December 22, 2010

-- IFMR-NA President’s Newsletter --

IFMR-NA Membership Directories Now Available to Current Members

For the past several months, Membership Registrar Jean Dores has been working steadily to consolidate the various lists of IFMR-NA members from the IFMR-NA.org website, the IFMR-NA Yahoo Groups registry, and the list of previous dues-paying members. That proved to be a far more difficult task than originally envisioned since many listings on the website and Yahoo Groups registry contained only an alias and an email address, many of which were no longer valid addresses. But the job is now complete and everyone whose addresses could be identified has now been notified by mail and email to update their membership information and pay their 2010-11 dues.

In early December everyone who had paid their 2010-11 dues and updated their contact information was sent an updated directory listing all current members plus those listed as members for 2009-10. The new directory now makes it possible for IFMR riders to contact other members in their area for rides and other activities.

If you think you’ve paid your dues but haven’t received your copy of the directory, check with Jean Dores (LdiHrli@aol.com). If you need a copy of the current membership form and dues information, you can download one from the IFMR-NA.org website or request one from Jean.

To get your copy, all you need to do is send in your membership form and 2010-11 dues ($20). And if you’ve already received your copy, I hope you’ll contact a few of the ‘inactive’ members listed in the directory who live in your area and encourage them to update their information and pay their 2010-11 dues, and even more important, join you for a ride or other get-together in the near future.

IFMR Rides to New Orleans to Help Raise Funds for POLIO PLUS

Planning for IFMR participation in the 2011 RI convention in New Orleans is moving ahead briskly. Once again we’ll be encouraging IFMR members to ride to the convention; but this time we are making a special effort to organize rides and raise awareness to promote contributions to Rotary’s POLIO PLUS campaign. We’re also asking riders to pledge amounts per mile for their ride to New Orleans and also raise additional pledges from their local clubs, club members, and friends, all payable to the Rotary Foundation POLIO PLUS fund.

Four different ride groups – funneling riders from the west and northwest, from the central region, and from the east and northeast – have been set in motion. From Sacramento, Seattle, Chicago, and Albany, all coming together in Baton Rouge on May 19 for a grand entrance into New Orleans on May 20.

Imagine the impact of all four groups of IFMR motorcyclists arriving in New Orleans at the same time, ready to deliver their checks and pledges to the Rotary Foundation’s POLIO PLUS effort.

IFMR plans for the POLIO PLUS rides are being closely coordinated with RI leaders, Rotary Foundation trustees, and the 2011 RI Convention Promotion Committee, all of whom have offered their strong encouragement and support to help make this IFMR effort for POLIO PLUS a big success. (Continued on reverse)
POLIO PLUS Rides to New Orleans (continued)

As information about the rides has begun to reach other IFMR chapters in other countries, we’ve begun to receive queries about the routes and about rental bikes for international riders who might want to join one of the rides, both to show their support for POLIO PLUS and for the opportunity to see new parts of the US with other IFMR members. What a great opportunity for fellowship with our international Rotary motorcycling friends!

All riders will be encouraged to pledge or raise as much as possible, aiming for an average $1/mile to New Orleans in pledges for every rider. But no one will be excluded. Clubs along the way will also be encouraged to send riders, to send pledges, and to arrange ‘meet and greet’ events with riders passing thru their area enroute to New Orleans. Whether or not you can make the ride yourself, you can still help by raising funds and pledges in your club, your community, and your Rotary district. You can also help by organizing a group of riders from your area to meet and ride with the group on to New Orleans, or just for a few hours or miles, or just for a brief ‘meet & greet’. Help spread the word and join in the ride!

A special IFMR New Orleans 2011 website and blog is being created to provide up-to-date information about the rides and IFMR activities at the convention. Go to http://ifmr2011neworleans.blogspot.com/

You’ll hear more about it as details are worked out. Meanwhile, mark your calendar and plan to ride to New Orleans. Contact the Ride Captains shown below to let them know of your interest and to arrange rendezvous points enroute.

POLIO PLUS Ride Captains

SEATTLE: May 13-May 19 - Marc Baker, Mqbhdrotary@gmail.com  Otto Rieve, ottorieve@telus.net

SACRAMENTO: May 14-May 19 - Doug Holck, Holckster@aol.com

CHICAGO/EVANSTON: David Phelps, David.Phelps@EffectusLLC.com  Bob Mutchler, Tunerman1@aol.com

ALBANY: May 14-May 19: Bob Shriner, Rshriner@aol.com  Charlie Foote, bcfroote@aol.com  Bill Smith, SmithatLG@aol.com

International website
www.IFMR.org

North American Chapter
www.IFMR-NA.org