which will be remembered by all IYFR's which was "fun fun fun" in his opinion this truly what our fellowship was all about. Rest easy Joe, you will be greatly missed, but will always be remembered by us all

watched the arrival of the yachts taking part in the round the world Whitbread race. They also were able to see the whales in their natural environment. Following this event they then drove to Port Elizabeth to meet members of the Eastern Cape Fleet.



***Rotary Club of Cape Town (Charter 1925) Meeting 21/10/97
Left to right: IYFOR International Commodore Arnold Verkade, his
1st Mate Koosje, President Steven Boers (1996-97)***



***Left to Right: P. Comdre. Graham Higgo, Skipper
'Albatros II John Goodwin, P.I.C. (1983-1985) Ken Warr,
P. Cmdre Harry Braun, P. President Ken Waddington***

October saw the usual sailing events always organised by Commodore Ferit Biren in Turkiye, taking place. A very highly successful regatta was completed with the presentation of the 1X International Bodrum Trophy.

February/March (1998) saw our International Commodore Arnold Verkade with Ist Mate Koosje visiting the New Zealand & Australian Fleets. Commencing in Auckland they met with Rear Commodore Ken Winters to sail the Auckland waters in the

Our Annual AGM/Luncheon was held at "Fulton's" on the river, a lovely setting with great views. Following the lunch Bill Robinson (Seattle U S A) was installed as our International Commodore, Brian Skinner (G B & I) as our International Vice Commodore, and John Milne (NSW Australia) as International Rear Commodore. Following these appointments PIC Andrew Mitchell presented PIC Ferit Berin with his Past International Commodores jewel.

Following the AGM we enjoyed a wonderful two-day celebration of Chicago waterfront. We enjoyed seven wonderful exciting events with time for us all to enjoy Chicago Down Town and waterfront. During the whole of the Convention a wonder programme of sailing was put on by the Chicago Fleet organised by Fleet Commodore Phil Klien where we were invited every day to sail on Lake Michigan. We were given a wonderful three hour sail aboard the tall ship "Windy" where we were given a perfect view of the Chicago waterfront.



IYFR Mariners aboard Tall Ship 'Windy'



Ready for the 'off' FC Ferit to the left of the picture. In the centre Incoming Commodore Bill Robinson with First Mate Katia



At the end of the parade Bryan and Christ Skinner with Bob

“Pacific Mermaid” where they spent time in Whangarei, finally participating in the Warkworth Rotary Race appeal.

They then flew to Brisbane Queensland to be greeted by IRRC Max Cribband members of the Queensland Fleet. After sailing the Brisbane and Gold Coast waters they visited the Mid North Coast Fleet at Forster and enjoyed an excellent evening at Taree

Sydney was the next port of call and were welcomed and stayed with Past International Commodore Frank McDonald and First Mate Edith. They were warmly welcomed by members of the New South Wales Fleet and taken on a tour of Sydney Harbour. Following this they met up with members of the Hunter Fleet and enjoyed sweet memories with them as they again sailed the Hawkesbury River.

After a two day drive they reached Metung to meet the Gippsland Lakes Fleet to sail in that wonderful old ship “Spray” with a delicious BBQ on board. It was here that they saw the Penguins walk out to sea.

After being taken home to Melbourne by IRRC Geoff Crockford and his First Mate Muff they visited the Victoria Fleet. Flying from there to Port Lincoln they were welcomed by Fleet Commodore Kevin Wiebrecht. The next day a visit to a Tuna Farm was arranged which was a new experience for our International Commodore and his First Mate.

Following this visit they then flew to Perth to be welcomed by IRRC Tony Smith and Fleet Commodore Pip Aspar and with the Fleet members enjoyed a wonderful Luncheon together. Whilst in Perth our International Commodore had the pleasure of spending a weekend on Rottnest Island (As many of us have experienced, a

man's only weekend.) At the end of the visit to Perth Our International Commodore Arnold and his First Mate Koosje returned back to Amsterdam.

1998 Rotary Convention Indianapolis (U S A)

1998 saw the R I convention assemble in Indianapolis. As usual our booth was kept very busy. On the Wednesday at the Radisson Hotel some 65 Iforian's enjoyed a succulent Luncheon followed by our AGM. It was proposed at this meeting that the following years AGM be held in Singapore that the Annual dues be raised to U S \$ 10.00. Commodore Arnold reported that we had suffered the loss of some 270 members. Some had been lost, but we had also gained some. The new Fleets they were:-British Virgins Islands, The Northwest Washington Fleet, South West Fleet of Naples, The Weser-Jade, and North East Fleet Germany. Like all other Commodores Arnold expressed his thanks to all who had given him and Koosje just great hospitality during their term of office, Thanks were also given to the wonderful team he had around him. I R C Admin Evert van der Stroom and I R C (Roster) Frits Stavast and also I R C Felix Keller.

Following the AGM some 24 Iforian's drove in cars to Davenport on the Mississippi River. The evening was spent in the Radisson Hotel where we were joined by another 24 Iforian's. The next day we all boarded the "Twilight" for our two day cruise on the Mississippi River. We learned that the river freezes in the winter at this latitude. During the navigational season it is used extensively for moving grain. During our stay aboard the crew really pampered us. The on board activities included besides sun-tanning, idle chatter, bridge-playing sessions, and some very interesting cross-

2005 Rotary Convention Chicago (U.S.A.)

The Rotary Centennial Parade through the streets of Chicago was full of fun and to every ones delight the streets were lined with masses of cheering people.



IYFR float awaiting the crew

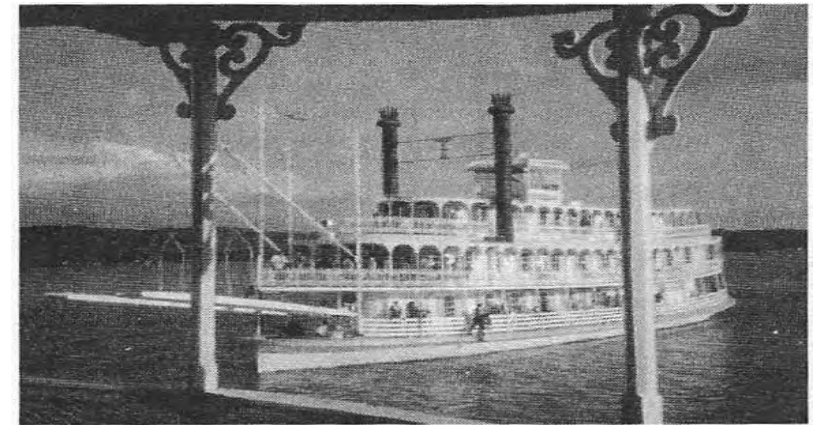
sino overlooking the lake with it's magnificent scenery. During the lunch Neptune himself with two lovely mermaids appeared out of the lake and presented (alcoholic) gifts to those present.



Presentation of Crimean Cognac by VC Petro Baskakoc

During his two years of office our IC Ferit Berin was pleased to report that our fellowship had grown by some 17%. The new Fleets chartered during his term of office were:-Cascade Fleet (U S A), Delta Fleet (Argentina), Gocek Fleet (Turkye), Rome Central Fleet (Italy), Victoria Fleet (NSW Australia), Bourgas Fleet (Bulgaria), Mudanya Fleet (Turkye), Varna Fleet (Bulgaria), Crimea Fleet (Ukraine), Swiss Fleet (Switzerland). 10 Fleets in all.

cultural discussions. During the afternoon we experienced a short but very intensive storm on the river with a fascinating "Linesquall" After breakfast the following morning we visited Galiena Iowa, this town like its namesake in Missouri is named after the Lead Ore present in the surrounding hills and has been extensively mined. On our return to the "Twilight" we were very surprised to see the extensive damage caused by the storm the previous day. Large trees were down everywhere. Having now been used to early rising in the mornings we gathered at the local University where we were treated to a truly scrumptious breakfast and given a very humourous talk and video show by Rotarian Peter Pohi who had been invited to spend time on a yacht sailing the Windward Islands in the Caribbean working as a jack of all trades.



Mississippi River Boat Cruise 'Twilight'

Sadly next morning saw us bidding our farewells to many old and new friends before returning back to our normal lives.

A week later saw our International Commodore and his First Mate travelled to Istanbul (Turkye) to take part in the Governors

Parade organised by the Turkish Fleets a ritual which takes place every year to welcome the new District Governor into Office. Out Turkish hosts planned a fantastic programme for our Commodore Arnold and 1st Mate Koosje. They sailed the Bosphorus and enjoyed the sights and sounds of Istanbul. During this visit at the Sunday Luncheon a charter was presented to Fleet Commodore M Sabin Yalim of the Izmit Fleet

It is with great regret that we have to announce that Past Commodore (G B & I) Geoff Pearce passed away in August. Geoff served our fellowship during many years in various positions. As Commodore G B & I he signed with ICmdre George Kent the Agreement of Affiliation meant to be the first step to full integration. He served as ICmdre Administration during the years of 1991-1993. We are most grateful for all has done for our fellowship and our thoughts go out to Angela.

During the Convention in Indianapolis contact were made between ourselves and Assistance District Governor Charlie Clemmons and on the 22nd October 1998 at the invitation of our International Commodore Arnold Verkade the Charter for the newly formed Texas Fleet was presented to them by Vice Commodore Joe Phillips. This new Fleet now has some 42 members.

It was reported that 11 Yachts from the East Coast, Medway, and Suffolk Fleets sailed to Holland for a meeting with the Netherlands South West Fleet at Wemeldinge for a rally which it was reported was very successful, and great fellowship was enjoyed by all.

low one of the Ukraine, when, on the 28th May in the city resort of Yalta (Crimea-Ukraine) IC Ferit Berin presented the Fleet Charter to Fleet Commodore Valerly Chapurin. On this event he was accompanied by Demir Sindal from Istanbul.

Both IC Ferit together with VIC Bill Robinson were presented with a bottle of Crimean Cognac by VC Petro Baskakoc of the Crimea Fleet. A Two day cultural prigram followed this event when members visited Balaclava Marina, Livadia Palace, The art Gallery of Yalta, and the Serg Milokumav's Gallery



Presentation of Crimean Cognac by VC Petro Baskakoc

In June prior to our Convention more than 50 Rotarians gathered together in the City of Zug (Switzerland) where IC Ferit Berin Chartered the first Swiss Fleet. The ceremony was followed by a reception at the border of the lake, and lunch was served at the Ca-

unable to attend the Chicago Convention. In his place Past Fleet Commodore (N S W) John Milne was elected to take his place. He is currently serving our fellowship as Regional Rear Commodore.

In April in the Hotel Astero in Golden Sands in Bulgaria IC Ferit Berin had the honour of chartering of the Varna Fleet (Bulgaria). The ceremony was honoured in the presence of the Governor and Deputy Mayor of Varna and some 100 people attend this prodigious and important gathering. The following day some of the most interesting sightseeing of Varna were shown to our IC Ferit Berin.



A

The Charter Ceremony Varna Fleet Bulgaria

spring meeting was held in Zalmhuis (Holland) on the border of the river Maas where some 40 Iforian's together with their 1st Mates enjoyed a wonderful luncheon with good fellowship. Following the lunch Rob van Twist gave a video presentation with the S/V Oosterschelde about his trip to Anartica.

A new flag appeared on the IYFR web side – the blue yel-

1999 Rotary Convention Singapore (S. E. Asia)

The Rotary gathering in 1999 was in Singapore and our AGM/Luncheon was held at the Singapore Westlin Hotel. ICmdre Arnold reported that we have lost some Fleets but gained others, He welcomed the British Virgin Islands Fleet, Northwest Washington Fleet, the Southwest Fleet in Naples (Italy) the Weser-Jade Fleet together with the North East in Germany

Past International Arnold Verkade installed Ferit Biren (Turkiye) as International Rear Commodore, Ken Winters (New Zealand) International Vice Commodore, and Joe Phillips (Hawaii U S A) as International Commodore.

Following the Singapore Convention a post convention get together had been arranged by Vice International Ken Winters. On Thursday 17th June A tour of Keppels Ship Builders had been arranged followed by a lunch at the Wharf Restaurant. Friday saw us on a Harbour Cruise visiting the Santosa Island with lunch being served on the Island.

Before departing for Home International Commodore Joe was invited by Int Rear Cmdre Ferit Berin to visit Turkey. As the New Commodore Joe & His first Mate Marda quickly wended their way to visit Ferit and Joe was invited to charter two new Fleets the Marmaris, and the Fethiye Fleets which duty he duly carried out

Following this visit our Commodore and First Mate then journeyed to England to visit P I C Andrew He was taken firstly to Burnham-on-Crouch where he was hosted by Fleet Commodore Mike and Ist Mate Anne they sailed with the East Coast and Suffolk Fleets together with members of the Dutch Fleets who had sailed

over to welcome Joe a Really wonderful rally. On the Monday Joe was back in Essex to take part in the Yearly Handicapped outings on a Thames Barge organised by

the Suffolk Fleet. With assistance from Brian Skinner Joe was taken to visit the Humber Fleet where he sailed a 24 foot 100 year old wooden sloop He stopped at New York on his way home to visit Tom and Mike Dent to meet members of the New York Fleet.

It was sadly reported that Commodore Sabri Yalim and his first mate Sevim died during the first shock of the earthquake which occurred in Turkey in August IRRC Ferit report how very deeply touched he had felt by receiving so many messages of sympathy and offers of help from many Iforians around the world.

Vice Commodore Ken Winters also invited all Iforian's to come visit New Zealand to watch the finals of the America Cup races which were due to take place in March 2000

Like all Past International Commodores Joe had his fair share of Computer problems but with great resolve and with the help of Mark Moore he quickly came to terms with things and he started a new phase for all Iforians and that was Service on the sea was "Fun Fun Fun Fun" and this catch phrase very quickly caught on. No doubt due to the encouragement and magical personality Joe always carried with him.

At a special event in Chicago in November world famous Captain William Pinckney was appointed Honorary Commodore of the Chicago Fleet. As PIC Bob Stuart presented the honours to Capt Pinckey he credited him for his work in the Middle Passage Voyage retracing the route of his slave ancestors.



IC Ferit Biren presenting the Fleet charter to Mudanya Fleet Commadore Fahri

The next month October saw IC Ferit in Canada where he was received by Fleet Cmdre (Vancouver Fleet) Otto Rieve. After a quick tour of Vancouver he was taken to the Wine Festival which had been organised by Vancouver Rotaract Club's The following day he was welcomed by Dave & Jeanne Kelly, and following a wonderful lunch the Fleet AGM was held, and IC Ferit then inducted the new Vancouver Bridge. The next day aboard a paddle steamer they cruised to Burrard Inlet where a very succulent lunch was served, then sadly it was time for our IC Ferit Berin to return to the Airport to fly home.

Due to ill health we received the sad news that Max Cribb had resigned as International Rear Commadore, and that he will be

In February 2005 the first Fleet in Bulgaria District 2480 was chartered, Some 53 Rotarians from three Rotary clubs in Bourgas attended and together with District Governor Kalcho Hinov and all the Wives IC Ferit Berin chartered the Bourgas Fleet in Bulgaria. It was a very joyful event with new friendships being formed. IC Ferit then return back to his home in Turkey.



IC Ferit Biren presents the Charter to the Bourgas Fleet

Also that month IC Ferit Berin together with his first Mate Koray Also enjoyed another joyful event when our International Commodore At a very auspicious dinner chartered the Turkish Mudanya Fleet.

Fleet activities were very much in the news at this time. In Australia a gathering of the Auckland Fleet together with the Australian Gold Coast Fleet which included watching the exciting Louis Vuitton Cup Race took place. Likewise in Canada the Seattle and Vancouver Fleets gathered for a meeting in Garrison Bay 17 Yachts attended and they moored in three lines The first line supplied the cocktails, the Second row supplied dinner the Third row of course the desserts. No mention as to who supplied the drinks were reported

At Leuwarden in the Netherlands our Dutch Fleets hosted an International Rally with Falcon Class Sloops Our Commodore Joe together with his First mate Marda were hosted by IRRC Frits Bartels and his charming wife Joke and a great rally took place enjoyed by all who participated.

In October some 20 yachts carried foreign flags were amongst the 80 yachts rafted together in Gunusiuk Harbour to take part in the Bodrum Cup regatta in Turkey. The winds were so light that Many yachts had to motor back to Bodrum for the presentation of certificate and winners cup A musical show was laid on for all those present.

Sadly Joe Phillips was abroad when the Japanese Fleet visited The Hawaiian Fleet In his absence PIC Andrew Mitchell together with IRC Mark Moore and Fleet Commodore Gerhart Walch welcome our Japanese visitors and an elegant dinner was arranged to welcome them all at the Elk Club Hawaii. the Japanese party was led by IRRC Mashuo Hosokawa and the Japanese Main Secretary Kazuyoshi Yamada and Treasurer Kei Kita with members of the Osaka and Nishinomiya Fleets.



Japanese Visit to the Hawaiian Fleet

2000 Rotary Convention Buenos Aires (Argentina)

IC Joe Phillips convened the AGM/Luncheon at the Claridge Hotel in Buenos Aires Argentina. During the meeting IC Joe Phillips introduced a number of new IRRC appointments. A great surprise was unveiled by our Commodore, when with the help of IVCmdre Ken Winters and IRCmdre Ferit Berin chartered the new Pio del Plata Fleet with Guillermo Arteta of Buenos Aires as its new Fleet Commodore. This was followed by a delicious Argentina Luncheon.

Ferit to the Helsinki Ferry to travel to Mariehamn in Aaland. Here he was met by Iforian's from the North Baltic Fleet. Luncheon was served in Sjukvarteret. A visit to the barkship "Pommern" was then made, and, in the evening a cocktail party had been arranged aboard Pertti Mylinen's new HR43. From here we went to the Ass Club Restaurant for an excellent dinner where we watched a wonderful sunset. The last day IC Ferit Berin was escorted by members of the North Baltic Fleet back to board the ferry sailing back to Kopellskor. IC Cmdre Ferit was met by Rear Fleet Cmdre Roland Hagberg where they motored back to Stockholm, a visit to the Wasamuseum had been arranged followed by lunch at the Pamoas Marina. A short visit to Drottningholm Palace was made before IC Ferit Berin caught the train to Stockholm and then to Germany.

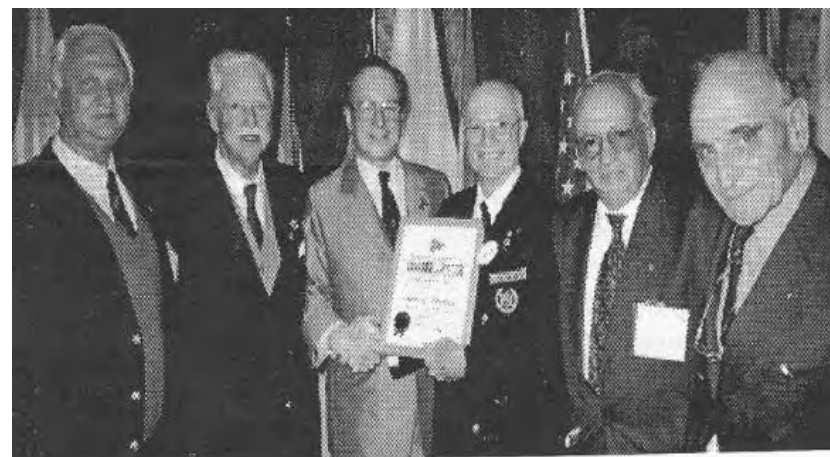
In September IC Ferit then wended his way to the Netherlands to visit the Fleets there during this visit our International Commodore was hosted by PICmdre Arnold Verkade. The following day the party made their way to Grouw in Friesland to take part in the annual "Captains Regatta". The participants sail in small open boats, they change after the first heat when the winner then takes over the boat that finished last to sail the second leg. With such a formula you need sporting and flexible participants. Our IC Ferit Berin took a very active part in this event. At the final dinner when trophy's were handed out our IC Ferit Berin he presented to the Commodore of the Dutch Fleet his personal banner.

With great fellowship and celebration in December saw our IRC Max Cribb present the charter to the new Victoria Fleet on behalf of IC Ferit Berin. The Fleet composed of some 38 new Iforian's and Bob was ably assisted by Regional Commodore Bob Dack. Following the Charter a very interesting tour was made in Pompei's Boat Yard.



International Commodore Ferit. Biren visit to Japan

In August our IC Ferit Berin travelled to Copenhagen to visit the Fleets of Denmark and Sweden. On arrival he was welcomed by Region Cmdre Arne Magnusson and his first mate Margareta together with Fleet Cmdre Tom Sellberg from the Skaw Fleet. The following morning in the company of two other Yachts left the south of Gothenberg and after 5 hours of sailing reached the ancient city of Marstrand. Here they were joined by other Iforian's to enjoy a very succulent luncheon at the Grand Hotel which overlooked the harbour. Leaving Marstrand they sailed to Tjornekalv where Tom Sellberg resided after a very lively and delicious party amongst Rotary Iforian' Mariners IC Ferit was hosted for the night with Gunnar Jardelow in his summer house at Skarhamn. The next day saw our IC Ferit wend his way back to Gothenberg then on to Stockholm. Cmdre Anders Kogdtom escorted our IC



Fleet Commodore Guillermo Arteta receives Charter from IC Joe Phillips at the Annual General Meeting. The first IYFR Fleet in South America

The Australian Gold Coast Fleet and their Families joined the Auckland Fleet to enjoy the early stages of the America Cup Races. The Event was hosted by Fleet Cmdre Roy Duden and 1st Mate Barbara

The Chartering of the Los Angeles Fleet took place at the Casa Escobar Restaurant International Joe Phillips together with IRRC Ken Allen presented the Charter at that meeting.

In the presence of International Commodore and 1st Mate Marda Joe chartered the Whitsunday Fleet Some 50 Iforian's plus guest attended this event and a delicious dinner was then served. At this meeting Comdre Joe was presented with a large ships clock together with a barometer. It is reported that the South West (Naples) Fleet held their first International Rally at Sirenland in Sorrento

with visits to the Isle of Capri and Ischia great fellowship took place and it was considered to be a very successful rally. Other events reported was that a great cruise with three boats and 25 Rotarians and Families took place in Hong Kong. It was reported that a "Border Regatta" took place between Sweden and Norway where some 65 yachts participated in some very strong winds, but all went well and a great time was enjoyed by all.

Rear Cmdre Max Besenbruch acted as IC Joe Phillips ambassador when he travelled to Germany to attend the Annual Trefen Rally an annual sail in by all the German Fleets held at Fehmarn Island. At the banquet some 50 Iforians together with their mates gathered together to rendezvoused at Burgstakeen. The following day sailed to Lolland Island port of Rodbyhazn in 12 large yachts where they sailed some 40 nautical miles it took them some two and a half days sailing to return to base.

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the passing of PIC Marty Lockney he was indeed one our most extravert and fun loving Commodores to have served our Fellowship. He served as our Commodore during the years of 1985-1987. They were really fun years under his command. He was a member of the Newport Harbour Fleet and his passing will bring much sadness to many Iforian's around the world.

The Hong Kong Fleet was chartered by IC Joe Phillips at the elegant Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club 27 members attended together with their District Governor IC Joe presented the Chsrter to Fleet Commodore Tom Shepherd and Steve DeKrey was appointed IRRC for that area. This is our first Fleet in China and certainly helps in increase Rotaries stature in the region.

It was reported that IC Joe Phillips along with the main Japa-

annual AGM where 100 Iforians and guest's attended together with Past President of Rotary International Cliff Dochterman where a succulent luncheon was served. IVC Bill Robinson as master of the event did a fantastic job and our meeting was full of fun and laughter. In the evening three Japanese Fleets arranged a trip down the river for us where they served several hibatchi grills to us.

The next day some 42 of us met at the Hotel to depart for the post Convention Cruise to Kyato, Lake Biwa, and Kushimoto. Before arriving at Lake Biwa we were given a tour of Todaiji Temple in Nara from there we checked into the Biwako Hotel That evening we were taken into Kyato where in a 300 year old Japanese Restaurant we were served a delightful dinner. The next morning a bus took us back to Kyato where we visited ancient Temple's and Shrines after which we stopped at a tea house for refreshments. Nijo Jowas a very massive and imposing castle. It was the home of a Shogun built in 1602. That evening we boarded a yacht called the Michigan (a Paddle Steamer) which docked in front of our hotel on Lake Biwa.

The following day saw us travel from Biwa to Kushimoto where we were welcome by the Mayor of Kushimoto. Here we visited the museum and memorial for the Turkish Sail Ship "Entugrul" which was struck by a Typhon in 1892 and foundered on the Kashinazaki Rocks with the loss of 632 sailors. In the evening a wonderful evening of entertainment was given to us. Sadly the next day we departed Kushiomoto to wend our way to Osaka and then home.

taurant Ship. Here PIC Frank McDonald and his 1st mate Edith arrived. Here the official welcome by the NSW Fleets were made. Sadly this was the last day of ICmdre Ferit Berin's visit to Australia, and so, the following morning saw me taking off to fly home once again to Turkey.

Some 6 Iforian's from Queensland together with 20 Iforian's from New South Wales all with their 1st Mates gathered together in the Royal Perth Yacht Club to begin a great trip visiting Fleets from Port Lincoln, Gippsland, New South Wales, Hunter and the Mid North Coast Fleets. The party travelled some 14,000 Kilometres, used some 1,400 Litres of fuel. Every Fleet encountered on the trip abounded in fun, fellowship, and friendship which made our Australian tour a very happy 5 weeks. The warm hospitality shown will be remembered with great appreciation and fondness. Special thanks were made to Commodore Bob Dack and Bill Chapman for planning such a trip.

In March the Seattle Rotary Mariners sponsored the chartering of the New Cascade Fleet joining in the celebrations were IYFR members from Vancouver, Victoria, Puget Sound, and Seattle. VIP.s attending this prestigious event were IC Bill Robinson, PIC, George Kent and Jack Keyser, and Fleet Commodores, Dave Kelly, Paul McTaggart, Dan Kelly, Fred Battie and Otto Rieve. The new Fleet has a membership of some 50 members. Congratulations and welcome was made by the International Bridge for a job well done

2004 Rotary Convention Osaka (Japan)

This year our Rotary International Convention took place in Osaka Japan. Our booth was manned by four of the Japanese Fleets and they were most colourful and very active. In an elegant venue, called the "Kikunama Room" at the Righa Royal Hotel we held our

nese Fleet flew from Osaka to Nagasaki to Charter the West Kyushu Fleet it was an elegant evening enjoyed by all those present.

It was also reported that a 70 year old Iforian Ikuo Kashina a member of the Rotary Club of Osaka recently completed a circumnavigation of the world in his Corasa S 42 Yacht. A feat every Iforian should be very proud of.

Notice should be taken that IC Joe visited during the year Fleet's in Europe North Region, Germany, Netherlands, New York, Lake Ontario, Great Lakes, Chicago, Lake Erie, Illinois, and those in Gt Britain

2001 Rotary Convention Texas (U S A)

The Rotary International Convention was this year held in San Antonio Texas and for us Iforian's time for a change of watch. Our AGM/Luncheon was held at the Biga Restaurant San Antonio at that meeting IC Joe then appointed Commodore Ken Winters (New Zealand) as our new International Commodore, Ferit Berin (Turkey) appointed International Vice Commodore, and Bill Robinson (U S A) as Rear Commodore and of course Joe Phillips then became our Immediate Past Commodore.



***The four Commadores: Joe Phillips 1999-01 Ferit Biren
2003-05 Ken Winter 2001-03 Bill Robinson 2005-07***

PIC Joe had lead our Fellowship with great gusto and probably travelled further than most International Commodore's and it was noted that our literature was now printed in English, French, German, and some in Japanese. It was also reported that we now had some 21 Fleets through-out the world with a membership of some 3000 members

In August some 80 Iforian's from the Vancouver and Seattle Fleet rendezvous at Shaw Island. This event rotates each year between the U S and Canadian sides of the border

A rally took place between the Netherlands South-West Fleet and the East Coast, and Suffolk Fleet's from Gt Britain Two other guests were also present at this rally they were PIC Joe Phillips and Wolfhard Schmidt Comodore of the German North-West Fleet It was reported that this was Fellowship at its best

Governor Reg Willis and was taken to the Emerald Hotel. In the evening at the lovely home of Reg Willis And his lovely wife Joyce a wonderful meal of Red Snapper was supplied. The next day saw us in Freemantle where a visit to the Maritime Museum took place and of course saw the "America Cup" Winning Yacht "Australia 11" Following lunch we toured the town and port before returning back to Perth to prepare for the cocktail party at the Perth Royal Yacht Club being given to welcome the visit of our International Commodore Ferit Biren. Members from all Australian Fleets attended this prodigious event.

Like many other Past International Commodores our IC Ferit Berin experienced the men's only weekend which always takes place on Rattnes Island where much fun is always prevalent. The day they returned to Perth was Reg Wikkis's Birthday and in the Board Walk Restaurant a very elegant birthday meal was served. The following day saw our IC Ferit wend his way to Sydney where he was greeted by Regional Commodore John Milne & his 1st Mate Merrill, together with Fleet Commodore (N S W Fleet) Henry Dege & his 1st Mate Velma. The next day we boarded their yacht to sail the Darling Harbour where to add to the excitement many other Iforian boats joined us. We all moored in a very quiet beautiful bay where brunch and drinks were served. In the party Past Region Commodore Colin Dodds and his 1st Mate Natalie invited me to their home for evening drinks and supper. Former Commodore Dick and his 1st Mate Jean Gifford (Hunter Fleet) also joined the party.

The next day we boarded Colin Dodds Grand banks yacht and together with members of the N S W and Hunter Fleets once again toured Darling Harbour this time sailing under the famous "Sydney Bridge" and past the famous "Opera House" We landed at Cockley Harbour Wharf lunch was served aboard the S/S South Steyne Res-

The famous CAPTAIN S Regatta was sailed in Friesland at (just try and pronounce this) Dokkumerriewezeilen about thirty Iforian's and their 1st mates crewed seven sailing yachts combating each other for the Captain's Regatta Cup The Dutch North East Fleet proved its excellence in organising the event.

Nine yachts from the Suffolk Fleet took part in the Dovercourt Rotary Club Annual Regatta which with many congratulations Tony Burrows in "Curlew" won the race and was presented with the Rotary Plate.

In February IC Ferit Biren visited the fleets of New Zealand he was hosted by PIC Ken Winters and his 1st Mate Bente who had planned a very busy schedule for the next few days. The following day together with some 80 Iforian's he boarded Ken Winters Ship "Pacific Mermaid" for an evening cruise. Around midnight "Pacific Mermaid" together with two IYFR Sloops sailed to Islington Bay. The next day was "Waitangi Day" (N Z National Day) after breakfast they motored to Motuihe Channel to join hundreds of small boats all rod fishing for Snapper in the evening together with some 60 members of the Waiheke Island Rotary Club gather together for a dinner cruise around Auckland Harbour. The next day saw us cruising around the northern part of the island finally anchoring at Man of War Bay and IC Ferit Biren was fascinated and intrigued with the commercial shell fish farm. The next day saw us cruising back to Islington bay then on to Auckland. IC Ferit Biren particularly enjoyed the Maritime Museum with its focus on exploits of the N Z Maori people. A final get together took place at the Remuera Rotary Club where thanks and farewells were made before our IC Ferit Biren return back to Turkey.

In January IC Ferit Biren flew to Perth Australia where he was welcomed by Western Fleet Regional Commodore and P D

The first overseas visit made by our Cmdre Ken Winter together with his first Mate was to Istanbul Turkey to attend the wedding of Arzu and Serhan son of past Fleet Commodore Dunder Renda of the Istanbul Fleet 69 Iforian's gathered together at Atakoy Marina A sail pass took place before the District Governor and IC Ken followed by a traditional luncheon

PIC Joe Phillips accompanied by some 20 Iforian's arrived aboard the "Grosherzogin Elizabeth" a three masted sailing ship to be welcomed by members of the Rotary Club of Helgoland. Where some exciting sailing events took place. Congratulations were passed to the newly formed fleet who offered such great hospitality with such great friendship fun and fellowship.

A gathering by British Iforian's took place at Chatham Marina for a fellowship weekend, the highlight of the meeting was that they sailed the river Thames in the "Havengore" which had just been rebuilt. This was the vessel which carried Sir Winston Churchill coffin up the Thames to his last resting place.

Sweden was given the honour of two visits from our Commodores. Past International Joe Phillip's together with Marda visited Bengt Solve and his 1st Mate Inga together they visited the Skaw Fleet. This was followed by a visit from Int Cmdre Ken Winters and 1st Mate Bente a full programme had been arranged which included a visit to Marstrand following a super lunch they were taken to Nostalgia Pier where old Sailing ship's and Motors yacht are collected in a living museum.

After an invitation by IC Ken Winters and PIC Joe Phillips a trip was organized by Ben Solve for Swedish members to visit both Hawaii and New Zealand. 14 Swedish Iforian's together with their

1st Mates then wended their way on to Hawaii. They certainly were not prepared for the welcome given them on their arrival, Firstly they were welcomed by Hawaiian Hula Girls and the greetings from our Hawaiian friends was overwhelming. We toured the island of Hawaii visited Museums, and of course Rotary Clubs. They then travelled to New Zealand where another amazing welcome awaited us. The highlight of course was being royally entertained aboard IC Ken Winter ship "Pacific Mermaid" and we were lucky enough to witness the start of the Volvo Ocean Race. To us Scandinavians the whole trip was absolutely Fantastic.

The schedule current travels by our IC Ken Winters read as follows USA, Canada, England, Netherlands, Spain, Turkey, Germany, Japan, Hong Kong visiting some 19 Fleets in all .

2002 Rotary Convention Barcelona (Spain)

Following a very successful AGM/Luncheon at the Meridien Hotel Las Rambias Barcelona Iforian's travelled to Istanbul Turkey to participate in the annual IYFR get together which had been organised by IVCmdre Ferit Berin. After arrival and cruise along the straits of Bosphorus a welcome dinner in a seafood restaurant took place. The following day was very busy full of culture, art, and history with a lunch in the courtyards of Topkapi Palace. In the evening Iforian's flew to Goek for a dinner on the waterfront. The third day they sailed from Fethiye Marina to Goccek to meeting welcoming Iforian's. In the evening they travelled to Oludeniz to be welcomed by Frthiye Rotary Club. The next day we visited Ephesus and a farewell dinner at the Kusadasi Kismet Hotel took place.

all Before departing for home IC Ferit Biren was presented with a book about the River Thames.

The second official visit by IC Ferit Biren was to Japan. On his arrival at Kansai Airport he was welcomed by Masami & Mutsuko Nishikawa, Kayoko Kajino, Hiroaki, Taka, Kazuho, Katayama. On arriving at Kyoto he was welcomed by Cmdre Kozo Kojino Cmdre Osaka Fleet. On the following day IC Ferit was shown around the proposed Convention Sites. In the evening Fleet Cmdre Kazo and his 1st Mate Kayoko showed him around Kiyoto and our members will find Giyan a most entertaining area.

The following day we met at the Righa Royal Hotel Osaka (Headquarters of the Convention) where he was taken around the fellowship halls. This was followed by a Fellowship luncheon where all past and present dignities and leaders were seated around the table/ A very warm welcome speech was made by Japan Main Bridge Cmdre Hiraoka. The next day arriving at Nishi Matina at Kobe we embarked on a motor yacht "Macho" and sailed to Awazi Island After a typical Japanese Luncheon we returned to the Marina at a speed of some 30 knots. On departure from Japan Kaju Yamado and his 1st mate Macho, Tooda, Kayoko. Kazo came to see IC Ferit Berin off at the departure gate.

Aboard the yacht "Surprise" 12 Members of the Swedish Fleet spent three weeks sailing the Mediterranean Sea arriving in Bodrum Turkey where they were heartily welcomed by Fleet Cmdre Omer Karacular. IC Ferit Biren travelled from Istanbul to welcome the guests from Sweden. In the evening an excellent dinner was served and many new friendships formed. The following morning saw our Swedish guest's bid farewells before continuing on their cruise.

Coral Reef Hotel in Airly Beach. Our party was then joined by Whitsunday Fleet Cmdre Ian and Rtn Eric Bottle. In the evening we enjoyed a real Aussie dinner. The following day we visited the Airlie Rotary Boat Show and the next two days we were free to tour the Island and enjoy the sun, sea, and IYFR Fellowship. The last day saw us all join in a farewell dinner before we had once again to wend our way home.

On his return home to Turkey IC Ferit Biren was given a rapturous welcome which took place at the Yacht Club at the Atakay Marina when past and current District Governors from Districts 2420, 2430 and 2440 were present and all 15 Fleets had members attending this important event. A shield of appreciation was presented to IC Ferit Biren. A parade of IYFR boats took place the following day in front of the Atakay Marina in Istanbul.

IC Ferit Biren's first visit abroad was to Great Britain where he was welcomed by Chris Bishop and his 1st mate Jane. He was taken to Hertford to be hosted by Cmdre (G B & I) Brian Skinner where they were welcomed by some 25 members and their mates together with the G B & I main bridge. IC Ferit was next day taken to Norfolk to rivers and lake known as "The Broads" where he was taken on a cruise to South Walsham. 10 boats from the Broads Fleet joined them for a BBQ Luncheon. There were some 66 members and wives at this event. The following day IC Ferit Biren joined the Suffolk Fleet at Walton-on-Naze where they met Fleet Cmdre Richard Woodman and taken aboard his yacht "Andromeda" and with other yacht's shown the "Secret Waters" the backwaters of Walton-on-Naze. The next day saw us wend our way to join the Thames Fleet where we were welcomed by Flt Cmdre Les Wilkinson and Michael Dooley. We sailed down the Thames on Michael's yacht to Henley where we were joined by Governor Ian Black and toured the Henley Rowing Museum where a good lunch was enjoyed by

It was reported that Herman Allerstorfer from Hawaii and Peter Pohl of Germany met together and proceeded to Gotenborg to pay a return visit to Sweden what a welcome the Swedish Iforian's gave them the red carpet was well and truly laid out for them. They sailed in four yachts around Baastad on the Swedish West Coast before return back to Gotenborg for their journey home.

In March four Rotary Iforian's all over the age of 70 set out from Waikiki (USA) to sail in a 42 foot cutter (Orion) to Tahiti a distance of some 2300 miles. They planned to explore the French Polynesia once there, so Congratulation's should be passed to Capt Max Besenbuech age 78, Herman Allerstorfer age 76, Peter Pohl age 74 and Don Rudd age 72. for a job well done.



Left to Right: Peter Pohl Herman Auerstorfer Don Rudd

Other events which took place prior to our meeting in Brisbane was, when some 60 Iforian's representing 10 of 14 Fleets in Gt Britain met at Pin Mill to participate in the Thames Barge Disabled outings. Another very successful "Kids Day Out" was organised by the Sussex Fleet when some 130 children were taken sailing for the day.

The Paget Sound Iforian's (Mariner's) were joined by Vice International Commodore Bill Robinson when the fleet took part in the open day of the Daffodil Parade

It is reported that a new Columbia River Fleet is in the making for Rotary Iforian's/Mariners living in the greater Portland, Oregon, and Vancouver Washington area. Thanks to our IVCmdre Bill Robinson as a result of Pacific Northwest connection with Russia work is taking place with the Lake Baikal region of Siberia to form what may be the first Fleet in Russia (There are some 70 Rotary Clubs in Russia) with the help of District 5030 Seattle Number 4 the Russian Rotary Matching Grant Program the Lake Baikal Rotarian's are planning a "Kayaks for Kids" project to take disabled children out so that they can enjoy the experience the joy's and freedom of Kayaking Further discussions are planned to take place at the IYFR Brisbane Convention

An invitation has been passed to all Iforian's by VIC Ferit Beren to visit Turkey and sail in their yacht M/V Rotayat she is a 22.5 m (73.77ft) steel yacht powered by two diesel engines, the capacity is for 100 people, the dining room seats some 70 people. It is to be used as a training ship for all forms of coastal navigation, Nautical Astronomy, Seamanship, Meteorology, Oceanography, Signaling, etc.

2003 Rotary Convention Brisbane (Australia)

We met this year in the lovely city of Brisbane (Australia) and once again it was time for a change of watch. At the IYFR AGM/Dinner held in the Dockside Restaurant Snug Harbour Marina PIC Joe Phillips assisted by PIC.s Bert Collins, Frank McDonald, and Andrew Mitchell installed Ferit Beren (Turkey) as our International Commodore, Bill Robinson (USA) as International Vice Commodore, and Max Cribb (Australia) International Rear Commodore



IRC Max Cribb PIC Ken Winter, IVC Bill Robinson and IC Ferit Beren

The following day saw Iforian.s (Mariners) departed Brisbane Airport for Hamilton Island where we were booked into the