

#### THE COMMODORE'S MESSAGE



#### Dear Fellow Commodores and Mariners.

I am the first Italian Rotary Mariner to have successfully completed the full terms in the International Bridge. I have had the distinguished honor and pleasure to be your Commodore and this I will remember as my last period of Command. I have been a Naval Officer in my first life but these long six years just completed, have been among the most intense and demanding of all my career. I have done my best to be a good Captain. I leave to all of you to say if I failed or not. Please forgive me if I have sometimes been rude and always too much mail - invasive.

I have been most happy to pass the helm and my five gold stars to the best wingman I have ever had. Jun has been always at my right side and his intelligent, generous, brotherly way of acting has made this bet of Bryans' come true. I am sure, that the next years will be still better: he is a wonderful Leader and I will be honored to serve under his command. The nice, discrete, always present and generous help by Lil it has been something that Laura and I will never forget.



I have to thank Luigi Norsa our invaluable CoS sailing close to me at the other side of Jun; I have to thank the brilliant, precise and patient International Treasurer Andrè Gorgemans and Bryan Skinner, who has been my North Star since the beginning of this voyage. I have to thank Guillermo and all the International Staff for their continuous and generous support that allowed me to complete the full period of my Commodoreship. I want to thank all the predecessors of mine for all what I could learn by them.

But more than anybody else I have to thank Nani, (very few call her Laura any-more), who has supported me especially in the difficult moments that, as you may well imagine, we



have encountered and had to face. Her understanding, patience, sweetness, her constant tender loving care gave me the extra power when it was needed most.

After these two years I am glad to state that our Great IYFR is in a good health and proceeding on course and speed. Actually I am proud to say that this Administration has done a tremendously good job and the figures speak clear by themselves.

In these last two years we have chartered 16 new Fleet, rescued and saved the Crimea Fleet and our immediate future is forecasted even more brilliant. This year we chartered the Fleet of Chile-Puerto Varas, the Czech and Slovak Fleet in Opava, the Hellenic Ionian Fleet in Preveza and the Manila Dragon Fleet during the AGM gala dinner. Could the Fellowship, the IB and myself ask for a better conclusion? It is no more a secret that possibly within the next six months, the new Fleets Rumania, Hellenic Aegean and Stettin are going to be chartered.

There are more than rumors that Squadrons and eventually Fleets are being constituted in Lithuania, Montenegro, Ukraine and in the Philippines.

In other words, I am happy with this situation; the air we are breathing and feeling into our sails is a good air that can push us wherever we desire.

**Mabuhay** dear Jun, I will be honored to serve under your Command. All the best dear Friends. Thanks again to all of you dear Commodores and Mariners: you have been a wonderful Crew of a very lucky Captain!

Yours



### A Letter from a Friend



Dear Sergio Santi our International Commodore, dear all of you distinguished members of our International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians present in Sao Paolo for the convention.

Two years had passed since Sergio had taken the tiller arm and here we are to say from the bottom of our hearts thanks to him who had lead us all, with pride and success making our wonderful fellowship spread over the seas.

Sergio the man of very many years of military carrier joined IVFR at 2007 to become the International Commodore, being very active performing his service by leading the fellowship to become more effective and vivid.



Sergio the man with infinite capabilities to guide, humble spirit able to listen to each of us, and the most, a true man full of human compassion and wide heart, values which in Yiddish or Hebrew is called a mensch, what he is and what you are Sergio.

So let me send to Sergio Santi my friend as well as to Laura who is always near by a huge hug on behalf of all of you and also of mine, toasting for you with Israeli wine and with your smile embracing all the fleets members saying again and again:



AISA, AISA, AISA. ACCALA, ACCALA, ACCALA. ACCOSTA, ACCOSTA, ACCOSTA, E BEVIMMO ALLA SALUTE NOSTRA.

IC Special Assistant but first of all friend.



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#### **About the Cover:**

The Brazilian Schooner Cidade de Mangaratiba a 100 ton+ wooden boat at the port of Itacuruca. Similar boats dating back to the 14th century have plied the Atlantic oceans and open seas and rivers carrying the infamous slaves and other trades from Africa to the Amazon. 55 IYFoRians and their mates had the thrill of cruising on a renowned historic Brazilian boat to Juagaru, one of the 365 islands in Brazil under drizzling weather that did not dampen their spirits. Bottomless Caiperinhas and other refreshments were available on board and a gastronomic lunch in the local tradition were served in the beautiful small island.



#### **BRIDGE DIRECTORY**

International Commodore Sergio Santi (ITALY)

International Vice Commodore Rotafloat Editor and Publisher Jun Avecilla (PHILIPPINES)

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Special Assistant Eckhardt Fischer (GERMANY)

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Special Assistant Piotr Pajdowski (POLAND)

Special Assistant George Futas (USA)

Special Assistant Zeev Matar (ISRAEL) Middle East

Special Assistant Luigi Falanga (ITALY)

#### TREASURER'S REPORT



by Andre Gorgemans ITR

#### Report to the IYFR Board

As it was the case with my predecessors the IT is in a very uncomfortable position to report that it is extremely difficult to follow, control and reconcile the movement of the regalia inventory. This is the only real challenge that an IT might encounter when accepting this position. I have been unable to garner in time before the annual convention the reconciliation of the movements of cash and the movements of inventory. I do strongly recommend that in the future each area responsible for the upkeep of the area inventory prepares for every movements pro forma invoices so one can keep track of the incoming cash and of the intra area transfers. Another recommendation I would venture is to try to reduce substantially the SKU count ( stock keeping unit ) carried in the IYFR inventory. I would be more than willing to organize a review meeting and examine in neutrality while examining past historical data of sales movements of the existing list and make some recommendations. In the past former IT have mostly all complained about the difficulty in keeping a better control of the regalia inventory and recording the sales and corresponding profit generated. In some years IYFR has experienced even losses on sale of regalia which seems to indicate that the inventory movements were not properly recorded.

The other main issue relates to the various bank accounts that the IYFR keeps. The IYFR has currently 6 bank accounts :

- $\bullet$  2 accounts (  $\$  and  $\$  ) at Unicredit in Italy which will be closed after Sergio's term,
- one \$ account in Montevideo which carries high monthly charges as already mentioned in last year IT report,
- one \$ account at Wells Fargo in the USA with a
- minimum bank charge,
   one \$ account in the Philippines,
- one \$ Pay pal account.

The fiscal year will be closed without delays on June 30<sup>th</sup> 2015 and area regalia inventory responsible will need to report the status in units and value of the inventory under their respective control.

Another point which I feel should be addressed at the convention is the methodology and modus operandi of the distribution of grants. If I understand

with a copy of the invoices paid.

In order to control better the movements of cash it is vital that copies of invoices be sent to the IT so he can keep track of the incoming cash movements

( sale of inventory ) and encourage the fleets when paying their yearly dues to send an email confirmation to the IT (so we can reconcile without delays the payee ) and justify the expenses incurred

Another point which I feel should be addressed at the convention is the methodology and modus operandi of the distribution of grants. If I understand well the current situation, the grants are given out under normal conditions to the areas proportionately to the total membership of each area. I would suggest that this system be revised and that grants are only given out by assessing only the virtues of the projects presented and not necessarily given out to the areas that have the most members. I feel a permanent committee should be set up to review the merits of each project and distribute the funds accordingly. I believe also that it is better and probably more impactful for IYFR to concentrate on a few projects rather than the multiplicity of projects funded.

It would also be a good idea to get a follow--up of the various projects that have been funded in the past and request the receiving end to make a report illustrated by photos that could be posted on the IYFR website and in the Rotafloat.

The IT stays at the disposal of the board members to answer any questions you might have.

#### Cash Movements 2014/ April 30th 2015

|                             |           | Opening balance       | Balance<br>4.30.2015  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| € Unicredit                 |           | 2'254.80              | 8'370.36              |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$ Unicredit                |           | 95'370.83             | 62'607.08             |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pay Pal                     |           | 6.96                  | 6.69                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wells Fargo                 |           | 799.57                | 3'771.67              |  |  |  |  |  |
| Uruguay                     |           | 2'097.02              | 2'649.41              |  |  |  |  |  |
| Philippines                 |           | 12'914.20             | 7'537.96              |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             | total     | 113'443.38            | 84'943.44             |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |           |                       |                       |  |  |  |  |  |
| Regalia inventory           |           |                       |                       |  |  |  |  |  |
| Regalia inventory<br>Area 1 |           | 15'864.07             | 10'621.41             |  |  |  |  |  |
| ,                           |           | 15'864.07<br>6'175.54 | 10'621.41<br>6'413.99 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Area 1                      |           |                       |                       |  |  |  |  |  |
| Area 1<br>Area 2            | <br>total | 6′175.54              | 6'413.99              |  |  |  |  |  |

# Budget proposal 2015/2016 (\$)

| <u>Income</u>  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Fleet dues<br>Regalia sales  | 30'000<br>7'000   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total income   | 37'000  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <u>Expenses</u>  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Regalia cost of sales Adm @ Office expenses Website maintenance Bank Charges Allowances I.C. I.R.C. I.V.C. | 5'000<br>2'000<br>1'000<br>2'000<br>6'000<br>2'500<br>1'500 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grants   | 20'000  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total expenses   | 40'000  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Profit (Loss)  | -3'000  |  |  |  |  |  |

#### **Chief of Staff and Webmaster Report**



by Luigi Norsa COS

Dear Friends,

As you know we have made during the last two years some modifications to the IYFR international website. The main modification was related to adopt a system of content management for the public area of the website, in order to allow an easy update of it without requesting particular IT skills to the officers responsible. In order to minimize the costs we have maintained the previous structure for the "members only" area and we have not modified the database of the members. We have also added some features to the website – both in the public area (i.e. the calendar of events and the fleet map) both in the members only area (i.e. a blog for members, the virtual POS, a web file management function to make easier the uploading of documents and the update of the fleet map).

The International website is a tool that address different objectives:

- 1. It's a tool aimed to promote the Fellowship, let it known and hire new potential members
- 2. It's a tool by which the fellowship communicate to the mariners, delivering news and rotafloat issues , making available documents for example the General Rules are available in all languages allowing officers to mass mailing to the members
- 3. It's an administrative tools, allowing the maintenance of the members roster, the management of payments by credit card and the filing of key documents for fleet officers.

I would like to give you few data about the performance of the website, not boring you with too many details interesting only to NERDS.

We register an average of about 300 visits daily with weekly visits ranging from 1300 to 1600 visits, depending from the year quarter.

About 50% of the visits are from North America, Area 1 accounts for about 30% - these data don't differentiate visitors among mariners and curious. You should consider that our Area accounts for about 60% of the mariners and North America only for less than 15%. There is for sure an influence related to the language barrier, but we have to think about it.

If we look at the countries were the visitors are, 10% are Britons, again a language factor probably, about 6% from France, 3% from Germany, 2% from Italy.

Another data I would like to share with you, is about the "members only" area. As you know, when you add a new member, he receives automatically a username and password to login.

Well, 67% of the mariners of Area 1 never logged in. 10% did it one only time. And if we have some tens of members that are "Heavy" users, having logged more than 100 times, 95% entered the this area of the website less than 10 times.

One of the main advantages of the fellowship is that it is an environment that overcomes the borders of a club, of a district, of a country. It's an environment that allows to build friendship with people sharing the same interest in the various countries. The website is a tool that can help in this:

The "search for a specific individual" utility allows to find people by city, so if you plan to travel abroad you can find people you can contact for advice, information and support. In the event calendar you can check if there is any interesting events you could like to attend, you could use the members forum to open a discussion about a problem you are interest in—should it where to find a spare part for your boat that you don't find in the yacht chandler close to you or where you could berth during a cruise or which is a suggested recipe to cook something!

Of course, what it is needed to improve our website is

- Recommend your mariners to surf the website
- Check and update the members email address, this is a crucial task, otherwise we risk people don't receive the communication and gradually our dominion is blacklisted
- Post on the Forum, it will leave only if there are interesting discussions
- Communicate the events of your fleet, before they happen in order to have it listed in the calendar and after to report a news about what happened (pictures are welcome!)
- Post on the Forum, it will leave only if there are interesting discussions

Last but not least, occasionally the database gives some problems — e.g. when somebody is assigned to a new position, fleet secretary for example, not always the database gives to him the proper credentials — it can happen that he appears as Secretary in the bridge, but the system consider him still as simple fleet member. If you have such problem, don't panic let me know and we will promptly solve it!

Many thanks for your attention.

#### **Post Report:**

At the AGM in Sao Paulo have been communicated the results of the votes expressed about the amendments to the General Rules, to the Procedures and Regulations and to the Flags, Uniform and Boating Practice. The amendments proposed by the Amendments Committee have been approved by the large majority of the fellowship: 59.86% of the IYFR sent its vote and the proposed amendments resulted approved by 98.86% of the voters against 1.14% of contrary votes. The English version of the amended General Rules, Procedures and Regulations and Flags, Uniform and Boating Practice have been uploaded in the website under "IYFR Documents" and can be downloaded from there. The Regional Commodores will take care of updating the translation of the General Rules in the various languages in the next weeks and it will be gradually uploaded in the "General Rules" folder of the "Documents for members section of the "members only" area of the website, as it will be ready. For the information of everyone, hereunder is a spreadsheet indicating the voting by Areas, Region and Fleets.

| Area   | Region  | Fleet   | N' Mariners | c   | YES | NO | VALUE | Total Region | Total<br>Area | Yes by<br>Area | No by<br>area | Vote credit       |
|--|---|---|-------------|-----|-----|----|-------|--------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
|  |   | Levent<br>(stanbul                              | 8<br>47     | 1 2 | 0 2 | 0  | 4     |              |               |                |               | memb vote         |
|  | Turkey, israel and Greece  Germany                    | Mudanya<br>Bedrum                               | 6 2         | 1 0 | 0   | 0  | 0     | 194          |               |                |               | 25-37<br>38-62    |
|  |   | Fethiye   | 13          | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              |               |                |               | 63-87             |
|  |   | Antalya<br>Izmir                                | 8<br>23     | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              |               |                |               | 88-112<br>113-137 |
|  |   | Israel  | 46          | 2   | 2   | 0  | 4     |              |               |                |               | 138-162           |
|  |   | Hellenic Ionian<br>Weser-Jade                   | 48          | 2   | 2   | 0  | 1     |              |               |                |               | 163-187           |
|  |   | North West                                      | 21          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     | 170          |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | North<br>NorthEast                              | 43<br>29    | 2   | 1   | 0  | 1     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Lake of Constance                               | 22          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Germany South<br>Finland                        | 32<br>45    | 2   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  | Europe North  | Aaland  | 14          | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     | 138          |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Swedish Baltic Fleet<br>Skaw                    | 19<br>60    | 2   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              |               |                |               | -                 |
|  |   | Broads  | 9           | 1   | 0   | .0 | 0     |              | 1             |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Clyde<br>East Coast                             | 18<br>20    | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Humber  | 11          | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | East of Scotland Poole                          | 10<br>9     | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Suffolk   | 27          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  | Great Britain & Ireland                               | Sussex<br>Thames                                | 18<br>22    | 1   | 0   | 0  | 1     | 265          |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Medway  | 10          | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Fenland<br>Solent                               | 19<br>38    | 2   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              |               |                |               |                   |
| rea 1 : Europe - Middle East - Africa  |   | Great Britain                                   | 15          | 1   | 0   | .0 | 0     |              | 1886          | 42             | 0             |                   |
|  |   | North Wales<br>South West Fleet                 | 16<br>23    | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              | 1             |                |               |                   |
| 1  |   | South West Napoli                               | 38          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     |              | 1             |                |               |                   |
| 11   |   | South East<br>North West                        | 37<br>121   | 5   | 1   | 0  | 5     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  | Italy   | Sicily  | 166         | 7   | 1   | 0  | 7     | 489          |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Salerno<br>Alto Adriatico                       | 21<br>55    | 2   | 1   | 0  | 2     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Central Adriatic                                | 34          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Roma<br>North East Fleet                        | 27<br>44    | 2   | 2   | 0  | 4     | -            |               |                |               |                   |
|  | Netherlands   | South West Fleet                                | 46          | 2   | 2   | 0  | 4     | 94           |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Bourgas<br>Varna                                | 20<br>16    | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  | The Balkans   | Slovenian                                       | 24          | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     | 106          |               |                |               |                   |
|  | Luxembourg  | Croatia<br>Luxembourg                           | 46<br>16    | 2   | 0   | 0  | 0     | 16           |               |                |               |                   |
|  | Switzerland   | Swiss   | 45          | 2   | 2   | 0  | 4     | 43           |               |                |               |                   |
|  | France & Monaco                                       | Golfe De Saint Tropez<br>Riviera Cote d'Azur    | 42<br>26    | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     | 128          |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Monaco  | 60          | 2   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Madrid  | 24          | 0   | 0   | 0  | 0     | 71           |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | South East Spain                                | 44          | 2   | 2   | 0  | 4     |              |               |                |               |                   |
| 9.7  | East of Africa  | Kenya<br>Rwanda                                 | 30<br>27    | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     | 84           |               |                |               |                   |
| - 4  | East Europe   | Uganda  | 27          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Crimea First<br>Gizycko                         | 10<br>38    | 2   | 1   | 0  | 2     | 88           |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Czech and Slovak Rotary Fleet                   | 33          | 1   | 2   | 0  | 2     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Ukrainian<br>Cascade                            | 0<br>24     | 0   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              |               |                |               | -                 |
|  | USA Northwest   | Puget Sound                                     | 19          | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     | 109          |               |                |               |                   |
| 1  |   | Seattle Mariners<br>Rio de la Plata             | 66<br>22    | 3   | 0   | 0  | 1     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  | South America   | Delta   | 20          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Brazil - SAo Paulo<br>Punta del Este            | 84          | 3   | 3   | 0  | 9     | 162          |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Guayaquil Ecuador                               | 17          | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              |               |                | 1             |                   |
| Area 2 : The Americas  |   | Chile Puerto Varas<br>Vancouver                 | 20<br>8     | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     |              | 600           | 7              |               |                   |
| No. of the last of | Canada West   | Vancouver Island                                | 20          | 1   | 0   | 1  | 1     | 28           | 1             |                |               |                   |
|  | USA East Coast  | Chesapeake Bay<br>Tampa Bay                     | 32<br>12    | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     | 32           |               |                |               |                   |
|  | USA Southeast & Caribbean                             | Mobile Bay Compass Rose                         | 84          | 3   | 0   | 0  | 0     | 96           |               |                |               |                   |
|  | USA Central   | Chicago<br>New Western Lake Erie                | 15<br>55    | 2   | 0   | 0  | 0     | 70           | 70            |                |               |                   |
|  | USA Northeast   | Penbay  | 30          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     | 30           | 1             |                |               |                   |
| 1  | USA Southwest   | San Francisco<br>Newport                        | 43<br>30    | 1   | 0   | 0  | 0     | 73           |               |                |               |                   |
| -  | Vicalian Salar  | Gold Coast                                      | 29          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  | Australia Queensland & Northern Territory             | Queensland<br>Whitsunday                        | 32<br>11    | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     | 72           |               |                |               |                   |
| 1  | South Pacific   | New Zealand                                     | 79          | 3   | 3   | 0  | 9     | 90           | 1             |                |               |                   |
|  | South Pacific   | NZ-Bay of Islands<br>Hokkaido                   | 12<br>16    | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     | 30           |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | West Kyushu Fleet                               | 15          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  | Japan   | Kobe<br>Osaka Bay                               | 60<br>11    | 2   | 2   | 0  | 4     | 170          |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Kyoto Lake                                      | 39          | 2   | 2   | 0  | 4     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  | China   | SETOUCHI SHIMANAMI<br>Hong Kong                 | 30<br>37    | 1 2 | 1 2 | 0  | 1 4   | 37           |               |                |               |                   |
|  | New South Wales & Australian Capital Territory        | Mid North Coast                                 | 16          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     | 38           |               |                |               |                   |
| Isia, Australia, South & Western Pac   | TOTAL SOURCE TRANSPORT OF AUSTRALIA CAPITAL TERRITORY | New South Wales                                 | 22          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     | 30           | 757           | 34             | 0             |                   |
|  | Australia Victoria and Tasmania                       | Victoria<br>Gippsland Lakes                     | 17<br>34    | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     | 88           |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Tasmania  | 37          | 2   | 2   | 0  | 4     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  | Western Australia & South Australia                   | Western Australia South West Western Australia  | 27<br>19    | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     | 62           |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Cubao West                                      | 32          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Cebu<br>Hands On Philippine                     | 9<br>15     | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     | 1 4 4        |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Rainbow Connection                              | 20          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  | Philippines   | Silver Philippine<br>Philippine Universal Peace | 20<br>25    | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     | 200          |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | First Class                                     | 28          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  |   | Subic Bay<br>San Remigio                        | 31<br>20    | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     |              |               |                |               |                   |
|  | World E-Fleet   | World E-Fleet                                   | 21          | 1   | 1   | 0  | 1     | 21           | 21            | 0              | (             |                   |
| E-Fleet  | 110110 5 1 16 5 1                                     | World E-Trees                                   |             |     | YES | NO |       |              |               |                |               |                   |

# **AREA 1 NEWS**



#### **FVC MIKE THILO RIP**



**EULOGY TO MIKE THILO** 

Mike Thilo sadly cast off on his final journey on 2nd June 2015, aged 73 years, when he finally succumbed to cancer, which he had bravely fought for a number of years. He was still forward looking up to the end, which came upon him very quickly and was a surprise to us all. He had been with us at the Area 1 meeting in Naples in April and was upbeat and looking forward very much to future IYFR meetings, which he always enjoyed and supported.

Mike joined IYFR in 2010 and was a member of the Fenland Fleet, Great Britain and Ireland, and the Broads Fleets, before it disbanded. He was currently Vice Commodore of the Fenland Fleet, and, as he had his boat on the Norfolk Broads, he was also a member of the new Broads Squadron, attached to the Fenland Fleet, which he hoped to help to develop to form a fleet once again. He was an enthusiastic IYFORian and was keen to offer help in any way he could, even at Area level.

He was a true gentleman and a real friend and sadly leaves his wife, Jenny, a son and a daughter. He also had a brother, Alan, who lives in Australia, but happily, met up with Mike in Naples at the recent Area 1 meeting. Mike will be sadly missed by all who knew him and our thoughts are very much with Jenny and the family.

IRC A1C Bob Burns



#### THE UNCONVENTIONAL NAPOLI 2015 AGM TALE

by IC Sergio Santi

Before or later it had to happen: the idea was not mine but Luigi's, our Italian Region Commodore, who having been requested by the DG 2100 (Italy South West) Giancarlo Spezie to organize the first meeting of the Italian Fellowships, possibly in Naples, thought to invite to the Meeting also the IYFORIAN Friends from all the Area. Also if it was rather early for such an extraordinary Annual General Meeting, also given the location and the possibility to link the event to the Charter Ceremony of the First Greek Fleet to be celebrated in close proximity, AC Bob Burns gave his OK and the organization work started.

As usual in these circumstances, after the initial euphoria, the real organization problem started. The only on site reliable organization was the Napoli IYFR Fleet Bridge, Commodore Gaetano and Treasurer Umberto who took all the weight of the commercial side, opened an account and appointed a

permanent smart Secretary, Mrs Elvira Cherubini who was in continuous contact with all the organizing Committee.

At the same time Alberto Bagnasco from Genova and Luigi Falanga from Catania where continuing their organization work, sometimes hard, to coordinate with the Napoli Fleet and the other (10) Italian Fellowships that had declared would be present at the event.

Then the great day arrived and while the other Fellowships were having their meetings, tournaments, biking, motoring, tennis, etc. sessions, IYFR was represented at the highest possible level by PIC Bryan and Chris, IVC Jun and Lil (coming from the Philippines) AC Bob and Anne, IT Andrè, CoS Luigi and Annarita, IC Special Assistant Zeev and Ludmilla and the RCs or their substitutes of Iberia, GB&I, East of Europe, East of Mediterranean, East of Africa and the Fleet Commodores and Mariners coming from Sweden, Israel, Spain, GB&I,

Switzerland, Poland, Slovak Republic and Kenya. Of course there where all the Italian Commodores and many Mariners from the Italian Eleet.

A particular mention for The Slovak PDG Thomas Lang and his wife Agnes that where celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding Anniversary in Naples where they had been for their honeymoon.

The longest distance contest was won by Alan Thilo, coming from Sydney, second and third ex aequo by Jun & Lil, coming from Manila. An impressive long way!

Naples gave us 4 unforgettable sunny days, a beautiful Meet and Greet in the famous Medina Restaurant, a glimpse of one of the most beautiful Italian Museum in the Capodimonte Royal Palace, two most enjoyable days at sea sailing to Capri and Ischia, dinner at the two most ancient Napoli Royal Yacht Club and.... a "Made in Napoli" AGM!

The idea of mixing up all these events, even if in principle most brilliant, did not prove the better feasible at the end: too many events / meetings /celebrations/speeches/power points/medicine lectures/rewards handling etc. at the same time requested a coordination that was not always available

with "Teutonic" precision . But these are not qualities one expects to find arriving in Naples

The most important thing is that more than one hundred lyforians and their Partners coming from 11 different Countries had the opportunity to meet and have fun together: the AIZA AIZA AIZA where countless as countless were the bottles of Falanghina that kept evaporating in any possible occasion. It was also noted with pleasure that the Neapolitan cheers have more and more turned into a sound, strong and good luck MABUHAY! Only for statistical purposes here are a few figures regarding the event:

| . Fellowships actually attending  | 8   |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| . Countries represented           | 11  |
| . Rotary Districts represented    | 14  |
| . Area 1 AGM participants         | 63  |
| . Savoia YC welcome dinner        | 52  |
| . Medina Meet & Greet             | 139 |
| . Capri, Ischia, Sorrento sail to | 115 |
| . Gala Dinner                     | 223 |

Aiza Aiza Aiza!



#### Welcome Dinner, Meet and Greet, AGM and AGM Gala Dinner







#### IYFR - Sailing days from Napoli to Capri in Italy and in Lefkada in Greece

by Zeev Matar, Special Asst. to the IC

IYFR is not only Fellowship but mainly friendship, and our doing is based on sailing in joy and fun.

So this is the story of 2 different sailing days which had left in all of the participants enthusiasm embraced by friendship.

During Area 1 Convention in Napoli 23-27 April 2015 IYFR had gathered many friends from different Fleets from Italy as well as Fleets coming from England, Israel, Philippines, Poland, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden for a sailing day from Napoli to Capri island. Sunny day had smiled to all the Fellowship traveling to departure port eager to sail.

Two Turkish gulets wooden built had waited for us for the cruise taking on each about 25 friends headed by our

International Commodore Sergio Santi on one gulet and on the other one Jesus 'Jun' Avecilla International Vice Commodore.

Raising burgee decal for boat and out of port reminded me the famous Neapolitan song Santa Lucia

"On the sea shines the silver light. Quiet is the wave favorable is the wind. Come to my swiftly boat! Santa Lucia, Santa Lucia!"

So we crossed the waves and tested sweets seated on front deck, smelling the salted sea water and enjoying the light breeze. Not long time had passed and all of us from Italy and Spain from Poland Philippines and Israel became one crop embraced by sailing spirit and spirit of wine.

Being served with good aperitif followed by Neapolitan pasta mixed with sea food, our sailing got color of true shining sun. Was it the fantastic chilly white wine or was it the fresh air but in order to get from Jun the IYFR Philippines pin we had to swear. So we became believers to admit the question of Jun "do you believe that Mozzarella cheese was invented in the Philippines", and the fun mixed with white wine made it become a huge smile with the Philippines toast of Mabuhay, and the pin arrived to each shirt or dress with grace.

We arrived to the mysterious Faraglioni, the famous oceanic rocks formation in the southern coast of Capri, incredible scenery made by the forces of nature, so big and proud to dominate the sea.

Landing in port of Capri for short time and back sailing to Napoli while the lovely song of the Isle of Capri was singing in me "I sailed with the tide in the morning still my hearts on the Isle of Capri", and this was the second happiest time of our day. Polish Vodka from Pioter Pajdowski started its way from glass to more of the same and most of us were happy to dance to sing and to laugh. So two liters of vodka had gone as well as Italian Grappa and other two liters of Limencello, wrapped our souls to meet fun and joy. The captain of the gullet invited one of our girls for quick dance, while the more of us were moving in circle dancing and singing by the holy spirit of worm feelings due to 4 bottles of wines.

With this breeze so sweet, oh, how lovely it is to be on a boat! With this breeze so sweet, oh, how lovely it is to be on a boat! Come on passengers, come away! Santa Lucia Santa Lucia!

So we went down from the boat even though willing to stay, headed by Jun who was waking and dancing guided by the spirits we had all absorbed to our veins. Arrivederci Napoli, toasting to all our sailing friends Mabuhay, Mabuhay till the next sailing day in the most beautiful Neapolitan bay.

On the 30.4.2015 we had come to Greece for the Chartering Ceremony of the Hellenic Ionian Fleet.

We gained new friends and enjoyed interesting excretions as well as grate Greek food while toasting each other in the name of our wonderful fellowship IYFR with sympathetic Rotarians from District 2470 in Greece.

1 of May 2015 departure for Nydri, Lefkada and embarkation for sea excursion through beautiful islands "planted" in the sea. "Oasis" of blue sea of quietness painted with colors of the sun as if Van Gogh would have painted this scenery. Sergio Santi and Jun Avecilla had raised IYFR burgee while English mixed with Greek conversations blessed our Fellowship by the ancient gods of Greece.

We approached the Papanicolis sea cave located in the island of Meganisi which is the second largest cave in Greece, During World War II by virtue of being secret hide way for the submarine Papanicolis which used to attack the Italian armada and returned to the hidden cave.

Wine was missing but our lungs had been breathing fresh air, while we approached nearby the island of Scorpios, a private island which was the estate of Aristotle Onassis who married their the US First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy in 1968.

Lovely hours of gathering, speaking, laughing and taking pictures of wonderful picturesque Ionian Islands which bless this marvels country for centuries.

The sailing time ended in a Greek restaurant with good lunch, toasted by Sergio Santi our International Commodore

The sailing time ended in a Greek restaurant with good lunch, toasted by Sergio Santi our International Commodore

AISA, AISA, AISA. ACCALA, ACCALA, ACCALA ACCOSTA, ACCOSTA, E BEVIMMO ALLA SALUTENOSTRA

Followed by Jun, toasting with great smile, MABUHAY, MABUHAY, MABUHAY, while we were all looking for good ouzo or wine.



### **The Hellenic Chartering Ceremony**



by Zeev Matar, Special Asst. to the IC

On 2 of May 2015 the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians had gone through an historic event, the foundation of the First Greek Fleet named by the Ionian Sea in the city of Preveza, where the fleet will be based.

Finally after very long year from the point of lunching my idea to our International Commodore Sergio Santi, we had reached the target and my dream come true, "As I gaze upon the sea! All the old romantic legends, all my dreams, come back to me" Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

Thanks to my friend Sergio Santi who had backed me as well as the incoming Hellenic Ionian Bridge with warm approval and great enthusiasm and encouragement as well as by my tireless friend Luigi Norsa IYFR Chief of Staff.

The Chartering ceremony took place in "Margarona Royal" Hotel in Preveza Saturday evening at 21.00 within very elegant ball room around rounded tables which had gathered over 150 friends in wonderful atmosphere of friendship and harmony. Greek food toasted with fabulous wines while Italian, Greek and English music had embraced each of the invited to feel this magic event, seated under huge chandeliers which had lightened the ceremony.

A minute of contemplation followed by the Greek and Italian hymn followed by welcome addressed by Anna G. Roumpou President RC Preveza 2013-2015 and by Aris Zachos the incoming Commodore of the Hellenic Ionian Fleet. As by IYFR tradition the new Hellenic Ionian Fleet had been chartered officially by the assignment of the official chartering document by the International Commodore Segio Santi followed by personal Chartering documents to Bridge officers including ranks assignments.

This Chartering event had gathered a unique IYFR delegation headed by Sergio Santi the International Commodore with his dear wife Laura Padoan the Regalia Officer from Italy, Jesus 'Jun' Avecilla International Vice Commodore from Manila, Philippines with his dear wife Lil, Ferit Biren Past International Commodore from Turkey, Selda Gerson Region Commodore Turkey-Israel-Greece from Turkey, Luigi Norsa Chief of Staff with his dear wife Annarita from Italy and Vincenzo Rinaldi Rear Commodore South East Fleet Italy with his dear wife Leonora.

Congratulations to my friend Aris Zachos the first Commodore of the Hellenic Ionian fleet and to all Chartering members of the fleet, mariners and officers - Συγχαρητήρια and good luck - καλή τύχη.

IYFR will support you, looking forward for the Hellenic Ionian Fleet integration within IYFR activities shearing initiatives with the fleets in your area.

My first starting personal message to our Greek Rotarians translated and published in Greek in the official Districts newsletter year ago was the following message:

"We shall be grateful to all of you, women and men willing to join our Rotarian Fellowship and share with me and with all of our members the vision that IYFR has a mission to bridge the divides between people so that the sea can unite nations which the oceans separate". This dream could not be achieved if not by true collaboration with my close friend Katerina Kotsali-Papadimitriou Vice Commodore of the Hellenic Ionian Fleet and my friend Aris Zachos Commodore of the Hellenic Ionian Fleet as well as by so many wonderful supporters from District 2470 & District 2484.

Thanks to all our wonderful Rotarian friends from District 2470 & District 2484 who had come to embrace our fellowship and feel part of the historic event of the chartering of the Hellenic Ionian Fleet.

And last infinite thanks to Rotarian Lena Loverdou from District 2470 who organized 3 days program of excursions of great interest to all of the coming for the Chartering event. Lena had entered to our hearts with her happiness and high spirit and incredible sense of organization.

I shall end the article with the following quotation of Nikos Kazantzakis, Zorba the Greek

"I felt once more how simple and frugal a thing is happiness: a glass of wine, a roast chestnut, a wretched little brazier, the sound of the sea. Nothing else."





by DG Marianna Kaloeida English Translation by PDG FVC Katerina Kotsali-Papadimitriou

Rotary ΔΙΕΟΝΕΣ ΡΟΤΑΡΥ 2470 Περιφέρεια

ΤΕΥΚΟΣ 11/ΜΑΚΙΟΣ 2015

Επιστολή Διοικητή

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πλαίσια της Διεθνούς Ομάδας Συναδέλφωσης Ροταριανών Φίλων Σκαφών Αναψυχής

(International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians) είναι πλέον πραγματικότητα. Στις 2Μαΐου 2015 σε μία λαμπρή τελετή, στην Πρέβεζα στο Ξενοδοχείο Μαρ-γαρώνα, έγινε η Επίδοση Χάρτας του Ελληνικού Στόλου του Ιονίου. Στην συναδέλφωση, που εκτείνεται γεωγραφικά στην Ανατολική Μεσό-γειο συμμετέχουν η Τουρκία, το Ισραήλ και η Ελλάδα. Η πρωτοβου-λία ανήκει στον Zeev Matar από το Ισραήλ, Ειδικό Βοηθό του Interna- tional Commodore και προωθήθηκε αρχικά στην χώρα μας ,από την π.Δ. Κατερίν α Κοτσαλή-Παπαδημη-τρίου.

Η Γέφυρα (Bridge) του Στόλου του Ιονίου αποτελείται από τον Commodore (Κυβερνήτη) , π.Δ. Άρη Ζάχο, Vice Commodore π.Δ. Κατερίνα Κοτσαλή-Παπαδημητρίου , Rear Commodore Δ. Κώστα Καρβούνη, Γραμματέα Δημήτρη Πιτσινίγκο, Ταμία Ντίνο Μπομποτσάρη. Ο Vice International Commodore Jun Avecilla γράφει "Δεν έχω ποτέ δει τόσο μεγάλη και ισχυρή στή-ριξη από πρώην, ενεργούς και μελλοντικούς ηγέτες κάποιας Ροταριανής Περιφέρειας , σε καμία χώρα του κόσμου , αναμφίβολα ήδη



μιλούν και για ένα δεύτερο Στόλο στην Αθήνα τον Σεπτέμβριο και ενδεχομένως ένα στο Montenegro". Τα 44 ιδρυτικά μέλη του Στόλου προέρχονται από ροταριανούς





τους, πλέον των προαναφερθέντων, από την 2470 ΠΔΡ ο Εψηφισμένος Διοικητής Γρηγόρης Γρηγορόπουλος, ο Υποδεδειγμένος Διοικητής Απόστολος Μαμάτας, παρόντες στην Τελετή, και ο π.Δ. Γιώργος Κατσίλας.

Ο International Commodore, Sergio Santi, από την Ιταλία, επέδωσε την Χάρτα Ίδρυσης του Ελληνικού Στόλου του Ιονίου, μαζί με τον Past International Commodore, Ferrit Biren και την Region Commodore Selda Gerson από και οι Vicenzo Rinaldi, Commodore του Στόλου της Αδριατικής, η Sevinc Kuyas αξιωματούχος στόλου της Τουρκίας και ο Special Assistant Zeev Matar. Στην πολυπληθή εκδήλωση εκπρο-σωπήθηκαν 32 Όμιλοι και από τις δύο ελληνι- κές Περιφέρειες. Την οργανωτική ευθύνη είχε ο Ροταριανός Όμιλος Πρέβεζας υπό την Πρόεδρο Άννα Ρούμπου. Η βραδιά έκλεισε με πολύ κέφι και χορό.

Η Ίδρυση του Στόλου του Ιονίου πλαισιώ-θηκε με πολλές παράλληλες εκδηλώσεις συνα-δέλφωσης, περιηγήσεις και επισκέψεις σε αρχαιολογικούς χώρους . Η 2470 ΠΔΡ οργάνω- σε εκδρομή στην οποία συμμετείχαν περισσότεροι από 50 ροταριανοί και ροταριανές με συζύγους . Την Πρωτομαγιά οι εκδρομείς και οιξένοι φιλοξενούμενοι απήλαυσαν μία θαυμά-σια κρουαζιέρα στην Λευκάδα, στο Νυδρί, στα νησιά Μαδουρί και Σκορπιός και στη συνέχεια στο Νυδρί με φόντο τον αδριάντα του Αριστο-τέλη Ωνάση, με συναδέλφους Ροταριανούς της Λευκάδας ,γιόρτασαν μία Ημέρα Ρόταρυ ενημερώνοντας το κοινό για τους σκοπούς του Ρόταρυ. Επίσης είχαν την ευκαιρία να επισκεφθούν το Κοινωνικό Παντοπωλείο του νησιού ,τον εξοπλισμό του οποίου προσέφερε ο Ροτα-ριανός Όμιλος Λευκάδας, μέσω Απλοποιη- μένης Χορηγίας Περιφέρειας. Τους επισκέπτες υποδέχθηκε ο Αντιδήμαρχος Λευκάδας κ. Αθανάσιος Περδικάρης.

Το Σάββατο επισκέφθηκαν το Νεκρομαντείο του Αχέρωντα και την πανέμορφη Πάργα. Ροταριανοί και των δύο ροταριανών Περιφερειών γιόρτασαν ακό- μα μία Ημέρα Ρόταρυ στους γραφι- κούς δρόμους της Πρέβεζας.

Την Κυριακή παίρνοντας τον δρό- μο της επιστροφής, οι εκδρομείς επι- σκέφθηκαν την αρχαία Νικόπολη και το Αρχαιολογικό Μουσείο Πρέβεζας Η όλη εκδήλωση και οι παράλλη- λες εκδηλώσεις ήταν μία αξέχαστη εμπειρία και μία εξαιρετική ευκαιρία ροταριανής συναδέλφωσης.



Η εκδήλωση καλύφθηκε από τα ΜΜΕ και δόθηκαν συνεντεύξεις τύ- που από τους δύο Διοικητές και τους Αξιωμα-τούχους του IYFR.

Θερμές ευχαριστίες στον Zeev Matar για την ιδέα Ίδρυσης του Στόλου ,στην π.Δ. Κατερίνα Κοτσαλή-Παπαδημητρίου για τις συντονισμέ-νες ενέργειες, στην Β.Δ. Μαγιόρκα Τριαντα- φύλλου, Πρόεδρο της Επιτροπής Συναδελφώσεων της Περιφέρειας, για την στελέχωση του Στόλου, στις π.Β.Δ. Λελίνα Κασιμάτη και ρ. Λίλα Κυριακοπούλου για την φιλοξενία των ξένων αξιωματούχων.

Τέλος ένα μεγάλο ευχαριστώ στην π.Β.Δ. Λένα Λοβέρδου για την άριστη οργάνωση της εκδρομής και στον π.Π. Αντώνη Παπανδρέου για την εξαιρετική ξενάγηση Εύχομαι κάθε επιτυχία στον Ελληνικό Στόλο του Ιονίου. Καλή πλεύση....



#### IYFR AND ROTARY DAYS

The establishment of the first Greek fleet within the frame of the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians is now a reality. On May 2nd 2015, in a brilliant ceremony in Preveza Margarona Hotel, the Charter of the Ionian Greek Fleet was awarded. The fellowship, which extends geographically in Eastern Mediterranean sea, includes Turkey, Israel and Greece. The initiative belongs to Zeev Matar from Israel, Special Assistant of International Commodore and was initially promoted in our country by PDG Katerina Kotsali-Papadimitriou.

The Bridge of the Ionian Fleet is composed of Commodore PDG Aris Zahos, Vice Commodore PDG Katerina Kotsali-Papadimitriou, Rear Commodore DG Kostas Karvounis, Secretary Dimitris Pitsinigos, Treasurer Ntinos Bobotsaris. The Vice International Commodore Jun Avecilla notes << I have never seen such great and keen support from past, present and future Leaders of any Rotary Districts in any country in the world no wonder they are already talking of a second Fleet in Athens in September and another in Montenegro>>. The 44 Fleet founding members come from Rotarian Clubs of both Greek Districts, among them, except from the previously mentioned ones, from 2470 District the Governor Elect Grigoris Grigoropoulos, the Governor Nominee Apostolos Mamatas who were also present at the ceremony. PDG George Katsilas, not present, is also a founding member.

The International Commodore, Sergio Santi, from Italy, together with Vice Commodore Jun Avecilla from Phillipines, the Past International Commodore Ferrit Biren and Region Commodore Selda Gerson from Turkey awarded the Charter of the Ionian Greek Fleet. The celebrating ceremony was honored by the presence of both of the Governors of the two Greek Districts Marianna Kaloeida (D-2470) and Kostas Karvounis (D-2484). Also present were from 2470 PDG Giannis Iliakis and from 2484 PDG Panos Tzoumas and PDG Kostas Kotsis, as well as the Nominees Kostas Petridis and Chrisa Tselepi. From the IYFR leadership, except from the above mentioned, the ceremony was attended by Chief of Staff Luigi Norsa and the FRC Of the Italy SE Fleet Vincenzo Rinaldi, the officer of the Turkey Fleet Sevinc Kuyas and Special Assistant Zeev Matar. In the ceremony, attended by many participants, 32 Clubs from both Greek Districts were represented. The Rotary Club Preveza under the President Anna Roumpou had the organizational responsibility. The night was over with lots of fun and dancing.

The establishment of the Ionian Fleet was followed by various parallel fellowship events, tours and visits to archeological sites. RID 2470 organized an excursion, in which participated more than 50 Rotarians, along with their partners. On May 1st the participants and foreign guests enjoyed a marvelous cruise to Lefkada, Nydri, Madouri and Scorpios islands and afterwards, in Nidri, under Aristotels Onasis' statue, along with Lefkada Rotarians, they celebrated a Rotary Day by informing the public about Rotary's cause. Furthermore, they had the opportunity to visit the island's Social Super Market, the equipment of which was offered by the Rotary Club Lefkada, through a Simplified District Grant. Lefkada Vice Mayor Mr. Athanasios Perdikaris welcomed the visitors.

On Saturday, they visited the Acheronta's Nekromanteion and the beautiful Parga. Rotarians from both Rotarian Districts celebrated one more Rotary Day in the picturesque streets of Preveza.

On Sunday, on the way back, the participants and guests visited ancient Nikopolis and Preveza's Archeological Museum.

The whole event as well as the side events was an unforgettable experience and a great opportunity of Rotarian fellowship.

The event was covered by the Mass Media and press conferences were given from the two Governors and the IYFR Officers.

Warm thanks to Zeev Matar for the idea of establishing the Fleet, to PDG Katerina Kotsali-Papadimitriou for the coordinated actions, to AG Mayorka Triantafyllou, President of D-2470 Fellowships Committee for the fleet staffing, to PAG Lelina Kassimati and Rot. Lila Kyriakopoulou for hosting the foreign officers.

Many thanks for the exceptional tour organization to PAG Lena Loverdou and for the outstanding sightseeing tour to PP Antonis Papandreou.

I wish the Greek Fleet of the Ionian every success. Good Winds.



# Solidaridad de los Clubs Rotarios Y Marinos de IYFR con los niños keniatas

Por Bernardo Rabassa Asenjo



Se trata de una campaña marítima y continental para mejorar la salud y cuidado de la salud de niños en LAMU archipiélago y continental área que la rodea en (Kenya) 1915-16 patrocinado por IYFR la fleet of Madrid y 7 Rotary Clubs de Madrid, el Club Rotario de Malindi en Kenya, el distrito 2201 y Rotary International Foundation a partir de una beca de IYFR por 1379,30€ conseguida por d la flota de Madrid que ha aportado 938€ adicionales, 7 Rotary Clubs de Madrid 7395\$, y del distrito 2201 de 10.000\$, de la Rotary Foundation 15.000\$, total de 35.000\$. Como se puede ver intervienen múltiples organizaciones rotarias, que por lo general realizan este tipo de actividades, pero que son desconocidas por casi todo el mundo. En este caso la coordinación es del Rotary Club de Madrid Pt<sup>a</sup> de Hierro, del que seré presidente a partir de junio, e intervienen los clubs Madrid Serrano, Zurbaran, Castilla, Norte, Majadahonda y Velázquez Internacional, con la ayuda del Asistente del Gobernador David Parras y con Miguel Angel Taus que se ocupa de la Fundación rotaria en el Distrito 2201. En España hay otros dos distritos con cerca de 300 clubs en total, que se dedican realizar subvenciones a terceros como la presente, y cuyo historial solo en este año 15-16, será de al menos 300 aunque hay muchos clubs que realizan varias subvenciones.

Los rotarios obtienen el dinero, organizando eventos, torneos, cenas benéficas etc etc, además de sostenerse con los fondos que aportan regularmente los socios, siendo obligatorio reunirse una vez a la semana para comer o cenar. Los nombres de los integrantes de los clubs son públicos y están en las guías de distrito, con detalle de mails y teléfonos, solo pueden dedicarse a hacer el bien a terceros y esta específicamente prohibido aprovecharse a favor propio de cualquier ventaja que se pudiera obtener salvo la amistad, el ocio y la cultura. Como quiera que no debe saber tu mano derecha lo que hace la izquierda son grandes desconocidos salvo en las ciudades o pueblos pequeños, se distinguen por reunirse en hoteles en los que figura la rueda rotaria, que significa que los cargos rotan ya que los presidentes y demás miembros de

las juntas directivas tienen una duración de un solo año, aunque pasados varios se puede repetir, pero no perdurar, eso en toda la organización desde el Presidente mundial a los Gobernadores de Distrito, las elecciones son estrictamente democráticas, La Gran obra de la fundación rotaria mundial ha sido de una parte la lucha contra la Polio hasta su extinción en el Mundo, la de a favor de la Paz, fueron los rotarios los que crearon la ONU, y los miles de becas de estudio para internacionalizar jóvenes que no pueden ser hijos de rotarios.

Las principales actividades de esta campaña médica ejemplo que yo coordino, se centran básicamente en el uso de un barco ambulancia y la realización de visitas a todas las Islas del archipiélago de Lamu y el continente: Específicas para mejorar la salud y prevenir la mortalidad asociada a enfermedades infecciosas prevenibles y enfermedades del corazón, en la población infantil de Lamu.

#### 1.-pruebas o detección de patologías:

Detección de enfermedades en la población 90 infantil (50.000) identificar importantes problemas de salud y prestaciones de salud en las salidas del Hospital con la mano de obra y equipos para el diagnóstico de diversas enfermedades, por ejemplo la tuberculosis. La intención de mantener un registro de fecha de inmunizaciones necesarias en cada aldea para una visita a esta ciudad cuando sea necesario. Intentos para involucrar a la ciudad que son los que tienen la responsabilidad de traer niños revacunados 2.-estudio de la desnutrición:

#### 3.-inmunizaciones:

Inmunización de los niños en el distrito de conformidad con el calendario oficial de vacunación de Kenia, incluyendo tétanos, difteria, tos ferina, polio, varicela, sarampión y tuberculosis

4.-desparasitación:

5.-educación para la salud:

6.-prevención de la ceguera:

7.-detección de VIH:

Para la detección temprana de pacientes VIH es necesario una prueba de diagnóstico rápido a todos los niños con la presunta participación del VIH o con patología concomitante o antecedentes familiares.

8. - detección de enfermedades del corazón:

Auscultación cardiaca de los niños se realizará a aquellas personas con sospecha de cardiopatía en la unidad de Cardiología del hospital.

Esta campaña comunitaria 2015-16 será llevada a canbo por el PABLO HORSTMANN HOSPITAL pediátrico de la ONG ANIDAN. 1.-número de beneficiarios directos: 55.000 niños, que es el niño to da la población del distrito de Lamu. 2.-número de beneficiarios indirectos: 105.000, toda la población del distrito de Lamu, dado que para hospital familia todos los servicios se han convertido en un servicio esencial. 3.-aproximadamente 250 a 350 beneficiarios de la unidad de VIH al año, que potencialmente podrían ser muchos más, porque eso será una proyección masiva para el VIH.

4.-esperamos más de 4000 pacientes vacunados en unidad de vacunación gracias a esta extraordinaria campaña marítima continental.

5.-aproximadamente 65 pacientes en la unidad de Cardiología se estimó en 2015 para 2016.

6.-8.000 pacientes con la campaña extraordinaria marítima continental.

Está creciendo la participación de la población beneficiaria en el proyecto, dado que ya consideran que es un servicio esencial a su comunidad. Rotary International es una Organización internacional de servicio cuyo propósito es reunir a líderes empresariales y profesionales universitarios y no universitarios, con el fin de prestar servicios humanitarios en sus comunidades, promover elevadas normas de ética en todas las ocupaciones y contribuir a fomentar la buena voluntad y la paz en el mundo.

Los rotarios, organizados en más de 200 países y regiones geográficas, llevan a cabo proyectos para abordar los problemas del mundo actual, incluidos: el analfabetismo, las enfermedades, la pobreza y el hambre, la falta de agua potable y el deterioro del medio ambiente, a la vez que fomentan la aplicación de elevadas normas de ética en sus respectivos campos. El número de rotarios asciende a más de 1.200.000, que son miembros de más de 33.000 clubes rotarios que se distribuyen en más de 200 países y regiones. Desde 1905, los rotarios prestan servicio voluntario para satisfacer las necesidades de comunidades de todo el mundo.

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### A MARITIME AND CONTINENTAL CAMPAIGN TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE OF CHILDREN IN LAMU ARCHIPELAGO AND SURROUNDING CONTINENTAL AREA (KENYA)

Sponsored by IYFR Madrid Fleet and 7 Rotary Clubs of Madrid, The District 2201 and Rotary International Foundation raised funds starting from a Grant of IYFR for 1379.30€ from the Madrid Fleet 938€, Rotary Clubs of Madrid 7395\$, from the District 10.000\$, from the Rotary Foundation 15.000\$, total 35.000\$

The main activities of these medical campaign are basically focusing on the use of a boat ambulance and the realization of visits to all the islands of the archipelago of Lamu and the continent:

Specific to improve health and prevent mortality associated with preventable infectious diseases and heart disease, in the child population of Lamu.

#### 1.-Testing or 'screening' of pathologies:

Detection of diseases in the 90% child population (50.000) identifying important problems of health and providing health care in the Hospital outlets with the workforce and kits for diagnosis of various diseases for instance tuberculosis, intends to keep a record of required immunizations date in each village for a visit to this town when necessary. Attempts to involve the town so are they who bear the responsibility of bringing re-vaccinated children.

#### 2.- Study of malnutrition:

#### 3.-Immunizations:

Immunization of all children in the district in accordance with the vaccination official schedule from Kenya, including tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough, polio, chickenpox, rubella and tuberculosis

- 4.-Deparasitation:
- 5.-Health education:

#### 6.- Prevention of blindness:

#### 7.-HIV Screening:

For the early detection of patients HIV is necessary a rapid diagnostic test to all children with suspected involvement HIV or with concomitant pathology or family history.

#### 8.- Screening of heart disease:

Cardiac auscultation of children will be held to those with suspected heart disease in the Cardiology unit of the hospital.

This community-based campaign 2015-16 will allow to the PABLO HORSTMANN Pediatric HOSPITAL of ANIDAN.

- 1.- Number of direct beneficiaries: 55,000 children, that is the entire child population of Lamu district.
- 2.-Number of indirect beneficiaries: 105,000, the entire population of Lamu district, given that for all family hospital services have become an essential service.
- 3.-Approximately 250 to 350 beneficiaries of the HIV unit annually, which could potentially be many more because that will be a massive screening for HIV.
- 4.- We hope more than 4000 patients vaccinated at vaccination unit thanks to this extraordinary campaign maritime-continental.
- 5.- Approximately 65 patients in the cardiology unit we estimated during 2015 to 2016.
- 6.- 8,000 patients with the maritime-continental extraordinary campaign.

The participation of the beneficiary population in the project is growing, given that they already consider that it is an essential service to their community.

#### Sailing in Croatia at the Rotary Regatta with IYFR

by Andre Gorgemans, ITR



The Rotary Club Ljubljana Carniola organizes each year the traditional humanitarian sailing Regatta for all Rotarians and their friends. This was the 10th consecutive year that such a regatta was organized.

This year's sailing regatta took place from Saturday May 30th until Tuesday June 2nd, on the beautiful route: Split – Milna–VIS – Hvar (Palmizana) – Split.

Rotary clubs could enter one or more boats with a minimum number of five sailors, one of them must be Rotarian. The crew consisted of sailors from different rotary clubs while the Holding club will receive the Winning Cup. Rotarians from clubs without their own



The Regatta

sailboat could enter too. This was the case for many Rotarians.

For example the Bavaria 46 Maslinova (the boat I sailed on) joined the regatta under the club Ljubljana Carniola and was skippered by Ales Musicc (a Slovenian Rotarian). The other crew members were another Slovenian Rotarian from the same club as Ales, two German Rotarians from the Ingolstadt Rotary club and three Swiss fleet members from the Martigny Rotary club.

Marko Murn the regional Commodore for the Balkans was the coordinator on behalf of the IYFR for spreading the news amongst the European fleets.

The entering fees after deduction for the chartering costs will be used for humanitarian actions. The sailing and all organizational procedures of this regatta were organized under the 2009 ISAF rules.

Sailing boats were divided into three competition classes: the Bavaria 46 class with 6 boats, the Hanse 445 with 10 boats and the Open class with 5 boats. Awards were given by classes and also there were awards for the overall ranking.

There were in total 150 sailors participating in this regatta amongst them 2 Turkish crews who sailed brilliantly in their class, German, Croatian and Norwegian and naturally a great majority of Slovenian crews who were organizing the event in the Croatian waters. It was truly a picture perfect event with a wonderful friendly Rotarian atmosphere amongst the participants.

As an example, on board of Malisnova 4 nationalities were represented and the IYFR spirit was a true reflection of fun, sailing experience and friendship.

Thank you for the organizers for this wonderful experience. See you next year.



Trophee - Boat Maslinova - 3rd in Bavaria 46category and 8 overall (21 boats in total)





Concentration during the race.



Happy hour on Maslinova



The Maslinova's crew: from left to right: 1st row: Till, Ales - second row: André, Philipe, Frank, Roger & Damian



# Traditional Slovenian Rotary regatta Carniola 2015 has beaten all expectations

By: Marco Murn

Humanitarian sailing regatta took place from May 30th to June 2nd on the beautiful Adriatic route: Split – Šolta – VIS – Hvar – Split in Middle Dalmatia. This year we sailed in two monotype classes of Hanse-445 and Bavaria-46. There were 21 boats with 154 Rotarians. This big response brought quite an issue to organizers to find enough space in marinas and restaurants on the islands.

Every year more IYFoRians from abroad join us. This year we had friends from Sweden (2), Switzerland (3), Germany (12) and Turkey (12). The rest were members of IYFR Slovenia fleet and Slovenian Rotary clubs.

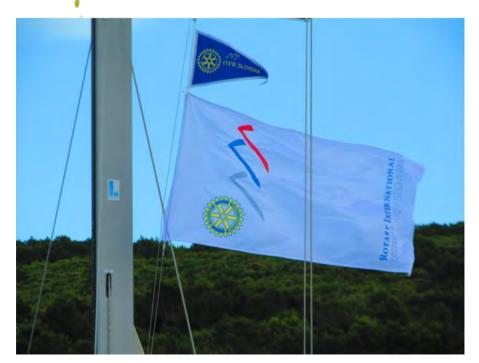
We were lucky with sun and warm sea, but not so much with wind. Only light breezes were those days available to us. Experienced regatta committee shortened the two long orienteering legs and with technical poles we succeeded to race 4 times. The spirit of international mixed crews was on very high level and the warm atmosphere on evening parties built new friendships among participants.

While we enjoyed three delicious culinary dinners with live music and fun, we did not forget to our Rotarian mission. This year we collected significant funds for helping to handicapped swimmer Aleš Sečnik buying an adapted car.

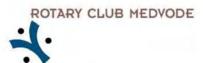
More will tell the photos...



#### JADRANJE ZA JUTRI – SAILING FOR TOMORROW









Slovenian IYFR fleet has coordinated the financing of educational and therapy project JADRANJE ZA JUTRI (Sailing for tomorrow) from May 26 to May 30, 2015. We have collected 6.300 Euro from IYFR International, Rotary District 1912 Slovenia and 3 Rotary clubs Škofja Loka, Medvode and Idrija. The project was supported from IYFR Grant (2000\$), Rotary District 1912 Slovenia (1000€), RC Škofja Loka (1000€), RC Medvode (1000€), RC Idrija (500€), IYFR Slovenia-Generali (1000€) and additional 4000€ collected from smaller sponsors. We had very good media support on web sites, daily news and even main Slovenian broadcasting.



With additional donations from local sponsors the sailing club Sappa with their voluntary skippers realized the sailing of 36 children with special needs from 7 Slovenian schools. During 4-days sailing around Pula (South Istria), Croatia the children have learnt how to live on the boat and practice basic sailing skills. Some of them even first time visited the sea, but for all it was their life experience. They had to develop their team spirit and they were very motivated to participate in all the activities.



All participants (36 children, 12 teachers/companions and 13 skippers) embarked the boats at marina Veruda in Pula. After cabin accommodation skippers introduced basic parts of the boats and gave important instructions. Six sailing boats one by one left their berths and on open sea raised their sails.









An hour and half of sailing finished at anchorage in a nearby bay where a word »swim« made magic of jumping to the water. But not only never ending jumping, also paddling on SUPs and rowing with tenders occupied children so much that they almost did not have time for lunch. Afternoon breeze helped them to sail back to marina, where a real barbeque dinner took place. The children had to prepare skewers and »cevapcici«. You would not believe how tasty they were.



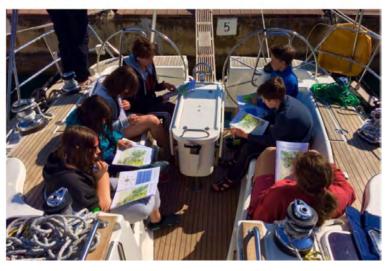












Next wonderful sunny morning after breakfast the first marine lesson started. With support of teachers the children had to fill their working notebooks with marine topics. Everybody was looking forward to next sailing trip. And it came even more. Sailing to islands Brioni, a ride with touristic train through their wonderful natural park with many wild, visiting zoo, and sailing and swimming. Another day finished with the visit of Poseidon, the God of Sea and the pirate Captain Hook with his parrot Koki who baptized the participants and requested their sailors' oath.





Other days of sailing and marine lessons were enriched also with launching the bottles of individual wishes, visit of magician Mister Lee, self organized evening discotheque and self baked pancake party. Croatian children with special needs from Pula joined for a concert of Equal Chances and the farewell came too soon. Last evening every school prepared their short performance, best sailor of each crew, and best completed notebook author were awarded.









What to add?

Nobody is so big, that he will never need a help and nobody is so small, that he cannot give a help. Such projects not only make children happy, but we also benefit out of them. They simply make meaning to our life. Sparks in the eyes of children will tell you this...

In the name of children, we would like to thank to all donators! Marko Murn, Regional Commodore for IYFR Balkans





### **Proud Grandpa**

by The Editorial Team

First born of daughter Micol and first granddaughter beautiful Sofia Penelope of CoS Luigi. A proud and Happy Dad and Grandpa. Not in photo and probably the one taking the picture is Grandma Annarita who must be as ecstatic. Welcome to the Club!







#### IYFR IZMIR FILOSU

CHECK THIS PAGE OUT: https://iyfrizmir.shutterfly.com/#



#### İçerik

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izmir Filosu

Seyirlerimiz

Sunuşlar

#### IYFR İzmir

IYFR - "International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians " Rotary dostluk dünyası içerisinde en eski ve en geniş dostlar grubudur. Deniz tutkusu ön planda olan Rotaryenlerin İngiltere'de 1947 yılında başlattıkları bu hareket bugün 32 ülkede 3200'den fazla üyeye ulaşmıştır.

İzmir Filosu 4 alanı öncelikli olarak saptamıştır. Bunlar Denizci Dostluğu, Deniz Adamlığı, Çevre ve Genç Kuşaklar'dır.

# **AREA 2 NEWS**



#### Sao Paolo Convention 2015

By: RC Angie Mesistrano

The RI convention 2015 took place in Sao Paulo city, Brazil. This is an extroverted, cheerful and colorful inner city. It is the cradle of world carnival. Our booth 186 in the House of Friendship was well located, was decorated with pictures of regatta, tall ships and a map with the location of each of the 111 fleets currently make up our fellowship.

We received many visits to our booth, questions, accessions, new registrations and interested in forming new fleets. Following our booth it was located sample of the Sea Scouts. This is a successful program developed by the Chile Puerto Varas fleet. The three young members spent four days magnificent, saluting with sailor whistle, do nautical knots teaching, projecting images of their activities and making new friends Interact with youth from different countries.

In our booth he has reigned usual camaraderie and all cooperated by shifts of two hours to serve those visiting us. Monday 8 am in the same hotel where we stayed, we had our AGM and evening, the gala dinner and exchange authorities of our fellowship. For those who know our traditions, it was an emotionally charged ceremony. We feel the joy of seeing good health in IVC Jun and greeting with affection and recognition for his excellent work in the last two years our IC Sergio.

Participating for the first time the gala dinner several IYForians, they were impressed by our ceremony. It honoring the Sea Scouts with their greeting. The traditional exchange of epaulets and necklaces was greeting with applause. We hear the beautiful words of farewell Sergio IC, IVC message Jun taking over our fellowship and acceptance greeting of IRC Robert Burns who joined the EC.

The whole package that included the hotel and use their facilities to those already mentioned, in addition to the PCC events were organized by Cesare Ortis. He is a professional of tourism and Fleet mariner Rome. Cesare has done a magnificent job and impeccable. Our thanks to his effort and dedication. Thanks to Cesare we relax and enjoy an impeccable organization. No complaints. The reason? Here in South America have a habit. Who complains should compensate. How? Dancing a Brazilian Samba.

Sea Scouts Program Report Fleet IYFR Chile Puerto Varas Rotary Convention 2015 Sao Paulo

#### Adults in Charge

- 1. Walter Eaglehurst . Fleet Commodore
- 2. Sergio Cárcamo Fleet Vice Commodore

#### Scouts members:

- 1. Cristian Peña
- 2. Rafael Pessot
- 3. William Eaglehurst

#### Advance preparation:

- -Drafting And printing two special brochures for the Convention.
- -Recording Video for convention.
- -Preparation Of new pins.
- -Preparation Of samples knots and keychains gifts, by 20 scouts.
- Six sessions preparation classes training in English for the scouts .

Day 05/06/2015. Arrival To Sao Paulo.

Day 6/06/2015. 9:30 Welcome Credentials and Assembly Stand. Stand consisted of two Banners, one of the Sea Scouts and other Fleet. A flag IYFR grouping, provided by the group, a desk, two chairs, sample different knots made by the boys, a video projected permanently while we load the batteries, two booklets in English publicizing the activities, and inviting the Rotarians to join our group and Rotanautas to carry out this program. Numerous key chain holder with knots for gifts, made by the sea scouts. The stand was feathering our pennant for all around.

The scouts were in uniform during all the days of the convention.

Public attention: The Hours to the public was daily from 9:30 to about 17:00 hrs (Some days the number of visitors was until 18:00 hrs and the last day only until 16 pm)

General explanation to the public concerned:

Work being done by scouts, performing service activities in their program consisting of instruction, explanation of sailor knots, showing the video, answer questions, etc.

One of the most attractive and appealing to the public thing, was the sailor ceremony honors whistle, which is performed every 30 minutes, as convened public.

The public as a result of this often asked to take pictures with the boys and their growing program information requested.

Many Rotarians from different countries of the world and from all continents, who visited our booth curiosity, unaware of our group and learned how beautiful is our Fellowship.

There were several Rotarians interested in implementing the program of marine scouts in their clubs, who were urged to form a fleet. All were referred to the Comodoro Regional Angie, for more information and record contact information. Was so interested contacts with Brazil, USA, Canada, Mexico, Peru, Ecuador, Venezuela, Argentina, Australia and in three regions of Chile were made.

All the IYF orians were very loving with the boys, they are also very interested in the program and made them feel good.

He drew attention also numerous visits of Interactors and Rotaractors, from various countries, interested in learning seamanship, permanently visited the stand were many questions, and were photographed with them.

We also received a request from Rotary TV, based in Miami USA, to access a copy of the Sea Scouts video.

We were able to increase our fleet crew Puerto Varas in Chile IYForian, thanks to Angie management.

#### Conclusion:

The experience was very positive, valuable and enriching, the boys sized up the real magnitude what Rotary in turn could know more about our group, were able to share directly with the highest authorities IYFR International Bridge, and participate in the change of command ceremony. They managed to convey and share their nautical knowledge acquired during this year of instruction.

But it is also good to take advantage of self-criticism, to be better prepared, and optimize the presentation in the event that a new opportunity to repeat it.

- Start preparing young people, with three months prior to the event
- In case of having its own stand again for scouts, make design more advance, as were many good ideas that you can apply to have a booth to project our program even better.
- Integrate these young people formally Interact, to be part of the Rotary organization.

Walter Eaglehurst Fleet Commodore Chile Puerto Varas Fleet

#### Meet and Greet at Churrascaria los Bovinos





# **House of Friendship**



Annual General Meeting Chaired by RC Angie Mesistrano. IVC Jun Avecilla making the meeting in the nick of time as it starts gets a warm welcome hug from Sergio and kind applause from the group.



**GALA DINNER HIGHLIGHTS** Handover Ceremonies



#### RC OYIE VALARAO INSTALLED AS HEAD OF PHILIPPINEREGION AND A MEMBER OF THE IB 2015-2017



RC DAVIDHANSEN AND RC ANGIE MESISTRANO RECEIVES THE FISHING BOAT REPLICA "SAKAYAN" AS A TOKEN OF APPRECIATION FOR THEIR FLEET'S PERSONAL AND KIND DONATION TO THE FISHERMEN VICTIMS OF TYPHOON YOLANDA. THEY WERE ACTUALLY THE LAST OF THE MANY RECEPIENTS THAT HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE TOKEN OF APPRECIATION IN EARLIER CONVENTIONS.





DG Paolo Raschiaturo presented and pinned by IC Sergio of the IYFR pin.



Scout Salute and Fun, Fellowship and Laughs





# Paraty, Angra, Dos Reis and Rio De Janeiro Post Convention Affairs







By: RC Angie Mesistrano

After completion of our official activities at the convention began our Post Convention Cruise. The first day we traveled to a Portuguese colonial town with its typical houses with tiles and colorful boats moored in the river. In the evening we reached the beautiful city of Angra dos Reis. We settled in the Vila Gale Eco Resort, where we enjoyed excellent service, a private bay and could, the next day, sharing a relaxing day in the sun with 29°. On the day after traveling to the port to board a "Escuna". This is a typical boat of the place in which we sail to a beautiful island where we had lunch in a typical restaurant on the beach. In the afternoon we had come back and have embarked on the road to Rio de Janeiro city. Was waiting for us an exquisite dinner at an excellent hotel that had been checked by Cesare for our enjoyment. On the fourth day we met the iconic sights of Rio de Janeiro. His impressive Christ the Redeemer on Corcovado, from where we have a fantastic view of the city and its bay. Later we met its modern cathedral, visit the Pan de Azucar which we accessed by cableway and in the evening we enjoyed a delicious dinner in a typical Churrascaria where between greetings, songs and hugs we said goodbye until next year when we will find in Seoul.

In me different feelings found. Some of happiness through the beautiful moments shared with friends around the world and other some nostalgia because we must await a year to repeat another fun PCC. But while we await, we have 365 days to work for the betterment of our beloved fellowship accompanying IC Jun.

My personal experience, accompanying IC Sergio and Cesare in organizing this meeting, our booth, the AGM, the gala dinner and the PCC has been superb and enriching. I enjoyed escorting the planning and implementation of IC Sergio and Cesare. I am happy to have had this opportunity and to have been given receive in our Region South America to IYForians worldwide.

#### **Bus Trip to Paraty**







Late Lunch, Dance, Caiperinhas and Sights at Paraty



























Vila Gale Resort







Agra Dos Reis Sights









Karaoke and Dance Night, Lovey Dovey and 50th Anniversary Celebration

Itacaruca Wet and Wild Cruise and more Caiperinhas















### **The Seattle Rotary Mariners**

Check this page out: http://seattlerotarymariners.org/Mariners/Welcome.html





### **SOCAL NEWPORT HARBOR BACKBAY CLEANUP JUNE 12**

By: Guy Harden On Facebook https://www.facebook.com/groups/IYFR.NB/

Low tide so we only retrieved 500 lbs of debris from Newport BackBay. Thanks volunteers: UCI Rotaract; Orange Coast College; IYFR Rotary Fellowship; Scout troop645; Shane Cowan Rotary District 5320; Cartwright & Linda Sheppard Culver City Rotary. Support from NIRC, IYFR International Yachting Fellowship IYFR.SoCal; Kayaks supplied by Newport Aquatic Center & Southwind Kayaks. #WeAreRotary Mark your calendar: Join next fun kayaking cleanup Sat July 11<sup>th</sup>.



# **AREA 3 NEWS**



## The Hong Kong Fleet Fellowship Activities

By: The Editorial Team

On May 17 the Hong Kong Fleet and friends led by FC Chris Fung, PFC Cassidy Lam, PFC Alice Liu and Alex Hung continue its sailing/cruising and fellowship activities having great times at Clear Water Bay and with 2 boats from IYFR and 3 boats from RC Central met at Po Toi O for seafood lunch on June 5. On both occasions everyone had a happy gathering for all! (Like and follow IYFR Hong Kong Fleet on Facebook)





























By: Grahame Werrel

Bob Moxham and Cheryl and Liz and I went on a three week cruise on the 6 Star magnificent ship Seabourne Odyssey in April. The journey started in Dubai down the Gulf of Oman calling first port of Khasab in Oman and thereafter to the port of Salalah. We walked over 7 miles on rocky paths on an exhausting but memorable experience in Petra. Despite erosion and over 2000 years of archeological wonders the detail is still very good. Apparently there is some 5 meters of unearthed carving to someday be uncovered, when they work out how to preserve them.

After some 4 days cruising some 4000 miles through the Arabian Sea in convoy with about 35 other ships we arrived in Al'Aqabah Jordan. Next ports were Ashdod and Haifa in Israel on the Red Sea (No it's not red) then entered the Suez Canal through to the Med and visited the island of Santorini and finally docked in Piraeus in Greece for the culmination of the trip.

We then took a flight from Athens to Istanbul in Turkey. It is a surprising country which deserves a separate story at another time. A photo of our balloon flight over Cappodicia which involved a spectacular 150 balloons all flying at the same time. You should try this cruise for once in your lifetime experience.



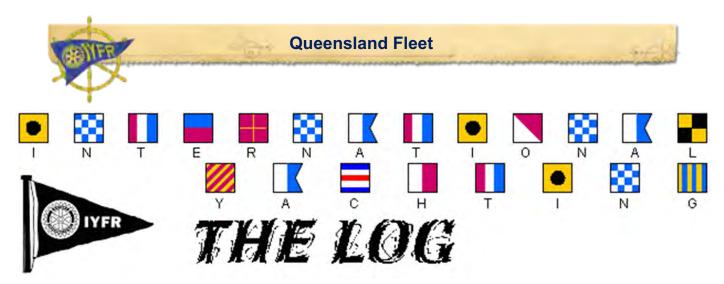












 $The International \ Yachting \ Fellowship \ of \ Rotarians \ is \ a \ group \ dedicated \ to \ promoting \ Yachting \ /Boating \ as \ an \ opportunity \ for \ fellowship.$ 

### Issue 10 - June 2015

### May Meeting - Colmslie Hotel/Motel 28 May, 2015

Commodore Pat Galligan welcomed 18 members, first mates and guests. First Mates were represented by Joan Bailey. Guests were Bruce and Beverly Tyrell and Bruce Fleming from the Brisbane Coast Guard and Andrew Campbell. Apologies were received from Bruce Dore, Bruce Douglas, Peter Heathwood, Bob Keers, John Odlum, John Penglis and Greg Windsor.

### <u>Past International Commodore Bert Collins</u>

Erwin Spork reported on a recent contact he had from PIC Bert Collins regarding correspondence Bert had had with the present International Commodore Sergio Santi.

### Report on the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race

PC Jim Fern gave a report on the recent Brisbane to Gladstone Race. The increasing cost of competing in the race was reflected in the small fleet numbers -31 monohulls and 16 multihulls. The breeze at the start was a 15 knot easterly and

and the fleet got off to a good start and Jim's boat, *Hasta La Vista*, was doing 20 knots when they passed Double Island Head. However, slamming into the big seas with a large reaching headsail set resulted in a broken prodder pole. Without the prodder pole a spinnaker couldn't be set and this slowed progress. The situation was compounded when at 05.30 on Saturday when they were close to Lady Elliot Is the wind dropped to 1 knot. But, Jim and his crew persevered and crossed the finish line in 9<sup>th</sup> place but last on handicap. Jim concluded by saying that he was looking forward to next year. Commodore Pat Galligan thanked Jim for his report and wished him well for next year's race.

#### <u>Australian Volunteer Coast Guard</u>

PC John Burkett introduced guest speaker Beverly Tyrell. Beverly is a member the Brisbane Coast Guard – QF2. Beverly described the operation of the flotilla which is based at the Manly boat harbour. The flotilla has 100 volunteer members and 10 vessels. Operations cover Moreton Bay and waters extending 50Kms offshore. Members are trained by the Dept. of Marine and are required to pass examinations to the Competent Crew level. Beverly described some of the rescues that the Brisbane Coast Guard has undertaken. On average they carry out one assist each day of the year. In bad weather they are often called on to make medical evacuations from islands when the patient can't be transported by air. During the 2011 Brisbane flood they provided rescue services and assistance to the police over several days operating in the Brisbane River upstream to the city centre. Their services have been recognised in the community and members of the flotilla have been awarded 44 Australia National Emergency Medals. When they are not engaged in rescue operations members are kept busy with boat maintenance, radio duties and training. Beverly's talk was illustrated by graphic photographs many of which were taken during operations.

PC David Cameron thanked Beverly for her talk and commented that as a boat owner it was comforting to know that the Coast Guard was on the job. This comment was warmly endorsed by those present.

#### Issue 9 - May 2014

### April Meeting - Colmeslie Hotel/Motel 30 April, 2015

**Commodore Pat Galligan** welcomed seven members. Apologies were received from Michael Bailey, John Burkett, Bruce Dore, John Ferguson, Jim Fern, John Odlum, Eddie Richards and Graeme Rylance.

#### ANZAC photographs and World War 1 Memories

**Commodore Pat Galligan** presented a slide show of ANZAC photographs and later in the meeting presented a short talk on the World War 1 memories of his family. PC Bob Keers thanked Commodore Pat for his presentations. Bob's comments were warmly supported.

#### **IYFR Rule Changes**

**Commodore Pat Galligan** led a discussion on the proposed amendments to the IYFR GENERAL RULES, IYFR PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS and IYFR FLAGS, UNIFORMS and BOATING PRACTICE. Each amendment was discussed in turn and voted on.

n all cases the vote was unanimously in favour of the proposed amendment. In several cases the vote in favour also recommended changes in the proposed wording. It was also recommended that several additional definitions were added to the GLOSSARY AND MEANINGS and INTERPRETATIONS & DEFINITIONS. An article numbering error was also found.

It was agreed the secretary Bob Greenelsh should advise RC Grahame Werrell the results of the voting and the recommendations.

#### Changes to the Queensland Fleet Rules

Secretary Bob Greenelsh advised the meeting that assuming that the proposed amendments to the IYFR Rules were accepted at the IYFR General Meeting at Sao Paulo on 8 June it will be necessary for amendments to be made to the Queensland Fleet Rules.

The required amendments are firstly, to change the designations of honorary member and life member to Associate member and Honorary member respectively and secondly, to modify the qualification for Commodore and Vice Commodore to allow for either an Associate member or a Honorary member to hold these positions.

It is proposed that a vote on the amendments will be held at the Fleet's meeting on Thursday 25 June.

#### Issue 8 - April 2015

### March Meeting - Colmslie Hotel/Motel 26 March, 2015

**Rear Commodore David Fox** welcomed 10 members and one First Mate – Joan Bailey. Apologies were received from David Cameron, John Ferguson, Pat Galligan, Peter Heathwood, John Penglis, Erwin Spork and Greg Windsor.

#### Tasmania Adventure

**Rear Commodore David Fox** introduced PC Bruce Dore and invited him to give a report on the recent trip to Tasmania. Highlights of the trip were shown on photos taken by Sheryl Windsor.

The trip to Tasmania was made by Bruce and Joanne Dore, Greg and Sheryl Windsor, Bruce and Heather Douglas, Bob Greenelsh and guests Don Cameron and Elizabeth Power.

Bruce began by describing the Wooden Boat Show and its related activities including restaurants and the combined IYFR meeting at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania. This was followed by an entertaining review of the post-Hobart tour beginning with a cool visit to the top of Mt. Wellington before driving to Strahan. Two nights were spent in Strahan to allow time for a boat trip on Macquarie Harbour and an inspection of the convict ruins on Sarah Is. After leaving Strahan the drive continued to Cradle Mountain with stops at the old mining towns of Zeehan, Rosebery and Waratah including museum inspections. The next day the team's fitness was tested by the walk around Dove Lake with frequent stops to admire the views. From there the drive proceeded in a generally north-westerly direction to Stanley which juts out into Bass Strait. One objective for the trip was for Sheryl to enjoy a lobster dinner and this box was ticked at Stanley. The next morning after a short trip to Smithton the tour turned east and headed for

Launceston with stops at Burnie and Penguin. After two nights at Launceston the tour concluded with a drive up the Tamar Valley to Beaconsfield, Low Head and George Town.

Bruce Douglas rounded off the talk by telling the story of "The Boat That Never Was" which led into a very interesting general discussion.

#### **Questions for Next Year**

**Rear Commodore David Fox** opened a discussion on possible Fleet activities for next year. In particular David would like to see more involvement of First Mates. Ideas being considered include: Sunday lunches, evening dinners and weekend events.

David also pointed out that the weather is an issue for boating

events at the northern end of The Bay.

Bruce Douglas described a successful Fleet adventure some years ago where dinghies were used to explore Breakfast Creek. Michael Bailey proposed a sightseeing trip on a CityCat followed by lunch. And, Bob Keers suggested that the Jazz Club would be a good venue for a Fleet function.

When he closed the discussion RC David Fox said that all ideas are welcome and he will be grateful for any suggestions.

#### **Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race News**

PC Jim Fern skippered *Hasta La Vista* in the multihull race and crossed the finish line on Sunday 5 April at 13.25. We look forward to Jim's report.











### 111th IYFR Dragon Fleet

By: FM Elvira Bautista

PP William Rogando of the Rotary Club of Manila of the Philippine's prime Rotary District 3810 received the Chartering Documents from IC Sergio Santi and IVC Jun Avecilla on behalf of Gov. Edmond Aguilar at the AGM Gala Dinner at the Hotel WZ Jardins on June 8, 2015 in Sao Paolo. Gov. Aguilar who unfortunately could not make it to the historic ceremony because of a last minute family emergency will assume as the Commodore and PP William as his Vice Commodore. Gov. Aguilar makes a milestone as the First Governor to assume as a Charter Commodore of a Fleet in the IYFR history and the first Charter done in the Gala Dinner at the IYFR AGM Convention. On June 25, 2015 Gov. Aguilar held the formal Induction Ceremonies of his Fleet and his Installation as well as that of his Bridge at the Golden Bay Fresh Seafood Palace In Pasay City that was Officiated by Incoming RC Oyie Valarao. FC Aguilar sees an expansion of Fleets in other regions in the Philippines and Southeast Asia and promised to use his influence to entice his peers of neighboring districts and to set up fleets in their respective clubs and places. He has also set the last Monday evening of each month as the Fleet Fellowship gathering occasion.











### Area 3 AGM in Auckland in Feb 2016

RC David Hansen has recently announced at the AGM in Sao Paolo the tentative Schedule of the Area 3 AGM starting with an Informal Meet and Greet followed by a dinner on February 3. The actual AGM will be in the morning of Feb 5 and Gala Dinner at the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron. Various activities on February 4 and 6 that include a harbour cruise on Ken Winter's Pacific Mermaid, Day on the water around the islands of the Hauraki Gulf, free days for shopping and sightseeing (list of suggestions will be available as well as Auckland Fleet members to help with transport and accompaniment if necessary), cocktails and dinners in interesting places. Culminating the event on February 7 will be a cocktails and Farewell dinner downtown. Official IYFR event at an end on February 8 but if delegates wish to travel to other places in NZ there will be plenty of information available but members need to make their own arrangements. Costings are being finalised and will be available as soon as possible by the next issue of the Rotafloat. Accordingly February 6-8 is a long weekend in celebration of Waitangi Day and it is the weekend of the Rugby League Nines competition...so the city will be busy and buzzing! David advises that it would be very helpful to have some indication of numbers if possible at this stage. We suggest bookings for flights be made sooner than later knowing The Nines are on and how much the Aussies love their League. Sergio and Laura have signified their intentions to attend travelling to the Philippines beforehand with Jun and Lil prior to Auckland. For more information: Contact David Hansen at davidlizhansen@gmail.com.

ONE THING IS CERTAIN AT THIS STAGE: THE DATES FEBRUARY 3-8, 2016. PLEASE MARK IT ON YOUR CALENDAR



Let me start this month of June with something more positive and refreshing than this very divisive BBL that has preoccupied us for several weeks now. June is a special month for a well known and highly esteemed international civic organization universally recognized under the now famous name of "Rotary International." For fellow Rotarians in the Philippines and all over the world, this month is the Rotary Fellowship Month. So it is timely and fitting to share with you today pieces of good news about the fellowship of Rotarians and what it has contributed to humanity and to the world we live in.

Actually, Rotary Clubs exist and grow stronger because of fellowship among their members particularly during their weekly meetings. But aside from this kind of fellowship, Rotarians band together because of shared interest in some activities, pastimes, arts, languages, and other programs or subjects. The first of this kind of Rotary Fellowship began

informally in 1928 when Rotarians with shared interest in language joined together. Then in 1947, Rotarian John G. Barrett of the Brixton Rotary Club of London, England, conceived the idea of flying a burgee bearing the Rotary emblem on the masthead of his boat. Thereafter, he enlisted the help of fellow Rotarians from his own club and other neighboring clubs and proposed a yachting association of Rotarians which later became known as "The Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians." The fellowship spread quickly all over Great Britain and eventually throughout the world, thus becoming "International." Now, there are 64 Fellowships with 36,938 members in more than 180 countries worldwide.

Commodore during the turnover ceremonies at a Gala Dinner in Hotel WZ Jardins, Sao Paolo. He will serve for two years from 2015-2017. A signal honor indeed not only for Filipino Rotarians but for all Filipinos.

For the Quezon City District 3780 especially for the Rotary Club of Cubao West (RCCW), this fellowship month is more special because one of its Past Presidents, Jesus, "June" E. Avecilla will be the first Asian and Filipino who will take the helm and become the head of the largest and the longest existing Rotary Fellowship — the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians (IYFR). At present there are already 3,264 members of 110 IYFR Fleets located in 36 countries and speaking 26 different languages. On June 8, 2015 "Jun" Avecilla will be installed as the 38th International Commodore during the turnover ceremonies at a Gala Dinner in Hotel WZ Jardins, Sao Paolo. He will serve for two years from 2015-2017. A signal honor indeed not only for Filipino Rotarians but for all Filipinos.

Jun Avecilla joined Rotary in 2005 and attended the Rotary International Convention in Chicago marking the 100th anniversary of the organization. At the convention, he got interested and joined the IYFR. So when he became president of RCCW in 2009, he formed the first IYFR fleet in the Philippines by enlisting the members of his club just like what John Barret did in 1947 in England. In a span of two years he was able to form four more Fleets with his fellow Presidents of the various club in District 3780 called the "Hands On" Fleet. Then other fleets in other clubs of the district were also formed, particularly the "Rainbow Connection" and Mabuhay fleet as well as in Mactan, Cebu under Rotary District 3860. Thus he was appointed Regional Commodore of the Philippine Fleets.

In succeeding years he formed other fleets in D-3780 called Silver Presidents, Peace Presidents, First Class Presidents fleets. In D 3860, he also organized the San Remigio Fleet followed by the Subic Bay fleet in D-3790 Fleets. Because of the phenomenal rise in the number of Philippine fleets, Jun Avecilla was unanimously elected as Rear Commodore of the International Bridge in 2011 until he became International Vice Commodore in 2013-2015.

Jun Avecilla's quick rise in the IYFR hierarchy was driven by his passion for sailing coupled with a genuine desire to help others. An avid sailor, keen competitor and a yacht racing champion, he combines the principles of Rotary with his love of boats and the seas. He uses the shared interest in yachting and seamanship as an opportunity to encourage and foster fellowship among Rotarians sharing his interests. IYFR's main advocacies consist of the preservation and appreciation of nature through the sea; environmental cleanliness and the preservation of coral reefs, clean waterways, and prevention of wanton disposal of garbage and non-biodegradable trashes which is crucial to Philippine biodiversity.

Recently the school received 6 FF15 sailboats to jumpstart the sailing school, donated by friends in the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club and shipped to Subic Bay. It now teaches underprivileged youths in Olongapo City how to sail and to upkeep the boats, so that someday, they may be able to use the skills acquired and gain employment as a crew or boat boys for maintaining yachts here and abroad. The other noteworthy project is the annual beach cleanup started in

2008 with 400 volunteers along the beachfront of the Waterfront Road at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone. Last year, the cleanup expanded in conjunction with the International Coastal Cleanup drive that drew over 55,000 volunteers from all walks of life. The clean up was carried out in 17 barangays in Olongapo City and 25 municipalities in the coastal towns of Zambales; from Subic Bay to Sta Cruz. It was the largest turnout of volunteers from all over the Philippines and is expected to get bigger every year because of the growing concern of the populace.

At the aftermath of Super typhoon Yolanda the Philippine Fleet was among the first responders to aid the displaced victims particularly in San Remigio in northern Cebu through the Cebu Fleet headed by RC Udo Pelkowski and FC Pros Schlackmuylders. IYFR was able to raise funds amounting to over \$60,000 coming from members and from the funds of the various fleets. They were utilized to build 63 fishing boats that were distributed to various qualified fishermen in the area who have lost their means of livelihood.

This month of June is also special for the IYFR because it will be the Chartering of its 111th Manila Dragon Fleet to be headed by District Governor Edmond Aguilar of the Rotary Club of Manila D-3810 as Fleet Commodore. This is historic because this is the first time that a current District Governor. will at the same time be the Commodore of a Fleet thanks to the initiative of Regional Commodore Oyie Valarao. The chartering ceremony will be officiated by International Commodore Sergio Santi of Italy at the Gala Dinner at the Hotel WZ Jardins in Sao Paolo, Brazil. To be inducted with Gov. Aguilar are his Vice Commodore William Rogando and Rear Commodore Johnson Tan. It is noteworthy that four out of the nine Districts in the Philippines have membership in the IYFR in line with Jun Avecilla's vision to have an IYFR Fleet in the country's every district. With the enthusiasm of Gov. Aguilar who promises to help encourage his peers in forming more fleets in other districts particularly in Mindanao, this may soon become a reality.

As more and more officers and members of Rotary Clubs in the Philippines embark on the IYFR ship, the humanitarian fellowship among them is bound to reach new heights!









#### **EDITOR'S FINAL NOTE**

The past three months was the most hectic yet memorable and eventful quarter of the year for me. Lil and my odometer would have logged over 140,000 kilometers combined by the time we got home. That was usually the total of our travel for several years and there are six months and more expected travel to go.

Anyway the journeys are rewarding with unforgettable experiences in meeting new acquaintances and being into places where Lil and I have never been before: starting with Area 1 AGM in Naples on April 23-27 with PCCs in the Islands of Capri and Ischia. Thereafter a long drive to Southern Italy with Sergio and Laura where stayed at a quaint 'Agroturirmo Ristorante' resort called Masseria Lacco in Lecce that is owned by their close friends. We drove further to scenic Taranto and Brindisi where we were joined by FRC Vincenzo and Eleanora Glase and took a ferry to Augumenitsa on April 29 for the Chartering of the first and historic Hellenic Ionian Fleet in Preveza, Greece on April 30. We stayed in Preveza up to May 3 enjoying excursions in Lefkada, in picturesque town of Parga and historic sites in Acherontas and Nicropoli. The Grecian expeditions were culminated by a five hour bus trip from Preveza to Athens. As we have never been there before, we spent a couple of extra days to tour the beautiful ancient city of Acropolis and its modern port of Piraeus. In Athens we were treated to special evening by Katerina and her husband George and Zeev to savor the traditional Greek meal in some best kept secret dining place in the old town. The side trips always prolong the whole excursions to take the opportunity to visit some old friends and relatives here and there as we stopped over in Dubai before the whole trip ended and were back in Manila on May 9.

Fate had it that the retina in my left eye had detached that I had to undergo an immediate vitrectomy on May 23 two days before Lil and I were supposed to leave to the US on May 25 on the way to Brazil for the AGM and PCC in Sao Paolo. As everything had been pre planned and booked Lil went ahead while my being able to leave hanged in destiny. Fortunately my doctor had given me the clearance to go two weeks after the surgery and I was able to make it to Sao Paolo in the morning of June 8 barely making the start of the AGM. After the convention we had a pleasurable four days PCC in Paraty, Angra Reis and Rio de Janeiro thereafter we flew to Houston to visit my siblings and then to Seattle where our eldest daughter Avery and her husband Christian with our three grandkids just recently moved from St. Louis to Bellevue. The eye was periodically giving discomfort but otherwise also getting better in time.

The trip to Seattle accorded me the acquaintance and fruitful meeting with most friendly George Futas a Past Commodore of the Seattle Mariners Fleet who is now its Secretary. He assured me of his continuous invaluable services administering the bank account with Wells Fargo for Area 2, the annual registration of the IYFR in the State of Washington and to help to improve the relationship and rapport with the North America Fleets. He introduced and brought me to Past Commodore Mike Obyrne and his lovely wife Penny in their beautiful home by Lake Washington. There we had talked among other things matters of common passion about sailing and racing; his cruises to Alaska and victory in the renowned San Francisco Hawaii Trans Pacific Regatta on his Cal 40 Boomerang that was parked at a pier in their own backyard. By no means his magnificent Trans Pacific feat dwarfed my offshore triumphs in my Beneteau First 36.7 in our annual 200 mile Subic Bay to Boracay International Race although we have won it three times. I was fortunate that George and Mike were able pull some strings to get me into their already fully booked Rotary Club President's Party for their outgoing Tom Betts that the Seattle Rotary Mariners annually host at the Seattle Yacht Club and had the great opportunity to meet Past International Commodore Bill Robinson and his charming wife Katia. We had the chance to discuss briefly Bill serious concerns in the Fellowship that both of us fully understand. The conversation with Katia was very pleasant, relaxed and enjoyable ranging on various interests that perhaps helped diffused Bill's misgivings and enlivened my evening. I thank all of them for their warm welcome, courtesy, hospitality and support.

It was also a pleasure to meet amiable FC Fedva Dickmen and seated at our table, Sue McNab, a world class sailor, having also sailed in the far north – among the ice channels in Northern Canada on expeditions and with Mike in his boat. I mentioned about our Philippine Regattas that she and Mike are welcome and perhaps in the future join. Commodore Paul Taggart of the Yacht Club graciously gave me a complete tour of its facilities and even invited my grandchildren to join their sailing program.

We've rendezvoused with Roger and Glenda in Los Angeles where they were staying in a place in Redondo Beach on a home exchange. This is also the last leg of their trip after two months all over the U.S. highlighted by their 6 weeks journey from Chicago tracing the historic Route 66 ending in Sta. Monica California. I have discussed with Roger as he is good in planning to help on the 2016 PCC in Seoul and he readily graciously agreed.

We've had a great weekend on Saturday June 27 with FC Roger McGonegal, PFC Gary Hickman and Guy Harden who took us on a boat ride around the Balboa, Lido, Harbor, Collins and Bay islands in Newport Harbor in his Duffy 18 Electric boat that is so popular in the bay with literally thousands of them in various sizes from 16 to 22 feet while sipping Champagne and enjoying the cruise before a sumptuous lunch at the historic Cannery Seafood of the Pacific Restaurant. Roger, Glenda Lil and I truly enjoyed the unique and wonderful experience and thank them so much for the gracious hospitality and fellowship.

We also met Roger's friend Ed and Terry Kushins who run HomeExchange in Hermosa Beach and had a nice Sunday morning stroll in the around the boardwalk and pier and brunch at nearby popular Hennesy's Café. Ed is a keen sailor and we got him interested to join the IYFR

and I promised to give him an introduction to the Newport Fleet. He has a handful of sailing co-Rotarians in Hermosa Rotary Club that he may eventually start a squadron or a fleet there which is the good fruit of the acquaintance.

In between and during the travels we had completed the arduous process putting together and voting on the Proposed Amendments to the General Rules that I chair as mandated by the GR. The salient introductions are: 1) When necessary the IYFR may be registered in other countries by the incoming EC for purposes of opening a bank account in the name of the IYFR. 2) The CPC may investigate matters of a serious and well-founded concern about any aspect of operation, administration or finances of IYFR. 3) The ITR to submit the final balance sheet and income and expenditure account for each year no later than September the 30<sup>th</sup> for approval. and well-founded concern about any aspect of operation, administration or finances of IYFR. 3) The ITR to submit the final balance sheet and income and expenditure account for each year no later than September the 30<sup>th</sup> for approval. 4) A Region may adopt and subsequently amend its own rules for the Region itself and the Fleets provided that such rules shall not conflict with the General Rules. 5) The position of FC may be held by a Past Commodore, Past Rotarian, Honorary or Associate member or a Rotaractor for limited period of time or a maximum term of two years subject to some proviso. 6) Introduction of Associate Members 7) E-Fleet members (EM) and temporary berths in the World E-Fleet. 8) The incoming IC establishes and Chairs the Council on Legislation comprising the Voting Panel. And 9) The amendments to the Procedures and Regulations and Flags, Uniforms and Boating Practice that were mere logical amendments. The statistics showed that all the Amendments passed overwhelmingly.

As an IYFR chapter draws to a close and a new one is about to begin I wish to acknowledge and thank IC Sergio for all his hard works, dedication and leadership resulting in many great accomplishments for the Fellowship. His numerous achievements set the bar to new heights that would be a hard act to follow. Although a few would not agree with him on the way he steered the ship he was steadfast in what he believes is good for the many and the organization. And whatever his detractors may say he has safely and soundly brought the ship into the port in a new horizon. I have known Sergio over the years as a person who means well and is a man full of good intentions. I respect his decisions in the same manner as he respects and values my opinions. His ultimate policy has been: unless there is total agreement in the EC and that goes with Guillermo's concurrence too, no issue will pass. I am proud to have been his wingman and to say that he is like a brother to me. As he passes the Command I expect no less than his help and support in return. I am delighted to work with and welcome IRCA1C Bob Burns, our ITR Andre Gorgemans, Webmaster Lugi Norsa and all the members of the previous international Bridge and Staff that are continuing to help with the new one that I am sure will not mind if I no longer mention their names. I thank Nani for standing by his man and for the friendship and fraternal love accorded to Lil and myself.

Sergio has plotted and laid down good waypoints during his watch. I intend to follow and continue the course and may the seas be calm in our next journey. There might be storms and high seas that we may encounter along the way but we will certainly try avoid it so that we can all enjoy a smooth ride. My credo is harmony and peace in all the Areas, that we are united as one in the true spirit of Rotary in one big happy ship. Let us all enjoy the fellowship, friendship and fraternity and have nothing but Fun Fun.

The Final Note meant that this is my last article as the Editor of our Newsletter which I've held for the past two years. I thank Zeev Matar for graciously accepting the challenge to take over the job. I know Zeev with his great enthusiasm and imagination aside from his excellent writing skills will give us exciting new editions of Rotafloat. I thank the Editorial Staffs for their superb services and trust them to continue to extend the same to their new boss. As we are in our flight headed for home on June 30 this edition would have been out and I hope that everyone is enjoying the read.

I present here the Bridge for 2015-2017 for everyone's guidance and information. Sail On. MABUHAY!

#### **INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE 2015-2017**

Jesus E. Avecilla (Philippines)
International Commodore

| Guillermo Arteta (Argentina)<br>International Vice Commodore, A2C                          | Robert Burns (Great Britain)<br>International Rear Commodore, A1C   | Kerran Campbell (Australia)<br>Area 3 Commodore | Sergio Santi (Italy)<br>International Past Commodore      |
|--|---|---|---|
| Maximiano R. Tan (Philippines)<br>Chief of Staff   | Jayson Herrero (Philippines)<br>Area 3 Bank Administrator/Treasurer   |   | Angie Mesistrano (Uruguay)<br>Special Assistant           |
| Zedrik T. Avecilla (Philippines) Administrative Officer                                    | Bryan Skinner (GB&I) IYFR Grants Chairman   |   | Oyie Valarao (Philippines)<br>Special Assistant           |
| Jose C. Sison (Philippines)<br>Legal Advisor   | Ken Winter (New Zealand) Historian  Roger Lingard (Australia) Public Relations Officer PCC Affairs  Regalia Officers Area 1 Bob Burns (GB&I) Area 2 Christian Datol (USA) Area 3 Jayson Herrero (Philippines)  Zeev Matar (Israel) Special Assistant/Rotafloat Editor |   | Terry Stretton (New Zealand)<br>Special Assistant/Advisor |
| Luigi Norsa (Italy)  |   |   | David Hansen (New Zealand)<br>Special Assistant           |
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| Paolo Pengson (Philippines)<br>Assistant Webmasters  |   |   | Piotr Pajdowski (Poland)<br>Special Assistant             |
| André Gorgemans (Switzerland)<br>International Treasurer                                   |   |   | Pat Galligan (Australia)<br>Special Assistant             |
| George Futas (USA)<br>Area2 Bank Administrator/Treasurer<br>North America Region Commodore |   |   | Grahame Werrell (Australia)<br>Special Assistant          |

