

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YACHTING FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARIANS

ROTAFLOAT

Issue 89 JANUARY 2013



STAKE BOAT AT RECENT AMERICA'S CUP WORLD SERIES WITH IYFR BUNGEE

COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

Following all of our activities in Bangkok for the International Convention and the post convention cruise both I and the staff were ready for a bit of R and R and, luckily, we seemed to get it without much activity for several months. This gave us some time to concentrate on activities for the upcoming International Convention in Lisbon. The experience with Thailand and now Portugal really drives home the difficulty in getting activities and plans in place for these events when we do not have any local fleets or fellow IYFR mariners local to the event. I often wonder how my predecessors managed to do this before the internet age. I must say we probably didn't give them enough credit for what they achieved!

But that said, I think the bridge staff has done a great job in arranging the events we have planned and which were initially announced in the last Rotafloat; the reception, dinner and finally the post convention cruise and I want to encourage all of you to join us in Lisbon... it is a fantastic city... and for our events. But if you are joining us there I want to call your attention to the article in this issue on the sale of Regalia at the convention. Basically RI has prohibited any of it so if you need something be sure to pre-order it so you aren't disappointed.

The next major event for the Fellowship was the nominations for our next International Rear Commodore and, subsequently, the voting and approval of that individual and it gives me great pleasure to announce the results and to congratulate Guillermo Arteta from Argentina and the Rio de la Plata fleet on his election to fill this position starting in July! To be truthful, I can't really recall the where or when I first met Guillermo; I believe it was at a function in the Seattle/Vancouver/Victoria area but I know I have known him and his wonderful wife Monica for some time. It is a real pleasure to count the two amongst our closest friends and I know he will do a great job for the fellowship over the next six years as he serves as the International Rear Commodore, then Vice Commodore and finally as our International Commodore.

The most exciting event of the past half year however was the addition of a new fleet to our Fellowship. There was talk of establishing a fleet in Ecuador amongst the members in Argentina and Uruguay when Bev and I were there to charter the Punta del Este fleet in Uruguay and thanks to the tireless work of Area 2 Commodore Guillermo Arteta and Fleet Commodore Angi Mesistrano it happened!

In late October we found out that a group of Rotarians in Guayaquil

Ecuador wanted to start a new fleet and charter as soon as possible... late November or early December. This proved to be tight scheduling for us but we were able to move some things around and at the end of November Bev and I flew to Guayaquil to charter the new Guayaquil Fleet. And what a wonderful time we had there; meeting our newest fleet Commodore, Jorge Herrera, Vice Commodore (and DG elect) José Barcelona, and Rear Commodore Rafael Quintero and all of the other wonderful members of this fleet. And to make the fun complete we were joined by FC Angi of the Punta del Este fleet, AC Guillermo and Monica, and RC Roberto Celantino; a truly great mix of old and new friends.

And what a time we were shown by the members of the new fleet! I had been aboard the tall



Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

ship Guayas several years ago, when she visited San Francisco and was delighted to learn that she was in port and that they had arranged a visit aboard her with Captain Vilavicencio. We were warmly welcomed and received a nice book on the history of the ship from the captain. And we learned that Captain Vilavicencio is a Rotarian! "Quick's the word and sharp's the action" as I presented him with the member pin I was wearing and we made him the newest member of IYFR. In addition to the visit to Guayas and a tour of downtown Guayaquil there were meals shared with various member of the fellowship as well as a meeting of the Club Rotario Guayaquil Cerro Azul. Many of the members of the fleet belong to this club, including their current president Laura Maldonado; judging by their printed history of the club, a very active club!

There was also a cruise through the delta of the Guayas River with its fascinating wild life, shipping, and small villages amongst the islands... all followed by lunch at the Guayaquil Yacht Club. All in all, several delightful days before the actual fleet charter.

Friday night, November 30 was the actual fleet charter ceremony, held at the Hilton Colon Guayaquil Hotel and convention center. Several people gave welcoming speeches as we began the evening and I used my very limited ability at Spanish to also give a quick welcome and to thank the fleet for welcoming Bev and me. The one advantage of not being fluent in another language is that assures everyone that my speeches will be brief! The first action of the evening was to appoint Jorge as the new fleet commodore along with the other two fleet officers and present them with their bugees, epaulets and certificates of appointment. With the new officers sworn in, each member was invited to come forward to sign the fleet charter agreement and receive an IYFR member's pin. Once completed the charter agreement was signed by the fleet officers and me and we welcomed the 99th fleet, the Flota Guayaquil Ecuador as our newest IYFR fleet!

Like a wedding, multiple pictures followed along with a lot of handshakes and finally a dinner to conclude the evening's festivities.

So welcome aboard Flota Guayaquil Ecuador and all of your new members, it is a pleasure to have you with us!

Following the ceremonies in Guayaquil, Bev and I took advantage of this, our first trip to the west coast of South America to fly out to the Galapagos islands for an 8 day small boat cruise amongst what turned out to be one of the most fascinating places we have visited... but that is another story!

Finally, Patrick Hunt, our Regional Commodore for Canada is retiring from his RC duties and although his replacement has not yet been named I would like to publicly thank Patrick for his many years of service to the Fellowship. He was one of the first truly international members that I met after joining the fellowship and Bev and I cherish his and Debora's friendship along with his advice, encouragement and assistance. He will be missed as our RC in this area but he leaves a strong tradition for us to build upon.

Clint Collins



Homenaje a la Bandera Quijorna (Madrid)

MADRID FLEET OF IYFR IN NOVEMBER 2012



IBERIA IYFR



PORTUGAL IYFR



Dears fellow of IYFR : Dear Friends: I am pleased to send you the report of the Region of Iberia, presented in Lisbon (Portugal) on Friday 16, at the Rotary friends, to try to create a new fleet of IYFR mariners in Portugal. We go together with the Madrid Fleet Commodore Juan Luis Harriero and Clemente Ubeda Vice-commodore. Greetings. Bernardo Rabassa

Changes to the Membership Database

Following the annual registration of our member fleets and payment of dues a number of changes have been made to the online database that reflects our members and their fleets.

Starting in Europe, Area 1: the two fleets from the Netherlands, the Northeast and Southwest requested that they be merged into a single Netherlands Fleet. This has been done and the Netherlands Fleet has been placed in the Europe North region along with the Luxembourg Fleet which was listed as part of the Belgium & Luxembourg region, there not having been a fleet in Belgium for some time this region name no longer reflected our true organization.

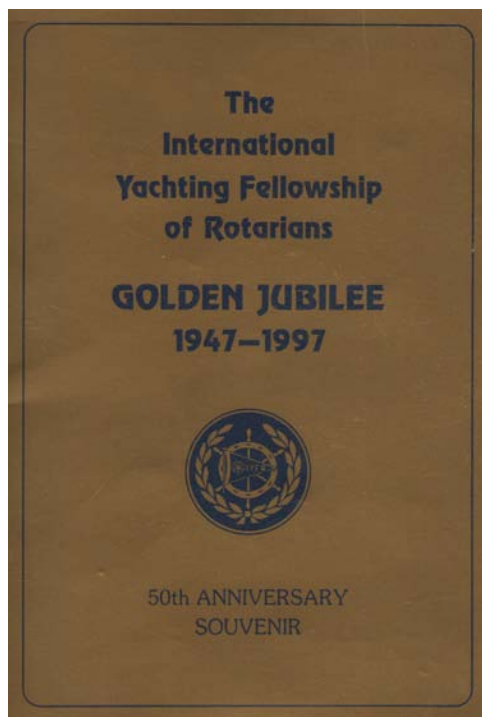
Moving on to Area 2: the Americas: we had to say good bye to our friends in the Hawaii fleet when they announced their plans to disband. Naturally we are sorry to seem them leave us although some have retained Independent Member membership for a while. With the loss of this fleet the USA Pacific region also went away and we renamed the USA California region to the USA Southwest to bring its naming in line with the other Regions in North America.

Finally in Area 3 the Pacific: the Hunter Fleet in Australia likewise made the decision to disband and again, we are sorry to see them go. We wish all of our members who, for whatever reason, decide to leave us fair seas in any continued boating they may undertake!

Golden Jubilee Booklet

In 1997 the Fellowship celebrated its Golden Jubilee and as part of those activities late International Commodore Andrew Mitchell put together a “50th Anniversary Souvenir” booklet documenting the first fifty years of the fellowship.

A few of these special publications are still around, prized possessions of the more senior members who were active at the time it was published but, since it was produced in the pre-internet age and really at the time personal computers were just becoming common, no electronic copy of this document was ever available.



That has now been rectified. We “sacrificed” one of the existing copies, cutting it up so we could scan it and produce it as a pdf file in order to make it available to all of our members and keep a copy of it for posterity on our web site.

The electronic copy has now been placed in the web site’s open Documents area alongside the other history produced later by Andrew. The Fellowship owes a debt of gratitude to Andrew for his efforts in documenting our early history and we think members will enjoy browsing through this unique document which contains the only pictures we know of the founding officers of IYFR.

Guayaquil Ecuador Fleet Charter



Guayaquil Ecuador Fleet Charter Continued



Philippines IYFR

International Coastal Clean Up Bigger and Better?

SUBIC BAY Freeport - More than 13,000 volunteers showed up from last years 6,500 for the annual International Coastal Cleanup as early as four in the morning last September 15.

Four years ago with around 600 volunteers cleaning up mainly the boardwalk area, the movement expanded to include the entire Zambales coast, including a pilot area for the inland clean up in Barangay Mabayan, Olongapo City.

The coastal clean up, organized by IRC Jun Avella as the ICC Zone Coordinator for Zambales area, IYFR Philippines Cubao West Fleet headed by FC

Ness Atienza and The Lighthouse Marina Resort is part of the international coastal cleanup effort organized by The Ocean Conservancy to protect the world's oceans from harmful debris making its way to coastlines from local beaches, waterways, and inland areas.

Metro Pacific Investment Corporation's (MPIC) Shore it up! joined the clean up headed by MPIC SVP Ms. Melody Del Rosario and expanded the event to two days, bringing

in more than 120 divers for an offshore cleanup and artificial reef laying on the second day.

Written by FM Jozen Curva



Silver Fleet Projects

Last October 8, 2012 marks the first anniversary of the youngest, yet already the largest IYFR Philippine Fleet, the IYFR Silver Fleet. With the strong commitment and involvement of its members, composed mainly of the Silver Presidents in RY 2011-2012, the Fleet has no doubt breezed through the year in flying colors with several notable projects, such as the Silver Forest, Coastal Cleanup, Tree Planting Project and several yachting and fellowship activities.



To see a fabulous video on Utube about the IYFR Philippine Silver Fleet, go to:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RPD2Z2qxobA>

Sailing School in Subic Bay



After a busy last couple of months, there are more interesting activities in the months ahead. The Grants submission deadline was on Oct. 31 and the Chairman of the Grants Committee CA Max Tan's announcement is much awaited on the grants applications, allocation and distribution on or before 15 November. On behalf of the Cubao West Fleet, I have filed for a US\$6,000 grant to continue the development of our Sailing School in Subic Bay with the donation of Five Flying Fifteens from Hongkong and at the same time the proposed acquisition of six "Optimist" sailboats that are being disposed by the Subic Bay Yacht Club that are most suited for young kids and beginners.

Rotary Mariners Philippine Fleet

IYFR A3 GM Fellowship Bali Nov 22-27, 2012



Commodore Sergio Santi's Favorite Ship Pictures

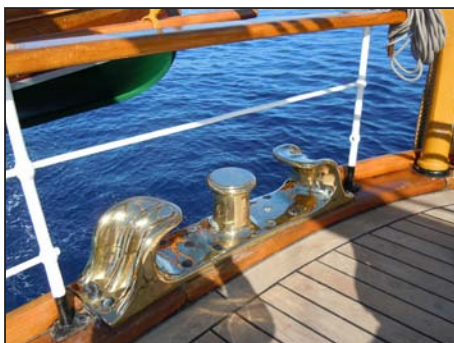


Sunset off Cape d'Antibes

Here are some pictures I like most: almost fifty years separate the first one alongside USS Forrestal and the other two taken last summer.

The b&w one was taken by a Skyraider (a USN attack aircraft of that era) flying at less than 1000 feet by the "old" and the "new" vessels in the Atlantic Ocean sometimes in September 1962. That time I was a young first year Naval Academy Cadet, during my first cruise aboard Amerigo Vespucci.

The shining fairlead on the port stern, just above the little balcony annexed to the Captain's quarters is the same one I used to clean when I was a Cadet. Still shining as 50 years ago. Picture taken during my last sortie last year.



Fairlead 2012



USS Forrestal

Also included are photos taken from my sail boat on Thanksgiving Day from inside the San Francisco Bay about one mile from the Golden Gate bridge at sunset. 5-9 knots of wind, Tide: flood with about 2 knots of current. I could see only two other sail boats out on the bay the entire day. During sunset, we sailed along beside San Francisco piers from Ghirardelli Square to Pier 39 looking at the city lights and then we headed back to Berkeley towards Brooks Island to port and then later the Berkeley Pier to Starboard. We arrived at Berkeley Marina about 9pm PST.

Have a nice week!

Sergio

Guillermo Arteta Appointed Next IYFR International Rear Commodore

Guillermo Arteta, currently serving as our Area 2 Commodore has been appointed International Rear Commodore for 2013/15 by the College of Past Commodores.

Commodore Guillermo was born into a family in Argentina that owned a chain of department stores. He studied economics and law, becoming a lawyer and



earning a doctorate in Economics.

After graduating, Guillermo decided to spend 18 months in Europe and to take advantage of this trip, to build up his English and French language skills. In 1967 he returned to Buenos Aires and began working in the family business for 12 years. He was by that time also a director of the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange, as well as a private bank, among other companies. He is now retired.

At the age of 28 Guillermo joined the Buenos Aires Rotary Club of which he is still a member. He has held many different roles, starting as Secretary, at the age of 31. After that, he took on various appointments for District 4890, including the Conference Presidency. In 1997, he led a Group Study Exchange team to England.

In the year 2000, sometime before the Rotary Convention, IC Joe Phillips got in touch with Guill-

ermo with the idea of putting together an IYFR fleet in Argentina. They finally met at the Convention that was being held in Buenos Aires, hosted by the Buenos Aires Rotary Club, where they combined the members that Guillermo had selected with those that had been picked up at the House of Friendship by Joe, setting up the first Latin American fleet. It was chartered, taking the name of the Rio de la Plata Fleet. Guillermo was its first commodore.

In 2004, Guillermo formed and chartered a second fleet, the Delta Fleet.

In 2009, after many years of hard work a new fleet was put together, the Sao Paulo Fleet in Brazil. It was finally chartered by him in May of that year as the new South American Regional Commodore.

In 2010 he coordinated the assembling of a new fleet in Uruguay, that would become the Punta del Este Fleet. Punta del Este is a peninsula placed in a strategic point where the Rio de la Plata meets the Atlantic Ocean and it's almost an obligatory port of call for all sail boats going around the Southern tip of the Continent. In March of that same year and for this special occasion, IC Clint Collier came down for the chartering ceremony of the Punta del Este Fleet and spent a week visiting Buenos Aires and Uruguay.

Guillermo is married to Monica Renaud and they have four children and two grandchildren.

New IYFR Appointment

Federico Solari, Rear Admiral Elect, lives in La Spezia, Italy with his charming wife, Mari and his two sons, Darlo and Luigi.

He has been active in the Italian Navy since 1970, totaling more than 16 years on the board and promoted to rear admiral in 2002. He retired as a rear admiral in 2011.

He was chief of staff of the first ITN Division. His shore assignments included duties in the Communication field with national and NATO posts.

Proposed Replacement of General Rules

The General Rules call for the convening of a review committee, chaired by the International Vice Commodore prior to the convention where the exchange of regalia takes place in preparation of the appointment of the next International Commodore.

Commodore Santi has now finalized and submitted that group's proposed changes to this document. The completed documents are available in the member's area of our web site in the Documents/2013 section for inspection and review by all members.

Notice that we refer to this revision as documents, plural. Part of the recommendation involves publishing the General Rules in a number of different languages as well as removing significant sections of it, placing them in two associated documents titled IYFR Procedures and Regulations and IYFR Flags, Uniforms and Boating Practice.

Commodore Santi has stated that his goal is to shorten and simplify the General Rules and to publish them in different languages making them more readily available to our non English speaking members.

I am writing this counter to the proposed changes, because, in my experience, it will expose our Fellowship to a number of serious, unintended consequences, that I want all members to be aware of before they vote on the proposed changes. Although the publishing of the General Rules in different languages is a nice touch, we must remember that the official language of Rotary is English and this is recognized in those rules.

Although that document, taken by itself, is much shorter than the old General Rules, the resulting compendium of three documents, containing most of the material removed from the 2012 General Rules, actually is much longer. And, by spreading the rules, procedures, regulations, and standards across three documents, I believe we create more confusion than

simplification that will make it more difficult to conduct our business. Further, having one document for how we conduct our affairs will make it easier for new Fleet and International Bridge Members to get up to speed in their positions.

But of far greater concern to me as your Commodore is the drastic changes this document proposes, removing much of the requirements the Executive Committee must follow and altering other requirements that will greatly affect the operation of our Fellowship. Every member should study these documents but especially the one titled General Rules, very closely and I would point out that they should especially consider...

- Section 6 which changes the reimbursement of the members of the Executive Committee. Currently the Fellowship will reimburse each member of the EC up to US\$2500 following each convention; ostensibly to cover the costs of attending each event because we consider their participation vital to the success of our activities there. The proposed changes will increase this to US\$6,000 for the IC and remove any association with the convention or with the need to have receipts for such expenses!
 - I personally oppose such an increase in the reimbursement of the Executive Committee members. Currently that reimbursement can go as high as US\$15,000 during the six years of service. I personally considered being selected to serve a great honor, not a paid job. Although I will admit that the funds reimbursed me have helped me expand the service I was able to give the Fellowship, at no time did I consider it necessary or appropriate to receive compensation for visiting the fleets I have seen during those years. The warm welcome at every occasion was a reward worth far more than the cost of the visit.

Proposed Replacement of General Rules continued

- I also oppose the concept of returning to reimbursements that are different for the three officers. The Fellowship needs our three EC members in attendance at the Conventions and it does not cost the Commodore any more to attend than it does the Rear Commodore, assuming they are traveling comparable distances.
- I oppose removing any requirement for documented receipts for reimbursement of expenses. It is bad accounting practice not to have receipts for any expense greater than a minimum amount (currently US\$50) and not having that documentation exposes the Fellowship and the EC members to claims that the payment is not reimbursement of expenses but salary should we be audited here in the United States where the Fellowship is registered.
- Section 12 which establishes each area to produce, manage and control its own regalia.
 - I simply can not find advantage to the Fellowship in this. Centralized control has resulted in what is desired... a uniform appearance for our members and I can not see any advantage whatever in having each area develop and control its own regalia. It seems nothing short of breaking up the Fellowship into three separate entities.
- Section 13 removes the ability of the general membership to propose changes to the Rules through their fleets and eliminates the right of all members to vote on any proposed changes, assigning the majority of this over to a small, select group of past and present officers.
 - Two years ago our Fellowship made history. In the past, changes to our General Rules were voted upon only by those members with the ability and desire to attend a Rotary Convention. Every member had the right to vote, but could only exercise it by attending. With our presence on the web and through the internet we had been building towards a Fellowship where communication between all members is now possible, regardless of our locations and, to some extent, despite disparate languages, and ability to pay for travel costs to a Convention.
 - Last year we were able to implement this complete democracy! Every member of the Fellowship was provided the opportunity to vote on the 2012 ratification of that year's changes to the General Rules. Any member, regardless of their native tongue and financial ability to attend a convention, could, if they so chose, take part in determining the rules that govern our group.
 - To me, the changes proposed are a retrograde step, which decreases our democratic and transparent form of management. Using technology – internet voting - we can all have input, not just a select few, however well intended these few may be. I believe we will be a better Fellowship the more we reflect the wishes of all of our members, rather than just a few of our members.

Every member will have an opportunity in the near future to vote on this proposal, just as they did with the 2012 changes. I for one will not be able to vote for this proposed replacement of our general rules.



Clinton Collier
International Commodore

Join us in Lisbon

Have you signed up for the events at the Rotary International Convention in Lisbon? Lisbon is a fantastic city and the Convention will be an exciting event for all Rotarians but especially for our Mariners. We have three fantastic events lined up for our members...

- The Commodore's Reception to meet and greet fellow members you know from around the world is a traditional Brazilian Rodizio BBQ with assorted grilled meats and all the "fixins" as they say in Texas. Your first drink is included in the low price for this great event.
- The Commodore's Dinner and the passing of the Fellowship Regalia to the new International Commodore and staff is Tuesday evening at the Tivoli hotel in their top of the hotel dinning room: great view, great food and IYFR ceremony all wrapped into one. As we did in Bangkok, the traditional rum toast for the evening will be served in a commemorative IYFR shot glass for you to take home with you.
- The Post Convention Cruise will take us to the city of Porto and the Douro River, the heart of the Portuguese port wine production. Join us for the fellowship as we visit various famous spots around Porto, visit a couple of famous port cellars, cruise on the Douro and conclude with a final dinner at the world famous Taylor cellars. It will be a fabulous four days in one of Portugal's most famous areas. Signups for this event will end on March 24th.

Members can register and pay for all of these events online by logging into the member's area of our web site and visiting the ship's store. The are all at the bottom of the list of regalia that we carry and there are two combination offers that will save you a little money when purchasing more than one event.

Both the Commodore's Dinner and the PCC need to be reserved prior to the convention. Due to the requirements for our reservations we need to provide our final participation counts prior to that event so tickets for these will not be available at our House of Friendship display at the convention. Act now and don't miss out if you are planning on coming to the 2013 Rotary Convention!



Chartering of the Fleet Guayaquil Ecuador



José Barcelona, vice comodoro electo; Jorge Herrera, comodoro Flota GYE-Ecuador; Germán Yépez, gobernador del Distrito 4400 de Ecuador; Clint Collier, International Commodore; y, Hugo Klopffstein, secretario de la Flota GYE-Ecuador.



Carlos Aurea, Fabricio Vizhnay, Nelson Dossman, Óscar Hill, Mathías Regge, Fernando Donoso, Laura Maldonado e Iván Rubio.



Guillermo Arteta, comodoro del área 2; Angélica Mesistrano, comodora de la Flota Punta del Este; César Sicco, capitán de la Flota GYE-Ecuador; Roberto Celentano, comodoro regional; Lindbergl Barberán; y, Jonathan Aguas, de Galápagos.

South America strikes again! This time it moved to the other Ocean: the Pacific; to the South of our friends of New Port, San Francisco, and that clutch of fleets on the border with Canada, four American and two Canadian. "The longest ungarded border in the world, as they say". The site of the new fleet is Guayaquil, the biggest city in Ecuador. The name of the country refers to the zero parallel, that crosses through Quito, the capital. The Line is traced on the ground and the emplacement was determined in 1730 by a group of French scientists with astonish precision for the epoch. For the charter ceremony nine people travelled. Six from Buenos Aires, that kind of iyforians that when they are not dancing tango or atending fleet meetings, are sailing. It included the Area Commodore and Monica, the RC and partner and Martin and Renée, very well known at the conventions. Also Angi, the Punta del Este FC, that was named godmother of the Guayaquil fleet. Clint and Bev didn't fail to come, of course. The new FC is Jorge Herrera that had so far given most of his enthusiasm for Rotary to the Youth Exchange Program. The host legion took all of us around with incredible generosity, and the chartering ceremony was brilliant. Wellcome Guayaquil Fleet!

Guillermo Arteta

Ship's Store Alert



Have you visited the ships store recently? Over the past year we have added new items... such as IYFR blazer buttons and it is, of course, where you can order and pay for events at the 2013 Convention in Lisbon. To

go there is simple, log in to the member's area of our web site and click on the menu item "Ships Store."

There are two major factors that may influence your purchases of our regalia that you need to know about.

First, RI has notified us that we will not be able to sell our regalia at the 2013 Convention in Lisbon unless we register as a certified vendor of Rotary products. We have exhaustively researched this and find that this is simply not practicable for us; the accounting demands (quarterly reports of all Fellowship transactions) along with the cost because of the small number of items we carry and sell along with the factor that we are all volunteers, not a commercial venture are a few of the reasons. Consequently, there

will be no regalia available at the House of Friendship as there has been in the past with the exception of our Fellowship pins.

But do not despair... if you need Regalia it will be available... if you pre-order it! We have added a new shipping method, "Convention Pickup". If you want us to bring you your Regalia at the convention, simply select this shipping method while shopping and then contact us at the HoF booth to arrange offsite pickup of what you have ordered. Because of the lead time needed to pack these orders and transport them to the convention the cut off date for receiving convention pickup orders is May 31st!

Second... we have been warned by the supplier of our burgees that costs will be going up significantly after the first of the year, due mainly to a huge increase in the price of the raw material, nylon, which is a petroleum based product. So... if you need a burgee for your boat or need to replace one that is "showing its age" now is the time to do this!

IYFR International Bridge at the St. Francis Yacht Club

