

	<p style="text-align: center;">Official newsletter for the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians</p> <h1 style="text-align: center;">ROTAFLOAT</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">The International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians is a group of Rotarians dedicated to promoting yachting opportunity for fellowship and service. This fellowship operates in accordance with Rotary International policy, but it is not an agency of, or controlled by, Rotary International</p>
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Message from the Commodore

We are pleased to report that the fellowship is growing steadily with the charter of 4 Fleets in the past few months. Meryl and I flew to Perth to charter a fleet in Mandurah called the South West Western Australia Fleet with 31 members. After a week in this rather lovely spot in Australia, we flew to Hong Kong to visit the Fleet there and were invited to two Rotary Club's lunch time meetings where I spoke about the Fellowship. Japan was our next stop where we were able to visit three of the fleets and attend three Rotary club meetings, again speaking on the Fellowship.

Then it was on to Philippines where not just one but two fleets were chartered in three days. In the 4 weeks we were away we picked up 82 new members.

On our travels to these 4 countries we were made to feel most welcome, were truly well looked after and met great Rotarians. You will find more detailed reports on these visits further in this issue. The other fleet to be chartered was the Slovenia Fleet chartered on 20th April, with 30 members, by International Rear Commodore (who is also Area 3 Commodore) Sergi Santi from Italy.

We have recently had overseas IYFR members visit New Zealand and sail with us on our yacht "Taranui" on the Auckland harbour – Bob and Betty Dack from Gippsland Lake Fleet in Australia. We also had Greg and Sheryl Windsor of the Queensland fleet, with our Northcote Rotary club exchange student Ben Montag and Chief Administrator David Hansen. It is always a pleasure to take visitors sailing.

On a sad note, after many requests for payment, we have had to delete 3 fleets and many independent members from the fellowship due to non payment of dues.

It is important for the smooth running of the Fellowship that the International dues are paid on time.

We look forward to meeting those attending the IYFR events in Montreal in June. If you are intending to join us at our AGM or the Post convention Cruise and haven't yet registered, please do so now; registration forms are on our website www.iyfr.net

Meryl and Terry Stretton

Commodore's Diary

2010

- **4th – 10th June** Hawaii Fleet visit
- **10th – 16th June** Chicago Fleet visit
- **20th – 23rd June** **Montreal Convention**
- **21st June** Open forum for those interested in IYFR
- **22nd June** (Montreal) AGM
- **24th – 27th PCC**
- **30th June – 4th July** Texas – Fleet visit
- **4th – 8th July** New Orleans
- **10th – 16th July** Gippsland Lake Fleet change of watch
- **16th July** Arrive back in Auckland.

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Our Trip to Japan

This was our first time in Japan and we knew it was going to be very special and we were not wrong. Every day we saw and did things that we will remember forever. It is very difficult to express our thoughts on the special places we were taken to.



Kozo and Kayoko Kajino with IC Terry Stretton and Meryl.

Great hospitality was extended to us: visiting traditional Japanese homes with trees 500 years old; going through temples with the head Buddhist priest and taking tea with him; attending 3 Rotary meetings – Kyoto-Nishiyama, Kobe-East, Kyoto-North West and having the opportunity to say a few words about IYFR with the assistance of an interpreter. We also met members of the Kobe, Osaka Bay, Kyoto Lake Biwa Fleets boating in Osaka Harbour, where the Temperature was 6 degrees! May we say a very special thank you to Kozo and Kayoko for all the time they both spent with us. It was very memorable.

- Terry.

IYFR Regalia

Questions and orders should be sent to our Regalia Officer, Meryl Stretton. The list of Regalia is on the website: Click on Members only – enter your username and password. Click on Order Regalia – the prices do not include postage. To order – go into Bridge Officers and click on [email the Regalia Officer.](#)

Conference Orders

Visit our website for Conference pre-order forms.
Visit our booth number 2324 to view and buy regalia.

Classic Yachts Race in Brazil

In November we sailed "FugaII" from our home port, Porto Imperial marina, up the Brazilian coast to Bruzios to compete in the Richards Regatta for Classic Yachts. Of our four crew, three were fleet members, Lafayett Lage, Andre Periera and myself. We left on a dark night, passing Ilha Grande (Big Island) on the windward side and quickly hit a very agitated sea after leaving the protection of Agra dos Reiss (Bay of Kings). FugaII battled 15 knot shifting head winds. At the end of the day we were abreast of Rio de Janeiro, experiencing even more messy crosscurrents and nose-on waves. It was tempting to seek shelter in Rio but the crew voted to continue, even though there was not another vessel anywhere in sight!

As night fell the wind rose to 25 knots and the waves were as high as 5-6 metres. It was tough motoring through the infamous West wind and two crew became ill.

At daylight FugaII passed Cabo Frio (Cold Cape) and calming seas allowed the sails to be hoisted (and offer some regatta training!) before reaching the Buzios Peninsula and locating the Buzios Yacht Club, where we were extremely well received.

The bay was filled with classic and antique yachts – it was quite a show. 300 yachties, sponsors and "hangers-on" enjoyed a cocktail party hosted by the Government of the State of Rio de Janeiro and the sponsoring Richards fashion house.

Two races were held during the weekend. 17 yachts participated, ranging in age and size, but good tactics saw FugaII finish in 4th place in the first race. Genoa problems resulted in a bad start for the second race but freshening winds enabled enough overtaking to finish 5th.

At the prize-giving we were awarded 3rd place overall.

On the return trip to Paraty the winds had turned! Squalls, blinding rain and a cold front hampered this journey until reaching the inside of Ilha Grande, with a beautiful peaceful sail for the final return leg.

Kevin Smith

Dues Collection for 2009/10 Year

Unpaid dues have been an ongoing issue for some years and so the International Bridge (IB) resolved earlier this year that any dues unpaid by 31 March would result in those Fleets/Independent Members (IM) being removed from our membership database. A letter was posted and emailed to all debtor Fleets/IMs advising them well in advance of the cutoff date.

The outcome has been collection of dues from a number of Fleets and a small number of IMs. Fleets that have been lost are Iskenderun, Potowmack and French Polynesia with a database listing of 54 members. We also lost 19 IMs leaving 12 who are nearly all in North America.

This was a time-consuming exercise and from responses it is clear that many IMs join on the spur of the moment (ie when visiting the IYFR booth) and then lose interest, not being in a Fleet, but never advise us.

The IB has further considered the lateness of dues- paying and the unprofessional nature of this aspect of IYFR. This resulted in the IB resolving that this year and henceforth the cutoff date for dues payment will be 30 September, as set out in the IYFR Rules.

- David Hansen

IYFR Montreal Convention Events

The International Convention is only a few weeks away and there is a lot of good fun and fellowship planned for IYFR members.

There will be an informal gettogether on Saturday 19th June being held at the Le Centre Sheraton Hotel Café Bar, from 5.30pm. Dress: smart casual. Cash Bar.

The IYFR AGM Dinner will be held at the Marriott Chateau Champlain on Tuesday 22nd June. 6pm for 7.00pm. CAD\$90.00 per person (includes taxes). Tickets will be available at the IYFR Stand #2324 at the Convention.

Dress Code for IYFR Whites or Jacket and tie for gentlemen.

The Post Convention Cruise, is on board the Canadian Empress, around the 1000 Islands on the St Lawrence Seaway, 24th-27th June. There are still a few cabins available, please see our website www.iyfr.net under Fellowship and Events for costs and further information or *email*: logeary@gmail.com.

See you in Montreal!

- Lorraine Geary
International Events Secretary

Fleet Membership Update

Please update your membership lists and advise Before 30th June, as those are the numbers on which dues will be assessed.

Contributions to Rotafloat

We welcome your news. These guidelines will help to keep Rotafloat interesting and informative: preferably about 300 words or less of text and two or three photos only with appropriate captions, including people's names.

- Brian Couldrey
Editor

RULES CHANGES PROPOSED

Three Rules changes are being put forward for consideration at the AGM. They have been drafted by a subcommittee of the International Bridge in consultation with the Executive Committee (as per the Rules) A brief description of each change and its genesis is given below. For the actual draft please refer to the IYFR website.

1. Partners: GB&I recognized that in today's world many people live together without being married. The current Rules only recognise spouses of Active Rotarians (and allows them to be IYFR members) This change would accord 'partners' the same status in respect of membership, the word 'partner' being defined as someone in a personal relationship similar to marriage.
2. Regalia: The International Commodore considered that IYFR should, as a mark of recognition and encouragement, when chartering a new Fleet provide some regalia free of charge. This should be the initial shoulder boards and burgees for the Fleet Commodore, Fleet Vice Commodore and Fleet Rear Commodore.
3. Grants: At the last AGM there was a desire by some members to make a grant to an organization external to IYFR. The current Rules do not allow this but IYFR has sufficient accumulated funds and such action is in accord with Rotary principles. The incoming International Commodore undertook to investigate this and report back to the next AGM.

The proposed Rules changes would:

Limit the maximum amount given away in any one year

Safeguard the financial integrity of IYFR

Put in place a structure to decide:

- the amount of grant money available to each Area
- the criterion that must be met to obtain a grant
- how applications are processed
- how the money is paid
- checks and balances to minimize the risk of misuse

Should this change be adopted it is the Bridge's intention to commence this annual process immediately. Guidelines on how the application processing should be conducted have also been drafted.

For full script of changes go to <http://www.iyfr.net/t1/documents/index.php>

OPEN FORUM OPEN FORUM OPEN FORUM

All members are encouraged to come along, particularly if you have questions, ideas or complaints that you wish to put to your International Commodore and his Bridge

A briefing will be given on the proposed rule changes and there will be time for discussion on these matters (they are outlined in this Rotafloat and a full version is on the website) **Because time at the AGM is limited those members with a particular interest in the Rules are strongly encouraged to ask their questions/express their views at this Open Forum.**

The venue and timing details are:

**Monday, 21 June
1600 – 1800
Palais des Congres de Montreal
Room 521 (175 seat capacity)**

Meeting Members of the Netherlands South West Fleet

Whilst making arrangements for our annual trip to Holland over the Easter Holiday, my wife Mary & I wondered whether we might visit any of the Fleets in the Netherlands. Over the past 20 years Mary has made quite a number of Dutch Inner Wheel friends, through contacts made at Inner Wheel Conventions.

Through the IYFR website I discovered their South West Fleet was indeed meeting for its Spring Get-Together on Saturday 27th. March 2010 at the Villa Augusta in Dordrecht, which is situated close to where we were staying. I emailed Henk van den Berg their Fleet Secretary telling him of our desire to join their event. He was away, but through Commodore Henry van Loosbroek we received a kind invitation to join them, but warned they were expecting an unusually large number and things might be a little cramped.

Rear-Commodore Sippo van der Mast & his wife Heyli were the first to greet us. They had hosted International Commodore Bryan & wife Chris on their boat last Whitsun, a good start both being members of the Broads Fleet as we are.

Their meeting covered the programme for the coming season. Henk their Commodore asked me to tell them a little about the Broads Fleet. One of their members was interested to hear about Waveney Sailability, which several of our local Rotary Clubs promote for enabling sailing participation for the disabled, as he was pondering something on these lines himself, especially as the Treasurer reported their

Fleet had some excess funds. After the meeting we met others including Evert van der Stroom the Netherlands Fleet Secretary & his wife Tine, who kindly remembered seeing us as two of those "tarmac river" participants at the Post Convention Cruise on the Clyde.



Meeting of the Dutch South West Fleet

After lunch their speaker Olaf Oosterman, himself a heart sufferer from an early age and who now has many plastic veins, spoke about the Foundation for the Sailing Boat "van Leef Je Droom" which he skippers for those disabled in a similar way to himself. It was interesting to learn how rewarding the boat ("Live your Dream") is by giving many such freedom and enjoyment, to the benefit of their health. A Dutch friend of ours was able to come along with us and offer a little help in conveying to us some of the items raised. Apparently Ellen McArthur had been with them on one occasion and we saw photos and a video of a trip undertaken sailing to Ireland. The boat normally sails with six participants accompanied by two crew and naturally is quite costly to maintain. As here this may well be a problem especially as one of the sponsors may have to withdraw support due to conditions brought about by the recent recession.

Mary & I really enjoyed the company and fellowship of their many members and wives. So if any of our IYFR members have a similar opportunity to join with other fleets outside the UK, please take it up.

Tall Ships Regatta in Latin America

To celebrate 200 Years of Independence from Spain a tall ships Regatta was organized and involved most Latin American countries in the region.

IYFR was represented by the Commodore of one of our Fleets when he sailed on "Libertad" for the leg between Ushuaia (Argentina) and Porta Arenas.

Most of the participating vessels are training ships of different nations, including Spain's "Sebastian Elcano" and Argentina's "Libertad". They left from Rio de Janeiro in January and went around the southern tip of the American continent, visited several ports on the Pacific coast on their way north and finish in May in Veracruz in Mexico.

- Guillermo Arteta
Regional Commodore, South America



The great sail boats in the sun at the wharf in Ushuaia

Charter of the Slovenian IYFR Fleet

In Slovenia, a beautiful tiny country in the southern part of Central Europe, where the West meets East and EU touches the Adriatic Sea, there are 1000 Rotarians, with many experienced sailors who have founded their own fleet. On April 22, 2010 the charter of Slovenia's IYFR Fleet took place in Ljubljana, Slovenian capital. On a sunny afternoon 30 Slovenian Sea friends gathered together with their spouses. Otmar Zorn, assistant governor of Slovenia's Rotary District 1910 gave the opening speech. Slovenia will become a new standalone district with 2011 and he was very happy to support one of the first official Fellowships in the country. The IYFR was represented by the International Rear Commodore and Area 1 Commodore, Sergio Santi with his supportive wife Laura, while two Italian fleets' commodores came with their Bridges to welcome their neighbours: Alberto Bagnasco, Italy NW Fleet Commodore from Genoa and Gennaro Coretti, Italia Alto Adriatico Fleet Commodore from Grado.



Sergio Santi with Marko Murn

Sergio explained to Slovenian founding members in his very warm way what is the heart of IYFR where we share two dimensions: the idea of Rotary and the love of sea and sailing. Within the official part the Fleet Bridge Officers were introduced and founding members accepted. The Fleet has quite an intensive program for the calendar year 2010 with activities such as:

- Meetings in non-sailing period with guest speakers, presenting interesting topics like ISAF regatta rules, fishing and first aid on board. As the Fleet Commodore explained, the first guest was the "god-father" of the Fleet, Zeki Çaner from Bodrum, Turkey, who gave more details of the IYFR Fleet and invited Slovenian friends to Turkey.
- Fleet members will participate in the Rotary regatta of RC Ljubljana-Carniola from Portoroz to Novigrad, Slovenia-Croatia in Istria from May 26 to 29, 2010. The head of organizers, Aleš Music, who is the Fleet Vice Commodore, also invited friends from Italian fleets and other IYFR members.
- They plan to organize special practical courses of ISAF Approved Offshore Personal Survival Training for members in Autumn and - to visit Turkish IYFR friends during Bodrum Sailing Week from November 3 to 7.

As Gennaro invited them to Italian Rotary regatta in Lignano on June 20, there were given promises from Slovenians to organize a visit of their neighbours this year, too.

The charter program concluded with a half hour presentation of an Atlantic Crossing by Marko Murn, the Fleet Commodore, done in November last year. A friendly atmosphere prevailed with rich food buffet and glasses of wines!

South West Western Australia Fleet Charter

An International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians Fleet was formed in Mandurah in Late February- the first in Australia in 10 years.

The new fleet was chartered by International Commodore Terry Stretton, and will be known as the IYFR South West Western Australia Fleet.

The last fleet formed in Australia was the Melbourne Fleet, which was chartered some 10 years ago. Western Australia has had a fleet for 30 years, drawing members from Perth metro area Rotary and Boating clubs. There are many fleets around the Australian mainland.

IC Terry Stretton inducted new members into South West WA Fleet – people from Rockingham to Waroona including past and present Rotarians and families of Rotary clubs in Pinjarra, Mandurah and Rockingham. Twenty eight new members plus their partners joined the fleet all having an interest in boating and many owning boats and yachts, power and other. There is interest from people around the South west of WA.

The Charter Dinner was held at the Mandurah Offshore fishing and Sailing club with special guests Acting Mayor, Councillor Darren Lee and his wife Christine representing the City of Mandurah. MOFSC Commodore Gerry Piettersen witnessed the Chartering of the Fleet, induction of members and appointment of the Bridge – Murray McNally as charter Commodore, Roger Lingard as Vice Commodore and Alan Rowe as Rear Commodore. The Sponsoring WA Fleet Commodore Kerran Campbell and many members of the IYFR WA fleet visited Mandurah over the weekend for the Charter and other functions to celebrate the new fleet. International regional commodore Reg Willis hosted the Charter night Dinner after assisting with the formation of the fleet over the last many months.

All past and current Rotarians who have an interest in boating can join IYFR. The IYFR website is www.iyfr.net or contact the new fleet on 61 8 95359990 or 61 8 9537 8000.

– Murray McNally.



South West WA Fleet Bridge
FC Murray McNally, Reg Willis (Fleet Promotor),
VC Roger Lingard and RC Allan Rowe at the
Rowe's home luncheon on Canals Port Mandurah.



International and other Fleet Charter
visitors returning from a tour of residences
in Port Mandurah.

Visit Stimulates Hong Kong Fleet

On the last Sunday of February a welcoming reception was held for the international Commodore Terry and Meryl at the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club. The Bistro was selected for its casual, yet clubby ambience. It was a family-felt reunion for all our members plus the Rear Commodore, past commodores and yours truly. DG Ada Cheng also bestowed her presence because she has been a fleet member.

Both Commodore Terry and Meryl were dressed in their formal navy whites commanding instant respect amongst our reception. The speech given by Commodore Terry was uplifting. International Rear Commodore Steve Dekrey briefed us on the history of our fleet and DG Ada gave us the wrapping up speech- she always remembers her details though she is a jet-setting business woman. She presented a tie and brooch to Terry and Meryl.

The usual sumptuous buffet lunch was enjoyed by us all. Under a good wind, we set sail aboard the Spirit of Hong Kong, our main yacht owned and helmed by Past Commodore Alice Liu. A scenic harbour cruise in our busy Fragrant Harbour was enjoyed by everyone. Our on-board conversation covered all aspects of life including succession of leadership by IPP Joann Tse.

The following Monday Past Commodore Cassidy Lam, President Eddy and I attended the regular Lunch meeting hosted by President Agnes Lau of the Rotary Club of Tsim Sha Tsui. At the meeting, President Agnes also presented our IYFR souvenir – a gift set of chopsticks and rests to Commodore Terry and Meryl. Commodore Terry was also invited to the regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Hong Kong, the original Rotary Club in Hong Kong. Our Commodore resided at the head table and spoke for our fleet.

IYFR is all about fun and fellowship. It is leaders like Commodore Terry who put in their work, upholding the formality that keeps the fleet going. We salute the International Commodore.

- Douglas Hsia



Members of Hong Kong Fleet with IC Terry Stretton and Meryl



Meryl Stretton, IC Terry Stretton, Commodore Douglas Hsia, skipper and owner Alice Liu, Cassidy Lam, Joann Tse

Philippines Charter Second Fleet

On March 12, 2010 a delegation of Rotarians left the big city of Metro Manila for the mid- southern Island of Cebu, for the chartering of the Cebu Fleet, the second fleet in the Philippines. The Charter was held at the Cebu Marine Resort on the Island of Mactan on March 12.

International Commodore Terry Stretton officiated. Also present was the IYFR Chief Administrator David Hansen with Terry’s and his First Mates Meryl & Liz.

The new Cebu Fleet Commodore is Sven-Olaf Tengelin; Vice Commodore is Udo Pelkowski; Rear commodore, Felix Asoy and Secretary Stephen Meacock.

Activities were lead by Commodore Jun AVECILLA of the sponsoring Cubao Fleet supported by other Fleet and Rotary club Presidents and members plus two district Governors: Dulce Coyukiatic from 3780 and Tony Veneracion from 3680.

Twenty eight members were formally inducted.

Preceding the Charter function, the Cebu Fleet had organized the “Underwater/ Coastal Clean-up Drive” supported by various divers and associated organisations. The group sailed to the Olango Island on “Goteborg”, Sven’s 50 footer pump boat. After a further half-hour drive they reached Barangay San Vincete. This concern for the environment is prompted by the fact that Philippines live in an archipelagic country having an inherent affinity for the sea. Their concerns and actions were applauded by International Commodore Terry, who participated in the Clean-up.

- Edited from FVC Ven Martillo’s Philippines Fleet newsletter “Rotalog”



Commodores at the Cebu Fleet charter: left to right -Renato Echavez, IC Terry Stretton, Cebu Fleet’s Sven Olaf Tengelin, VC Udo Pelowski and IC’s Mate Meryl

Third Fleet in Philippines

After the Cebu Fleet charter, the Rotary mariners hastened back to Manila for the official charter of Hands On Fleet on 15th March, held at Manila Yacht Club and officiated by IC Terry Stretton. This was organized by Fleet Commodore Butch Madarang, President of Rotary Club of Quezon City Circle, the charter members all being Rotary club Presidents.

This was an extra special occasion, being the first anniversary of the charter of Cabao West Fleet and because the Philippines now had 3 fleets, it was classed as a region, so a regional commodore was appointed. The obvious choice was Jun AVECILLA, who has been the driving force in getting these fleets up and running, so IC Terry Stretton inducted Jun as Regional Commodore, Philippines. It is Jun’s intention to have ten fleets in his country, one for each district.



L-R Cebu FVC Udol Pelkowski, Cubao West FC Joel Sarmiento, IC Terry Stretton, Cebu FC Sven-Olof Tengelin, Hands On FC Butch Madarang, RC Jun AVECILLA

IYFR Mission to Mexico

Members of the San Francisco Fleet like to combine their interest in sailing with the Humanitarian goals of Rotary. After participating in several small local projects they had the opportunity, through relatively new member Alan Olsen to extend these ideals to a Programme in Mexico. Alan is a principal in a non-profit organisation "Call of the Sea" which operates an 82 ft staysail Schooner "Seaward" – taking students and groups out of San Francisco bay in the summer and for a number of years, offering week-long sailing experiences in La Paz in Baja California, Mexico during the winter.

Many small fishing villages stretch up the east coast of the peninsula, north of La Paz, eking out their existence by fishing the Sea of Cortez. The Fleet had found their project. After soliciting contributions (financial and material) members flew to Los Cabos and drove north to La Paz where they joined "Seaward". They worked with the Rotary Club of La Paz Balandra to identify those villages most in need. Over the next few days they visited several (only one of which had a land road in and out) in Isla San Francisco and Isla San Jose, often being greeted by local residents coming out in their Pangas (fishing boats). They distributed clothing, books, dictionaries, sports equipment and learnt of various other needs for future trips.

Some leisure sailing followed, experiencing beautiful beaches and lagoons, snorkelling and whale watching. They all agreed that their mission was an outstanding success: " We shall return."

- IVC Clint Collier



Baja California, Mexico and the Sea of Cortez



Books and Dictionaries are given to the School at Los Burros



The 82 ft staysail schooner "Seaward"