



ROTAFLOAT

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 71 AUGUST 2007

COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

I feel very privileged at the honour that has been bestowed on me. I am looking forward to the challenge of being the Commodore of such an active and successful Fellowship. Bill and Katia have given many years of their lives to IYFR and have worked hard to give the Fellowship a sound base and guidelines for all future administrations to benefit. For what they have done for IYFR we, the Fellowship, sincerely thank them.

During Bill's term of office he, Clint Collier and our own webmaster John Barnsley totally reformed the website. It is user friendly and very informative to members as well as being an extremely useful source of information and easily transferable for future administrations. It holds our history and archives as well as all the guidelines necessary for the future. Rotafloat is on the website and we are hoping to introduce a short news sheet of future events in any Fleet. **We invite Fleet secretaries to inform the Public Relations Officer, Bob Burns, of anything they would like to publicise**

During my term of office I want to promote friendship and understanding between Fleets and countries. I am sure that the more fellowship we have between nations the world will eventually benefit. Rotary is playing a part in this. I will visit as many Fleets as possible and I want to encourage Fleets to combine events and work together in Fellowship to promote our hobby of boating.

At this moment we have the prospect of three new Fleets in Italy and in September a second one in France. There is also a possibility of another two in Italy, one in Canada and one each in Tasmania and Northern Territories. We are spreading our wings! I have already met several of our Regional Commodores and hope to meet more, in order to encourage them to play an even more active part in the communication between IYFR members and the International Bridge.

Chris and I have most exciting times ahead, plenty of work and we hope plenty of fun. We

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'On With The Motley!'
The International Commodore 2007-2009
Bryan Skinner
 with PIC Bill Robinson and his wife Katia

are however very dependant on the support we are receiving from our new International Bridge. Each member has an important role to play and has been helped by the efficient handover and reliable work from the retiring Bridge. We thank them all for assisting in a relatively painless transfer of responsibility.

The internet is our main means of communication with our members. The Treasurer will very soon be sending out invoices for the International Dues, calculated on the Fleet Rosters. It is therefore important that Fleet Officers ensure that their members' details on the roster are kept up to date.

All those who attended enjoyed a most successful PCC in the San Juan Islands this year. Now our thoughts turn to 2008. The Convention is in Los Angeles and will be followed by a PCC, staying on the Queen Mary, moored at Long Beach, with outings and activities each day. Obviously **the capacity is limited so we hope that everyone who is interested will sign up on the website as early as possible.** I thank Roger McGonegal and the Newport Harbour Fleet for all their considerable assistance in the arrangements.

In conclusion, enjoy all the opportunities we offer and value the new friends you will make within the best Fellowship in Rotary.

Bryan Skinner International Commodore I.Y.F.R.

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REPORT OF CHARTER OF ST. TROPEZ FLEET

Area 1 Commodore Michael Pooley, his wife Jackie, my wife Chris and I travelled to Monaco early in the morning in full uniform. We were to attend the District Conference 1730 being held in Monaco. We were met at Nice airport by the new Commodore Humbert de Ribaucourt.

On arrival we were taken to the top table for lunch, sitting with two District Governors, the representative of the Rotary International President, Dom Vessigault and Jacques Verges, the International Defence Lawyer, who had been asked to defend Saddam Hussein, but had refused. What a privilege to be at that table.

The Charter came in the afternoon when we went on stage with Humbert, Michael and the District Governor. I made a short speech introducing the concept of IYFR. I then presented Humbert with the Charter and his Commodore's Flag. And then ALL the Fleet Members came onto the stage looking very smart wearing as much uniform as they had. What a reception and a good advertisement for IYFR in front of over 500 delegates. Humbert had a number of new applications to join after the event. There is even hope of another Fleet in the area. In the evening we had a celebration dinner during which I gave them my gifts, including founder members' certificates.

On Sunday we went sailing with many of the Fleet in the beautiful area, with a picnic lunch on board, celebrating the election of the new French President in the evening. Monday had more sailing and a trip on the Rescue Boat, which many of the Fleet help to crew.

At lunch time we were guests at the French Naval Officers' Headquarters and ate a fantastic 'local' meal with wine and Champagne.



Fleet Commodore Humbert de Ribaucourt, International Commodore Bryan Skinner, Area 1 Commodore Michael Pooley and Fleet Vice Commodore Daniel Mustel relaxing.

'Perks' of the job!



There was a final Rotary meeting in the evening with toasts to wish the New Fleet of St. Tropez well. We all enjoyed the superb hospitality of the Fleet and are sure their enthusiasm will help them in future years.

Bryan Skinner International Commodore I.Y.F.R.

MANY FLOTE

(WE HAVE A FLEET)

GIZYCKO FLEET—POLAND 26th MAY 2007



The Gizycko Fleet mustering for the photographer wearing their embroidered hats and tee-shirts. Among those kneeling are a Rotary Past District Governor, Present District Governor Wojtek Czyzewski, Fleet Commodore Jakub Kacek Nankiewicz, Fleet Vice Commodore Piotr Pajdowski and Tom, a very helpful interpreter

During the World Convention of 2006 Piotr Pajdowski visited the IYFR stand and decided he wanted an IYFR sailing hat. He was told, very politely, that this was impossible unless he became a member of an IYFR Fleet. Piotr desperately wanted the hat so much that on his return to Poland, armed with an application form and an instruction manual, he started to organise a fleet. Using the membership of his own Rotary Club **Gizycko** and that of the **Warsaw City** Club a Charter Bridge of the Fleet was established. The next decision was when to arrange the Charter. This was agreed to be on the final day of the Governor's Cup Regatta 26th May 2007.

Bryan Skinner, as he was then International Vice Commodore and Area 1 Commodore Europe IYFR, had been consulted throughout and confirmed that he would be able to come to Poland even though it meant leaving England on 25th May at 03.00 hours! His first day was full of yachting fellowship and he met with many Rotarians including some from the Rotary Club of **Berlin Bruecke**. Over the next two



I.C. Bryan Skinner, Piotr Pajdowski Vice Komandor Flota Gizycko together with Marek Stanczyk son of the President of R.C. Gizycko

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days considerable rivalry took place as to who would be the victor in the various races.



Presenting the bells to race winners



The racing was spread over two days



The two youngest participants Wojtek and Piotr Franczak with the District Governor and R.C. Gizycko President, Roman Stanczyk



Piotr's daughter Gabi relaxing after crewing for her father.

After the championship the ceremony took place on Saturday when Bryan Skinner presented the Fleet's Flag and Charter. Afterwards each member of the Fleet received a certificate and a pin. The Fleet Members wore hats and tee-shirts embroidered with fleet motifs. Andrzej Ludek, on behalf of the **Warsaw City** Rotary Club presented a Fleet Bell.

So impressed were some visitors that they asked to purchase hats and shirts but were told, as in Copenhagen, that these items were for IYFR members only. So determined were some of the visitors that five joined the Fleet making a total of forty-nine members. The largest Fleet in the Fellowship! Such is the enthusiasm for this first Fellowship in Poland that everyone is wondering what the next Fellowship will be. The Germans had flown to Gizycko in their own plane so perhaps it could be formed by those interested in joining the Fellowship of Flying Rotations. Every ones' fingers are crossed!

This article is from a report by **Piotr Pajdowski**
Vice Komandor, Flota Gizycko, Polska, IYFR



Piotr on board 'Christian Radich'

SALT LAKE CITY

CONVENTION & PCC

An account of Christopher and Jane Bishop's visit to the U.S.A.

It all started in Sweden in 2006 when Ron Stern said to anyone who was listening that there was an open invitation to go on his boat on Chesapeake Bay. When it came to the 2007 Convention in Salt Lake City, I thought it would be a good idea to make a real holiday of it. So, making the full use of the Fellowship of IYFR, I duly contacted two other IYFR members and their wives and arranged for a trip around Utah with them together with my wife, Jane, and myself. Then I remembered the invitation I mentioned earlier, in Sweden and I contacted Ron & Lenora to see if they were serious about their offer. They said "yes" and then the adventure began. It set in train the beginning of a lovely experience. .

We were met by Ron & Lenora at the airport and then followed a wonderful few days. First of all meeting their family in Baltimore for dinner, then cruising Chesapeake Bay and meeting members of the Chesapeake Bay Fleet. It is a huge body of water with delightful properties tucked away up rivers which flow into it. Chestertown, up the Chester River was particularly beautiful and tranquil with it's leafy avenues of two hundred year old houses. After exploring St Michael's and delighting in the grand buildings of Annapolis, we were finally dropped off at the airport for the next part of our trip.

We flew to Salt Lake City and then settled into our hotel for one night. The following morning, in company with members of the Thames Fleet, Rodney & Jeanne Davies and Michael & Jackie Pooley, we met up with our tour guide for a wonderful trip lasting a week around the canyons of Utah. Coming from the U.K. we had never seen anything like it and each day brought fresh wonders. The rearing cliffs of Capitol Reef, the glorious orange-pink pinnacles of Bryce Canyon and the awe inspiring 2,000ft high peaks of Zion National Park fill the mind with magnificent vistas. At the end of the week we arrived back at Salt Lake City ready for the Convention.

Arriving by air in Salt Lake City, is like landing on the moon. In the middle of a desert, suddenly there is an airport and, in the light of day, a beautiful city. The Mormons were allowed to



build their city because no-one else wanted the land, they were helped by the arrival of the railway a few years after they began building. They constructed Temple Square, a group of beautiful buildings, with the surrounding roads numbered from that central point. We could not help but admire the lovely setting and fantastic structures around the square, including the Temple into which only Mormons can enter. On the Sunday, we did however, hear the renowned Mormon Tabernacle Choir singing for us in their own impressively large conference centre. A superb experience! The lovely mountains which surrounded the city were the setting for the 2002 Winter Olympics. These games, according to our taxi driver, made the city what it is today.

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The Convention was the largest Salt Lake City had had since the Olympics, between 17000 and 18000 delegates and was held in their gigantic Conference Centre. This has many diverse restaurants nearby, which enabled us all to eat somewhere different each night and with a different crowd of people too. This all added to the usual fellowship of a convention. Our Booth this year was half the size of the previous ones we have had, but it stood out with its colourful flags and interesting pictures. Many members came to chat and it was marvellous to meet people whom we have heard from, but never met before. The opening and closing ceremonies were excellent, with interesting relaxed speeches from Bill Boyd the outgoing President of Rotary and Wilfred Wilkinson the incoming one. The huge auditorium meant



that most of us watched on screens, but the organising of the event was excellent.

IYFR had a very good Pre-convention Event, held at Christopher's Seafood Restaurant, where



Left to right:

Chris Bishop, Michael Pooley, I.C. Bryan Skinner,
I.V.C. Terry Stretton Rodney Davis and I.R.C. Clint Collier

we had delicious food, and the opportunity to meet friends and catch up with the news. The AGM was very well attended at the same venue. Bill Robinson made a very good outgoing speech. Bryan Skinner thanked him for his hard work and introduced his new Bridge Officers, showing his appreciation too to the retiring officers. There were reports from all three areas of IYFR, from the Webmaster and the Treasurer.

The minutes of the AGM, along with the accounts, will be published in the 'members only' section of the website.

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After the Convention we all flew off to Seattle to join the Post Convention Cruise. From Seattle we travelled by ferry and coach to Friday Harbour and there began four days of sailing, partying, special events and fellowship. Each day saw us hosted on a different boat and as we docked somewhere else each night we saw a good deal of the beautiful, wooded San Juan Islands. We had a wine tasting and a dockside supper.

There was even a sail past with the Commodores taking the salute from Bill and Katia's boat, the "Resolute" This took place after we had been to the British Garrison where we witnessed



Awaiting the sail past.

On the fly-bridge are Katia Robinson, Meryl Stretton and Chris Skinner.
On the bow are I.P.C. Bill Robinson, I.C. Bryan Skinner,
I.V.C. Terry Stretton and I.R.C. Clint Collier.

the rededication of the small boat pontoon which had been built by Yachting Rotarians some years previously.

The final dinner at Roche Harbour was full of great fun and merriment. After that we all witnessed the last lowering of Bill's IYFR Commodore's flag, at the ceremony which takes place every night, to the accompaniment of the Canadian, American and British National Anthems. Bill's flag was given to him and he presented it to Bryan, after which the new officers received their regalia of office,

literally on the water's edge in the light of the setting sun. It was all a moving experience.

The next morning we breakfasted together for the last time and Bill informally passed the chain of office to Bryan. The experience did not end then as we went back to Seattle for a couple of days. On the first day we were picked up by Ron & Lenora Stern in their hired car who took us out to the Wineries to taste some wine, most enjoyable. Then we went to the revolving restaurant at the top of the Space Needle. Here we celebrated our wedding anniversaries, having found that we were married within one week of each other. The following day Sam Sullivan took us out in his boat around the harbour, where we were boarded by the U.S. coastguard, but they found that everything was in order. We were then taken to his home to meet his family. What a wonderful end to a truly memorable event.

All agreed that the PCC was a great experience and we really appreciated the work done by Patrick Hunt and the local Iyforians and, of course, Bill and Katia in organising it all. Well done, it will be hard to equal the event, but we will certainly try next year. **Why not join us in Los Angeles where we will be living aboard the Queen Mary, whilst sailing on Brigantines.**

Christopher Bishop Chief Administrator International Bridge Staff.

YACHTING ROTARIANS PARTICIPATE IN CHICAGO'S VENETIAN NIGHT PARADE.

Chicago's Venetian Night is one of the city's most popular outdoor summer events. It features a fleet of up to forty boats; both power and sail, and is held annually in downtown Monroe Harbor where it is viewed by a crowd of nearly 750,000. The beautiful and imaginatively-decorated fleet of boats is led by King Neptune. When the parade of boats concludes its appointed route through Monroe Harbor, the city's most dazzling array of fireworks begins as a fitting finale to this extravaganza.

This year's event, held on Saturday July 28, 2007, was the 50th anniversary of the parade. Appropriately the theme selected for boat decorations was "*Chicago's Finest Moments*". It did not take Rotarian Olaf Schneider more than a few moments to realize that the founding of Rotary, 102 years ago, in Chicago was one of "*Chicago's Finest Moments*". Olaf volunteered to enter his boat as our IYFR entry in the parade. With the assistance of Past Fleet Commodore Jim Wright and Fleet Commodore Phillip Klein and the cooperation of Rotary International who



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lent numerous banners and paraphernalia we decorated his 33' sailboat "*Charisma*" to commemorate the birthplace of Rotary.

The evening was picture perfect; moderate temperatures, light breezes, a calm harbor and a full moon. What more could a sailor ask for? Joining Olaf and his wife Liesbeth on their boat were several Rotarians and District Governor Elect Pam Kerr, who is an active member of the Chicago IYFR fleet. As the boats marshalled for the parade, our dockside cheering section of about twenty was joined by hundreds at the Columbia Yacht Club party to loudly proclaim their admiration for the nicely decorated boat. Olaf and his merry crew then traversed the parade route to the cheering of hundreds of thousands while our small cheering section partied in celebration of the event.

Following the parade, "*Charisma*" docked for a short while at the Columbia Yacht Club to reunite our group and have a champagne toast in celebration of a wonderful evening. A small amount of champagne was poured into the waters of Lake Michigan for King Neptune in thanks for this wonderful opportunity to share Rotary with others. For further information about activities of the Chicago Fleet of the International Fellowship of Yachting Rotarians (IYFR), **please contact Commodore Phill Klein** at:

pklein.enteract@rcn.com. Website: <http://www.iyfr.net>

TALL SHIPS' RACES IN SZCZECIN 4th TO 7th AUGUST 2007

Just ten weeks have passed since Bryan Skinner celebrated the Charter Day of Gizycko Fleet of Rotarians and a great occasion for meeting appeared again. The biggest and the most beautiful yachts in the world have arrived at the Polish port city, Szczecin, for the final of the "Tall Ships' Races 2007". We could not miss such opportunity of the great sailors' experience. Three Rotarian members of Gizycko Fleet, including Vice-Commander Piotr Pajdowski, have arrived in Szczecin for an unforgettable weekend.

We knew that it would be a chance to visit few famous sailing ships, incl. Polish "*Dar Mlodziezy*" (launched 1982), Russian "*Kruzenstern*" (1926) and "*Sedov*" (1920) or the only sailing ship still in military service, Mexican "*Cuauhtemoc*" (1982). We hoped to discuss possible co-operation with Hal Barstow, Rotarian from Los Angeles, being hosted on "*Dar Mlodziezy*" together with fifteen children and three adults from the USA.



Polish and American Rotarians on board "*Dar Młodzieży*", Hal Barstow, chief of the American group is kneeling on the right.

During the intra-city meeting of Szczecin Rotary clubs, with the special guest – Governor of District 2230, Hal cordially-

invited all of us to next year's Convention in Los Angeles and – last but not the least – post-convention sailing. Then, all of us, almost two hundred Rotarians with families and relatives, participated in the cruise of Szczecin Bay and partying on the deck of Norwegian s/y “*Christian Radich*” (1937). The Rotarian family, under the hundreds of masts and sails, had flowered again!

Marek Lipinski

Member of Gizycko Fleet, International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians
RC Lodz – 4 Kultury, District 2230

A CHALLENGE BY A SEVENTY-FOUR YEARS OLD IYFORIAN

This is a report about Ikuo Kashima, born 5th September, 1929, a member of IYFR Osaka-Bay Fleet who attempted to sail around the world single-handed at the age of seventy-three.



This was not his first long distance voyage as he had single-handed, on two previous occasions, sailed across the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans in his sailboat ‘*Koraasa*’ in 1964. Mr Kashima became famous in the Japanese sailing world and continued to contribute to sailing as Harbour Master of the Tannowa Yacht Harbour, Osaka. Mr. Kashima was

originally a member of Hannan Rotary Club and joined the IYFR Osaka-Bay Fleet. He successfully organized the water transport for the IYFR PCC Osaka meeting, 2004.

In 1999, aged seventy, he attempted a single-handed, non-stop, around the world sailing voyage.. Unfortunately he was unable to complete this voyage due to circumstances which required him having to call in for a repair on his sailboat near the Tasmania Island.

In 2006, aged seventy-six he decided once again to attempt a single handed, non-stop around-the-world sailing. His sailboat, ‘*Korassa 77*’ a 42 foot, 14 ton ocean cruiser, was equipped with various devices, including a generator, a freshwater maker and communicators for his estimated 300 days long voyage. Mr. Kashima left the Tannowa yacht harbour on 6th August 2006, went south towards Hawaii, crossing the international date line on 4th September the day before his seventy-seventh birthday. Passing westwards of Bora Bora Islands he

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and reached the coast of Chile towards the end of November. On 27th December he rounded Cape Horn, continued in an eastwardly direction passing Cape Town and eventually reaching the Indian Ocean. However, on 23rd March 2007 the main halyard parted so that he was forced to sail with the jib only. The boat speed was reduced, however he could still sail and continued his voyage towards Tasmania.

Early in the morning 5th May he met a heavy storm near Tasmania. He hit his back during the storm and lost consciousness. When he came to he found he could not move his body. He, regrettably, decided to call for help. He was rescued by the Australian Rescue Service and transported to the Royal Hobart Hospital in Tasmania. Fortunately his damage was not as serious as he had thought and he was able to go back to Japan on 8th May.

Unfortunately Mr. Kashima's attempts have not succeeded. However his great challenging spirit to sail around-the-world single-handed, non stop is an encouragement to all of us to be ambitious in our sailing endeavors.

We all praise Mr. Kashima's amazing physical and mental strength which supported his two hundred and seventy-days long single-handed sailing from the bottom of our hearts. It is with great pride that here we, all members of the Osaka-Bay Fleet, report Mr. Kashima's great challenge.

Reported by **Kozo Kajino**

Osaka-Bay Fleet Past Commodore
Surrogate of IYFR Japan Main Bridge Commodore.



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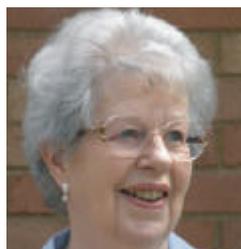
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To do this go into www.iyfr.net with your user name and password.
Go into **BRIDGE OFFICERS** and click [e-mail the Regalia Officer](#)

AFTER THE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION IN JUNE 2008
JOIN THE IYFR POST CONVENTION CRUISE
JUNE 19-23
STAYING ON THE QUEEN MARY
IN LOS ANGELES



The Queen Mary - Long Beach, California

There are wonderful opportunities to extend your visit to the United States, both before and after the Convention.

FULL DETAILS WILL BE FOUND
ON IYFR WEB SITE

www.iyfr.net

VISIT TO SKAW FLEET, SWEDEN

At the invitation of the Skaw Fleet, I visited them for the weekend, my first official visit as Commodore, and was hosted by Tom and Marianne Sellberg. We travelled by car from the airport and then by boat to their holiday home on a small rocky island. They had a large boathouse in which they held the Fleet meeting on the Saturday evening.

The house was really in keeping with the Fisherman's boat house and had been beautifully renovated. Today, it was decked overall in honour of my visit. The weather was perfect and Chris and I were taken on two days of tours of the islands. We revisited Marstrand with its



castle, reviving memories of the PCC after the Copenhagen Convention.

The IYFR meeting was most enjoyable, and we had great pleasure in meeting Past Regional Commodore Arne Magnusson, and the present RC Birger Lindeblad. Everyone arrived by boat, all again dressed overall. After a really good discussion we ate dinner, consisting of local produce, in the boathouse. We had a very pleasant evening together, lots of wine, and it was good to meet all our friends again. All of them stayed overnight, so we had

sad farewells the next morning.

I thank the Skaw Fleet for their hospitality, their companionship, and a glorious weekend of scenery and sunshine.

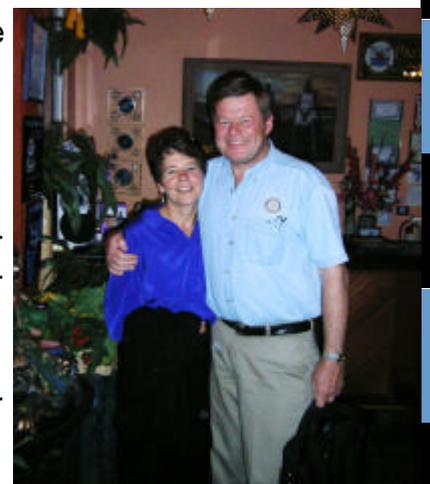
Bryan Skinner International Commodore

THE EDITORS' CORNER

First and foremost we wish to thank all our contributors who have enabled us to put together our first edition of Rotafloat. With such enthusiasm we trust that members will be able to provide more copy for the next edition of Rotafloat in approximately January 2008. When we published the GB & I Rotafleet magazine we were always governed for stories by the boating season. Now we are world wide this should not be a problem and we look forward to receiving tales and photographs from the Southern Hemisphere.

Please note that Rotafloat is in essence an historical publication. Should you have future events planned which would be of an international interest please contact Robert Burns our Public Relations Officer for inclusion on the Notice Board. To do this go into www.iyfr.net, **click** Members Only, **insert** your username and password, **click** Bridge Officer Roster, **click** e-mail the Public Relations Officer. This will set up an e-mail direct to Robert Burns.

Ian and Norma Hornsby Editors



Bill and Katia off duty at last!