



ISSUE

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ROTAFLOAT

Official newsletter for the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians

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.



IC Bill & Katia Robinson

Message from the Commodore

International Bridge:

The IYFR Executive Committee has regretfully accepted the resignation of International Rear Commodore John Milne, due to ongoing health issues. We extend our sincere thanks to John and Merrill Milne for their service to IYFR. They will be sorely missed, and we wish John a full recovery and continuing participation in our fellowship.

Under the guidance of IPIC Ferit Biren as chair of the IYFR Nominations Committee, nominations were solicited and voted on by the Nominations Committee and the College of Past International Commodores.

Fleet Commodore Terry Stretton, Auckland, New Zealand, has been elected to immediately assume responsibilities of International Rear Commodore and serve as Area 3 Commodore (Asia-Pacific Region) for the balance of the term of John Milne. Terry will assume the position of International Vice Commodore July 1, 2007, and International Commodore for 2009-2011.

IYFR Webmaster and Past San Francisco California Fleet Commodore Clint Collier has been elected to the position of International Commodore for the 2011-2013 term. Clint will assume the position of International Rear Commodore July 1, 2007 and serve as Area 2 Commodore (North

and South America).

Note re Area Commodores: Each of the three elected International Bridge Officers represents one of the three IYFR world areas, and serves as Area Commodore of that area unless and until another Area Commodore is appointed to relieve the elected International Bridge Officer of area administrative responsibilities to allow more attention to International Bridge duties.

Congratulations to Terry and Clint!

June 2007 IYFR Events:

Details regarding the IYFR Pre Convention Event, Annual General Meeting and Post Convention Cruise can be found in this issue, as well as under "Fellowship News & Events" on the IYFR website at www.iyfr.net. You are encouraged to register early due to space limitations at venues. Also in this issue is information about an IYFR Fleet and Regional Leadership Meeting scheduled for Sunday June 17th in Salt Lake City.

Amendments to Rules:

The International Bridge is collectively accountable to our members, the fellowship, and to RI to maintain a steady course and the integrity of the organization. We have made enormous progress with the transferability, sustainability and transparency of IYFR.

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With changes to the Rotary International Code of Policies for the Fellowships regarding membership, the move to electronic communications, changes to make IYFR administration a team effort, and RI expectations that fellowships be accountable to RI and their members, IYFR rules need to be continually reviewed and amended to accommodate these changes.

With regard to amendments affecting IYFR policy issues, I have sought the recommendations of the Council of Past International Commodores and my Advisory Council which is comprised of representatives from around the world, to provide perspectives on policy issues, and as a way to involve more IYFR members in planning for the future. Please review the proposed amendments and policy comments in this issue.

Fleet news:

It is rewarding and exciting to see the continuing interest and growth in IYFR. We welcome onboard the members of the recently chartered Germany South and Italy South East fleets, and thank IVC Bryan Skinner for his assistance and participation with their charters. Please see related articles in this issue. Fleets in Poland and France are scheduled for charter this spring. We congratulate the San Juan Islands, French Polynesia, Bay of Plenty, and Bay of Islands fleets on their first anniversary, and encourage their active participation in our fellowship.

As IYFR approaches its 60th anniversary, one of the areas that I believe needs attention is maintaining a better record of fleet history and charters. We should provide our fellowship with a 60 year historical perspective which will help with the promotion and sustainability of IYFR. I appreciate the great job PIC Andrew Mitchell did with the "Golden Jubilee" in 1997 which gives an overview of IYFR history and activities during RI Conventions. I would also like to see a collection of summaries about each of the IYFR fleets, including fleet location, charter dates, officers and fleet activities (both social and service) added to our archives. I thank PIC Bert Collins (1981-83) for sending great reports from his era. It was interesting to note that issues relating to fleet maintenance, communications and development remain essentially the same, despite the electronic age. It still depends on us! Please send current and historical fleet information to me at: commodore@iyfr.net and to IYFR Public Relations officer Brody Kunz at: publicrelations@iyfr.net.

Website:

We thank Webmaster Clint Collier for the continuing improvements he is making to the IYFR website. See the

Webmaster's report in this issue. We are delighted with the ease of printing fleet rosters and roster content. Please be sure to update your email and contact information on the roster. This will ensure that you receive email communications, notices and newsletters that are broadcast to all members. Be sure that your SPAM filters do not block messages from the IYFR Webmaster's email address: webmaster@iyfr.net. Fleet Commodores, please be certain that this information is getting to your members.

Service Above Self:

While service projects should be funded in the normal course through Rotary clubs (see related policy issue discussed later in this article), there is much we can do with our boats and members to support Rotary service committees and activities, and initiate our own fleet service projects. By way of example, I congratulate the Vancouver Island Fleet for their initiative to make a difference in the lives of disadvantaged children and sharing the good fortune of boating that we IYFR members often take for granted with other Rotarians. Please see the "Service Above Self on the High Seas," and "Fleet's Day at Sea" articles in this issue. There are many other fleets that annually perform service activities as an integral and enriching part of our fellowship, from waterway cleanup to student exchanges, and supporting other Rotary service activities. I encourage fleets to submit articles and photos about their service projects for publication in *Rotafloat* to: commodore@iyfr.net and rotafloat@iyfr.net. Please send photos in ".jpg" format rather than embedded in the articles.

IYFR Website Library:

To maintain a historical record and perspective on how and why IYFR operates the way it does, we are continuing to expand reference material available to our members on the website, and are establishing an administrative library for international bridge reference which will include IYFR corporation documents, Fleet Charter documents, protocols covering IYFR activities at RI Conventions and Post Convention Cruises, and RI fellowship related matters.

Policy Issues:

I want to share the consensus of the College of Past International Commodores and Advisory Council members on two policy issues that relate to IYFR finances and commercial advertising, and the purpose of Fellowships and service. I welcome your comments regarding these matters.

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1) IYFR Finances and Commercial Advertising:

It is the goal of this administration to make IYFR a more transparent, sustainable and transferable fellowship. The fellowship should be able to first sustain itself by its dues, without relying on generous contributions from its leaders or by advertising.

We are in a transition to the new electronic era, which Rotary International encourages all Fellowships to embrace. By shifting to electronic communications with Rotafloat and the roster, we may indeed be able to survive within our existing dues structure and have no need for a dues increase or income from advertising. Only time will tell.

However, during some previous administrations, commercial advertising has been used to help offset Rotafloat printing costs and website costs. While advertising may work for one administration, it should not be expected that a succeeding administration would have the same resources, or want to deal with the contract and liability issues. IYFR does not have a policy regarding advertising, and we should address the issue.

Regarding the website, our webmaster Clint Collier has said that: "advertising as well as linking to commercial sites is inappropriate for a membership website such as ours. Links should be to other informational sites with information pertinent to our goals or of value to our membership"

My thoughts, and those of a majority of my advisors, are consistent with Clint's website comments. The same should also apply to Rotafloat. Otherwise, we may expose our fellowship to unnecessary risks and legal liability by accepting advertising. We should be able to live within our dues structure for routine operational expenses.

If there were an extraordinary opportunity, and a defined need for funds, IYFR may want to accept advertising or join in a promotional event. However, to do so would require having a well thought out policy in place that addresses contract terms, liability, content, and internal staffing responsibility. Your comments and specific proposals are welcome.

2) Purpose of Fellowships and Service:

The goals and objectives of IYFR state that the purpose of our fellowship is to advance international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship....To promote Rotary fellowship through cruising, yachting, racing, sailing, kayaking, etc., promote high standards of seamanship and support Rotary service projects and opportunities, on and off the water.

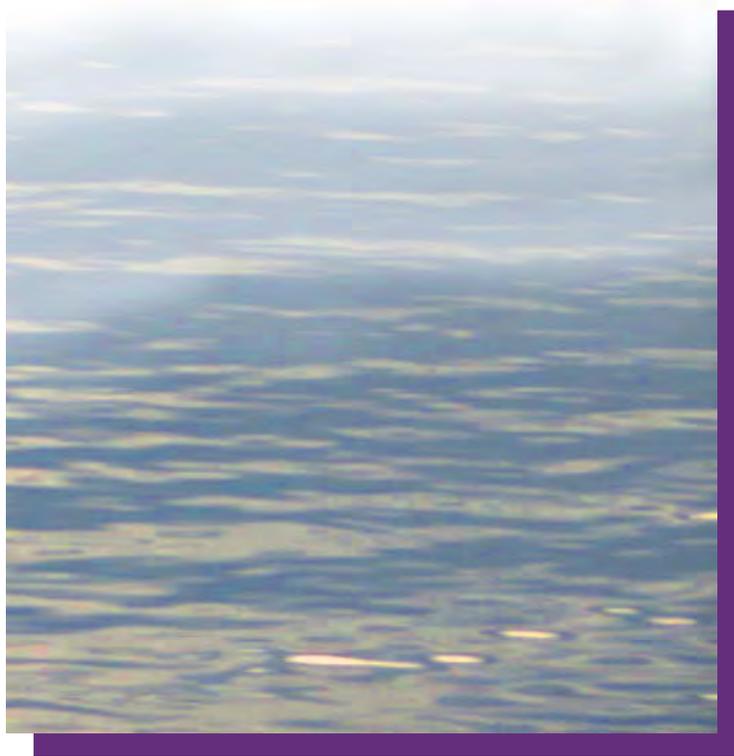
To me, and many Mariners I have spoken with, this does not mean that we are a fund raising organization for service projects. Service projects, on or off the water, should be funded in the normal course through Rotary clubs. That position is not inconsistent with the idea that service, along with fun and fellowship, is a component of our fellowship. There is much we can do with our boats and members to support Rotary service committees and activities, and initiate our own, without competing with Rotary by asking our members to contribute funds. If a fleet chooses to do a fund-raising project, and there are individuals or other fleets that wish to help, that is their choice, but I would observe that many Mariners would object to "double-dipping" if they are hit with fellowship requests for funding, in addition to their obligation to support the Rotary Foundation and local club foundations or service projects.

While I am a strong advocate of club service projects, I believe our fellowship can benefit Rotary most by being a fellowship first and foremost. Rotary International has recognized the importance of the fellowships to the growth and membership retention to Rotary.

After discussions with members of my staff and advisory groups, we have concluded that we should focus on "fellowship and fun, while supporting the ideal of Rotary". We believe that service will be an outgrowth of fellowship, fun and networking.

Wishing you all much fellowship, fun and smooth sailing in 2007!

*-Bill Robinson
International Commodore 2005-2007*



NEW CHARTER ITALY SOUTH EAST FLEET

We met International Vice Commodore Bryan Skinner at the main railway station in Taranto and took him sightseeing before the charter ceremony for the new Italy South East Fleet. He had come from Naples, where the previous day he had met members of the Italy South West Fleet. IVC Bryan's visit had been arranged by Franco Clemente, the Italian Regional Commodore, who had unfortunately been involved in a motorbike accident and broken his leg, and was not able to accompany Bryan.

On 18 November 2006, the evening chartering ceremony was attended by 24 members and mates and other members from the Manduria Rotary Club, together with the assistant governor of District 2120, Antonio Siggillino, and other members from the district.

After the meal and the speeches, IVC Bryan presented the fleet charter to the new commodore, Antonio Gigante, and proposed a toast to the new fleet, wishing them great sailing and fellowship. Gifts were exchanged, including a beautiful ornate box containing two special wines from the region to the IVC, and an IYFR gavel to the fleet commodore from the IVC. Although the fleet members came from different clubs in the area, they now felt part of the yachting fellowship of Rotary, and were fully aware of their responsibilities.

The following day, the Rotary Club of Manduria held its annual grape harvest party at the premier winery of Manduria. Over 300 people attended, including the governor of District 2120, Pasquale Satalino, together with IVC Skinner, members and spouses, and some families. After a grand wine tasting, a 16-



course meal lasting many hours, and many speeches and toasts, Fleet Commodore Antonio Gigante closed the ceremony. He stated, that "everybody had shared beautiful moments of happiness and friendship."

IVC Skinner thanked everyone for the very warm reception that he had received over the weekend, and wished Regional Commodore Franco a complete and rapid recovery.

I would like to send my regards to IC Bill Robinson, and hope very much that he and his wife can join us next year for our first charter anniversary.

*-Antonio Gigante
Commodore of Italy South East Fleet*



NEW CHARTER GERMANY SOUTH FLEET

IVC Bryan Skinner was personally on board, when IYFR's Germany South Fleet was launched. The commodore of the new fleet is Michael Fischer of the Herzogenaurach Rotary Club District 1950, vice commodore is Stefan von Sommoggy of the Rotary Club of Wasserburg, and fleet secretary is Udo Kukula of the Rotary Club of Herzogenaurach.

The new fleet's charter celebration, with IVC Bryan Skinner presenting the IYFR charter documents, took place October 9, 2006, at the Water Haven Centre of the University of Erlangen-Nurnberg in Pleinfeld. The Germany South Fleet primarily serves members from Districts 1830, 1880, and 1950,



FC Michael Fischer and IVC Bryan Skinner

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and already includes 28 Rotarians with boats, representing 17 clubs. Members of the fleet previously completed a cruise around the Island of Kos, in the Aegean, and it was on this cruise that preparations were made to establish the IYFR fleet.

IVC Skinner gave an overview of the history of IYFR, which began in 1947 in England, and held its first international meeting at the Rotary International Convention in Chicago in 1956. Today it is not only the oldest, but the largest of the Rotarian Fellowships, with 90 active fleets in 22 countries of the world with over 3000 members. Rotary mariners connect their Rotary principles and service with their hobby and their love of boats and water sports. The new commodore of the Germany South Fleet promised his Rotary mariner comrades a variety of events both on water and on land.



Preparations are under way for future joint activities with other fleets in Germany and Europe.

-Adapted from Rotary District 1950 Magazine



IYFR PRE-CONVENTION EVENT DINNER

Saturday June 16, 2007 5:30 pm



Salt Lake City, Utah, USA

Join us for the Pre Convention Event (PCE) at Christopher's! Located on Broadway at the Historic Peery Hotel, the PCE meet and greet will start at 5:30pm with a social hour, including appetizers and cash bar. The 4-course dinner will follow at 6.30pm. The PCE has become a popular annual event, and is about the only time outside the AGM and RI activities when IYFR members can meet for fellowship without a formal agenda. Cost \$65.00 per person. Pre-registration required. Please register using the 2007 PCE/AGM/PCC Registration Form posted on the IYFR website under "Fellowship News".



**Christopher's
Seafood &
Steak House**



www.christophersutah.com

110 West Broadway
Salt Lake City, Utah



IYFR

Fleet and Regional LEADERSHIP MEETING

Sunday June 17, 2007 10:30 AM

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, USA

Regional and Fleet Commodores (or their designated representatives) attending the RI Convention in Salt Lake City in June are encouraged to join the IYFR Bridge on Sunday morning June 17th to discuss IYFR and exchange ideas. With recent changes to the Rotary International Code of Policies for the Fellowships regarding membership, the move to electronic communications, changes to make IYFR administration a team effort, and RI expectations that fellowships be accountable to RI and their members, there are many issues which effect our fellowship.

We look forward to receiving your input and recommendations. Once a location for the meeting has been confirmed, information will be sent via email to members and posted on the website.

IYFR ANNUAL General Meeting and Luncheon



Christopher's Seafood & Steak House Salt Lake City, Utah

Tuesday, June 19, 2007 11:30AM

The IYFR Annual General Meeting and Luncheon will be held at Christopher's! The social hour with appetizers and cash bar will begin at 11:30am followed by lunch and the IYFR business meeting from 12:30pm-3pm. Cost \$35.00 per



person. Please register using the 2007 PCE/AGM/PCC Registration Form posted on the IYFR website under "Fellowship News".

2005-2007 INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE

IYFR Executive Committee: IC Bill Robinson | IVC Bryan Skinner | IRC Terry Stretton

International Bridge Staff:

Chief of Staff: George Futas

Administrator: Katia Robinson

Executive Secretary: Tom Kuhn

Webmaster: Clint Collier

Treasurer: Ingrid Bruner

Regalia: Roger Martindill

Public Relations: Brody Kunz

Rotafloat Editor: Sandy Anderson

Rotafloat Publisher: John Kilpatrick

Legal Officer: John Spencer

Historian: Andrew Mitchell

Area 1 Commodore (Europe, Middle East, Africa): Bryan Skinner

Area 2 Commodore (The Americas): Gary Bruner

Area 3 Commodore (Asia, Australia, New Zealand, South Pacific): Terry Stretton





IYFR POST CONVENTION CRUISE JUNE 21-25, 2007

SAN JUAN ISLANDS, WASHINGTON STATE, USA

The 2007 IYFR Post Convention Cruise, following the Rotary International convention in Salt Lake City, Utah, will take place in the Washington State San Juan Islands, with day cruises onboard boats of Rotary Mariners from the six US and Canadian Pacific Northwest IYFR fleets and overnight accommodations at resorts on shore for those without boats. The San Juan Islands, located in the northwestern most part of the United States, are part of a beautiful archipelago that includes the Canadian Gulf Islands. Cruising among the islands is in sheltered waters, with views of snow capped mountains, pastoral landscapes, wooded forests and an abundance of wildlife - bald eagles, deer, seals, otters and Orca whales.

The San Juan Islands comprise 172 named islands with fewer than 15,000 people. The San Juans enjoy an average of 247 annual days with sunshine and an average of 29 inches of rain per year, half the amount that Seattle gets. Temperatures rarely drop below 30 degrees Fahrenheit and rarely above 80 degrees. However, sunshine can be elusive in June, so we encourage everyone to bring rain gear and warm clothing. While the boating waters are 49 degrees (9 Celsius) year around, island hotels do have swimming pools, so pack your swimming suit.

Thursday June 21st: Members should make travel arrangements to arrive in Seattle on Thursday June 21. An early arrival will allow for independent sightseeing. Night on your own in Seattle.

Friday June 22nd: The group will travel by the Victoria Clipper catamaran from Seattle to the Port of Friday Harbor, on the eastern side of San Juan Island, arriving before noon, allowing time for lunch and sightseeing prior to late afternoon fellowship on the docks, followed by dinner with boat hosts.

Saturday June 23rd: After breakfast with boat hosts, the fleet will depart Friday Harbor for a day of cruising and gunkholing among the islands. Lunch will be onboard or in an anchorage (skipper's choice). Boats will rendezvous at the Islander Resort on Lopez Island for more shoreside fellowship and dinner.

Sunday June 24th: Following breakfast at the Lopez Islander Resort, the fleet will depart for Roche Harbor Resort on the northwestern side of San Juan Island. Lunch will be onboard or in a chosen anchorage en route. Roche Harbor, established in 1886, will be the venue for evening festivities with dockside fellowship, dinner ashore and ending with the famous Roche Harbor flag ceremony.

Monday June 25th: After breakfast at the resort, visitors may either return to Friday Harbor and on to Seattle on the afternoon sailing of the Victoria Clipper, or continue on their own to explore sights of the US and Canadian Pacific Northwest.

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The registration form for the PCC and hotel and transportation booking information is posted on the IYFR website at www.iyfr.net under "Fellowship News & Events." IYFR Treasurer Ingrid Bruner is the events registrar, assisted by Great Getaway Travel in Friday Harbor, which will coordinate hotel and transportation bookings.

The San Juan Islands are surrounded by a multitude of travel opportunities and sightseeing: Seattle, the Olympic Mountains, Victoria and Vancouver Island, the beautiful Canadian Gulf Islands, the city of Vancouver, the Cascade Mountains and Mt. Rainier. For those able to extend their trip after the PCC, Great Getaway Travel will be able to assist you with your travel alternatives. Washington State and British Columbia ferries connect Friday Harbor with Seattle, Victoria and Vancouver, and there is regular seaplane service to popular destinations.

International Luggage: For those returning to Seattle immediately after the PCC, please arrange to leave international luggage at your hotel in Seattle prior to departure for Friday Harbor, and bring only a soft sided bag for the PCC. Dress is very casual in the islands, jeans are the norm day and evening. Pack your IYFR shirts, but leave jackets and ties. Be prepared for cold and warm weather; rain jacket, sweater, shorts and swimsuit. For members not returning to Seattle, arrangements may be made to store luggage in Friday Harbor.

For more information, the following websites will be helpful with your planning:

General:

www.experiencewashington.com
www.seattleattractions.com
www.visitsanjuans.com
www.fridayharbor.com
www.lopezislander.com
www.rocheharbor.com
www.anacortes.org
www.nwboat.com

Transportation:

www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries
www.clippervacations.com
www.kenmoreair.com
www.islandairporter.com
www.susiesmopeds.com

Boat Chartering:

www.anacortesyachtcharters.com
www.ABCYachtCharters.com
www.nwexplorations.com

Canada:

www.hellobc.com
www.gulfislands.net
www.victoriavisitorschoice.com
www.vancouver.com



SERVICE ABOVE SELF



on the high seas

The *Thomas Spirit*

September 23, 2006 Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

It was a glorious early autumn day as 33 kids between the ages of 10 and 13, whose families benefit from the services of the Mustard Seed Street Church in Victoria, British Columbia, embarked on a once in a lifetime day on the sea, accompanied by a team of volunteers from the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians.

They were treated to an afternoon aboard the 118-foot *Thomas Spirit*, and other vessels provided by willing and able IYFR members.

"It's an opportunity of a lifetime for many of these children," said organizer and IYFR Vancouver Island Fleet Commodore Patrick Hunt. "I'm hopeful that this experience will be something they'll remember for a long time to come."

As the *Thomas Spirit* pulled away from the dock at the Van Isle Marina in Sidney, headed for Ganges Harbour on Saltspring Island, the excitement was

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Above: On the bridge.
Left: Captain Larry.



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Above Left: *Knot Enough* at speed. Above Right: Bo at the Wheel.

bristling throughout the magnificent boat donated by Century 21 Real Estate founder, Peter Thomas, who continues to prove his generosity and service as a patron of Rotary Clubs on Vancouver Island.

After a safety briefing from the crew, Captain Larry Thorn, Engineer George Georgoulos, and Ship Steward Lisa Schultheiss, set about showing the kids around the yacht with the help of a team of volunteers.

Sitting blissfully in the Captain's chair, young Damien looked wide-eyed as Captain Larry explained how radar functions and where the boat is located on the chart that glowed out of the state-of-the-art computerized navigation panel as the passage to Saltspring lay ahead of him over the bow.

"This is cool," he said, as he took a hold of the helm under the captain's watchful eye. The look of utter joy was emblazoned on the faces of all the children as they were exposed to the intricacies of navigating a large

private vessel from the shores of the Saanich Peninsula towards Ganges, a mere 16 nautical miles northeast of Swartz Bay.

Suddenly up the port side, event chairman PFC Dan Kelly's boat, *Knot Enough* appeared, with its five young passengers who were also learning some lessons of seafaring.

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Knot Enough's Crew



Autumn C's III whale watching



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Alex and Jo Campbell, onboard their boat *Autumn C's III*, took a slightly different course as their nine guests were treated to a convergence of Orca whales among the San Juan Islands just south of our destination.

A short time later, the small flotilla pulled into Ganges Harbour on Saltspring Island. *Thomas Spirit's* engineer gave willing kids a chance to ready the lines for

docking, as they took turns trying to attach to the bollards the giant lines that would be used to secure the boat to the dock, or lowering the massive fenders used to protect the hull from the dockside.

Once safely moored, the party made its way along a network of floating docks towards the Rotary Park in Ganges where Rotarians from Saltspring and Duncan had prepared lunch. Chicken sausages and chicken breasts were kindly donated by Lillydale Poultry; condiments, salads and cookies were donated by the nearby Thrifty Foods store, and Island Farms provided bottomless barrels of ice cream. IYFR Vancouver

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Lunch at Rotary Park in Ganges Harbour





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Island Fleet Vice-Commodore Vance Horn had gathered the Duncan Squadron to prepare lunch with an advance party from Maple Bay arriving the day before.

Serving lunch was Saltspring Rotarian Bob Kirpatrick, who had helped by organizing the barbeque and providing much of the equipment for the afternoon. "It's a great release for me," he said. "To do something like this, just feels good and I'd like to think it makes a difference for these kids."

After lunch, the kids returned to the awaiting vessels where a head count was completed before the final leg of their voyage.

On returning to shore in Sidney, the energy level had reached a fever pitch as the kids ran back to their



awaiting bus eager to share their experiences with their parents back in Victoria, a short 30 minute ride away. As they boarded the bus heading back to the Mustard Seed, each child was given a bag of goodies which included the official tee-shirts from the *Thomas Spirit*, as a

remembrance of this special day.

As the bus pulled away, representatives from the IYFR, including International Commodore Bill Robinson and his wife Katia from Seattle, exhibited equal parts satisfaction and pride for a job well done, with relief they

had all survived the action packed, high energy day.

Later that evening, at a dinner held in honour of the volunteers, Mustard Seed Youth Leader Tara Koshman gave an emotional thanks to all those assembled for providing these 33 children with a day they won't soon forget.

"These children had a fun day, and a memorable day," she said. "They were exposed to a new environment, and they were exposed to you – responsible, caring, and compassionate adults, and although they may not know how to thank you, please let me thank you on their behalf for what you did for them today."

And so ended a great day for all on the sea as all participants were reminded once again of the Rotary motto; Service Above Self.

-Patrick Hunt, Vancouver Island Fleet Commodore and Regional Commodore Canada West

the IYFR WEBSITE



We continue to add features and make minor changes to the IYFR website in response to suggestions from our members. Our goal is to make this the most useful tool possible for the fellowship.

Here are more changes that we have implemented.

- Several new fields have been added to the membership database:
 - A "title" for both the member and spouse. This can be used for individuals who hold some position of significance (outside of IYFR) that should be recognized.
 - Fields to enter both the member's Rotary district and Rotary membership number. These will help us analyze the distribution of our membership.
 - The location where a member's boat is moored.
 - Yacht club affiliation.

Because these additional fields made the individual member record screen too long, this input screen was redesigned in a new wider format with the categories of information separated.

- New features you might not have noticed:
 - Fleet members who have write access to their fleet records (the officers of the fleet) can now send an email to all members of their fleet using the email addresses on record for their members.
 - International Bridge officers have had the same email capabilities for the past couple of releases, but this function has been upgraded to allow more selectivity in who the emails go to. Additionally, all email functions now offer the ability to append attachments.

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Membership Record

Member

Title:

First Name:

Last Name:

Gender: Male Female

Mate - Title:

Mate First Name:

Mate Last Name:

Address:

City:

State/Province:

Postal Code:

Country:

eMail Address:

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

Mobile Phone:

Fax Phone:

Boat

Name:

Type:

Length:

Berthed:

Yacht Club:

Rotary

Club:

District:

Member No.:

Fellowship

Username:

Password:

Position:

Member Since:

Fleet:

the IYFR WEBSITE

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- o There is an area on the main menu, "Bridge Officer Documents" that contains information and tools that the International Bridge needs for the successful operation of the fellowship.
- o On the main menu there is now an option "View My Fleet Roster" that will allow you to go directly to your fleet with a single click without having to drill down through both Area and Region first.
- o Finally, several more documents have been added to the IYFR Documents menu, including a list of past International Commodores. Also there is a library of IYFR artwork for our members' use.
- Several mariners have asked if they can be members of more than one fleet. Yes, they can if someone enters them into both fleets. They will have a unique username for each fleet, and the username they log in with will determine which fleet they are associated with during that session. It will also determine the level of authority that they have for changing records during that session.
- Finally, some members didn't realize that the "Print Fleet Roster" button at the top of a fleet listing, that I talked about in the September issue of *Rotafloat*, is more than a print of the summary page being displayed on the screen. When you click this button a complete fleet roster with all of the information for the fleet's members is presented in printable form—a handy reference you can carry with you!

Even more changes are already in the "pipeline" so we will see you all again in the next *Rotafloat*!

-Clint Collier
Webmaster

Proposed Amendments to IYFR Rules



The International Bridge is collectively accountable to our members, the fellowship and to Rotary International to maintain a steady course and the integrity of the organization. We have made great progress with the transferability, sustainability and transparency of IYFR. With recent changes to the Rotary International Code of Policies for the Fellowships regarding membership, the move to electronic communications, changes to make IYFR administration a team effort, and Rotary International expectations that fellowships be structured more like a business, the following amendments to the IYFR Rules have been proposed. These amendments will be voted on during the IYFR Annual General Meeting in Salt Lake City June 19, 2007. We welcome your comments and

recommendations regarding these amendments prior to April 15, 2007. Please send your comments to: commodore@iyfr.net.

With regard to amendments effecting IYFR policy issues, these recommendations are supported by the Council of Past International Commodores and the IC's Advisory Council.

We have six amendments:

- 1) Voting rights (6.3)
- 2) Member qualifications for IYFR leadership positions (6.7)
- 3) Clarification regarding IC travel compensation (7.3.2.3)
- 4) IYFR Fleet Squadrons (10.5)
- 5) Regalia (11.3)
- 6) Notice by fleets of rule amendments (12.2)

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Proposed Amendments to IYFR Rules

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1) Voting Rights:

Proposed amendment:

Add the following to Section 6.3: An IYFR member is a Rotarian, spouse of a Rotarian, Rotaractor or Honorary Member who has paid their annual IYFR dues.

Comment:

This is a result of our continuing review of IYFR policy, the need to define who has voting rights, and questions raised by members for clarification following adoption of the new rules in June 2006.

2) Member Qualifications for IYFR Leadership Positions:

Proposed amendment:

Delete section 7.1.2 "Per the RI Code of Policies, the Commodore must be an active Rotarian.";

and add: new Membership "Section 6.7. Member qualifications for IYFR Leadership Positions: The following leadership positions may only be held by active Rotarians: IC, IVC, IRC, AC, RC and FC. Any member, including honorary members, may serve as International Bridge Staff."

Comment:

Changes in the RI Code of Policies (COP) with regard to fellowships necessitated clarification of eligibility for membership under IYFR Rules.

The February 2006 revised RI Code of Policies states that "only Rotarians, spouses of Rotarians, and Rotaractors may be members of the Fellowships". After much discussion during the June 2006 IYFR AGM, and concern that some of our fleets do not want to lose longtime fleet members because they have retired, IYFR rules were amended to allow designating former Rotary members, their spouses and spouses of deceased Rotarians as honorary (a RI term) members of IYFR or a specific fleet. This allows us to continue IYFR traditions, while adhering to RI guidelines, and thereby not jeopardizing our Rotary affiliation.

The term "honorary" was chosen because it is consistent with the RI Code of Policies and RI recognition of the term and status of honorary members. This designation serves two purposes - to honor individuals, and to create a category of non Rotarian members, including individuals for whom the term emeritus or other terms may not be appropriate.

While we resolved the issue of how to keep longtime fleet members who have retired and are no longer in Rotary, the issue of qualifications for leadership needs to be clarified. The RI COP Section 43.010.2 states

that "A fellowship shall be organized with at least three officers, one of whom shall be the chair (president or other administrative head) and serve as a non-voting member-at-large of the RI fellowships committee. The chair must be an active Rotarian." While we may interpret the RI COP to mean that only the International Commodore (IC) must be an active Rotarian, based on IYFR Rules, the IVC and IRC must also be active Rotarians because of the progression in the chairs from IRC to IVC and then IC. We need to clarify the qualifications for Regional Commodores (RCs) and Fleet Commodores (FCs). Fleets are the base organizational unit of IYFR, and these individuals (RCs and FCs) are out promoting and representing IYFR, and recruiting new Rotary members in their communities. How can they speak for IYFR if they are not an active Rotarian? A fleet is a Rotary entity, like a club - how would it be to have a Rotary Club where its President was not an active Rotarian?

Comments from a past Chief of Staff in response to this issue are instructive:

"Active Rotarians in IYFR Leadership Positions. I feel that all leadership positions must be filled by Active Rotarians to operate as a Rotary Fellowship. That certainly pertains to Fleet Commodores and Regional Commodores. I would think that some staff positions, such as Port Captain, could be an honorary member. Your hypothesis is a reality experience with our local Fleet. A once large vibrant fleet now led by former Rotarians has lost its leadership connection and participation with the Rotary Clubs and Rotary in the District, does not actively recruit Rotarians, has dwindled in size, active Rotarians are dropping out, what remains is a small yacht club disconnected in the main from Rotary. It has yachting leadership, some but not much Rotary leadership. Strict adherence to RI regulations toward leadership must remain throughout the organization in IYFR to keep proper relevance with Rotary."

Well said!

With the June 2006 amendment of IYFR rules to recognize "honorary members", we have gone as far as we, or anyone, can go with circumventing RI rules that only Rotarians, spouses of Rotarians and Rotaractors may be members of RI fellowships. IYFR is not just another yacht club, but rather a group of Rotarians who are guided by the Four Way Test and the theme of "Service Above Self". It is what makes IYFR unique

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Proposed Amendments to IYFR Rules

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among boating organizations. If a fleet can not bring aboard an active Rotarian as its leader, it deserves to die as an IYFR fleet.

Additional Comments re International Bridge Staff:

Aside from elected International Bridge Officers who have ultimate financial responsibility for the fellowship, International Bridge Staff Officers often have considerable operational and fiduciary responsibility, in purchase and sale of Regalia, commitment to contracts at IYFR venues, collection of dues, and in carrying out other operational responsibilities. For these reasons, it would increase transparency and be good for the health of the fellowship for these positions to be held by members of fleets or Independent Members. Given spousal eligibility and the category of honorary membership, joining IYFR is easy, and not a significant financial issue.

It is appropriate that International Bridge Staff be members of IYFR if they serve in a defined position, and carry out administrative, management and/or fiduciary responsibilities under IYFR Rules.

3) Clarification of IC travel reimbursement in order to recognize travel done as IRC/IVC:

Proposed amendment:

Amend Section 7.3.2.3 to read: Be responsible for all travel expenses when visiting fleets (as IRC, IVC and IC), and is expected to attend all RI Conventions. The IC is, therefore, upon completion of his/her term on the International Bridge, authorized, upon submission of travel expense report, to accept reimbursement of up to USD10,000 upon relief of office providing the provisions of section 7.3.2.6 are met.

Comment:

The amendment ratifies the understanding of the International Bridge. The three International Bridge elected officers are expected to attend all RI conventions and AGMs during their six years on the Bridge. As a practical matter, none of the current officers are affected by this amendment. It is proposed to avoid a question in the event an IC does not incur USD 10,000 in expenses during the last two years of his/her six year tour of duty. For example, this could occur if both RI conventions did not require significant foreign travel during the IC's final term, or for health reasons, yet

significant foreign travel expenses were incurred while IRC and IVC.

4) IYFR Fleet Squadrons:

Proposed amendment:

Add Section 10.5. Fleet Squadrons: Fleets may organize squadrons, of fewer than ten members in geographic areas, in order to support and encourage IYFR membership growth and future fleet development.

Comment:

A fleet squadron is a division of an established fleet, which may be located in an outlying area some distance from the fleet. While IYFR rules require only ten members to create a fleet, in practice, twenty or more members is a healthier number to help sustain an active fleet. In many areas of the IYFR world, we have interested Rotarians and/or Independent IYFR members who would like to have a fleet, but do not have sufficient members. The amendment recognizes opportunities for these Rotarians to become members of a fleet and create other venues for fellowship.

In much the same way as Rotary International has Rotary Community Corps (RCC) in sparsely populated areas, Fleets are encouraged to create Squadrons to develop interest in IYFR and Rotary Fellowship in local communities, and later form new fleets if supported by the numbers.

By way of example, the majority of the members of the Vancouver Island Fleet in British Columbia live near the city of Victoria on the southern end of Vancouver Island (a 300 mile island). However, there are wonderful cruising waters up and down the Vancouver Island coast with Rotarian boaters located in many smaller towns along the coast. While there may be too few Rotarian boaters in a town to immediately create a sustainable fleet, rather than leave these Rotarians as orphaned Independent Members, the Vancouver Island Fleet has created Squadrons so that these Rotarians may become members of a unit of the established fleet.

5) Regalia:

Proposed amendment:

Amend next to last line of Section 11.3 to read: "On retirement from office, gold stars or bars shall be replaced with silver stars or bars, and gold stars and edges on burgees shall be replaced with white.



Proposed Amendments to IYFR Rules

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Amend last line of Section 11.4.1 to read: "Upon retirement from office, gold balls and edging shall be replaced with white."

Comment:

Changes are to correct inconsistent terms only. No substantive changes.

6) Notice by fleets of rules amendments:

Proposed amendment:

Section 12.2: Change "six" to "three" in the first sentence. "...the Fleet Secretary should submit proposals to the IYFR Chief of Staff not later than three months prior to an AGM in any year."

Comment:

After review, the six month notice requirement for fleets to propose amendments to the Rules, proposed and approved during the AGM in Copenhagen in June 2006, is too restrictive. The limitation for many years was April 15 prior to an AGM, which allowed one or two months, depending on when the RI Convention was held. Six months is not reasonable, particularly in view of the possible need to respond to RI Board action or other developments which occur at their meeting (February or March) prior to our AGM. This was the case on the liability and indemnification issue, and again with regard to changes in the RI Code of Policies.

FLEET'S DAY-AT-SEA Vancouver Island, Canada



Hungry Mariners break for lunch in Poet's Cove Resort, South Pender

You likely have members in your home Rotary Club who have lived by the water all their lives, or have recently moved to the coast from inland parts of the country, but never ventured out on the water in anything smaller than a car ferry. That certainly was the case on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. To share the good fortune we IYFR members often take for granted, the Vancouver Island Fleet organized a Day-At-Sea for Rotarians and spouses on Saturday, May 27, 2006. Over sixty people on eight boats had a wonderful time on the water.

Some saw the start of the Swiftsure Race, others visited various ports of call in the Canadian Gulf Islands. Three of our exchange students were able to participate as well.

The Day-At-Sea for Rotarians also acted as a "dry run" for the Day-At-Sea for disadvantaged children, which the Vancouver Island Fleet held on September 23, 2006.

-Patrick Hunt- Commodore Vancouver Island Fleet, Canada



IYFR Regalia



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|----|---|----------|
| 1 | Blue Pennant Lapel Pins | \$ 5.00 |
| 2 | Member Pennant | \$ 35.00 |
| 3 | White Epaulette Shirt | \$40.00 |
| 4 | IYFR Tie | \$ 30.00 |
| 5 | IYFR Ladies Navy Crosstie | \$ 10.00 |
| 6 | IYFR Emblem Cap | \$ 15.00 |
| 7 | IYFR blazer emblem (sew/iron on) | \$ 10.00 |
| 8 | IYFR Window Decal | \$ 1.00 |
| 9 | Burgees | |
| | Fleet Officer Burgees | \$ 45.00 |
| | RC/AC/Int'l Staff Burgees (see details below) | \$ 45.00 |
| 10 | Fleet Officer Shoulder Boards (see details below) | \$ 30.00 |
| 11 | RC/AC/Int'l Officer Shoulder Boards (see details below) | \$ 35.00 |



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For further information, please email: regalia@rotarymariners.net



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Active Officer Burgees have Gold insignia and trim around edges and Past Officer Burgees have white (\$45.00):

Fleet Officer Burgees:

- FC- 3 Gold Balls
- FVC- 2 Gold Balls
- FRC- 1 Gold Ball
- PFC- 3 White Balls

Regional Commodores, Area Commodores and International Bridge Staff Burgees:

- Active Officer: 2 Gold Stars
- Retired Officer: 2 White Stars

Fleet Officer Shoulder Boards (\$30.00/pair):
(Insignias are embroidered)

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| FC- 3 Gold Stars | Fleet Captain- Gold Anchor |
| FVC- 2 Gold Stars | Fleet Secretary- Gold Maple Leaf |
| FRC- 1 Gold Star | Fleet Treasurer- Gold Oak Leaf |
| PFC- 3 Silver Stars | |

Regional Commodores, Area Commodores and International Bridge Staff Shoulder Boards (\$35.00/pair):

- Active Officer: 2 Gold Metal Stars
- Retired Officer: 2 Silver Metal Stars