

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YACHTING FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARIANS

SEPTEMBER 2023 ISSUE N° 115




























ROTAFLOAT





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About the Cover

The bowsprit of the Italian training Vessel Amerigo Vespucci.

ROTA FLOAT'S CORRESPONDENTS

Thanks to the collaboration of the Rota float's correspondents, this edition has been possible. Our public gratefulness.

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Anna Maria Colonna
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Gustavo Perez Reyes
Arturo Supangan
Vivienne Rowell
Jun Avecilla
David Hansen
Paul Yiu
Edmond Aguilar

Silvia Callorda, editor



Angélica Mesistrano
INTERNATIONAL COMMODORE



INTERNATIONAL COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

September 2023

My dear Fellow Commodores and Mariners,

It is a pleasure to address you. During the last twelve years I have held different positions in our fellowship, sharing with friends service projects, navigations, AGM, ideas, conventions... Everything has been wonderful in the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians. Today, having assumed responsibility for International Commodore, my commitment increases even more. I will be accompanied in these two years by the members of an excellent International Bridge, all very qualified IYForians.

Our fellowship resumes post-pandemic activity. After several years marked by Covid, we are returning to normal. Those years have been particularly difficult for PIC Bob Burns, who carried out his task being hampered by restrictions on mobility and in-person meetings. They were also for IPIC David Hansen who went through the last times of Covid at the head of IYFR. My recognition and gratitude to Bob and Anne for their impeccable work in the midst of the pandemic, and to David and Rosemarie for their dedication and organization of the activities at the Melbourne convention and the subsequent PCC in Hobart.

It's time to move on... Although the pandemic have past, we have not yet recovered the rhythm of

meetings and shared encounters. I invite you to resume our group and service activities. I ask everyone for participation and involvement. If, at the same time as we navigate and have fun with our Fun Fun Fun, we invite friends, participate in strategic alliances and collaborate with Rotary activities, we will achieve our objectives.

Again we edit our Rotafloat. It will reach you on a quarterly basis. I invite you to send us written articles, photos, activities, programs and everything you wish to communicate in relation to our fellowship.

As you may recall, we had the amendment process at the end of the previous Rotary year. The approved amendments are included in the new General Rules 2023. The new epaulettes and burgee were also included in the IYFR Flags, Uniforms and Boating Practice 2023. The Application Form 2023 – 2025 was designed and updated.

We are developing a new website. In two months we will have our new website up and running. We apologize for the current state of the website, we appreciate your patience and understanding.

I have asked the Historian Officer Bernardo Rabassa to complete the history of the fellowship. We already had the story from 1994 to 2006. Bernardo

INTERNATIONAL COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

will continue the writing to this day, collecting memories, anecdotes, photos and experiences. In my opinion, preserving our history is honoring our identity.

We began the year's activity by designing a geolocation and data transmission application to inform the different maritime authorities of the position of ghost nets and floating plastic garbage, for subsequent treatment. This app reinforces our work in the Plastic Free Waters program. It's almost finished. We are inviting several partners to join us in this contribution against the pollution of the seas and oceans. All fleets can participate in the use of this app and spread its functions.

Once our new website is finished, we will begin the international survey that we will carry out. I encourage you all to participate, it is very important to know the opinions of all of you.

Our fellowship continues to grow, especially in Area 3. More precisely, the Philippines has had a superlative development. In the first days of July, two new fleets were founded, Titan Pacific Philippine fleet and Transformational Manila fleet. On September 22, in a great celebration, three new fleets were founded: Genuine Service Presidents Sea Philippines fleet, Genuine Service Presidents Shore Philippines fleet and Imaginative Amazing Treasure Philippines fleet. We very warmly welcome these new fleets and we can only add BRAVO ZULU!

Also in Area 2, the Venezuela Puerto Cabello fleet was founded, incorporating a new flag to our IYFR. Welcome Venezuelan friends!

On September 27, the new Salinas Squadron has been founded. It belongs to the Guayaquil Ecuador fleet, in Area 2. Congratulations friends of the Ecuador fleet!

At the end of June I had the pleasure of personally seeing the Amerigo Vespucci Italian training vessel. I was invited by its Commander Luigi Romagnoli and thanks to the management of PIC Sergio Santi. It has been an excellent experience. The ship was about to leave for a voyage around the world, which will keep it away from Italy for almost two years. It will touch 25 countries and 28 ports. It is a particularly majestic ship, recognized as "La più bella del mondo". 60 IYForians attended that visit. After getting to know the vessel and listening to the interesting words of its Commander, enjoying the early summer sun, we finished the visit and headed to a typical restaurant where we enjoyed an excellent lunch, where camaraderie and friendship reigned. Thank you very much friends from Italy, I have a very special memory of that visit.

Between September 29 and October 1, the Area 1 AGM was held in the city of Alghero, Sardinia. It has been a pleasure to attend. I have had the opportunity to make contact with several FCs and RCs of A1 and learn directly about the activities of many fleets of Area 1. It has been a magnificent experience. We thank the FC Roma fleet Salvina Deiana, the Squadron Sardinia with its Captain Gian Piero Delogu and the IVC A1C Carlo d'Amore for the organization. They have accomplished an extraordinary task.

Dear Commodores and Mariners, we will stay in touch. I will be happy to comment on the upcoming news at the Rotafloat in December. Meanwhile, let's imagine a better world and go look for it, at IYFR we can do a lot to achieve it.



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INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE 2023 - 2025

Angélica Mesistrano (Argentina)

INTERNATIONAL COMMODORE

Carlo d'Amore (Spain)

INTERNATIONAL VICE COMMODORE – A1C

Paul Yiu (Taiwan)

INTERNATIONAL REAR COMMODORE

Sergio Santi (Italy)

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Miriam Caudullo (Argentina)

AREA 2 COMMODORE

Edmond Aguilar (Phillipines)

AREA 3 COMMODORE

David Hansen (New Zealand)

IMMEDIATE PAST INTERNATIONAL COMMODORE

Gustavo Tondi (Argentina)

INTERNATIONAL TREASURER

Annette Lewis (Great Britain)

AREA 1 TREASURER

Yun-Chi (Kyra) Lee (Taiwan)

AREA 3 TREASURER

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Oscar Fontalvo (Colombia)

SPECIAL ASSISTANT

Bernardo Rabassa (Spain)

HISTORIAN OFFICER

Fabio Nardi (Italy)

AREA 1 REGALIA OFFICER

Edgardo Gargano (Uruguay)

AREA 2 REGALIA OFFICER

Chia-Yu (Jade) Kuo (Taiwan)

AREA 3 REGALIA OFFICER

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE 2023 - 2025

- 1 Angélica Mesistrano
- 2 Carlo d'Amore
- 3 Paul Yiu
- 4 Sergio Santi
- 5 Miriam Caudullo
- 6 Edmond Aguilar
- 7 David Hansen
- 8 Gustavo Tondi
- 9 Annette Lewis
- 10 Yun- chi (Kyra) Lee
- 11 Lorenzo Mazzeo
- 12 Silvia Callorda
- 13 Antonio Marchesi
- 14 Anabela Aldaz
- 15 Jesus Avecilla
- 16 Eduardo D'Alessio
- 17 Oscar Fontalvo
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- 21 Chia -Yu (Jade) Kuo



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AREA 1 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

with an AC special thanks to the Roma Fleet (ITALY), the SARDINIA SQDN and the Alghero Section of the ITALIAN NAVAL LEAGUE who made the AGM possible

September 29 2023 - October 1 2023

PROGRAM (EN)

FRIDAY 29

■ Afternoon

Participants independent arrival in the **** ALGHERO HOTEL. AGM/Hotel check-in. Individual Badges for the registered Mariners.

Free Town Visit and local shopping.

■ 19.00 - 19.30

Participants informal meeting in the Hotel lobby and subsequent short walk to the shack of the local ITALIAN NAVAL LEAGUE CLUB <https://www.leganavale.it/alghero> for the MEET&GREET: a typical Sardinian BBQ party. Dress code: casual.

■ Approximately 11.00 PM return to the hotel.

SATURDAY 30

■ Morning

08.30 - Breakfast ready (cost included in the Hotel fees)

09.30 - Meeting in the Hall of the hotel and boarding the cars for the PORTO CONTE PROTECTED AREA (21 Km/27 min, distance) for a guided visit

Or: 09.30 - Alternative programs VISIT TO ALGHERO (Free)

Or: 09.30 – 12.30 - VISIT BY BOAT TO THE NETTUNO GROTTA. Departures from the indicated point. Navigation, 40 min.



AREA 1 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

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September 29 2023 - October 1 2023

PROGRAM (EN)

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Navisarda/@40.560787,8.314936,16z/data=!4m6!3m5!1s0x12-dcf1e7de9f57fd:0xca30def8f570cbc6!8m2!3d40.560787!4d8.3149359!16s%2Fg%2F1tyd-q4km?hl=it-IT&entry=ttu>

Once returned in Alghero harbour, independent lunch and independent join the AGM participants in the PORTO CONTE AREA.

■ 10.00 - 13.00 Group Visit to the PORTO CONTE PROTECTED AREA, coffee, tasting of typical Sardinian products and wines and shopping.

■ 13.00 - Lunch at the PORTO CONTE site
Dress Code: Tropical white long or smart casual

■ Afternoon

Free Afternoon to visit the ANGELO RUJO NECROPOLIS <https://necropoliangheluruju.it/orari-e-prezzi/> and / or Shopping in Alghero for those who do not participate to the AGM OFFICE.

■ 16.00 - AGM OFFICE in PORTO CONTE reserved spaces.
- Protocol as per IYFR Traditions. The Office will be in English.
Italian summary will be provided for the speeches arrived before Sept 10.
- Dress Code: Tropical white long or smart casual

■ 18.30 c.a. OFFICE ends independent return to the Hotel by Members cars.

■ 20.30 INTERNATIONAL MARINERS DINNER
- Honours to the Flags of the participating Nations
- Welcome, Greetings, Acknowledgements. During the dinner the following ceremonies can take place (if duly programmed):
- Change of Command (if any) that the non-National Fleets will communicate.
- IC Angie Mesistrano and IVC and AC Carlo d'Amore will deliver the insignia and shoulder boards to the designated RCs if so requested
- "Pinning" of new Mariners (previously reported by the Commodores of the Fleets)
- Dress Code: Blazer and white trousers, Smart Casual.

■ 23.30 - AIZA AIZA AIZA



AREA 1 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

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September 29 2023 - October 1 2023

PROGRAM (EN)

SUNDAY 1

■ Sailing day off the ALGHERO Marina is being fully defined. Appropriate cultural visit & Lunch in a nearby Necropolis in alternative.



Madrid August 23 2023



The Area 1 Commodore

Carlo d'Amore



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IT'S TIME
to travel



SAVE THE
DATE!!!!

MARCH 6-9, 2024



ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING-AREA 2
CANCUN,
MEXICO



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2024 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

25-29 MAY 2024 SINGAPORE

Singapore awaits

The Rotary convention is where friendship and learning come together to inspire you. In Singapore you'll connect with people of action from around the globe at Rotary's biggest event of the year.

We'll share fresh perspectives, inspiration, and hope – with each other and the world! The convention features world-class dining and cultural attractions, distinguished speakers, energizing breakout sessions, and much more.

Join us 25-29 May 2024 in Singapore where we'll be Sharing Hope With the World!





No matter how recently or how often you've been to Singapore, you'll always find something new.



THE ROTARY CONVENTION WILL BE HELD AT THE SANDS EXPO AND CONVENTION CENTRE AT MARINA BAY SANDS.

Singapore and Rotary have some things in common. For one, the Southeast Asian island nation hosting the 2024 Rotary International Convention is known for bringing cultures together and celebrating business connections and innovation.



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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

By Fleet Commodore Salvina Deiana of Rome and Central Italy fleet

In the magnificent setting of the city of Alghero and its Porto Conte Park, an oasis of nature, culture and history, the Area 1 IYFR AGM organized by the Fleet of Rome and Central Italy, took place on 29 and 30 September and 1 October 2023, with the active support of its recently established SARDINIA Squadron.



In the purest spirit of the fellowship, they were three days that combined the environment, sea, friendship, yachting and international information.

In fact, the AGM saw the participation of Mariners from France, Italy, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay and Venezuela.

In the continuous presence of the International Commodore Angelica Mesistrano, the Vice International Commodore and Area Commodore Carlo d'Amore, the PIC Sergio Santi, the Regional Commodore Giuseppe Garrisi, the Chairman Salvina Deiana, Fleet Commodore of Rome and Central Italy, opened the proceedings of the Office, during which each fleet representative



illustrated the trend in the membership of new Mariners, the activities implemented and the possible actions to raise awareness and increase membership of IYFR.

An interesting report on the Plastic Free Water project was presented by Past International Commodore Sergio Santi, while the mariner of Serbia came with the proposal to celebrate the 2024 AGM in Belgrade.

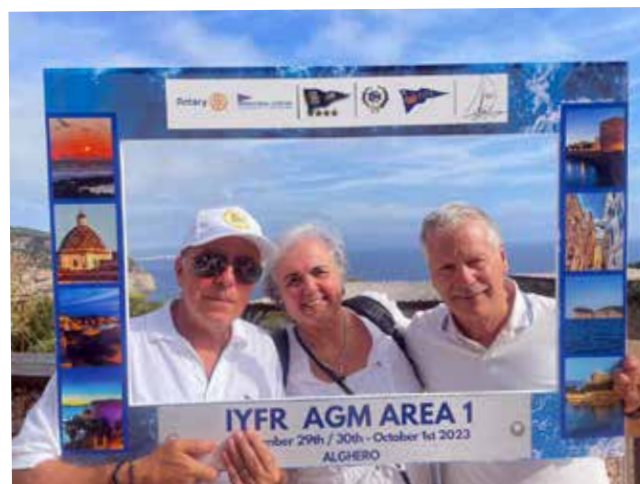
The gala dinner with the IYFR and Sardinia Squadron flags and insignia and an exchange of gifts concluded a day particularly full of joyful emotions and friendship.

On this occasion, the Vice Commodore of the Fleet of Rome and Central Italy, Alessandra Apuzzo, gave her Fleet Commodore a flag, found among the dearest things of her father Luigi Apuzzo, beloved and lamented Fleet Commodore of Rome, who was so he devoted himself to the cause.



The flag bears the Rotary wheel printed on which the IYFR flag is imprinted: it, renamed, not without great emotion from Salvina and Alessandra, "LUIGI APUZZO FLAG" will from now on be the baton that will change hands whenever it is nominated the new Commodore.





The smiling faces fixed in the hundreds of photos of the participants are testimony to the festive and friendly atmosphere that accompanied the entire event. There was no lack of toast with the traditional AIZA AIZA AIZA just as there was never a shortage of good typical Sardinian cuisine which everyone greatly appreciated.

The delivery, at the end of the Regata del Vento de l'Alguer, organized by the Italian Naval League - Alghero section, of the 'Luigi Apuzzo Trophy' - 1st edition, established in honor of the establishment of the SARDINIA Squadron, which he wanted so much, has the three days in Sardinia entirely dedicated to the IYFR concluded.

See you in 2024!





Nella magnifica cornice della città di Alghero e del suo Parco di Porto Conte, un'oasi di natura, cultura e storia, si è svolto nelle giornate del 29 e 30 settembre e 1 ottobre 2023, l'AGM di Area 1 IYFR organizzato dalla Flotta di Roma e Italia Centrale, con il fattivo supporto del suo Squadrone SARDINIA, costituito recentemente.

L'AGM ha visto la partecipazione di Mariners provenienti da Francia, Italia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spagna, Ucraina, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Alla presenza continua dell'I.C. Angelica Mesistrano, del V.I.C. and A.C. Carlo d'Amore, del PIC Sergio Santi, del R.C. Giuseppe Garrisi, il

Chairman Salvina Deiana, Fleet Commodore of Rome and Italia Centrale, ha aperto i lavori dell'Office, durante i quali è stato illustrato, da parte di ogni rappresentante di flotta, l'andamento delle adesioni di nuovi Mariner, le attività messe in campo e le possibili azioni per far conoscere meglio e aumentare le adesioni ad IYFR.



Durante la cena di gala il Vice Commodoro di Flotta di Roma e Italia Centrale, Alessandra Apuzzo, ha donato al suo Commodoro di Flotta una bandiera, appartenuta a suo Papà Luigi Apuzzo, compianto Commodoro di Flotta di Roma.

La bandiera porta stampata la ruota del Rotary sulla quale è impressa la bandiera IYFR, è stata ribattezzata "BANDIERA LUIGI APUZZO" e d'ora in poi sarà il testimone che passerà di mano per ogni nuovo Commodoro.

La consegna, in conclusione della Regata del Vento de l'Alguer, organizzata dalla Lega Navale Italiana- sezione di Alghero, del 'Trofeo Luigi Apuzzo' - 1^a edizione, istituito in onore della costituzione dello Squadrone SARDINIA, da lui tanto voluto, ha concluso la tre giorni sarda interamente dedicata al IYFR.

Arrivederci al 2024 !

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FONDEO EN TABARCA POR ROTARY MARINERS DEL SURESTE DE ESPAÑA

By Pascual Roser PFC and founder of South East Spain Fleet.



Todos los años es cita obligada el fondeo en los alrededores de la isla de Tabarca, del término municipal de Alicante, por los Rotary Mariners del Sureste de España. Desde siempre. Es una oportunidad de reunirse rotarios de diferentes clubes del D2203 para disfrutar de su amistad.

La isla de Tabarca es un entorno natural y marino extraordinario. Es Reserva Marina desde 1986. La riqueza de su abundante fauna y flora había que protegerla y esto se consiguió con esta distinción. En tierra, es un pueblecito amurallado con mucho encanto de casas encaladas y calles con adoquines en el suelo.

Veleros de Alicante, Campello y Torrevieja con rotary mariners zarparon el pasado sábado 26 de agosto con los camarotes llenos de ilusiones para día tan señalado, y volvieron al ocaso lleno de aventuras.

Los veleros fondeados cerca de su puerto, y abarloados unos con otros cuando la mar lo permitía, facilitó una convivencia marinera de alto nivel. Por mar, o por la cubierta de los veleros, los rotarios cambiaban de barco para relacionarse unos con otros.

El baño en el mar, con sus aguas cristalinas y frescas, hacen de este un momento especial. Con gafas de buceo, o sin ellas, se ve en el fondo las praderas de algas posidonia con bancos de peces y, con gafas y mucha suerte, una estrella de mar que rápida se esconde entre las rocas.

La conversación durante la comida en cubierta, con frutos del mar, es un derroche de anécdotas del día, de camaradería, donde la comunicación es fluida y divertida. Asuntos rotarios, el devenir cotidiano, la travesía, las futuras actividades de la agrupación, forman parte de la charla entre rotarios mariners.

Al ocaso, las últimas luces del día doran los edificios de tierra. Es el momento de la despedida, de decir hasta pronto, como mucho hasta el año que viene, volveremos a nuestra cita anual.

Mientras el velero se aleja, queda atrás la isla de Tabarca cada vez más pequeña, flotando en el horizonte, en el que destacan en tierra la iglesia, la torre, el faro... Volveremos a encontrarnos allende los mares.



TRANSLATION-ENGLISH VERSION: ANCHORING IN TABARCA BY ROTARY MARINERS OF SOUTHEAST SPAIN

Every year the anchoring in the surroundings of the island of Tabarca, in the municipality of Alicante, is a must for the Rotary Mariners of the Southeast of Spain. Since ever. It is an opportunity to meet Rotarians from different clubs in D2203 to enjoy their friendship.

The island of Tabarca is an extraordinary natural and marine environment. It has been a Marine Reserve since 1986. The richness of its abundant fauna and flora had to be protected and this was achieved with this distinction. On land, it is a charming walled town with whitewashed houses and cobblestone streets.

Sailboats from Alicante, Campello and Torrevieja with rotary mariners set sail on Saturday August 26 with the cabins full of illusions for such an important day, and returned at sunset full of adventures.

The sailboats anchored near its port, and alongside each other when the sea allowed it, facilitated a high-level seafaring coexistence. By sea, or across the decks of sailboats, Rotarians would change ships to mingle with one another.

Bathing in the sea, with its crystal clear and fresh waters, make this a special moment. With or without diving goggles, you can see in the background the Posidonia seaweed meadows with schools of fish and, with goggles and a lot of luck, a starfish that quickly hides among the rocks.



The conversation during the meal on deck, with seafood, is a waste of anecdotes from the day, of camaraderie, where communication is fluid and fun. Rotary affairs, the daily life, the journey, the future activities of the group, are part of the conversation among Rotarian mariners.

At sunset, the last light of the day gilds the earthen buildings. It is time to say goodbye, to say see you soon, at most until next year, we will return to our annual meeting.

While the sailboat moves away, the island of Tabarca remains smaller and smaller, floating on the horizon, in which the church, the tower, the lighthouse stand out on land, We will meet again beyond the seas.



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TESORIERE DELLA FLOTTA ITALY NORTHERN LAKES DELLA REGIONE IYFR ITALIA

Articolo di Samuele Carolo

Lo scorso 17 Settembre si è tenuta la quinta edizione dell'evento "Pulito in profondità", evento sul lago d'Orta organizzato dall'associazione subacquea FrienDivers ASD con la duplice finalità di estrarre i rifiuti (gettati nel lago da persone poco rispettose dell'ambiente) e raccogliere fondi per supportare l'associazione sportiva Baskin Ciuff di Borgomanero, la quale permette a giovani normodotati e disabili di giocare insieme a pallacanestro. Come sempre non sono mancati i patrocini ed il supporto di molti enti, tra i quali i comuni locali, Legambiente, Ecomuseo del Lago d'Orta e Mottarone, Goletta dei Laghi e FAI, oltre a tante altre associazioni e aziende intervenute a supporto. Abbiamo visto l'intervento di 172 persone, tra i quali 61 subacquei di 8 associazioni subacquee provenienti da Piemonte, Liguria e Lombardia, oltre all'aiuto di

tante altre associazioni e aziende del nostro territorio, tra le quali ci fa tantissimo piacere riportare la fellowship IYFR dei Laghi del Nord (che oltre a questa, ha già collaborato nelle precedenti due edizioni) ed il lavoro sinergico dei Rotaract della nostra zona.

In particolare sono intervenuti il past Commodoro Carlo Peretti e si sono immersi Paolo Pucci e Samuele Carolo per il Rotary Borgomanero-Arona più Paolo Lerede, presidente del Rotary Pallanza-Stresa; per quanto riguarda i Rotaract hanno partecipato aiutando "sulla terraferma" dieci rotaractiani dei Club Pallanza-Stresa, Orta, Valsesia e Borgomanero-Arona.

Sono stati estratti 320 Kg di vetro, 137 di ceramica, 410 di metallo e 168 di plastiche.

La giornata è proseguita con un pranzo in compagnia, sempre con l'obiettivo di devolvere al Baskin parte del ricavato.

Siamo veramente fieri e felici di questo evento, sia per i nobili scopi ambientali e sociali a monte, ma anche per le piacevoli interazioni che nascono ogni volta tra le diverse associazioni e i soci dei diversi Club della nostra zona.

riendivers
ORGANIZZA
IN COLLABORAZIONE CON
SIDAN **Pellicano Sport**

**PRESSO L'AREA "DA VENANZIO"
SAN MAURIZIO D'OPAGLIO (NO)**

PULITO IN PROFONDITÀ
I SUB CONTRIBUISCONO ALLA PULIZIA DEI FONDALI

5° EDIZIONE

DOMENICA 17.09.23	DALLE ORE 09.30
09.30 ISCRIZIONI	12.00 PREMIAZIONI
10.00 BRIEFING	13.00 PRANZO PER RACCOLTA FONDI ASSOCIAZIONE A.S.D. BASKIN CIUFF A.R.S.
10.30 INIZIO MANIFESTAZIONE	

PIÙ E PRENOTAZIONE: KATIA 347.34.58.106 | MASSIMILIANO 349.34.51.445

CON IL PATROCINIO DI:
FAI, LEGAMBIENTE, ECOMUSEO DEL LAGO D'ORTA E MOTTARONE, SOLETTA DEI LAGHI,
COMUNE DI SAN MAURIZIO D'OPAGLIO E CITTÀ DI BORGOMANERO - ASSESSORATO ALLO SPORT

Logos: FAI, Legambiente, Ecomuseo del Lago d'Orta e Mottarone, Goletta dei Laghi, Città di Borgomanero





On September 17th, the fifth edition of the "Pulito in profondità" (Clean down below) took place on Orta Lake (Italy), organized by the scuba association FrienDivers. The event had a dual purpose: to remove waste from the lake and raise funds for the Baskin Ciuff, that enables both able and disabled people to play basketball together. The event received support from many local authorities, associations and companies: 172 people participated, including 61 divers. The IYFR Northern Italian Lakes Fleet coordinated the Rotary and Rotaract clubs. We extracted 1035 kg of glass, ceramics, metal and plastics. The event ended with a lunch all together.



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MARTINA STELLA DI MARE

coinvolgere i bambini per educare gli adulti

By Professore Franco Cecchi

L'inquinamento marino da plastica è, come ben sappiamo, uno dei grandi problemi ambientali dei nostri tempi. La quantità di plastica che finisce in mare e negli oceani ha raggiunto ormai dimensioni epocali. La plastica, disgregandosi, diventa ancor più inquinante in quanto le particelle di microplastiche diventano estremamente pericolose per la sopravvivenza della flora e fauna marina e quindi dell'intera umanità.



La Commissione Europea, ritenendo prioritaria la problematica, ha promosso la "Missione Starfish" ed i suoi cinque tentacoli rappresentano gli obiettivi ad essa legati. Lo stesso Rotary International, negli ultimi anni, ha abbracciato l'impegno a sostenere l'ambiente attraverso la promozione della settima area di azione "Supporting the Environment".

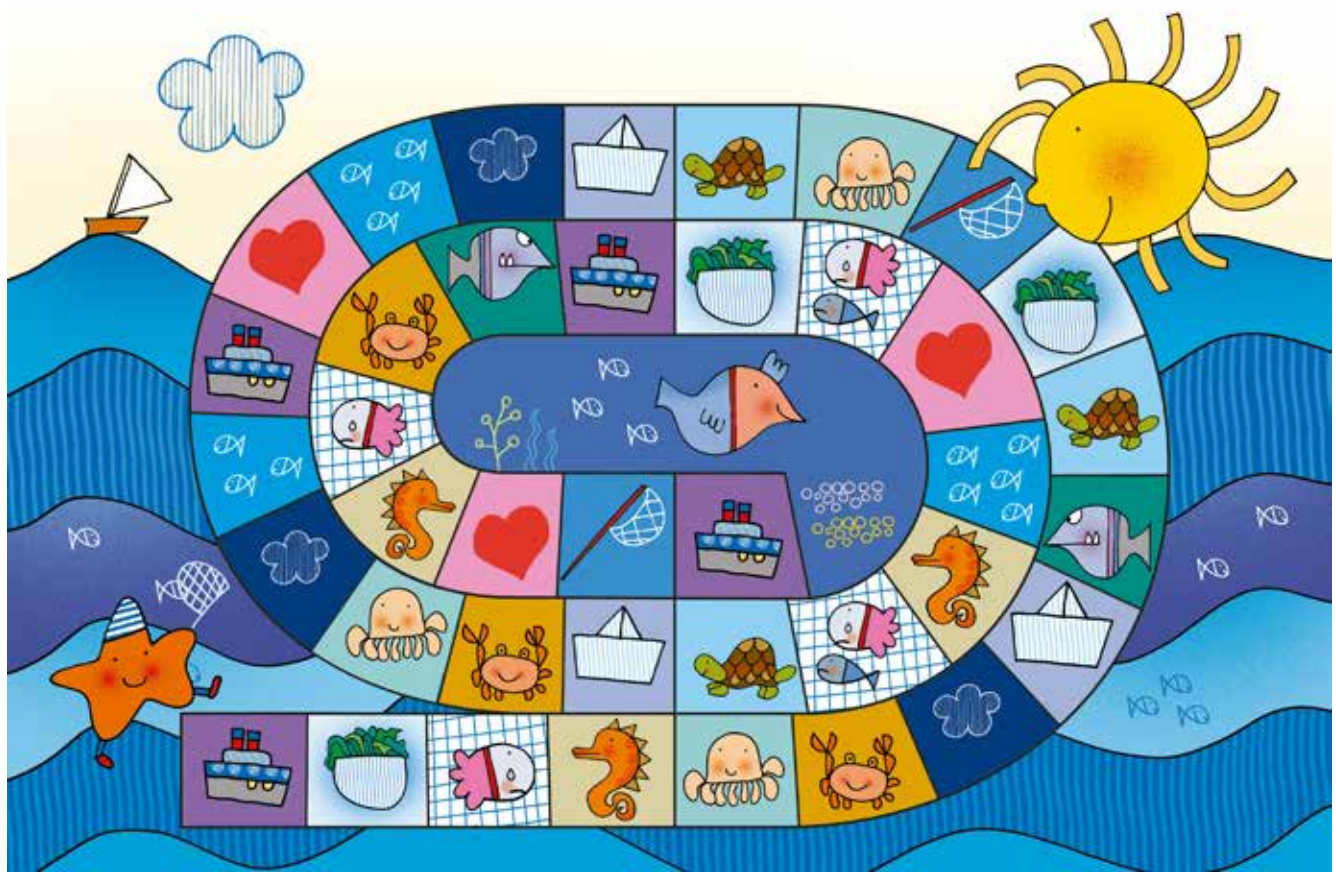
La nostra Fellowship, IYFR, inoltre, per creare consapevolezza, ha caldeggiato varie attività nell'ambito dell'Operazione Plastic Free Waters, tra cui quella che stiamo illustrando che, appunto, coinvolge i bambini per educare gli adulti.

«Stare insieme è un gioco che s' impara da piccoli... giocando!»

L'attività ludica rappresenta infatti la possibilità di acquisire e sviluppare abilità emotive, cognitive e socio relazionali che permetteranno al bambino di conoscere e comprendere il mondo che c'è intorno a lui e a interagire al meglio delle sue possibilità. Avviare, quindi, già nella prima infanzia percorsi di empatia e sensibilizzazione a problematiche diverse incrementa la fiducia nella concreta possibilità che nel prossimo futuro ci possano essere un numero sempre maggiore di persone consapevoli e cittadini responsabili. L'OMS, a tal proposito, dà indicazioni precise sulle esperienze di gioco: almeno tre ore al giorno, che i bambini dovrebbero praticare quotidianamente per il loro benessere psico-fisico.



Con questi obiettivi e in questa ottica si è mosso il "service-concorso" Martina Stella di Mare condiviso dal Rotary Club Venezia Castellana ed il Rotary Club di Trieste. Quest'ultimo, grazie all'impegno di Maria Cristina Pedicchio, ha ideato la realizzazione dell'omonimo libro in collaborazione con Mare Vivo Friuli Venezia Giulia.



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Il libro “Martina stella di mare” ideato da Nicoletta Costa – scrittrice, disegnatrice e cartoonist italiana – è un divertente e colorato libretto che, utilizzando un linguaggio adatto alla comprensione di bambini dai quattro ai sette anni sulle tematiche ecologiche, racconta la giornata della protagonista Martina, una stella di mare, dalla colazione all’attività di pulizia del mare insieme al suo amico, il pesce Pippo, ed offre una serie di divertenti giochi educativi.

E’ stato istituito per l’anno scolastico 2022/2023 un concorso rivolto alle classi dei bambini dell’infanzia e della prima elementare del territorio di Venezia.

L’obiettivo del concorso è stato quello di sensibilizzare le nuove generazioni – e di conseguenza le loro famiglie – alla riduzione dell’uso quotidiano della plastica e a garantirne un corretto riuso e smaltimento per proteggere fiumi, mari e oceani.

Attraverso la lettura in classe del libro i bambini sono stati spronati a produrre, sotto la direzione degli insegnanti, elaborati quali: oggetti, testi grafici o teatrali o quant’altro ispirasse la loro vivida fantasia.

Hanno aderito al progetto circa 50 classi e 1200 bambini e, considerando il coinvolgimento delle loro famiglie, il messaggio è arrivato sicuramente a più di 3/4000 persone!

Un incontro iniziale con le insegnanti delle classi partecipanti, poco dopo l’inizio dell’anno scolastico, dicembre 2022, è stato dedicato alla presentazione del libro da parte dell’autrice Nicoletta Costa, è stata fatta la lettura del libro e la presentazione dei giochi in esso contenuti con suggerimenti su come utilizzarli in maniera creativa. In tale occasione, quale strumento di lavoro, sono stati consegnati alle insegnanti cinque libri per classe partecipante, e ci si è dati appuntamento alla primavera 2023, al termine dell’anno scolastico. I bambini, assistiti dalle maestre, hanno lavorato con dedizione e passione per molti mesi, in previsione del confronto finale. L’adesione al progetto prevedeva di presentare gli elaborati entro il 30 aprile 2023.

Una apposita commissione di esperti ha provveduto a valutare i lavori secondo i seguenti criteri: attinenza con l’argomento proposto, ricchezza dei contenuti, originalità del lavoro.

La cerimonia di premiazione, arricchita da una mostra degli elaborati, è stata presenziata in un luogo significativo della Città: il nuovo polo museale di Mestre, M9-Museo del 900, alla fine del mese di maggio 2023.

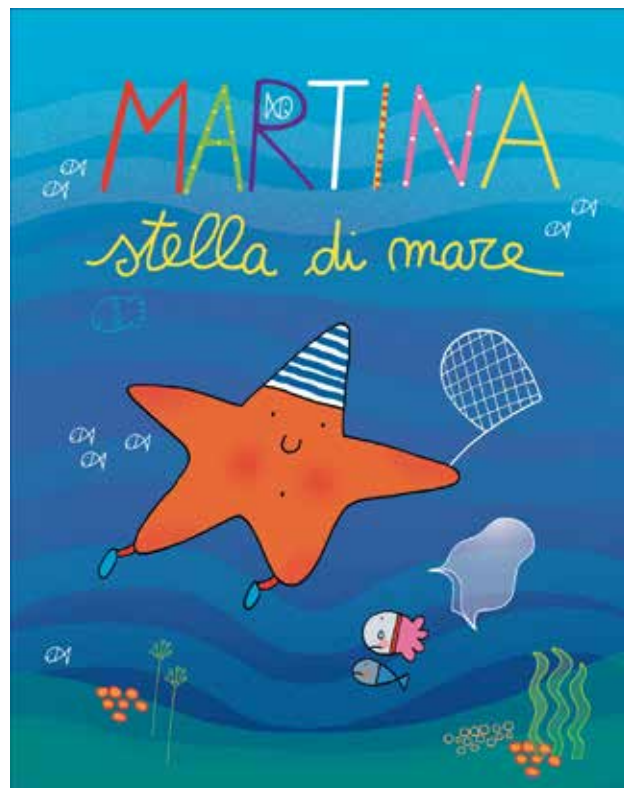
Le prime dieci classi classificate hanno avuto un premio in denaro per l'acquisto di materiale didattico ed ai bambini è stato donata una copia del libro "Martina Stella di Mare". Tutte le classi hanno avuto un attestato di partecipazione.

Tale manifestazione ha avuto grande eco nella stampa locale e questo ha contribuito a portare il messaggio ad una più vasta platea.

Ringraziamenti

Il Rotary Club Venezia Castellana ringrazia: Clementina Cecchi ideatrice del concorso, Daniela Galvani ed Elisabetta Bigolaro del Comune di Venezia, Michele Bugliesi, presidente di M9-Museo del '900 e Silvia Fabris, ARGOS ENERGIA SpA che ha permesso col proprio contributo la realizzazione del Service.

Marine plastic pollution is, as we well know, one of the great environmental problems of our times. The amount of plastic that ends up in the sea and oceans has now reached epochal dimensions. The European Commission, considering the problem a priority, promoted the "Starfish Mission". Rotary International has promoted the seventh area of action "Supporting the Environment". Our Fellowship, IYFR, has advocated various activities as part of Operation Plastic Free Waters to crate awarness, including the one we are illustrating: "Martina Stella di Mare" which, in fact, involves children to educate adults. The Martina Stella di Mare "service-competition" shared by the Rotary Club Venezia Castellana and the Rotary Club of Trieste moved in this perspective. The latter, thanks to the commitment of Maria Cristina Pedicchio,



conceived the creation of the book of the same name in collaboration with Mare Vivo Friuli Venezia Giulia and thanks to Nicoletta Costa – Italian writer, designer and cartoonist who is the book author.

A competition aimed at kindergarten and first-grade children in the Venice area has been established for the 2022/2023 school year.

The objective of the competition was to raise awareness among new generations - and consequently their families - about reducing the daily use of plastic and ensuring its correct reuse and disposal to protect rivers, seas and oceans.

By reading the book in class, the children were encouraged to produce, under the direction of their teachers, works such as: objects, graphic or theatrical texts or anything else that inspired their vivid imagination.

Around 50 classes and 1200 children joined the project and, considering the involvement of their families, the message certainly reached more than 3/4000 people!

The awards ceremony, enriched by an exhibition of the works, was held in a significant place in the city: the new museum complex in Mestre, M9-Museo del 900, at the end of May 2023. This event had great resonance in the local press and this helped bring the message to a wider audience.

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HAPPYCAMP ANCARANO A LIGNANO E FLOTTA ALTO ADRIATICO IYFR

By Anna Maria Colonna, Fleet Secretary Alto Adriatico fleet

Anche la Flotta Alto Adriatico ha dato il proprio contributo per la realizzazione del Happycamp Ancarano a Lignano, il service promosso e sostenuto dal Distretto Rotary 2060 svoltosi da domenica 27 agosto a sabato 02 settembre a Lignano Sabbiadoro (UD), nell'ambito del quale è stata offerta una settimana di vacanza arricchita da attività terapeutiche e ricreative a persone diversamente abili, e loro accompagnatori.

Ben conoscendo le emozioni e sensazioni che mare e vela possono regalare, la Flotta Alto Adriatico ha voluto far vivere "un'esperienza di mare in barca a vela" agli ospiti del Happycamp Ancarano a Lignano. Grazie alla preziosa collaborazione dell'Associazione Tiliaventum di Lignano (www.tiliaventum.com), specializzata nel rendere il mare e gli sport d'acqua accessibili a tutti, sono state pertanto

effettuate delle uscite in barca a vela, che hanno permesso agli ospiti del camp di vivere un'esperienza di mare in totale sicurezza e "comodità" su Càpita, un daysailer R30 interamente accessibile - con portata fino ad un massimo di 8 persone e di 3 carrozzine - concepito e strutturato in modo tale da rendere chi sia a bordo non un semplice trasportato ma parte attiva nella conduzione.

A causa delle condizioni meteo avverse, che hanno caratterizzato la settimana del camp, non è stato purtroppo possibile far provare l'emozione della vela a tutti. Le giornate dedicate a questa attività da 4 si sono ridotte a 2 e sono usciti solo 24 ospiti del camp (di cui 14 ospiti con disabilità e 10 accompagnatori): tuttavia, dai volti sorridenti e dai racconti entusiasti dei partecipanti, l'esperienza di mare in sicurezza vissuta su Càpita sembra essere stata più che gradita e apprezzata!

In Lignano Sabbiadoro (UD) from 27 August to 02 September the Happycamp Ancarano took place, a service promoted by Rotary district 2060: one week holiday enriched by therapeutic and recreative activities for people with disabilities and their attendants.

Knowing the sensations that the sea and sail can give, the Flotta Alto Adriatico wanted the camp's guests to live a sea experience on the Càpita, a daysailer R30 entirely accessible - with a capability of 8 people and 3 wheelchairs - owned by the Association Tiliaventum of Lignano (www.tiliaventum.com) - structured for the guests to actively participate in the boat's leading.

Because of the adverse meteorological conditions it couldn't be possible to let everyone live the sailing experience. The days dedicated to this activity were reduced from 4 to 2, and only 24 of the camp's guests were able to sail (of which 14 guests with disabilities and 10 attendants): nonetheless, from the happy faces and the enthusiastic stories told by the participants, the sailing experience lived in safety on the Càpita seems to have been more than welcomed and appreciated.

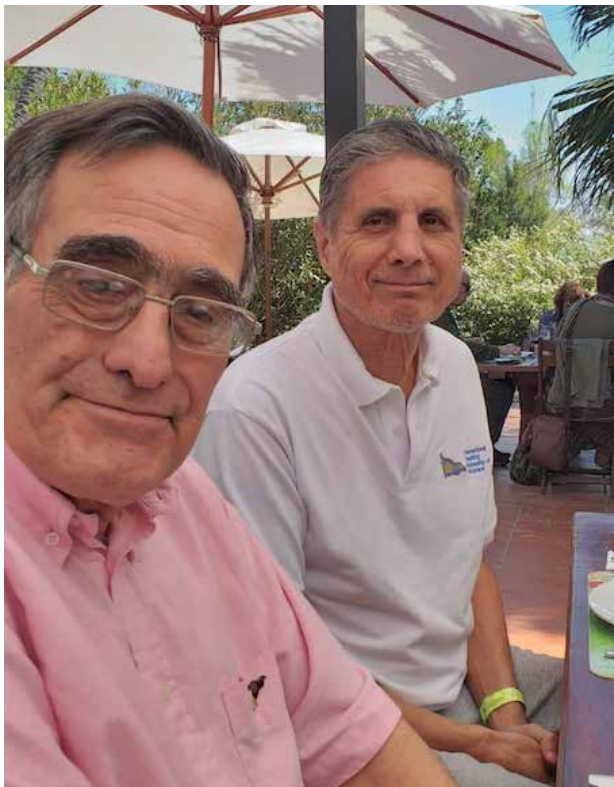


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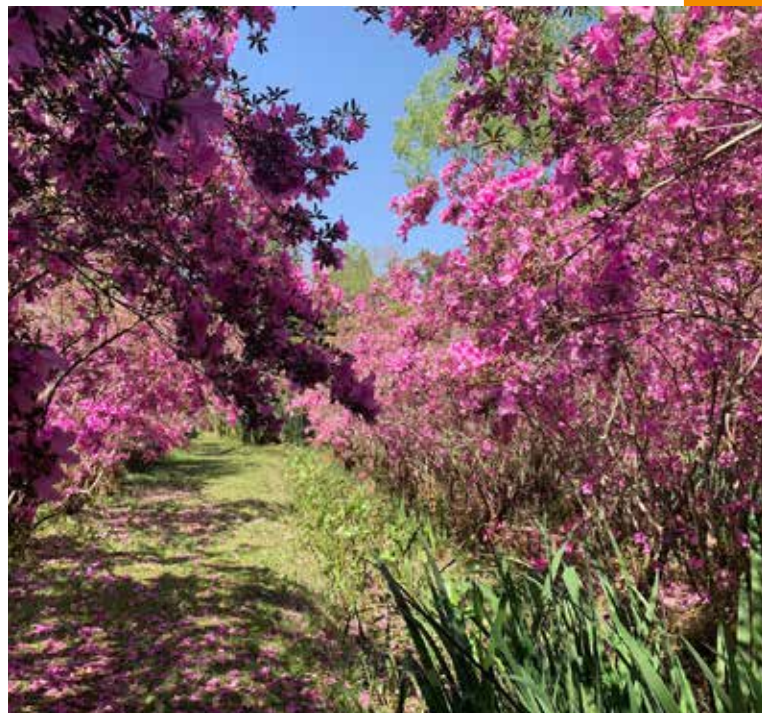
DOS PAÍSES, UN RÍO QUE LOS UNE TWO COUNTRIES, ONE RIVER THAT JOINS THEM

By Miriam Caudullo Area 2 Commodore

El sábado 16 de septiembre pasado, integrantes de la Flota Punta del Este visitaron el Delta Argentino; partieron desde Puerto Madero en una moderna embarcación, disfrutaron de la vista de la ciudad de Buenos Aires desde el agua para luego ingresar al Delta y recorrer sus ríos cargados de vegetación donde se destacan las azaleas en todo su esplendor. Arribaron a la Isla "El Descanso" para recorrer sus jardines, contemplar y vivir sus maravillosas esculturas de destacados artistas plásticos argentinos. Finalizada la caminata, integrantes de la Flota Delta, de Argentina, los esperaban para disfrutar de un almuerzo de camaradería y así, estrechar lazos de amistad rotaria. Por la tarde, regresaron llenos de paisajes en sus ojos mientras que los anfitriones se quedaron con la satisfacción de acompañar a sus amigos uruguayos y verlos después de tanto tiempo. Un río, el Río de la Plata, un mar color de león, que no los separa, sino que los une.



Last Saturday, September 16, members of Punta del Este Fleet visited the Argentine Delta; They left from Puerto Madero on a modern boat, enjoyed the view of Buenos Aires city from the water and then entered the Delta and explored its rivers loaded with vegetation where the azaleas stand out in all their splendor.



They arrived at "El Descanso" Island to tour its gardens, contemplate and experience its wonderful sculptures by prominent Argentine plastic artists. After the walk, members of Delta Fleet, from Argentina, were waiting them to enjoy a lunch of camaraderie and thus strengthen ties of Rotary friendship. In the afternoon, they returned full of landscapes in their eyes while the hosts were left with the satisfaction of accompanying their Uruguayan friends and seeing them after so long. A river, the Río de la Plata, a lion color sea, that does not separate them, but unites them.



DOS PAÍSES, UN RÍO QUE LOS UNE TWO COUNTRIES, ONE RIVER THAT JOINS THEM



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NEWS FROM NEWPORT FLEET CALIFORNIA

By Roger McGonegal, Fleet Commodore, NHF, IYFR

On August 5, Newport Harbor Fleet reinstituted its "Day Under Sail" with the Rotary Club of Long Beach aboard the Brigantine "Exy Johnson", which is owned and operated by the Los Angeles Maritime Institute (for sail training purposes, and educational programs).

Forty Rotarians and guests enjoyed a beautiful day, with light breezes, and I offer some of the collected photos for your consideration, for Rotafloat.
Fair winds,



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FROM OSVALDO GALMOZZI, SECRETARY OF THE DELTA FLEET OF ARGENTINA

By David Hansen / Memories - Covid time, August 2022



Following are the photos of the tribute that our fleet paid to the six chiefs of the Argentine Naval Prefecture. They are the coastguard services that deal with emergency medical services, documentation control, drug trafficking control, smuggling control, documentation control and inspection of sports and merchant vessels. It was a very pleasant meeting where they offered us an excellent program.



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CHILE PUERTO VARAS FLEET

by Fleet Commodore Hernán Correa, Chile Puerto Varas Fleet

Este año se ha formado un nuevo grupo de Scouts Marinos, comenzamos con 22 nuevos scouts pertenecientes a un colegio de Puerto Montt y con gran colaboración de los padres. El instructor permanente es Carlo Montalbetti y las clases e instrucción de navegación se efectúan en dos recintos, Galpón de la Marina de Chile y Club Náutico Reloncaví. Han recibido también instrucción en primeros auxilios.



BRIEF. Sea Scouts have all the Sunday instruction in Navy area or at the Sea depending of the Weather; at same time they participated in different ceremonies and visits .

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NOTICIAS DE FLOTA DELTA NEWS FROM DELTA FLEET ARGENTINA

By Osvaldo Galmozzi Region Commodore Latin America East



El 11 de agosto, Flota Delta realizó su reunión habitual. El programa aprevisto para el encuentro fue la presentación de Rubén Moscatelli y Paula Cavicchia, ambos expertos navegantes, quienes expusieron a la audiencia sobre su viaje a la famosoa Isla de los Estados, en los confines del continente americano; ilustraron la presentación con fotografías y videos del lugar, del famoso viejo presidio y del "Faro del Fin del Mundo", llamado San Juan de Salvamento. Viajon en una goleta con turistas y ambientalistas de diversas partes del Mundo. Asistieron al encuentro treinta socios de la Flota quienes disfrutaron de una agradable cena y aprovecharon la ocasión para brindar con champagne por su 19° aniversario. En las fotos, se pueden apreciar distintos momentos de la exposición de los disertantes y entrega de reconocimientos.



On August 11, Delta Fleet held its meeting, in which we had the presence of Ruben Moscatelli and Paula Cavicchia two expert sailors, who gave us a report with photographs and videos of the trip that they made to Staten Island ("Isla de los Estados") together with a group of tourists and environmentalists. It turned out to be a very pleasant meeting with a lot of information regarding the famous island. The meeting was attended by 30 mariners and was accompanied by a very nice dinner. At the end, the speakers were given a recognition and toast with champagne for our 19th anniversary.



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NEW SQUADRON SALINAS

By Gustavo Pérez-Reyes B. Fleet Commodore Guayaquil Ecuador fleet

In Salinas, a beautiful bay on the Ecuadorian coast, where the Salinas Yacht Club is located, the largest marina on the South Pacific coast, which is also the headquarters of the Salinas Spondilus Rotary Club, the request for members of the Salinas Spondilus Rotary Club was crystallized. This request to create a squadron with its partners was presented to us in the month of July, during the replacement of its board.

On Wednesday, September 27, at the Salinas Yacht Club headquarters, the incorporation of the Salinas Squadron took place in a formal meeting, with the participation of the Guayaquil Ecuador Fleet Bridge, Commodore, Vice Commodore, Contra Commodore, and Secretary. The new Squadron formed by its captain Dahiana Barzola, CFEM Carlos Villacis, Fernando Granados Barzola, Alex Miranda, Fernanda Granados Barzola, Karen Gaibor.



At the ceremony, the new Mariners took the oath of style, and a twinning agreement was also signed between the Guayas squadron and the Salinas squadron. Talks began to sign with the Salinas Yacht Club, managed by German López, member of the Rotary Club of Guayaquil Norte, so that the Interact boys of the Salinas club who want and with the endorsement of their parents, form a marine scout brigade, that is authorized to use the facilities of Puerto Net, a Rotary cyberwork that has been managed by the Yacht Club since 2009, where the children, in addition to computer science, receive music, art, English and robotics classes, in addition to the swimming school and candle. It should be noted that there are already more than 2,000 children certified in computer science, and among them a girl who was selected by the Ella She Is... foundation and who took her to the NASA Space Center in Houston, Texas.

A night where all the formalities were completed, and where more and better hopes were born for all of us who had the privilege of participating.



En Salinas, hermosa bahía en la costa ecuatoriana, donde se ubica el Salinas Yacht Club, la marina más grande de la costa del Pacífico Sur, es sede también del Club Rotario Salinas Spondilus, se cristalizó el pedido de socios del club rotario Salinas Spondilus, este pedido de crear un escuadrón con sus socios nos fue presentado en el mes de julio, durante el relevo de su directiva.

El miércoles 27 de setiembre, en la sede del Salinas Yacht Club, se realizó la incorporación del Escuadrón Salinas en una formal reunión, con la participación del Puente de la Flota Guayaquil, Comodoro, Vice Comodoro, Contra Comodoro, y Secretario. El nuevo Escuadrón formado por su capitán Dahiana Barzola, CFEM Carlos Villacis, Fernando Granados Barzola, Alex Miranda, Fernanda Granados Barzola, Karen Gaibor.



En la ceremonia prestaron los nuevos Mariners, el juramento de estilo, y además se firmó un acuerdo de hermanamiento entre el escuadrón Guayas y el de Salinas. Se iniciaron las conversaciones para firmar con el Salinas Yacht Club, gerenciado por German López socio del Club Rotario de Guayaquil Norte, para que los chicos del Interact del club de Salinas que quieran y con el aval de sus padres, conformar una brigada de scout marinos, que quede autorizada a utilizar las instalaciones de Puerto Net, un ciber obra rotaria que administra desde el 2009 el Yacht Club, donde los chicos además de informática, reciben clases de música, arte, inglés y robótica, además de la escuela de natación y vela. Cabe anotar que ya son más de 2,000 los chicos certificados en informática, y entre ellos una niña que fue seleccionada por la fundación She Is... y que la llevó al Space Center de la NASA en Houston Texas.

Una noche donde se llenaron todas las formalidades, y donde nacieron más y mejores esperanzas para todos quienes tuvimos el privilegio de participar.



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HANDOVER AND THREE NEW FLEETS IN PHILIPPINES REGION

By Regional Commodore Arturo Supangan II



The International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians Philippine Region held its IYFR Handover and Charter Presentation Ceremonies at Novotel Hotel Manila on September 22, 2023. The turnover of leadership was between Immediate Past Regional Commodore Edmond Aguilar and current Regional Commodore Arturo "AL" T. Supangan II.

The other officers and Directors include Regional Vice Commodore Nelia Cruz Sarcol; Regional Rear Commodore Rhyann Virrey; Regional Secretary Geraldine Repollo and Regional Treasurer Ricky Bajen.

International Rear Commodore Paul Yiu served as the inducting officer for the Philippine Bridge Officers, RC Arturo "AL" T. Supangan II inducted the Fleet Commodores and Officers and Area 3 Commodore Edmond Aguilar inducted the new members. Past International Commodore Jesus Avelilla, Taiwan Regional Commodore Chen Po-Jui (Marina), Past District Governors Edi Chua Co Kiong, Jaime Dee, Augie Soliman, Alfredo Abellar, Johnny Yu, Gina Sy, Mildred Vitangcol, Bobby Tanyag and DG-elect Precy Yulo graced the occasion. Three new fleets were chartered namely; Genuine Service Presidents Sea Philippine Fleet headed by FC Jonathan Diaz, Genuine Service Presidents Shore Philippine Fleet headed by FC Jereco Natan and Imaginative Amazing Treasure Philippine Fleet headed by FC Bobby Tanyag. All members anticipate a term filled with camaraderie, adventure, and shared passion for service above self.



Welcome Remarks by PIC Jesus Avelilla



Singing of Taiwan and Philippine National Anthem.



International Rear Commodore Paul Yiu delivers the message of International Commodore Angie Mesistrano



Oath-taking and donning of Philippine region officers with IRC Paul Yiu as inducing Officer



A3C Edmond Aguilar, PIC Jun Avecilla, RC Arturo Supangan and IRC Paul Yiu



Inaugural Address of Region Commodore Arturo Supangan



Turn over of Bell and Gavel



IRC Paul Yiu taking the oath to the new authorities



Parade of the Fleet Commodores



Induction of new members



Signing of Charter Documents of the Three new fletes namely: GSP Sea Philippine fleet; GSP Shore Philippine fleet; Imaginative Amazing Treasure Philipine fleet



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POST CONVENTION CRUISE HOBART TASMANIA 1ST - 4TH JUNE 2023

By Vivienne Rowell Auckland Fleet.



At the end of the Convention in Melbourne 24 Iforians made their way to Hobart, Tasmania, to enjoy 2 days of fellowship organised by IC David Hansen and his partner Rosemarie Dawson.

Our accommodation was at the very well appointed and comfortable Vibe Hotel, within easy walking distance of downtown Hobart and the waterfront. There were beautiful photographs, local landscapes and abstract images of sandstone and rockscapes throughout the hotel, taken by the wife of the owner of the hotel.

On our first evening we all met for welcome drinks in the bar of the hotel – followed by dinner (and whiskey tasting!!) at local restaurants. The next day we were up early to get on the bus for a full day of sightseeing and adventuring.

After an hour's drive we arrived at Port Arthur where we boarded a specially built RIB for a 2.5 hour tour along the Southern Coastline to Tasman Island, the Southernmost turning point for the Sydney to Hobart Yacht race. We were very fortunate with the weather and sea conditions – sunny and flat seas with a very mild swell at the Southernmost point.

Still cold though and we were very glad to be wearing hats, gloves, thermals and heavy duty ponchos! The coastline is spectacular with a lot





of variation in rock formations, some over 300m tall. No whale sightings but plenty of seals, dolphins and a few albatross.

Back to Port Arthur for lunch and then the afternoon was spent exploring Port Arthur which had been a British penitentiary for convicts from England. A lot of the buildings had been destroyed by fire over the years, leaving the beautiful hand hewn sandstone blocks – there was good information on site, and at the museum, so you could imagine what life must have been like when the town was in full operation. On an island nearby was the detention centre for boys. As usual the British chose a beautiful location. The geography also made it very difficult to escape.

For those Iforians who didn't join the on water tour, a visit to a lavender farm and to see Tasmanian Devils (only seen in captivity) had been arranged. They were no doubt considerably warmer than those on the water



tour – some of us took all day to feel our feet again! Back on the bus and back to Hobart for dinner at a restaurant of our choice – and more whiskey tasting.

Apparently there are over 50 whiskey distilleries in Hobart and the whiskey bar less than one block away had more than 40 of these available for tasting!

Saturday morning was spent wandering the world famous and very popular Salamanca Market – delicious smells of freshly brewed coffee and baking followed us all around the stalls. Lots of local produce and hand-crafts for sale – David and Rosemarie were spotted purchasing and modelling very fine Australian hats.

In the afternoon we took the catamaran to MONA – 25 minutes along the river. This is a purpose built private museum and art gallery by David Walshe, who made his fortune gambling. Carved out of local sandstone and complimented by corten steel exterior facades and sculptures – a work of art in itself. There are permanent works of 'art' as well as changing exhibitions. A fascinating place and well worth a visit – 'art' is all a matter of interpretation!! The museum is still being added to and the day we were there another tunnel had just been opened.

The day finished with a delicious dinner and fellowship at the Drunken Admiral - with most Iforians wearing their whites which was very fitting attire for this sailing boat themed restaurant.

Thanks to David and Rosemarie for their superb organisation and providing such a great itinerary.

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IYFR MEET & GREET, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND FORMAL DINNER,

MELBOURNE 28TH – 30TH MAY 2023

By Jun Avecilla, Cubao West Fleet

The Melbourne Rotary International Convention set the stage for the highly anticipated Annual Meet of the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians (IYFR), held from May 27 to June 4, 2023. After an almost three years hiatus due to the Covid19 Pandemic, it drew 54 enthusiastic members from Area 1, 2, and 3, for a week of camaraderie and collaboration.



Throughout the duration of the convention, members gathered at the House of Friendship IYFR Booth, where they seized the opportunity to catch up, share stories, and strengthen their fellowship. From May 27 to June 4, the booth served as a vibrant hub of conversation and connection, fueling the spirit of friendship among attendees.



On May 28, the Meet and Greet event took place at the picturesque Wharf Hotel, located on the banks of the Yarra River, just across from the Melbourne Convention Center. Against the stunning backdrop of the river, Iforians indulged in lively conversations, forging new friendships, and renewing old ones. The event set a joyous tone for the days to come, fostering a sense of unity and shared purpose among participants.



The Annual General Meeting (AGM), followed by the Gala Dinner and Changeover of Command Ceremonies, took place on May 30 at the esteemed Treasury Room in the Imperial Hotel on Burke Street. This momentous gathering served as a platform for important discussions and decisions. The Area Commodores Peter of A3, IVC Angie for A2 and in the absence of A1C Carlo whose report was read, delivered their respective reports, IT Peter reported on the Fellowship's sound financial health. The proposed amendments to the General Rules were presented by Angie and confirmed as passed by





the required majority of votes. IC David reported on some thoughts about the future of IYFR. All business was passed. Angie spoke briefly about her International Bridge. In culmination of the AGM RC Ofriendlha from the Ukraine delivered a presentation of the Fleets initiatives in Ukraine despite the ongoing war. She thanked the Fellowship and Members who have delivered financial help to Ukraine. One of the highlights of the AGM was the signing of the Sisterhood Agreement between the Japan Tokyo Fleet and the Taiwan Voyager Fleet.

Witnessed by none other than Past Rotary International President Gary Huang and his spouse, Corinna, the signing ceremony symbolized the fellowship's commitment to fostering international cooperation and goodwill. FC Masamori of the Tokyo Fleet signed the agreement alongside Fleet Secretary Saturo (Butch), while FC Joseph (Joe) with Yong-Shou (Paul) signed on behalf of the Voyager Fleet. RC Paul presented to the Tokyo Fleet on behalf of the Voyager Fleet an exquisitely crafted model of an ancient vessel as built by the Lanu Dawu people to travel the world's oceans.

The Changeover of Command Ceremonies were a moment of significance and inspiration. IC David gracefully handed over the helm of the Fellowship to IVC Angelica, who delivered a heartfelt and motivating speech, expressing gratitude for the trust bestowed upon her. While David's term officially concludes on June 30, Angie's term commences on July 1 and will extend for a period of two years. Angie is the first woman International Commodore, a milestone for IYFR. The change in leadership marks a new chapter in the Fellowship's journey, brimming with fresh ideas and aspirations.

The Annual Meet of the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians at the Melbourne Rotary International Convention was a remarkable and successful event that encapsulated the spirit of camaraderie, collaboration, and yachting.

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NEWS FROM TAIWAN FLEETS

By IRC Paul Yiu



Taiwan Voyager Fleet canoe cruise at Fulong River on 8-6 at Fulong River



Taiwan Voyager Fleet canoe cruise at Fulong River on 8-6 at Fulong River



Area 3 GM 1st preparation meeting.



Taiwan Sappari Star Fleet river cruise.



Taiwan Polaris Fleet turn over on 8-20 at Taipei Wake Club.



Taiwan Polaris Fleet riding wake speed boat on 8-20 at Danshui River, Taipei.

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FROM THE AFTERDECK, REFLECTIONS OF THE IMMEDIATE PAST INTERNATIONAL COMMODORE

By David Hansen
Immediate Past International Commodore, IYFR. - 14 July 2023



AGM in Melbourne.

My two years as International Commodore has come to an end. I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on these two years and share some thoughts, along the lines of my address at the AGM in Melbourne.

I began with a Change over Ceremony as part of an AGM on Zoom, a very different experience from previous years when we took for granted being face to face for this ceremony. However most of my International Bridge were able to be part of this changeover and celebrate it, even if it was at 1.00 am in the morning in New Zealand.

The two years that followed were really in two parts, the first half under Covid lockdowns and global restrictions. But IYFR adapted and used Zoom for meetings and new Fleet Charters. The good news is that in this time a new Fleet was chartered in Ukraine, in Taiwan and in Tokyo along with the appointment of Regional Commodores in Ukraine and Taiwan.

The Houston Convention came in the early part of international travel opening up. The International Bridge were faced with a difficult decision – to go to Houston with its attendant risks or wait another year.

We spoke with selected members and considered the Covid risk, travel restrictions, the shortage of flights, medical insurance and cost. After weighing up all the factors the International Bridge took the unprecedented step of IYFR not having a presence at the Houston Convention. In this respect I feel for PIC Bob and Anne, they travelled quite a lot but there were no 'real' Conventions in his time. Even so, he had to plan events and a PCC as though his Conventions were going ahead, only to have RI cancel at fairly late notice.

In the second year Rosemarie and I were able travel more and more freely. With the loss of one years' travel there was not time to visit Areas 1 and 2 which had been part of our plan, but we were able to get around most of Area 3. We visited Australia, Taiwan, the Philippines, Hong Kong and Japan (see separate article for more detail). While we did not see every Fleet we got a very good feel for how IYFR is tracking in Area 3. We also were able to attend the Chartering of 2 Fleets in Taiwan and 2 Fleets in the Philippines plus the Tokyo Fleet changeover (they waited almost two years during Covid, hoping for a face to face charter before Chartering by Zoom).

There are plans for more Fleets in Taiwan, plus Fleets in at least Singapore and Korea. All this points to Asia being a significant part of IYFR in the coming years.

My observations, obviously based on Area 3, is that IYFR is particularly active in Asia. In the last two years six new Fleets have been Chartered in Asia – remarkable for the Covid storm we have journeyed through. As I said at our AGM, currently our Fellowship is awakening from Covid – some Fleets never went to sleep, others are awakening, some may need help to wake up and some may

WE DO NOT HAVE TO HOLD OUR AGM AT OR EVEN DURING CONVENTION, SO THIS GIVES US THE FLEXIBILITY TO CHANGE.

never wake up. What I take from this is; save what we can while putting effort into creating new Fleets.

We are a wonderful Fellowship but always there is the potential to be greater – that is what my following three reflections are about. Enjoy IYFR for what it can offer each of you.

The first is about membership. Over the Covid period our membership has declined a little but some of our losses have been offset by the addition of new Fleets. We, like Rotary, now have many Fleets with older members. We all know what happens in so many cases, the administration and leadership falls away, no new members join and the Fleet fades into the sunset. Unfortunately I see more of this happening but on the plus side, we have new Fleets being formed. These new Fleets bring fresh energy and enthusiasm to our Fellowship. More importantly they lower the average age of our membership. The future of our Fellowship lies with these younger members.

The second is about communication and administration. We are a global Fellowship and currently rely on our chain of command for communication of events. We also rely on Fleets doing a small amount of administration, like keeping their membership list in our website up to date, paying the annual dues and responding to communications. These are simple things and if done well, then our Fellowship sails very smoothly. But some Fleets are not doing their administration and this, for example, significantly increases our International Treasurer's workload. Likewise, it is very disappointing to be told 'I didn't receive any information about the IYFR activities here in Melbourne and Hobart'. If one link in the communication chain is not working this is a dis-service to our fellow Iforians. We have a wonderful Fellowship. We do not ask a lot of our Officers but with the position comes responsibility. We must do better in this, for the sake of the Fellowship. I ask that you please recognise this and act accordingly. In this I need to acknowledge and thank my International Bridge, who

have done such a sterling job over the last two years and persevered with the issues raised above.

My third reflection is about change. When I look around, on the one hand everything appears to be as it was, on the other hand there have been many changes between the pre Covid years and now.

Think about all the forces creating change:

- Covid
- Global climate change
- Inflation
- War and civil unrest
- The aging population

For our Fellowship these factors manifest themselves in a number of ways:

- Fear of Covid exposure from travel and mixing with groups of people
- The higher cost of travel, accommodation and indeed all services and goods.
- A reluctance to travel long distance as people get older
- Financial uncertainty causing a contraction in spending. This has a bearing on Convention attendance which is expensive. (Non attendance at Convention generally equals non attendance at IYFR Activities).

So what might this mean for our Fellowship?

We do not have to hold our AGM at or even during Convention, so this gives us the flexibility to change. Covid has brought to the forefront online meeting technology like Zoom – our 2020, 2021 and 2022 AGMs have been by Zoom. Zoom removes any financial barriers to attendance i.e. more inclusive and accessible. However bear in mind that our AGM is for annual reporting purposes, it is not a decision making forum.

So, something to think about – should we move to holding our AGM by Zoom at a time to suit us?

Then going further, should our Convention activities and PCC be associated by rotation with an Area AGM, thus more likely being in a warm location with lower costs associated?

This then raises the question of whether we should have a booth in the House of Friendship. We have been delighted by the real interest in IYFR this year (maybe some new Fleets) - but I am sure analysis will show we

recruit very few members through the booth in return for the effort involved in organising and setting up the booth, and then manning it for approximately 50 hours. Does the return, both tangible and intangible warrant the input? If the public are allowed into the House of Friendship does this change our thinking?

These thoughts and more are for the next Executive and the Fellowship to consider – we need to remain relevant for the next generations.

My one big regret is that after two years we have still do not have a fully functional new website. Our plans were sound, we wrote a detailed specification, we tendered the work to a range of website builders and appointed one of them. The International Bridge was part of this process. What we subsequently found is that the Web builders' local address is just a front, and that phoning them takes us straight to an offshore office. After a huge amount of the Webmaster's time and significant IC time, we are still not fully functional. I am deeply unhappy to have to hand this over to Angie and her team. I will support Angie in whatever way I can to get this most unsatisfactory situation resolved. Rest assured that the

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Cost to IYFR has been small, less than NZ\$6,000. This delay is also the principal reason for no Rotafloats – these were to be onboard the new website, something the old website could not cope with.

Be proud that we are about to have our first woman International Commodore – and support Angie as she leads us through the next two years.

In conclusion, while I am really disappointed to have had my sails furled by Covid, the IYFR ship is now coming out of the doldrums and is headed for the roaring forties. It has been my pleasure and honour to be your International Commodore for the last two years. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.



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EXTRACTS FROM THE LOG OF THE GOOD SHIP IYFR AS IT TRAVELLED IN AREA 3

By David Hansen
IPIC, 15 July 2023

With Covid restrictions gradually being dismantled Rosemarie and I were finally able to travel internationally. She had a Conference in Australia and so we went over May/June 2022 and visited all seven Australian Fleets. We were enthusiastically and warmly welcomed and hosted during our visits. Each Fleet demonstrated how valuable IYFR is to members – and they were all having Fun, Fun, Fun.

A second visit to Australia in September 2022 enabled us to scope out venues and activities for the IYFR activities in conjunction with the RI Convention. We then travelled to Tasmania to cement ideas and experience different activities and venues for the PCC – we had a blast and knew that the Iforians who joined us in Hobart would also have a great time.

I have been encouraged by the growth of IYFR during my term in office – During my first year (during Covid restrictions) Fleets in Ukraine, Taiwan and Tokyo were Chartered by Zoom.



This year I was delighted to be able to accept an invitation to go to Taiwan to attend the Chartering of the Galaxy and the Sapphire Star Fleets in April. The celebration evening was a magnificent event. Taiwan now has six Fleets and I've been told that it is expected a further

two to four are coming. It was great to meet and talk with RC Paul Yiu and to meet Past Rotary International President, Gary Huang who has become a very supportive Iforian. He hosted a dinner for a number of Iforians one evening, we had a great time and along the way managed to consume a bottle of fine single malt whiskey.

Then in late May/early June 2023 it was off to Melbourne for Convention and the PCC in Hobart. When organising the first IYFR events associated with RI Convention post Covid it was gratifying to have 54 attend our events in Melbourne and 24 at PCC in Hobart. Something to build on in Singapore! The Booth, although not spectacular drew a lot of attention and we have over 50 enquiries to follow up. Many thanks to all who helped 'man' the booth.



During IYFR Convention activities, we were invited to travel to the Philippines in late June 2023 for the chartering of two Fleets and Japan for the change-over ceremony of the Tokyo Fleet. Wowwww - Iforians having Fun. So after 10 days back in NZ we were off to the Philippines, Hongkong and Japan. In Subic Bay in the Philippines I was part of Chartering the Titan Philip-

pires Fleet and the Transformational Manila Fleet (a total of 75 new members) before spending a most enjoyable time with PIC Jun and Lil.



In Hong Kong we had time to catch our breath and had the pleasure of being part of the Fleet's changeover. It was good to meet with the outgoing and the incoming Fleet Commodores. I have encouraged some inter-Fleet hospitality and sailing.



IN JAPAN WE HAD THE PLEASURE OF SPENDING THREE DAYS WITH OUR GOOD FRIENDS, PAST RC KOZO AND KAYOKO IN KYOTO, DINING WITH SOME OF HIS FLEET MEMBERS AND WITH RC MIYA. WE THEN HAD A MOST ENJOYABLE TRIP TO TOKYO WITH MR IWKI (YOSHI) WHERE WE HAD TWO MEMORABLE NIGHTS WITH THE TOKYO FLEET, INCLUDING THEIR CHANGEOVER.

In Japan we had the pleasure of spending three days with our good friends, past RC Kozo and Kayoko in Kyoto, dining with some of his Fleet members and with RC Miya. We then had a most enjoyable trip to Tokyo with Mr IwKi (Yoshi) where we had two memorable nights with the Tokyo Fleet, including their changeover. Again wonderful hospitality, a sense of fun and great to get to know some more of the Tokyo Fleet members. This event was well supported by Iforians from the Voyager Fleet, Taiwan (their friendship Fleet), and PIC Jun.



During the time in the Philippines and Japan the subject of restarting the Area 3 AGM was discussed – it has always been a lot of fun. Currently this is planned for December this year in Taiwan. Roll on December!

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TAIWAN VOYAGER FLEET EVENING FISHING ON NORTH SEA



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SETTING SAIL TO SUCCESS: IYFR PHILIPPINES ACHIEVES REMARKABLE MILESTONES

By PDG Edmond Aguilar Area 3 Commodore

In the Rotary world, where uplifting communities is a way of life, one fellowship has been making waves of its own. The International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians (IYFR), founded in 1947 in Great Britain, not only stands as the oldest continuously active fellowship in Rotary but also holds the distinction of being the largest, with roughly 3,000 members in 24 countries and a network of approximately 100 active "fleets."

This year, IYFR Philippines, under the visionary leadership of A3C Commodore PDG Edmond Aguilar, has been at the forefront of remarkable accomplishments that have redefined Rotary fellowship in the maritime world.



IYFR Philippines has embarked on a journey with outstanding accomplishments this Rotary year. One of the most noteworthy achievements has been the substantial growth in membership within the Philippines. The enchanting allure of the sea has drawn Rotarians from diverse backgrounds into the IYFR fold, demonstrating that the passion for sailing remains as strong as ever within the Pearl of the Orient Seas.





IYFR Fleets- Area 3 : PHILIPPINES:

- 1.) Transformational Fleet Manila
- 2.) Titan Pacific Philippine Fleet
- 3.) Imagine Amazing Treasure Philippines
- 4.) Genuine Service President "GSP" Shore Philippines Fleet
- 5.) Genuine Service President "GSP" Sea Philippines Fleet.

TAIWAN :

- 1.) Taiwan Voyager Fleet
- 2.) Taiwan Polaris Fleet
- 3.) Formosa Fleet
- 4.) Southern Cross Fleet
- 5.) Galaxy fleet
- 6.) Sapphire Star Fleet



In addition to the surge in membership, the chartering of six (6) new fleets in Taiwan and five (5) in the Philippines stands as a testament to IYFR's dynamism and vitality. These newly formed fleets not only bring local sailing enthusiasts together but also extend the reach of Rotary's mission in these regions. It is evidence that IYFR's influence stretches beyond the water; it extends into Rotary's broader mission of serving communities and foster friendships.





The success of IYFR in the country stems from the fact that it helps Rotarians communicate with one another and learn from one another. Sailing enthusiasts from all over the world gather to share a common passion for the sea, bringing them together despite language and cultural obstacles. The people who operate the yacht are equally as important as the yacht themselves. In IYFR, like-minded individuals get together to celebrate the spirit of camaraderie that is at the heart of the Rotary network, widely known for its dedication to solving humanitarian problems.

As IYFR Philippines continues its journey through time, it continues to serve as a model of Rotary's capacity to adapt to changing circumstances. In a world where technology and globalization are redefining how people interact, IYFR stands as an ongoing reinforcement of Rotary's core principles, showcasing that Rotarians can find purpose and harmony even in their leisurely endeavors.

As Paul Harris once said, "Friendship is a natural and willing servant, capable of making a profound impact on the world's work."

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*We look forward to your
submissions of articles,
comments, photos
and anecdotes.*

*It will be a pleasure
to meet again
in December 2023!*

