

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YACHTING FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARIANS

ROTA FLOAT

JUNE 2016 ISSUE NO. 102





JESUS 'JUN' AVECILLA
INTERNATIONAL COMMODORE
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
June 2016

Time flies so quickly that a year has gone as if almost unnoticed so that I've come to realize that I am already halfway through my term as the IC. It seems just like yesterday when we had the turnover in Sao Paolo and since then participation in numerous and memorable events. Lil and I had been flying from here to there as if taking taxi, to be present in Chartering occasions, Area Meeting in Auckland and latest the AGM in Seoul as well as so many other duties and obligation also in my own country, hosting the first ever visits of IPIC Sergio and Laura, A3C Kerran and Carol with the objectives of fostering good relationship and camaraderie, enhancing our Fellowship and sharing our common ideals and values.

Seoul AGM 28th May – 2nd June

Very pleased to meet and welcome VC Guillermo & Monica Arteta who could make it coming to participate in the Annual IYFR event after over 30-hour long journey from Argentina, as well as IRC Bob & Ann Burns who had made a long trip from Scotland but wisely stopped over in Japan for a few days to complete the EC. Warm greetings to Puerto Varas, Chile FC Walter Eaglehurst and his proud Sea Scouts who had attracted huge crowd in their well decorated booth adjoining with ours that had many visitors from Rotarians and Mariners from all over the globe with their Bosun's whistle call exhibition at regular intervals at the HOF (House of Friendship).

We had welcomed visits from the Japan Fleets, Hong Kong Fleet, and Philippine Fleets, been attended by the largest delegation coming from the region headed by RC Oyie Valarao and her RVCs Edmond Aguilar, Joe Ragos and Joel Guillermo. We had a wonderful surprise to meet in our booth our friend from Greece, Katerina Kotsali-Papadimitriou the incoming Hellenic Aegean Fleet FC to be chartered in Piraeus coming July 1-3, who was committed to Rotary participation.

Our AGM was held at the Baiton Hotel attended by 26 Iyforians. Our three Areas represented by IVC Guillermo A2 Commodore, IRC Bob A1 Commodore, RC Oyie for Kerran A3 Commodore. After the IC's delivery of his "Year in Review" each Area Commodore had given a short brief about his area. A3T Jayson presented IT Andre's Report. Various issues were discussed that concerns the Fellowship including the more important collection of outstanding dues from delinquent Fleets/Members.

As IC I call for all our Area/Region and Fleet Commodores to address official note with urgent request to all the Fellowship members who have not yet paid the dues to settle the payments as soon as possible. The dues are important for our International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians activities and objectives along each year especially in our grants program.

Digital recordings of the minutes were made and are being transcribed for posting in our Website for the information for everyone interested in.

Our final night event was held as a nice and memorable Dinner Cruise in Han River of 40 Mariners who have booked on time, unfortunately not being able to have more friends due to a fully booked and limited slots in the boat. There was a short presentation after the cruise where the IC has given an IC Award/Citation to IS Cesare Ortis for his kind help and arrangements of the AGM, FM Youngshin Watkins for her help in organizing the PCC and FC Walter Eaglehurst for his leadership and dedication in establishing the Sea Scouts of Chile.

PCC tour in Busan and Yeosu - 2nd - 5th June

We had 14 Mariners and their mates (myself and Lil, IVC Guillermo & Monica, IRC Bob & Ann, Dr. Armando Sanchez & Gigi Avecilla-Ayeras, Roberto & Monica Celenteno, Mac & Julie Ayers, PFC Josie Garcia & Fiona Taylor) for a PCC tour in Busan and Yeosu. It was a fantastic organized four days and three night's tour to be underlined as very interesting and cheerful tour.



We had stayed in nice Sea cloud Resort Hotel overlooking Haeundae Beach and the new Mstay Hotel in the center of Naju. Despite the small number we had a wonderful experience sightseeing south of South Korea such as the Busan Tower, the APEC Village, the BIFF Celebrity Street, Fish Market, United Nations Memorial cemetery, Admiral Yi's full size model of turtle ship featuring a museum culminated by a cruise in Yeosu Bay thru the Dolsan Bridge and the Big O ocean fountain show ending with a magnificent fireworks display before returning to the dock. We had enjoyed sumptuous buffets of kimchi's and Korean foods and barbecues for lunches and dinners doused with wines and beers and travelling in an exclusive 49 seated limousine bus all by ourselves that made the 4 to 5-hour sight-seeing journey to and from Seoul and in between more relaxing and pleasurable hours.

INCOMING IYFR APPOINTMENTS

In the waypoints ahead after the Hellenic Aegean Fleet Chartering in July, the 2nd Fleet in Greece organized by indefatigable Hellenic Ionian Fleet FVC Katerina is the Annual gathering between the US Fleets and the Canadian Fleet dubbed "Hands Across the Border Rendezvous" on its 35th year to be held in Victoria, Canada on August 19-21 organized by the IYFR Vancouver Island Fleet headed by Commodore Ernie Urdal at the historic Downtown Lawn Bowling Club near the Inner Harbour "where all-white dress is still used, and will go along nicely with our formal IYFR uniforms". Saturday August 20, "When the sun gets low in the sky, we'll head inside to the tune of Cap'n Charlie, a lively and comical musician with a nautical theme, who will be providing our pre- and post-dinner entertainment. For dinner we'll be roasting an animal with all the fixins, and we're hot on the trail of a slow moving animal, which hopefully doesn't get too much faster before August! Contenders so far include lama, lamb, wild boar, ostrich (this one might get away). We'll be dining in formal mess dinner style, with the tables set out in fingers, and an after dinner port will be passed along in decanters! Sunday morning you can poke your heads out to your front row seats of the Harbor Ferry ballet which happens at 10am, with 5 little boats doing choreographed "dancing" to music!" All the quotes from Ernie sound exciting and inviting. Following that on October 7-9 IRC Bob announces the A1GM in Potsdam, Germany being organized by German Regional Secretary and PRC Eckhardt Fisher. Just recently PRC Eckhardt announced with sadness the closing down the German Fleet Weser-Jade.

Further down the road is the 2nd South America AGM which according to FC Walter will happen in April 2017 in Punta del Este, Uruguay after the successful 1st AGM held in Buenos Aires, Argentina this year that was organized by IVC Guillermo and RC Angie Mesistrano. Thereafter to culminate my term will be the RI Convention and AGM in Atlanta in June 2017. Cesare will work with my sister Gigi and her mate Dr. Armando who happen to live in Atlanta and will scout the hotels and places for our usual Meet and Greet, AGM and Farewell to guarantee that everyone attending will have a good and memorable time. For the PCC, RC Gary More with Chair Roger Lingard will lead the Emerald Coast Fleet and the Mobile Bay Compass Rose Fleet in planning and hosting the PCC in their area. In the burners are most likely lodging on Pensacola Beach with outings to historic Pensacola, FL (claimed to be the oldest settlement in the country) and perhaps historic Mobile, Alabama (home of Mardi Gras), and the quaint bayside village of Fairhope on Mobile Bay. Sailing, fishing, etc. in the Pensacola area are reported to be very enjoyable and will be explored. The Naval Air Station in Pensacola is where IPIC Sergio Santi had his flight training and earned his flight wings that would be 50 years or in the golden jubilee in 2017. I do hope that my brother IPIC Sergio Santi will be able to work something or pull some strings with the Naval Air Commander when we are there to commemorate the visit. Gary promises many options available to the PCC participants and we are excited to await more details and finalize the plans as soon as possible.

Please mark your calendars and sail on!



PHOTO GALLERY SOUTH KOREA AGM AND PCC

Our Sea Scouts from Chile and IYFR Booth



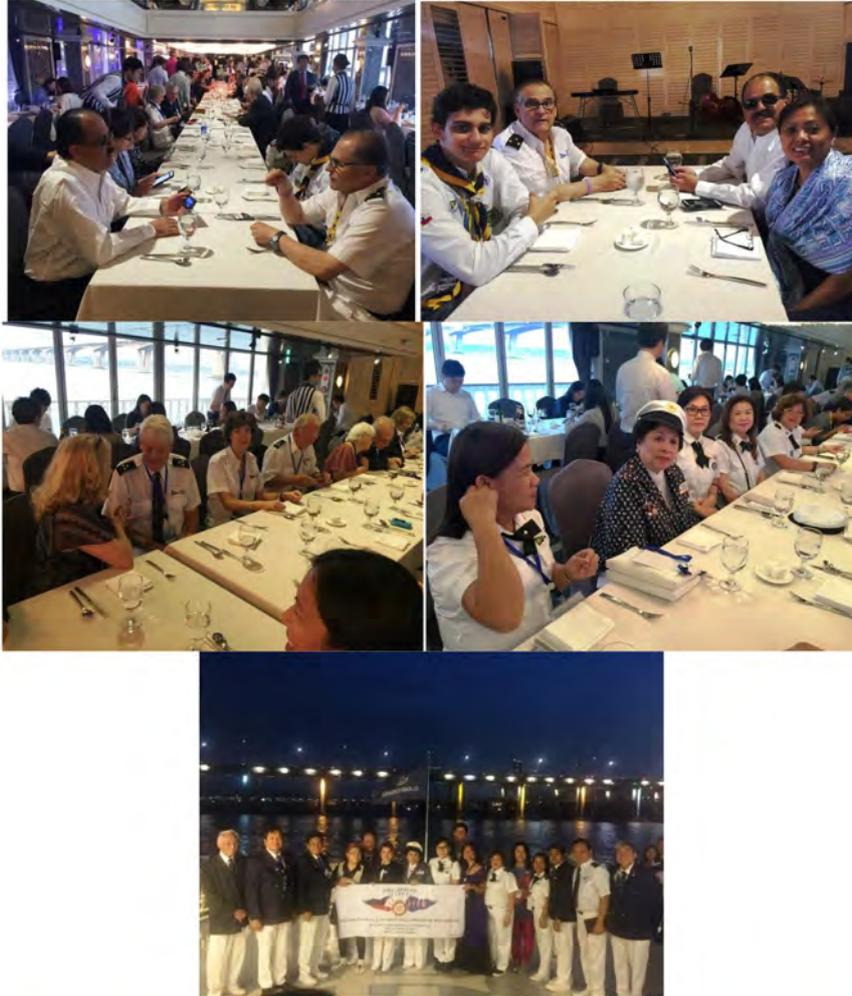


The Annual General Meeting





AGM FORMAL DINNER/HAN RIVER CRUISE



IC AWARDS



PCC Tour in Busan and Yeosu



TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL COMMODORE'S MESSAGE	1
INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE 2015-2017	8
IYFR SPECIAL EVENT	
AREA 1 MEETING IN POTSDAM GERMANY	10
CHARTERING ANNOUNCEMENT	
- GREECE HELLENIC AEGEAN FLEET	15
AREA 1 - IYFR SPECIAL EVENTS	
1ST ADRIATIC & IONIAN FLEETS	
MEETING IN BUDVA	20
GALA DINNER	26
SAILING DAY IN KOTOR BAY	35
AREA 1 NEWS	
AMERIGO VESPUCCI	45
A VERY SPECIAL SURPRISE	46
A LONG AWAITED FOR MEETING	49
ITALY - NORTH WEST FLEET	53
ITALY NORTHERN ADRIATIC FLEET	60
POLAND GIZYCKO FLEET	62
POLAND - TRAINING SAILING CENTRE	
FOR ROTARIANS	68
AREA 2- IYFR SPECIAL EVENTS	
SOUTH AMERICA AGM	71
IYFR MEETING SEOUL - KOREA	77
AREA 2 NEWS	
CANADA VANCOUVER ISLAND FLEET	
HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER	80
CHILE - CAPE HORN	81
AREA 3 NEWS	
JAPAN FLEETS	87
EDITORS NOTE	
PHOTOGRAPHY	91
SAILOR SONGS - JACK THE SAILOR	92
HISTORICAL TALL SHIPS	94
JAMES CRAIG TALL SHIP	97



ABOUT THE COVER

Cover picture was taken in Perast during the sailing day in Kotor Bay by Fatih Akçiçek FC Izmir Fleet - Turkey

During the 1st Adriatic & Ionian IYFR Fleets meeting in Budva / Montenegro the Fellowship had a Sailing day in Kotor Bay on this splendid Turkish gullet built 18 years ago in Budrom / Turkey.



INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE 2015-2017

Jesus E. Avecilla (Philippines)
International Commodore

Guillermo Arteta (Argentina)
International Vice Commodore, A2C

Robert Burns (Great Britain)
International Rear Commodore, A1C

Kerran Campbell (Australia)
Area 3 Commodore

Sergio Santi (Italy)
Immediate International Past Commodore
Chief of Staff

Maximiano R. Tan (Philippines)
IC Executive Assistant

Jose C. Sison (Philippines)
Legal Advisor

Angie Mesistrano (Uruguay)
IC Special Assistant S.A.

Zedrik T. Avecilla (Philippines)
Administrative Officer

Roger Lingard (Australia)
Public Relations Officer
Chair PCC Affairs

Terry Stretton (New Zealand)
IC Special Assistant/Advisor

André Gorgemans (Switzerland)
International Treasurer

Cesare Ortis
International Convention Chair

Carlo d'Amore (Spain)
IC Special Assistant

George Futas (USA)
Area2 Bank Administrator/Treasurer
North America Region Commodore

Bryan Skinner (GB&I)
IYFR Grants Chairman

Oyie Valarao (Philippines)
IC Special Assistant

Ken Winter (New Zealand)
Historian

David Hansen (New Zealand)
IC Special Assistant

Jayson Herrero (Philippines)
Area 3 Bank Administrator/Treasurer

Ann Lockhart (GB & I) Area 1
Christian Datol (Philippines) Area 2
Jayson Herrero (Philippines) Area 3
Regalia Officers

Kozo Kajino (Japan)
IC Special Assistant

Luigi Norsa (Italy)
Web Administrator/Webmaster

Vincenzo Rinaldi (Italy)
IC Special Assistant /
Adriatic Fleets Coordinator

Piotr Pajdowski (Poland)
IC Special Assistant

Juan Paolo Villain Vioria (Philippines)
Fernando Khan (Argentina)
Assistant Webmasters

Zeev Matar (Israel)
IC Special Assistant/Rotafloat Editor

Grahame Werrell (Australia)
IC Special Assistant



First Row: (L-R) Jesus Avecilla, Guillermo Arteta, Robert Burns, Kerran Campbell ,Sergio Santi
Second Row: Maximiano Tan, Zedrik Avecilla , Andre Gorgemans, George Futas, Jayson Herrero
Third Row: Luigi Norsa, Juan Pablo Villoria, Jose Sison, Roger Lingard, Cesare Ortis
Fourth Row: Bryan Skinner, Ken Winters, Ann Lockhart, Christian Datol, Zeev Matar
Fifth Row: Vincenzo Rinaldi, Angie Mesistrano, Carlo d'Amore, Gloriosa Valarao, Terry Stretton
Sixth Row: David Hansen, Kozo Kajino, Piotr Pajdowski , Pat Galligan, Grahame Werrell

IYFR AREA 1 MEETING

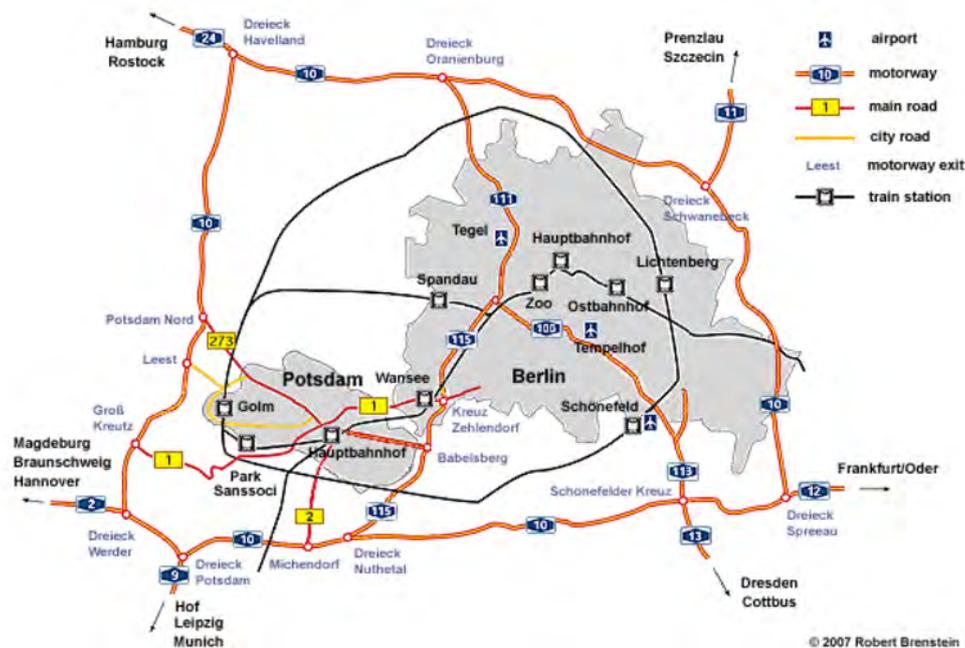
7th-9th October 2016

Potsdam – Germany



On behalf of Robert Burns, IRC and A1 C we announce the official program of Area 1 Annual Meeting of IYFR

Potsdam is the capital and largest city of the German Federal state of Brandenburg. It directly borders the German capital Berlin and is part of the Berlin/Brandenburg Metropolitan Region. Potsdam is situated on the River Havel, 24 km. southwest of Berlin's city center





Program
IYFR Area 1 Meeting
in Potsdam – Germany

Friday **October 7, 2016**



Till 1600 Individual arrival at **Kongresshotel Potsdam**
<http://www.kongresshotel-potsdam.de>

1645 Meeting point in the lobby of **Kongresshotel Potsdam**



1700 – 2100 **Boat Tour with MS Potsdam from/to Kongresshotel**
Buffet on board



2100 – until late at the Hotel Bar

Saturday October 8, 2016

0945 Meeting point in the lobby of **Kongresshotel Potsdam**



1000 – 1600 **Guided bus tour Potsdam from/to Kongresshotel**
with lunch break



1630 – 1900 **Area 1 General Meeting – Kongresshotel**
for IYFoRians only



1930 – until late **Kongresshotel – Gipfel – Stüberl: Oktoberfest Buffet – Bayerische Brotzeit**



Costs for Friday and Saturday - without beverages

p/p Euro 165,00



**IYFR Area 1 Meeting
Optional Program on Sunday**
- Minimum participants: 40 -

Sunday October 9, 2016

0945 Meeting point in the lobby of **Kongresshotel Potsdam**



1000 – 1600 **Sightseeing Tour City of Berlin from/to Kongresshotel**



Including **Asisi Panorama Berlin – Check Point Charlie**
<http://www.asisi.de/de/panoramen/the-wall/photo-gallery-de.html>



Reichstag – House of German Parliament (Bundestag)
followed by lunch break in „Käfer Dachgarten-Restaurant“
on the top of the Reichstag
<http://www.feinkost-kaefer.de/berlin>

Costs excluding lunch break (on your own expense) p/p Euro 40,00



Program
IYFR Area 1 Meeting
in Potsdam – Germany

Notes:

Hotel reservation has to be made individually with Kongresshotel Potsdam

with an extra booking form **Hotel reservation IYFR Area 1 Meeting EN.doc**
Double room comfort: Euro 95,00; single room: Euro 65,00; Breakfast included

Travel Information / Airport Service Berlin-Schönefeld and Berlin-Tegel
can be found on the website of Kongresshotel Potsdam.

Obligatory registration and money transfer

have to be made until **July 31, 2016** with

PRC Hans-Georg Führer - e-mail: hg.fuehrer@t-online.de

All costs have to be transferred to:

Hans-Georg Fuehrer "IYFR AGM"

BIC NOLADE21PSW

IBAN DE28 1505 0400 3210 0117 95

JOIN ALL OF US IN POTSDAM

**PARTICIPATE IN THE GATHERING MEETING OF OUR
IYFR FELLOWSHIP**

JOIN YOUR FLEET FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS

SEE YOU IN POTSDAM



GRECCE HELLENIC AEGEAN FLEET

**CHARTERING EVENT
1-3 July 2016**



THE OFFICIAL INVITATION



International
Yachting
Fellowship of
Rotarians

**INTERNATIONAL YACHTING FELLOWSHIP OF
ROTARIANS
CHARTERING OF THE
HELLENIC AEGEAN FLEET**

3 days Program

Organizer: Rotary Club Koropi

Friday, July 1st, 2016

Nautical Athletic League (NAL) – Salty

1 Akti Koumoundourou, Mikrolimano, Piraeus

Time 21:00, phone: +30 210 4174395

Chartering of the Hellenic Aegean Fleet

It will be a special ceremony according to IYFR procedures. International Commodore Jun Avecilla from the Philippines, and officers of IYFR from many other countries will honor the ceremony with their presence.

A splendid dancing program will follow the Chartering event.

The souvenirs of the evening are created by the artist Takis Mastrantonis.

Dinner price 25 Euro.

**We look forward to the pleasure
of your company!**

**Fleet Commodore
Katerina Kotsali-Papadimitriou**

**Fleet Secretary
Evita Kargioti**



Saturday, July 2nd, 2016

Sightseeing in Athens

Join us in a wonderful sightseeing tour in Athens center,
Monastiraki, Parthenon,
Lykabettus or Sounio.



Sunday, July 3rd, 2016

One Day Cruise for IYFR members & friends Hydra, Poros & Aegina

We depart at 08.00 a.m. heading to the three beautiful islands of the Saronic Gulf.

Hydra, the favorite island of the jet set, whose old traditional beautiful stone houses and mansions silently witness to a long and turbulent story. The small narrow stone paved streets await you to explore them on foot or by the island's traditional "vehicle" the saddled donkeys... captivating walks along the old seaside promenade crystal clear waters, radiant fine craft shops and the beauty of Hydra will conquer you!

Our stay in Hydra is about 2 hours.

Poros, although it is the smallest of the three islands that we visit, its attraction is the narrow strait offering a most enchanting view of the town of Poros.

Our stay in Poros is about 1 hour.

Aegina, is the largest of the three islands. Apart from its harbor, there are optional organized tours by air conditioned busses visiting the Temple of Afea (archeological site) or the Church of Saint Nektarios, whose relics are display. The above mentioned tours are optional and are sold onboard. **Our stay in Aegina is about 2 hours.**

On our way back to Marina Flisvos, a traditional Greek folk show with singers and dancers will entertain you up to the final moment as the ship arrives at Marina Flisvos.

Price per person 50 Euros



We Will Be Glad To Join Us!

We would like to suggest you the **President Hotel**, which is offering the double room at 88€, mentioning **Rotary**.

43 Kifisias Av., Athens 115 23, Greece

Phone: +30 210 6989000

president@president.gr

<http://president.gr/?lang=el>



For participation or further information please contact:

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Z-YACHTING *Owner Charter*

www.z-yachting.gr



1st ADRIATIC & IONIAN FLEETS MEETING IN BUDVA

**BUDVA – MONTENEGRO
22-25 April 2016**

PRIMO INCONTRO DELLE FLOTTE DEL MARE ADRIATICO & MARE IONICO

The 1st Meeting of the fleets of the Adriatic sea with the participation of 3 Italian fleets, one Slovenian, one Croatian and one Greek, from three regions: Region of Italy (including Albania), Region of the Balkans (Slovenia and Croatia) and the Region of Turkey-Israel-Greece (Greece is the sponsor of Montenegro) had been accomplished with great success



IYFR meetings are marked by our Fellowship gathering in friendship and harmony, as the one we had passed in the wonderful state of Montenegro.

Participation of Fleets members from Croatia, Great Britain, Greece, Israel, Italy, Slovenia and Turkey had crowned this gathering as successful 3 days.



23 April 2016 Meeting



Twinning ISEF with HIF Montenegro Squadron & Albanian Squadron Chartering

The IYFR AGM had taken place on Saturday 23rd April 2016 in Budva Hotel giving importance to Fleets brotherhood of the famous two neighboring seas, which during history had known sea battles between opposite national naval fleets causing bloodshed and death.

The scope of our meeting was the intent to create the basis of new collaboration between Fleets from various nations in "local area" within Area 1. The message of the meeting was a strong call to promote global events of various regional fleets which compose our Area.

It was twinning promotion between the South East Fleet of Italy with the Hellenic Ionian Fleet chartered last year in Preveza as well as Chartering event of two new Squadrons of Budva - Montenegro and Albania

Our second day was dedicated to IYFR scoop of presence to strength our fellowship by the initiative of our friends from the South East Fleet headed by FC Vincenzo PIRATO and RC Vincenzo RINALDI which is appointed IC Special Assistant & Adriatic Fleets Coordinator.

We owe this meeting to our friend Vincenzo RINALDI who had given his time with dedication and infinite coordination work to bring this meeting to be successful and joyful event, receiving from IRC Bob Burns official certificate assignment as IC Special Assistant & Adriatic Fleets Coordinator signed by IC Jesus "Jun" Avecilla.

Presidency meeting was formed by IRC & Area1 Commodore Robert (Bob) BURNS, FC Vincenzo PIRATO, RC Vincenzo RINALDI & RC Budva President Krsto Niklanović.

All the gathered participants had paid tribute to the playing hymns of Montenegro and Rotary. Mariners & Officers and new becoming IYFR Fellowship members had been united and devoted to the message of friendship, sharing the new horizons opened for the area fleets activities under IYFR burgee, agreeing with the addressed messages by Robert BURNS, Vincenzo PIRATO and Vincenzo RINALDI.

The attended twinning ceremony had seen Vincenzo PIRATO as South East Fleet from Italy signing with SC Hellenic Ionian Fleet Efstratios ADAM the charter headed by IRC & Area1 Commodore Robert (Bob) BURNS

The chartering of the new Squadron of Budva was of a particular moment as all of our 1st meeting participants coming from abroad had felt the warm and friendly welcome reserved by our new incoming IYFR Budva friends.

The Budva squadron as part of the Ionian Fleet had been chartered by our IRC & Area1 Commodore Robert (Bob) BURNS and signed by SC Krsto Niklanović while all founding members present during the ceremony had received personal charter document.

Last chartering event was reserved to the new Albanian Squadron being part of the South East Fleet of Italy. The new Squadron was chartered by our IRC & Area1 Commodore Robert (Bob) BURNS and signed by SC Antonino Fischetti.

Among us was present Cesare Fermi, representative of INTERSOS, who illustrated and clarified the role of INTERSOS in Italy and in various operations in worldwide. Cesare had emphasized upon the collaboration with the Italian Government and the recent interventions in Greece, to support the activities for refugees migration describing problems including media support, to the clinic project of Crotone.

The session had followed by screening presentation of each Fleet from data numbers of its members, to Fleet activities followed by ideas and proposals to perform for the coming Area meetings.





From Left to right
FC Vincenzo PIRATO South East Fleet Italy IRC & Area1 Commodore Robert (Bob) BURNS
SC Hellenic Ionian Fleet Efstratios ADAM



From Left to right
Dragan BOSKOVIĆ, SC Krsto NIKLANOVIĆ, IRC & Area1 Commodore Robert (Bob) BURNS,
Miroslav RADENOVIĆ, Velibor ZOLAK, Aleksandar JOVANOVIĆ



From Left to right
FC Vincenzo PIRATO South East Fleet Italy, SC Antonino Fischetti Albania, IRC & Area1 Commodore Robert (Bob) BURNS

[M. Francesco SERINELLI South East Fleet Italy \(Italian article\)](#)
[RC Vincenzo Rinaldi South East Fleet Italy \(English translation\)](#)

GALA DINNER

20.30 23 April
Hotel Avala – Budva



In the evening was arranged the gala dinner in the elegant lounge of Hotel Avala in Budva.

Rounded tables nicely dressed had joined the meeting participants as well as more friends from Rotary Club of Budva . Joyful meetings with all our new friends made just in two days stay in “our” Budva city which had embraced us all with grate courtesy and friendship.

As soon sited while attending the five course meal we had enjoyed In the evening, in the elegant lounge of the Hotel Avala, there was the gala dinner, accompanied by good music and entertained by a show of local folklore dances which had given us opportunity to come closer to the Montenegrin culture and heritage.

The gala dinner was excellent and we had the pleasure to toast for our friendship as well as for the Twining of South East Fleet from Italy with the Ionian Fleet based in Preveza, Greece as well as to toast for the success of Montenegro Squadron and the Albanian Squadron.

And wine could not go through the throat without a Toast for our IC Jesus “Jun” Avecilla, Mabuhay our friend so far away but spiritually present among the friends.

Another vocal group with SC Krsto Niklanović participating for a while and more sweets and wine followed by RC Vincenzo RINALDI the only one, him who had passed nightmare to organize the event, to call for exchange pennants by Fleets and Clubs.

Zeev Matar IC Special Assistant and representative of RC Selda GERSON had brought worm greeting in behalf of our International Commodore and our Region Commodore, had given to each Fleet representative the Philippine pin as well as the Philippine Burgee and Banners as well as the Israeli Fleet banner.

The evening could go on and on but next day was dedicated to sailing day in Kotor Bay and the bells had rung eleven times.

















**VIVA FOR OUR FELLOWSHIP WITHOUT ANY FRONTIERS
VIVA LA NOSTRA AMICIZIA SENZA FRONTIERE**

Thanks and deep gratitude for the wonderful 1st Adriatic & Ionian IYFR Fleets Meeting in Budva

Infinite thanks to the organizing committee of South East Fleet of Italy headed by
FC Enzo PIRATO & VC Renzo RINALDI and to SC Krsto Niklanovic and all Budva Fleet members for
having given us days of friendship & fun

Let me toast for each of you and for all of you our two years Filipino toast

MABUHAY AND GO ON SAILING WITH OUR UNIQUE IYFR FELLOWSHIP

Article & Layout

Zeev Matar



Rotafloat Newsletter Editor / IC Special Assistant

SAILING DAY IN KOTOR BAY

Sunday 24th April 2016



Unforgettable Sunday started in rainy morning to become a sunny day in one of the most spectacular bays which is among the 10 most beautiful bays in the world.

The Bay of Kotor named by the Montenegrin Boka kotorska and in Italian Bocche di Cattaro is a winding bay of the Adriatic Sea in the southwestern of Montenegro which had declared its independence on 3rd June 2006.

The bay is about 28 km long with a shoreline extending 107.3 km. It is surrounded by two massifs of the Dinaric Alps: the Orjen mountains to the west, and the Lovćen mountains to the east. The narrowest section of the bay, the 2300 m long Verige Strait, is only 340 m wide at its narrowest point.



We had reached a small locality along the Kotor Bay south to Tivat city where we had been attended by the Captain of a beautiful Turkish gullet. The vessel owned by the company "Caicco Resort" (www.caiccoresort.com) owned by VC Francesco MARIANO MARIANO from the South East Fleet. The gullet built in the coastal town of Bodrum, in Turkey is two masts as well as diesel powered with 6 cabin rooms, captained by Hungarian skipper with Albanian crew of three men.



Sailing itinerary



We sailed along the coast towards Perast crossing Montenegro port & Marina of Tivat through the most beautiful landscape of Kotor bay, cinerary of water colors and picturesque small settlements and impressive green mountains.

Cheerful sailing among grate lyforians friends, as the friendship was there from our first lunch meeting in Budva Hotel.

During the sail many of us had stationed on the front deck close to the bow admiring the landscape and watching the sea, while the wind had covered us with gratitude and love.

We had passed the Tivat bay and sailed towards Perast bay and on our left two small islands.

The first Island named by the Lady of the rocks a Roman Catholic Church named in Italian Chiesa della Madonna dello Scalpello, which is an artificial island.

According to legend, the islet was made over the centuries by local seamen who kept an ancient oath after finding the icon of Madonna and Child on the rock in the sea on July 22, 1452. Upon returning from each successful voyage, they laid a rock in the Bay. Over time, the islet gradually emerged from the sea. The custom of throwing rocks into the sea is alive even nowadays. Every year on the sunset of July 22, an event called *fašinateda* in the local dialect, when local residents take their boats and throw rocks into the sea, widening the surface of the island, takes place.

The second island is Saint George Benedictine monastery from the 12th century and is the old graveyard for the old nobility from Perast and further from the whole Bay of Kotor.

And still short sailing way and we had landed in Perast built in the Baroque style during the 17th and 18th centuries under Venetian rule, for a delicious lunch based on fish moved by wine.

Friendly conversations around tables, toasts for eternal friendship, atmosphere of lovely cheerful gathering and fun, not forgetting our friends, toasting Mabuhay for IC Jun AVECILLA and singing for IPIC Sergio Santi leadership hymn "Aisa Aisa Aisa Accala Accala Accala Accosta Accosta Accosta e Beviamo Alla Salute Nostra",

From Perast long sail to the main entrance to the point where the Adriatic Sea meets the sea of Kotor bay. Rough waves and strong winds and the gullet moved as a drunken sailor after having drunk some liters of Guinness beer.

We came close to the Mamula Islet in the Adriatic Sea within the southwestern Montenegrin municipality of Herceg Novi.

Mamola also known as Rondina during the period of the Venetian Republic is located between Prevlaka and Luštica peninsulas at the entrance to the Kotor Bay. This small islet is of circular shape, and has 200m in diameter. It is 3.4 nautical miles (6.3 km) away from Herceg Novi is a fort built by the Austro-Hungarian at 1853 becoming a concentration camp prison during World War II by the Italian fascist forces.

Our sailing day had ended in Tivat with great sorrow landing and ending a fantastic day which had given essence to our lyforian aims of gathering our Fellowship in friendship and fun.







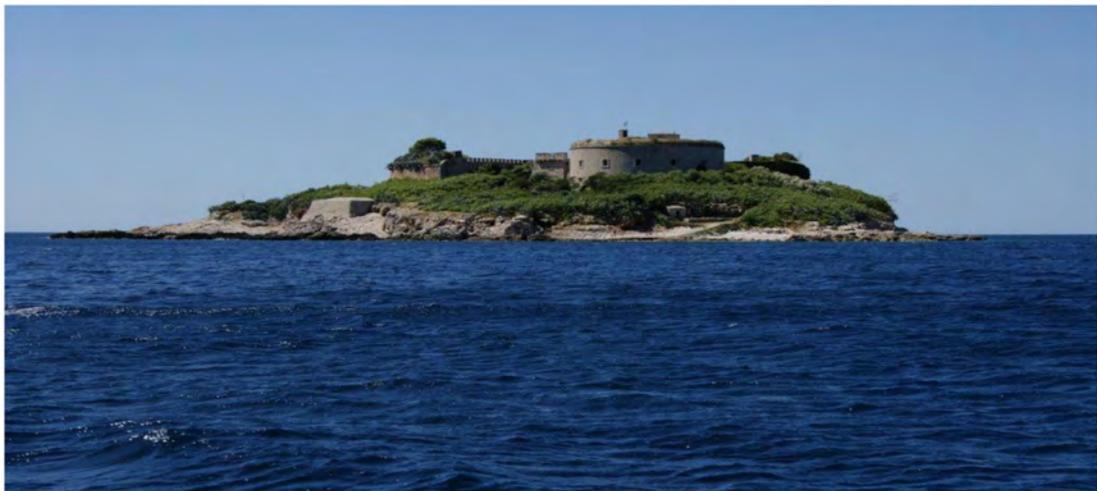
First class treatment on board, with cheese and salami and glass of wine in the "Lobby" sitting area, while outside it was raining for a while





Lady of the Rocks Church

Sainte George Monastery



Mamula Island fortress







Article & Layout

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AMERIGO VESPUCCI

The Tall ship

Glory of the Italian Navy



IPIC SERGIO SANTI meeting in Venice GEORGE FUTAS in front of the legendary Tall ship under his command as C.V. 27 years ago.

Three steel masts are 50, 54 and 43 meters high caring 26 traditional canvas sails – square sails, staysails, and jibs of total surface of 2824 m² (30400 ft²). When under sail in severe sea and wind conditions the vessel can reach 12 knots (22 km/h).

The standard crew is based upon 16 officers, 70 non-commissioned officers and 190 sailors.

In summer, when she embarks the midshipmen of the Naval Academy (Accademia Navale Italiana), the crew totals about 450 men.

<http://www.osservatorelibero.it/2016/06/09/de-giorgi-ultima-chiamata-al-governo-la-marina-militare-video/>

Once you have finished watching the film, click on the  icon to view other films of Amerigo Vespucci Tall Ship



When I compared George's and the Amerigo Vespucci programs, I was frankly surprised: not too many chances indeed that the two events could coincide. Nevertheless, they did it! So, returning to Venice after their long East Mediterranean Cruise, they found the ITS Vespucci moored in front of the Navy Arsenal. Actually, in order to witness the arrival Laura and I had arrived the day before and there SHE was! As per an old tradition, the Italian warships enter or leave the harbors at 0800 and the Vespucci was on time and about to moor at the same pier where we moored in 1989, more or less the same period of the year, during that year pre Cruise.



I realized that it was my first time I saw the ship coming alongside the pier... from the pier. I confess that it is something a sailor cannot forget.

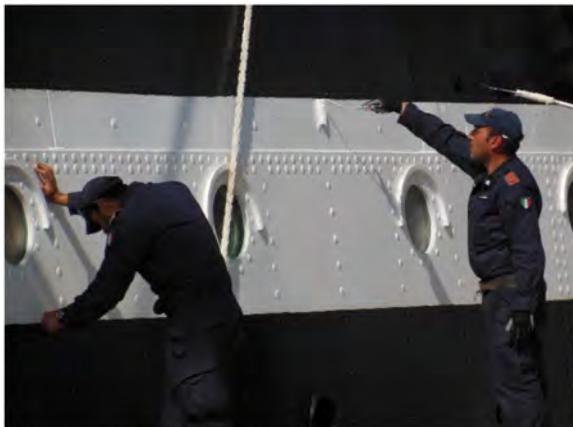
SHE IS BEAUTIFUL!

And I could see the maneuver in an a sort of an unreal silence of the admired bystanders where one could perfectly hear the voice of the Captain giving orders.





Then, as anyone can imagine started the routine most-busy day for all the Crew. Polishing and cleaning is essential after days at sea.

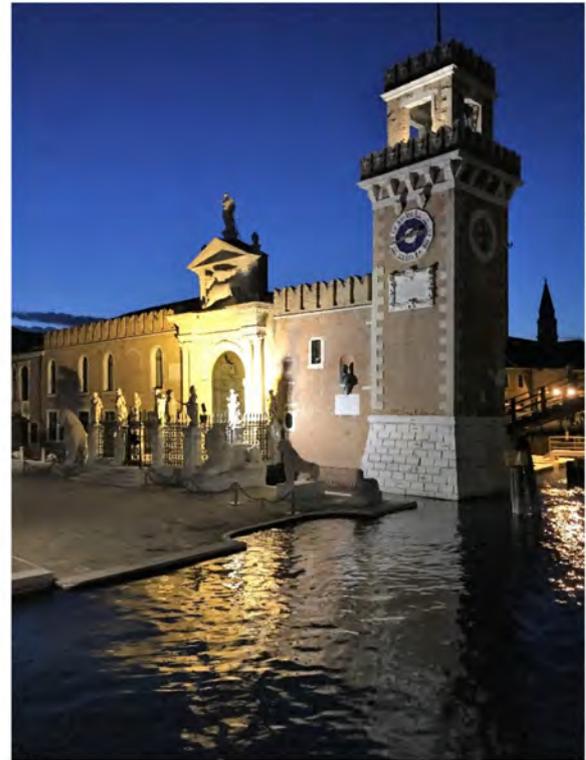


Not willing to interfere in any way with further cares for the Captain and the Crew, Laura and I decided not to visit the Ship and went around Venice sightseeing. The night came and we returned to the Officer Club, located close to the Naval Arsenal the construction of which started in the twelfth century.

By that time the Ship was lighted and we could do nothing but keeping admiring Her.

And She is celebrating her 85th Anniversary! Frankly, she is much better looking now than she was 27 years ago. Compliments to Captain Curzio

Pacifici, to the Crew and to the Navy! Fully deserved.



PURE CHARM

The third day in Venice it was the day to visit the Ship. It was drizzling and Joan and Laura, in consideration of the steep and possibly slippery gangway, went on by themselves for their sightseeing, talks and cappuccinos. George and I patiently waited for our turn to climb the gangway. We were fully rewarded for the long wait. No rushing and plenty of time to admire the perfect status of the Vessel.



We were on the point of completing the standard tour of the Ship (visited by more than 18.000 in 3 days) when we met the Ship's First Boatswain Giulio D'Elia who, when I was Captain was a young Sergeant and smart helmsman. So much time spent together! He went immediately in search for the Captain who arrived in spite of the ongoing engagements, welcomed on board and escorted us in his private quarters. Quite embarrassing for me for my inappropriate attire and because more VIP guests were to meet in his private office, were we were at the moment.



Luckily, enough some were old Friends of mine. We excused and after a quick visit to the deck below wardroom (CV 62, USS Independent and Vespucci picture, shot August 1962 is always there!), we definitively left the Ship with the promise to meet again at sea.



An always nice and friendly familiar atmosphere on this most beautiful Vessel. Thanks Vespucci!




Captain 1988-1989





A long waited for meeting

By Sergio Santi, IPIC and CoS



Three years ago, just after having assumed the IC status I received a long and concerned letter, composed by more than ten questions, arrived me from an unknown but most experienced high-ranking Officer from the Seattle Fleet.

It was indeed a most polite letter firmly expressing deep concerns about some recent decisions to which the new Administration had just arrived. Immediate written answers and telephone calls cleared the whole situation; George Futas was requested to join the Staff and became the IYFR key element in the US, and more than that a greatly appreciated personal Friend on which IYFR and myself could rely H24.

Imagine how glad I was when he send me a message saying that he and his wife Joan would spend some days in Italy in May!



Nani and I just postponed all that period personal and Rotarian engagements, in order to enjoy their company as long as possible and I

planned to split their visit in two parts giving the bigger importance to the enchanting Venice and only a touch and go in the Tigullio Gulf.

By now, all of you all know that I was a lucky Captain and a lucky Commodore, but during the Futas visit, well I think I have exaggerated!

. Generally splendid and mild weather, was graciously given by superior Authorities while rains and wind were released the day they left from Rapallo, and in Venice, when under the hood, . The steepest and longest marble bridges in Venice were adapted with convenient wooden ramps in consideration of Joan's possible problems,



. ITS Amerigo Vespucci arrived the same morning as the Futas did and conveniently moored in front of the Officers Club where Nani and I were staying.



. Their Hotel could not be better set for communications: less than 200 yards of flat and easy walking from a "vaporetto" (water taxi) stop. . In spite of a most crowded Venice, pacifically invaded by thousands of tourists any race, the queues to visit Churches and Museums bearable (with the exception of the Vespucci one).



. Happiness is meeting someone from the Ship's Company who still remembers and recognize you on an overcrowded deck, after 27 years (and a few extra pounds). It happened as explained later.

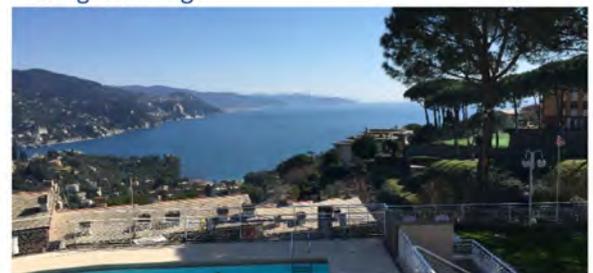
. Happiness is also to find a new way of making Spritz (a Venetian aperitif) and getting two in a row before a good lunch/dinner. Operation repeated in Rapallo.



. Happiness is also when it starts raining cat & dogs after your visits have been completed and you are safely under a hood and your guests safely in the hotel.



. After an enjoyable travel by car back home, the Norsa met us for a pizza party in a Rapallo restaurant. Unbelievable: a wonderful moon raising after the antique Castle while dining. Timing is timing!



. A smiling Annarita and a splendid weather welcomed George and me on Sunday morning on board of Luigi Norsa 39' yacht YAMIC and we were

promptly underway with a mild breeze. Could not be better! Joan and Laura, dinner to be prepared/rest & enjoy the landscape, had remained home.

. Portofino entrance, generally congested, was easy and allowed George to admire this pearl embossed in the Tigullio Gulf; mooring here is as exclusive as to park in St Peter Square on Sunday morning to take part to the Pope officiated Holy Mass.



(The picture taken in another occasion from atop the Castel Brown on the Portofino Cape. Portofino, in Latin Portus Delphini, i.e. Dolphins Port and in Ligurian Portu fin i.e. Nice Harbor)

. S. Fruttuoso came next and George could admire not only Luigi at the helm but this tiny gulf, almost hidden by the mountains, his monastery and the historical Tower made by the same Genoese Admiral Andrea Doria, the Lepanto battle winner.



Lunch & drinks prepared by Annarita, on board and coming back... naturally!

. IYFR Flagship ITALIA moored alongside the S. Margherita pier. Another welcomed coincidence. On the way to S. Margherita we had crossed a beautiful 23 meters wooden yacht I felt I was familiar with also if it was flying another Flag and the mast and boom were in wood no more. It was the same MASAYUME' I rescued from the Giraglia rocks in 1974 when as a Lieutenant I was Captain of a wooden Minesweeper escorting that classic Mediterranean regatta!



Laura had fixed a nice Spritz aperitif on the balcony and a beautiful dinner for the six of us plus two adjoining Iyforian Friends: Mario and Paola Cappetti, same Fleet as ours. However, that was not a surprise: Nani is an excellent cook. We really enjoyed it as we enjoyed the excellent Greek wine provided by George.



Too bad that they had to leave Monday morning! By the way, it started raining while waiting for the train. Timing is timing!

