



# ROTA FLOAT

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

ISSUE 73 APRIL 2008

## COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

We were very pleased with our first editions of Rotafloat and are glad that more of you are now sending in articles for publication. It is your magazine, and so your news is what interests us. This edition has been preceded by a newsletter. The newsletter has been posted by normal mail to every member's known address. The purpose of sending this is mainly to help those who have not yet logged onto our website by telling them how to do it easily.

Since Christmas, Chris and I have travelled around the world. We began by visiting Los Angeles, and the Queen Mary for two days to check on our arrangements for the PCC. All is well and we hope everyone will enjoy it as much as we expect. The Newport Harbour Fleet has been most helpful to us and entertained us to dinner on the Queen Mary.

On leaving the U.S.A. we travelled to New Zealand where Terry and Meryl Stretton hosted us and took us to visit all the Fleets. We met many members. Finally we ended up in the company of members of the Auckland Fleet watching from Ken and Bente's apartment the new Queen Victoria leaving Princes Wharf.

Australia came next and we met three Regional Commodores and members of seven Fleets, including Past International Rear Commodores Max Cribb, and John Milne. We were home hosted by all the Fleets and they all put on special, most enjoyable events to entertain us. There are prospects of new Fleets in Tasmania and North of



IC Bryan and Chris on board the 'South Steyne' with the New South Wales Fleet, having a lunch in the harbour in Sydney.

Brisbane.

Next was Japan, which was a wonderful experience. Kozo and Kayoko Kajino looked after us, and entertained us for four days. The highlight was the Charter of the new Kyoto Lake Biwa Fleet. There were thirty-three paid up members of the new Fleet. We had an excellent dinner with the enthusiastic members and guests from other Fleets. Mr. Kashima, who has made two almost successful attempts to circumnavigate the world single handed, also addressed us. I presented him with a certificate of merit on behalf of IYFR.

On our return home, Chris and I attended the G.B.& I. AGM in Norwich two days later accompanied by my own Fleet, the Broads Fleet. Area 1 Commodore, Michael Pooley, then visited Italy on my behalf to Charter two new Italian Fleets.

What a busy few months we have had! We have been overwhelmed with the hospitality given to us, true IYFR Fellowship and Fun! We are still waking each morning and wondering which country we are in, but are now really looking forward to our next trip to Los Angeles, to the Convention and PCC. **I will hope to meet many of you there.**

Bryan Skinner International Commodore IYFR

| COMMODORE'S DIARY       |  | CONTENTS  |    |
|-------------------------|--|---|----|
| 2008                    |  | Commodore's Message   | 1  |
| April                   | Visit to Dart Fleet in Devon.  | Commodore's Diary   | 2  |
| June                    | Convention and PCC in LA.  | Report from New Zealand                                       | 3  |
| June/July               | Visit to Vancouver and Victoria Fleets for Canada day, and Tall Ships Gathering. | Report from Victoria  | 4  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> July    | Visit to Friday Harbour for American Independence day.                           | Photograph of Italian Fleet Commodores                        | 5  |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> July   | Visit the Thames Fleet for Handover of G.B.&I. Commodore.                        | Report from Queensland  | 6  |
| August                  | Visit to Finland and Aaland Fleets.  | Visit to Perth by P.I.C. Ken Winter and I.V.C. Terry Stretton | 7  |
| November                | Fellowship weekend GB&I.   | I.C.'s visit to Japan   | 8  |
| 19/21 <sup>st</sup> Dec | Visit Netherlands Fleets.  | Proposed changes to IYFR rules                                | 9  |
|                         |  | Report from Bay of Islands Fleet                              | 11 |
|                         |  | PICYA Commodore's Ball  | 12 |
|                         |  | History of German Fleets                                      | 13 |
|                         |  | Introducing Regional Commodore of Germany                     | 14 |
|                         |  | Charter of Italian Flotta Alto Adriatico                      | 15 |
|                         |  | Regalia   | 16 |
|                         |  | Charter of The Italy Central Adriatic Fleet                   | 17 |

## INTERNATIONAL COMMODORE VISITS NEW ZEALAND

The International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians (IYFR) Auckland and Bay of Islands Fleets recently played host to International Commodore, Bryan Skinner and his wife Chris from England when they made their official visit to South West Pacific, Australia and Japan.

They spent two days in Kerikeri accompanied by Regional Commodore, Roy Budgen and Barbara and International Vice Commodore Terry Stretton and Meryl (members of the Auckland fleet), home hosted by Bay of Islands Fleet Commodore Doug Galbraith and Wendy and members of their fleet. Great hospitality and fellowship was enjoyed at a BBQ on Saturday evening followed by a day out in the Bay on Sunday (seven boats) with a picnic ashore.

This was followed by two nights at Roy and Barbara Budgen's lodge at Pouto Point on the Kaipara Harbour, with an exhilarating trip along the beach, up the sand dunes to the lighthouse and a swim for the courageous. Bryan and Chris celebrated Waitangi Day Kiwi style at a lunchtime BBQ at the home of fleet member and International Chief of Staff elect, David Hansen and Liz together with many Rotarians and friends.

There was also a day's sail on the Auckland Harbour with members of the Auckland fleet. This was followed by two wonderful days spent at Lake Rotoiti taking part in the annual Classic Boat Parade aboard Auckland Fleet Vice Commodore Grant Cossey and Gill's, classic launch 'Elva'.



The Official Party enjoying an outing on Auckland Fleet Vice Commodore Grant Cossey's boat.

Sixty-five boats took part in the parade followed by a picnic ashore, a tug of war (Rotarians did quite well here), egg throwing, the prize giving, etc. The evening meal was spent sitting on private lawns watching the sun go down.

Cont.

The Auckland fleet's visit took place at the apartment of Past International Commodore Ken Winter and Bente on Princes Wharf with a pot luck dinner attended by forty-four (members and partners) who watched *'The Queen Victoria'* depart on her maiden voyage.

After leaving New Zealand, Bryan and Chris visited most of the fleets in Australia and Japan before heading back to UK.

Terry Stretton International Vice Commodore IYFR

## VISIT TO THE GIPPSLAND LAKES FLEET VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.

Our Fleet of thirty-two members is in rural Victoria and some four hours' drive from the capital city of Melbourne. Therefore, we were very pleased to receive a communication from Bill Chapman, Commodore of the Victoria Fleet in Melbourne, offering to drive International Commodore Bryan Skinner and his wife Chris to East Gippsland to pay us a short visit. So on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February Regional Commodore Bob Dack and his wife Betty welcomed Bryan and Chris, Bill and his wife Barbara, together with Fleet Commodore David Hawkey and his wife Lorna to a luncheon gathering in the lakeside town of Metung.

That night the Gippsland Lakes Fleet turned out in force to a dinner at the Metung Yacht Club to welcome our international and local guests. Fleet members were very impressed with Bryan's account of his travels and his interesting anecdotes of like-minded Iyforians. David Hawkey thanked Bryan Skinner for his interest in visiting us, and presented him with a tasteful photographic print on canvas of yachts in the Metung mist, created by past Commodore Norm



David Hawkey presenting the yachting picture

Neilson. Then Regional Commodore Bob was pleased to report that our Fleet visit to Hobart in 2007 appeared to be bearing fruit and that John Behrens of the Rotary Club of Lindisfarne was very hopeful of forming a Hobart Fleet.

The following day fleet member David Hollonds, together with his wife Julie' made their motor cruiser available for a lake cruise from Metung to Lakes Entrance for a picnic lunch.

The visitors were interested to have a short walk up to the flagstaff to survey the challenging entrance, and then down to the eastern pier to study the wave action.

cont.

Lunch by the lake was a very pleasant affair of mostly healthy food, with the exception of the tiramasu. Too soon, however, our visitors needed to return to Me-tung for the long drive back to Melbourne.

David Hawkey conveyed to Bryan Skinner and Chris how privileged the Fleet members felt to be included in their worldwide itinerary and he thanked Bill Chapman and Barbara for making it possible.



Bob Dack Regional Commodore, Victoria and Tasmania, Australia



Earlier this year the Italian Fleet Commodores met in Rome to discuss the formation of a National Bridge, as there are already in GB&I, Turkey and Japan.

**From the left:** Antonio Gigante, Sergio Santi, Gennaro Coretti,  
Luigi Falanga, Paolo Pauri, Franco Clemente, Corrado Perrone,  
Gerardo Martino, Antonio Pisano,

# INTERNATIONAL COMMODORE VISITS QUEENSLAND

The fast pace of the IC's global trip continued when Bryan and Chris flew into Brisbane, Australia on February 25<sup>th</sup>. They were met at the airport by the Queensland Fleet Vice Commodore John Burkett, they stowed their bags and proceeded to a welcome function at the home of Queensland Fleet Commodore, Roy and Margaret Rickuss. Also attending the poolside event were twenty-four lyforians and partners who took the opportunity to discuss international matters with IC Bryan.

The next morning it was an early start for a cruise on Moreton Bay followed by an onshore barbecue at Canaipa Point on Russell Island. The visitors were transported by Queensland Fleet member Bruce and Joanne Dore on 'Monterey' with several other vessels joining the flotilla.



RC Keith Cogzell welcomes IC Bryan and Chris to Queensland Australia



IC Bryan gives Australia's newest IYFR Member his burgee

A total of five boats and twenty-eight lyforians and partners met onshore for a traditional Aussie barbecue. IC Bryan addressed the gathering and made presentations to the visit co-coordinator, Regional Commodore Keith Cogzell, Queensland Fleet Commodore Roy Rickuss and Gold Coast Fleet Vice Commodore Bryce Wilson. A special presentation was made to Australia's newest IYFR member Russell Harrob, boat owner and current President of the Rotary Club of Fortitude Valley.

Keith Cogzell Regional Commodore Qld. & NT



The Queensland Fleet plus two!

## P.I.C KEN WINTER AND I.V.C. TERRY STRETTON VISIT PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

What wonderful things were in store for Past International Commodore, Ken Winter and Bente and International Vice Commodore, Terry Stretton and Meryl when they flew to Perth for their first visit to Western Australia. Regional Commodore, Reg Willis and Fleet Commodore of Western Australia fleet, Ron Geary, had organized a great programme of sightseeing, fellowship, boating, wine tasting etc.

The new maritime museum in Fremantle was a good start with many great exhibits from 'Australia 11' which won the America's Cup race 1983 and brought the cup and the next challenge to Fremantle 1986/87 – to 'Parry Endeavour' the yacht that took lone sailor Jon Sanders three times around the world non-stop – the third time sailed anti clockwise.

They were privileged to meet Jon later at the Royal Perth Yacht Club where they met some of the fleet members and their partners at a cocktail party. A trip on Mal Taylor's launch, 'Detour' down the Swan River lined with very expensive real estate and on to Fremantle, out into the Indian Ocean and round into the town basin tying up to a restaurant jetty for a sumptuous seafood lunch. Ken and Terry attended the monthly Bridge meeting while the girls dined out.



On the left I.V.C. Terry Stretton.  
Jon Sanders (three times around the world non-stop sailor),  
Meryl Stretton, P.I.C. Ken Winter and Bente Winter.

Reg and his wife, Joyce drove Ken, Bente, Terry and Meryl to their vineyard in Yal-larup on the coast, a three hour drive south of Perth, a beautiful property. All were invited to a lovely meal at fleet member, Alun and Suzan Legge's home; they live permanently in this area. Visited Amberley Estate and Vasse Felix Estate for wine tasting, but Willis Estate make a great red wine.

A farewell dinner was arranged aboard fleet member Cap'n Jack and Shirley Suriano's vessel – 'Midstream' – which is moored in the Challenger Harbour, Fremantle – great hosts, who live aboard. Perth is reported to be the most isolated city in the world – a lovely clean vibrant city, but Western Australians want that kept secret.

Terry Stretton International Vice Commodore I.Y.F.R.

## COMMODORE'S VISIT TO JAPAN

Chris and I arrived at the airport in Osaka where we were met by Kozo and Kayoko Kajino. They took us to the Westin Hotel in Kyoto where we were hosted for our stay.

The first day was spent visiting the Yacht Club on Lake Biwa, where members had their boats, a really enormous beautiful lake. Then we had lunch at a traditional 280 year old restaurant, eating noodles and soup. In the afternoon we were taken to visit the beautiful Japanese home of the new Commodore of the Lake Biwa Fleet, Mr. Matsui. There we took tea with the family, and received hand made personal gifts made by Mrs. Matsui.

The next day we went to see the incredible Kiyomizu Dera Temple, and then I attended a Rotary meeting of the Kyoto Nishiyama Club. Quite an experience as it was all in Japanese of course.

That evening was the occasion of the Charter of the new Kyoto Lake Biwa Fleet, at which I



The new Commodore of the Lake Biwa Fleet, Mr. Matsui,  
IC Bryan Skinner and Mr. Kashima

also presented Mr. Kashima with an IYFR certificate of merit, to commemorate his two efforts in sailing round the world single handed. The Charter, together with a Commodore's burgee was presented to Mr. Matsui, the new Commodore. This was witnessed by a large crowd of eighty or more members of IYFR, consisting of the new Fleet, guests, and members of other Japanese Fleets.

The last day of our visit was very special. We first visited an Incense House, which was of great interest. Then in the evening we were entertained to a superb Japanese dinner, in a private room, at the prestigious Brighton Hotel. This was followed by two hours of entertainment in a Geisha House. There the girls sung and danced for us, and talked to us about their lives. This was a great honour, and most enjoyable.

Chris and I were very grateful to the Japanese Fleets, and to Kozo and Kayoko, for their magnificent hospitality.



Kayoko Kajino and Chris Skinner in the Geisha House

Bryan Skinner International Commodore IYFR

## PROPOSED CHANGES TO I.Y.F.R. RULES

This subject is in Rotafloat as we have to give advance notice of the discussion of a change in the rules. This is prior to actually changing the rules at the **Birmingham Convention** in a year's time. We give notice that the discussion will be held at the **Leadership Meeting in LA, on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June , at 3.30 pm in a meeting room 301 AB (level 2 of the Convention Centre.)**

### IYFR rules followed by *Suggested changes*

**4.4** Newsletter - In accordance with RI Code of Policies, publish a newsletter (which may be distributed solely by electronic means) for members of the fellowship in good standing, at least once during each Rotary year. This issue shall include an annual report of activities, and be sent along with cost of membership dues, a financial statement, showing revenues and expenditures during the past Rotary year, and a statement of funds on hand at the time of the report to its members and must be submitted to the RI General Secretary, and Chair of the Rotary Global Networking Group, by 1 October in each year.

*Rule 4.4: Newsletter – this could be identified as Rotafloat (see 7.3.7.1.) and it is suggested that the reference in this rule to various financial matters should be deleted and made the subject of a specific provision in the financial section.*

**5.3.1** A permanent Bank account, in the name of IYFR, with online (Internet) monitoring capability by the Executive Committee and Treasurer, shall be maintained in accordance with RI cash management goals to mitigate foreign exchange exposure caused by significant fluctuations in currency rates, and in order to satisfy international merchant bank risk management requirements with respect to credit and debit card transactions.

*Rule 5.3.1: Bank accounts – It is questioned whether in practice whether there is any advantage in having an obligation to maintain a **permanent** bank account. It has the potential to cause problems when the role of IC moves around the world. The obligation to mitigate foreign exchange exposure is very onerous and requires the foresight of an expert foreign exchange dealer! In any event, accounting has to be in US\$ (see Rule 4.1) so there is little scope for switching currencies anyway. It is suggested that the requirement for a permanent bank account be removed and that each IC and their treasurer be free to decide what is convenient for them.*

**5.3.3** Bank accounts are to be used exclusively for IYFR business. Signatories to the account shall include the IC, Administrator and Treasurer, and others as designated by the IC (and approved by the Executive Committee).

*Rule 5.3.3: – it is considered to be good practice in the UK for there to be a requirement for two signatories on club/society cheques and that signatories should not be related. Where a transaction takes place electronically, it is suggested that the person authorising should seek approval from another authorised signatory except in an emergency when such approval should be obtained as soon as possible afterwards.*

**5.4** A budget shall be prepared annually by the Treasurer for consideration and approval by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall present the approved budget along with any interim balance sheet and income and expense statement to the membership at the AGM, and every six months shall submit an interim balance sheet and income and expense statement to the Executive Committee. At the end of each Rotary year the Treasurer shall prepare a balance sheet, income and expense statement for review by the Executive Committee, and post reports to the members section of the IYFR website by the end of the first quarter after the end of the fiscal year.

*Rule 5.4 Annual Accounts – there has been difficulty in complying with this rule. The fact that much of the activity on the account takes place right at the end of the accounting year (AGM and PCC) has made it very difficult for the final version of the annual accounts and the “audit” report (Rule 5.6) to be ready by the end of September. The time scales need to be reviewed in the light of recent experience but it will be necessary to bear in mind RI Code of Policies requirements (as set out in 43.010.4, para.5). The practice also seems to have evolved that accounts are being prepared for two years together. In view of the incorporation of IYFR there will be a specific need to produce annual accounts and a request is being made to alter the accounting year for US tax purposes to the Rotary year rather than the calendar year. This should simplify matters.*

**6.3** An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held each year in conjunction with the annual Rotary International Convention. Each IYFR member in attendance may vote. An IYFR member is a Rotarian, spouse of a Rotarian, Rotaractor or Honorary Member who has paid their annual IYFR dues.

*Rule 6.3 - In practice, it may be very difficult to establish whether members attending an AGM have paid their annual IYFR dues. A huge disparity is emerging between the fleet members listed on the web-site and the number of members for whom dues are being paid. It may be necessary to make it a requirement that when fleets pay their dues, they identify the members on whose behalf they are paying.*

**7.1.3** The International Bridge Staff may consist of the following:

**7.1.3.1** Chief of Staff

**7.1.3.2** Administrator

**7.1.3.3** Executive Secretary

**7.1.3.4** Webmaster

**7.1.3.5** Assistant Webmaster

*Rule 7.1.3 – it should perhaps be made clear that the decision as to the composition of the International Bridge rests with the IC (it is assumed that in practice it does!).*

**9.1** The International Rear Commodore shall be elected for a two-year term and shall move up to Vice Commodore and International Commodore unless there are extenuating circumstances. "The change of command" shall take place at the AGM, but the new incoming IC will assume command of IYFR on 1 July.

*Rule 9.1 – it is thought that there may be a case for the formal handover of the IC's badge of office at the AGM so that this takes place in front of the membership. It is acknowledged that the new IC only takes over command on the 1<sup>st</sup> July. It might also be a good idea to spell out the full agenda for the AGM.*

*Bryan Skinner* International Commodore and *Rodney Davis* Legal Advisor

## I.C. BRYAN SKINNER AND CHRIS VISIT THE BAY OF ISLANDS FLEET

For the Bay of Islands ( New Zealand ) Fleet of IYFR, the season's highlight was the visit of Bryan and Chris. They were accompanied by IVC Terry Stretton and Meryl and Reg. Com. Roy Budgen and Barbara. A very pleasant AI-Fresco dinner for guests, hosts and Bridge members was held at the home of Doug and Wendy Galbraith who were delighted to host the Skinners.

The next day a small flotilla of local boats transported the VIPs and members across a rather bumpy Bay of Islands to a friendly "Beach Picnic". On the enjoyable sail back aboard the Galbraith's 42 foot cutter 'Shenae', Bryan took the wheel and ably demonstrated his helming skills. We were proud to introduce our special guests to our lovely part of the world and assure any visiting IYFR members of a similar warm welcome.

Doug Galbraith Commodore BOI Fleet

## 16th ANNUAL PICYA COMMODORE'S BALL

I am honoured and fortunate to have gone to the 16th Annual Commodore's Ball and Installation of Officers honouring Fred Goodwin, the new Commodore and the Officers and Directors for the Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association for 2008. Besides earning COTY points for our club, I cemented old relationships and made new ones. Also in attendance were four other IYFRSF members including: Staff Commodore Wesley and Marilyn Wallstrom, delegate and RBOC Director David Breninger and his wife Linda, who was installed as a director, herself.

The meeting took place at the Hilton Garden Inn in Emeryville, at the top floor. From there, you could see the lights of the Bay Bridge and the night lights from outside all around us. The master of ceremonies was Staff Commodore Manuel Myers. He started the meeting by saying that he received a call just minutes ago from Staff Commodore Ferdinand Lusher (1957), saying that he could not be there tonight but wanted to wish all attendees a Happy New Year. A resounding clapping ensued, and we all wished Ferd a Happy New Year, too.



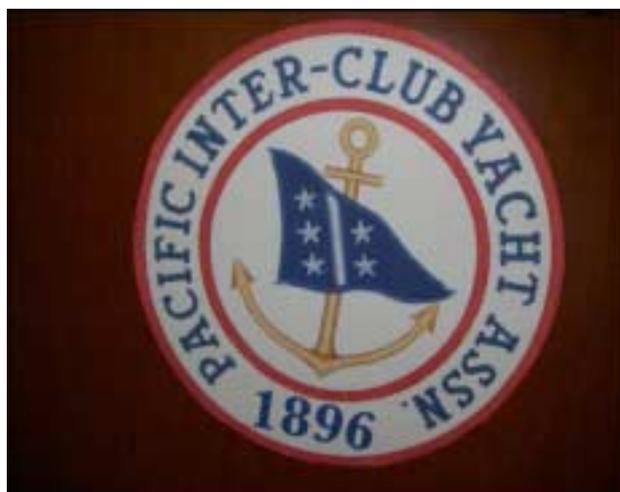
R. Guerra, David Johnson, Paul Newman

I was fortunate to share my table with Staff Commodore Richard Clark, his wife Lenora, and their son. Also at my table was David L. Johnson, Deputy Director for the Dept. of Boating and Waterways of California. We spoke about various topics, and I found out that the Zebra Mussel pest is in fact a great problem, requiring the two week quarantine in CA of out-of-state boats. Mr. Johnson stated that his yearly budget is \$90 million. Another great table companion was Commander Paul Newman, representing the Coast Guard. Many dignitaries were at the meeting including Coast Guard Rear Admiral Craig Bone, who is responsible for patrolling

the coast of California to the Colombian border in So. America up to 1000 nautical miles out to sea, 3.3 million sq. miles of water! After the introductions of the VIPs and staff commodores, we had dinner with the initiation of the new officers taking their oaths of duty following. The night ended with the band Nob Hill playing and people dancing.

Back at home, I thought how fortunate and honored I was to have been there and to have been able to represent our club in the midst of such pleasant and powerful people. PICYA, which is over 112 years old, represents 103 yacht clubs in Northern California, promotes inter-club communications, and conducts programs which enhance the general welfare of the member organizations. We at I.Y.F.R SF are happy and proud to belong to and participate in PICYA.

Roldano Guerra, Commodore IYFR SF



## SOME HISTORY OF IYFR FLEETS IN GERMANY

As far as I have been informed the first German Fleet, **Bavaria Fleet**, was founded in 1986 on the occasion of the Rotary World Convention in Munich. Unfortunately this fleet was becalmed and does not exist anymore.

1988 boating Rotarians in the area of North Rhine-Westphalia and Lower Saxony launched the **North West Fleet**. Founder and Fleet Commodore was Georg Wilhelm Kirchhoff, the later Regional Commodore Germany (1996 – 1998), who made a great contribution for IYFR in Germany. Members of this Fleet used to sail in Holland, on the North Sea, but also in the Baltic. Remarkable was a fleet meeting with eighteen yachts and eighty participants in 1989 to Stralsund, Greifswald and the Isle of Rügen on the East German Coast with GDR guest flags. About twenty-four fleet members meet twice a year, in summer and winter.

1995 Commodore Hinrich Kramer, successor of Commodore Kirchhoff –also as Regional Commodore Germany (1998 – 2000) – founded the **North Fleet** especially for boating Rotarians in the Baltic Sea Area between Flensburg and Lübeck. Since 1995 the fleet meet for summer sailing weekend events on the coast of Schleswig – Holstein or the nearby Southern Danish Islands. It was always worthwhile to join the annual winter meetings which were prepared by the Incoming Commodores. Today the **North Fleet** has about thirty-four members with twenty-six yachts.

1997 the **Weser – Jade Fleet** was launched by Commodore Manfred Winter and Fellow Rotarians from the area between Bremen and Wilhelmshaven and the North Sea Island of Helgoland. Since ten years this fleet has been very active, fleet members meet regularly four times a year and in summer sometimes they are competing in regattas. Nearly thirty members with their families enjoy IYFR in **Weser – Jade Fleet**.

1998 the **North East Fleet** was chartered for sailing Rotarians in Mecklenburg Vorpommern, Brandenburg and Berlin. One of the founder was Hans – Georg Führer, the later Fleet Commodore and Regional Commodore Germany (2004 – 2007). About thirty fleet members meet twice a year, in summer for a sailing weekend in the beautiful coastal area of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and in winter for an interesting program.

2005 some fellow Rotarians came together and launched the **Lake of Constance Fleet**, a new home port for boating Rotarians around Lake Constance, Germany's biggest Lake. Commodore Kai Schlenther and his crew are very much engaged preparing regular meetings in the lake area. They are convinced that regular fleet meetings are the basis for recruiting new members in the still growing fleet. Today the **Lake of Constance Fleet** has about twenty members with eleven yachts.

After some preparations during sailing trips in the Aegean Sea 2006 Michael Fischer and his fellow Rotarians relaunched the Bavaria Fleet as **South Fleet**. IC Bryan Skinner himself, as former Area 1 Commodore, handed over the Fleet Commodore Burgee to Commodore Michael Fischer at the charter ceremony in Erlangen-Nürnberg. Nearly thirty members share boating ideas and do a lot of sailing in the Mediterranean. Mutual activities with other fleets in Europe are planned.

All six German IYFR Fleets, with approximately one hundred and sixty members, seem to be well under way. All members with their first mates, families and friends enjoy boating, yacht-

ing fellowship and Rotarian friendship. A first regional meeting of all German Iyforians will hopefully take place in Kiel – Sailing City in February 2009.

### Introducing myself as Regional Commodore Germany 2007 - 2009

In June 2007 Past Regional Commodore Hans – Georg Führer handed over the Regional Commodore Burgee to me on the occasion of the *North East Fleet* Summer Meeting in attendance with many Iyforians in Rostock – Warnemünde. (Later on I was appointed by IC Bryan Skinner.)

Born :                   October 11, 1949 in  
                              Wilhelmshaven  
First Mate :            Ingrid Fischer  
Crew :                   2 sons, (29 and 24 years  
                              old); one daughter (27  
                              year old)  
Rotary :                 Rotarian since 1999 in  
                              RC    Kieler Förde;  
                              President 2006 – 2007  
IYFR :                  Member of North Fleet  
                              since 2003; Fleet Com  
                              modore 2005 – 2006



Handing over the  
Regional Commodore's Burgee

Since 1970 I have lived in Kiel – Altenholz at the Kieler Förde. Kiel – Sailing City is well known for the Kiel Week late in June, since one hundred and twenty-five years the biggest sailing event not only on the Baltic. Kiel also hosted the Olympic sailing competitions in 1936 and 1972. The Fischer Family has owned a skerry cruiser with which the family sailed through the Western Baltic and the Kattegat for more than thirty years. In 2006 we bought a Swedish WASA 370, which is now more comfortable for us.

*Eckhardt* A. Fischer Regional Commodore, Germany



Commodore Eckhardt and First Mate Ingrid

## The Flotta Alto Adriatico Fleet and the Italy Central Adriatic Fleet

Area 1 Commodore Mike Pooley & Jackie were greeted at Venice airport by fellowship members including Gennaro and Nelly Coretti together with Sergio Santi waving IYFR flags. (Much better than a name held up on a card!) There was an enjoyable visit organised to a very interesting joint meeting of two Venice Rotary clubs in the evening, finishing at 11.30 pm.

The next day we were transported in an Italian Navy launch complete with a Naval Captain Francesco Bottoni (former ITS Amerigo Vespucci Captain) in charge, with Sergio also on



Francesco Bottoni and Sergio Santi collecting Michael and Jackie Pooley in a Naval Launch

board, to the Venice Boat Show where the charter of the Flotta Alto Adriatico fleet was performed with Gennaro Coretti becoming their first Commodore.

Their District Governor spoke at the charter and presented a Paul Harris Fellowship to Paolo Alberti for his great work in organising the forming of the new fleet with sixty members. A quick look at the Boat Show and then, hosted and organised by Sergio, we had a fascinating guided tour of the Naval Museum opened just for us by the Naval Captain Giorgia Guiduzzi Museum Director. In the evening we enjoyed a gastronomic five course meal with Bridge members at the Naval club.

# I Y F R REGALIA



Member Pennant  
(12"x18")  
\$35.00



Burgees  
Fleet Commodore Burgee  
(3 Balls) \$45.00  
Vice Commodore Burgee  
(2 Balls) \$45.00  
Rear Commodore Burgee  
(1 Ball) \$45.00



Officer Shoulder Boards  
Fleet Officers \$30.00  
International Officers \$35.00



IYFR Lapel Pins \$5.00



IYFR Screen printed  
blazer emblem  
(sew on) \$10.00



White Epaulette Shirt  
(S.M.L.XL,XXL)  
\$40.00



IYFR Emblem Cap  
(navy) \$15.00



IYFR Window Decal  
\$1.00



IYFR Tie  
\$30.00



IYFR Ladies  
Crosstie \$10.00

## Prices shown do not reflect shipping charges

Questions and orders for regalia should be sent to our Regalia Officer Pat Thomson.  
To do this go into [www.iyfr.net](http://www.iyfr.net) with your user name and password.  
Go into **BRIDGE OFFICERS** and click [e-mail the Regalia Officer](#)

The following morning we were met by fleet member Rino Liborio Galante who guided us on foot through the historic streets, bridges and markets of Venice finally eating in a café just under the Rialto Bridge. The organisation of the visit was excellent and the hospitality wonderful.

Later we travelled by two trains (five hours) arriving at 23.30 at night, at the historic city and seaport of Ancona on the Adriatic Sea, to be greeted by Professor Andrea Luigi Tranquilli who organised the formation of the fleet and is their Secretary. Their first Commodore (who has the largest boat) is Paolo Pauri. After an interesting sightseeing trip the next morning we arrived at The Lazzaretto a remarkable 20,000 sq m building built in 1732 to protect the town from hostile shipping. There we chartered the Italy Central Adriatic Fleet of thirty-eight mem-



Commodore Paolo Pauri and Professor Andrea Luigi Tranquilli receiving the Italy Central Adriatic Fleet's Charter in the Lazzaretto from Area 1 Commodore Michael Pooley.

bers, plus another four who joined on the day. After the celebration drinks we enjoyed a sumptuous three course fish lunch, said our farewells and took the train back to Venice and then back to England.



Members of the Italy Central Adriatic Fleet together with Jackie Pooley enjoy a final lunch in the Lazzaretto.

What a wonderful, well-organised, four days full of Rotary fellowship and exciting sightseeing. We also enjoyed the Italian custom of having an aperitif at all times of the day! If you are visiting these areas of Italy, make sure you contact them.

Michael Pooley Area 1 Commodore.

## EDITORIAL—FINAL WORDS

First of all we hope that you have received your **posted information news letter** and are now able, through your own or your friend's computer, to read these words. It is important that we are able to use this modern technology to communicate so easily with the rest of the world. With this thought you are always at liberty to communicate with us, the editors and send your comments and articles, with photographs, preferably boats in action.

We are pleased to say that over sixty-six members will be on the Post Convention Cruise and we wish them Happy Sailing!

Ian and Norma Hornsby Rotafloat Editors

PS Don't worry if you have sent in an article after 21st April it will be included in the next edition.