

# International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians

*North American Chapter (IFMR-NA)*

## IFMR-NA President's Newsletter

Chapter President  
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February 2017.

### President's Message

Now that we are through the holidays, many are starting to think about the "spring thaw" (in those parts of the country where it does get cold enough that we must put our wheels up for the colder months) and our minds are turning towards those warmer days of when we can be out cruising again on our motorcycles. I do not know about you, but the warmer months bring a bit of anxiousness as I start thinking about riding on 2 wheels in the openness instead of in a 4-wheeled covered vehicle. Maybe you have started thinking about the first spring ride you want to do. Maybe you have even thought about a ride that would be good to do with Fellow Rotarians and especially IFMR-NA members. And maybe you have some others outside of Rotary that you are thinking about riding with. Yes, springtime is almost upon us. If you do have a ride planned, please be sure to let us know so that we can get it posted on our website and advertised in our newsletters. We need to know about your rides so we can join them and encourage others to do so. In fact, our group, IFMR-NA is a great tool to not only enjoy Fellowship, it's also a great recruiting tool for bringing in more members to Rotary. Let's not let IFMR-NA be one of the best kept secrets. Let's be excited about our Rotary Fellowship and invite others to also become a part too. And with District Conferences coming up soon, we should consider having a display area in your district conference House of Friendship. We can get you a banner for your display and create some flyers too.

Thanks for all you do for Rotary and IFMR-NA. Hoping to see you on a ride somewhere soon.

#### **RI Convention 2017 (#RICON17)**

Have you registered for the Rotary International Convention in Atlanta yet? If not, please consider doing so, and soon. The last of the discounted prices end on 31 March when the registration fees go up. So get your registration in now. Visit [www.riconvention.org](http://www.riconvention.org).

A few items of interest for you about the Convention:

- **HOTEL:** We have a block of rooms available if you are in need. World IFMR President Raymond Plus has secured some rooms for us in The Fairfield Inn & Suites, Atlanta Perimeter

Center for only \$139 per night. The rates are good from 10 June thru 15 June. The room block closes on 27 May 2017.

The hotel is also very close by the MARTA station for ease of getting to and from the Convention. The venue also features free parking, which can save you some big \$\$\$. The registration link is <https://goo.gl/2H3Ctl>, or you can call 770-350-0000 and use the code IFMR when registering. As we have a block of rooms reserved, we need you to take advantage of them so we do not end up paying for them.

- **IFMR BOOTH in the HOUSE of FRIENDSHIP:** We will have a gathering spot in the House of Friendship for all IFMR members. As the Convention is in the USA this year, IFMR-NA will be the host. We will need some IFMR-NA members to help staff the booth at various times throughout the convention. And in order for us to have a booth at future Conventions, we cannot have our booth unstaffed. So please consider signing up for a block of time to meet and greet all IFMR members from around the globe, and also talk about why those that are not yet members should become a member. To express your interest in serving in the booth, please send an email to [chris.jones.rotary@gmail.com](mailto:chris.jones.rotary@gmail.com).

- **IFMR Annual Meeting:** The planning is in process for this and more details will be forthcoming.

- **RIDES TO and/or FROM the RI CONVENTION 2017:** We have been hearing smatterings of information of folks that are planning to ride in and/or out of the Convention. Some are planning to do individual riding, while others have a group, and others are looking to join a group, and others are completely in the dark. We would like to centralize your plans so others can plan to join. Please send your plans to Chris Jones and he will publish to an Excel Spreadsheet and then share that by way of Yahoo Groups. Please check Gerry Jackson's announcement...

# Announcing the IFMR post International Convention Ride

By Gerald (Gerry) Jackson

Vice President, 2016-2019, IFMR-NA

President, 2019-2022, IFMR-NA

PDG, 2006-2007, Rotary International District 6380

Vice Governor, 2017-2018, Rotary International District 6380

Hey y'all. Welcome to the "South"!! Home to the Tail of the Dragon, the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Biltmore Estate, Grandfather Mountain, and the Bristol Motor Speedway.

Our Southeastern Region Director Carlton Pernell has laid out a wonderful 8 day leisurely yet most enjoyable 1200(+) mile excursion coupled with great fellowship starting & ending in Atlanta, Georgia.

Day 1 starts from Atlanta, Thursday morning, June 15th, 2017 traveling through Helen, Georgia to Cherokee, North Carolina. We will spend 3 nights in Cherokee, daily riding and enjoying various rides & activities in and around that area including the Tail of the Dragon, Cherohala Skyway, Maggie Valley, Wheels through Time Museum, Great Smokey Mountain National Park, and the Cherokee Casinos.

We will ride the Blue Ridge Parkway and on our 4th night will be in Asheville, North Carolina where we will enjoy visiting (and perhaps even stay on) the Biltmore Estates.

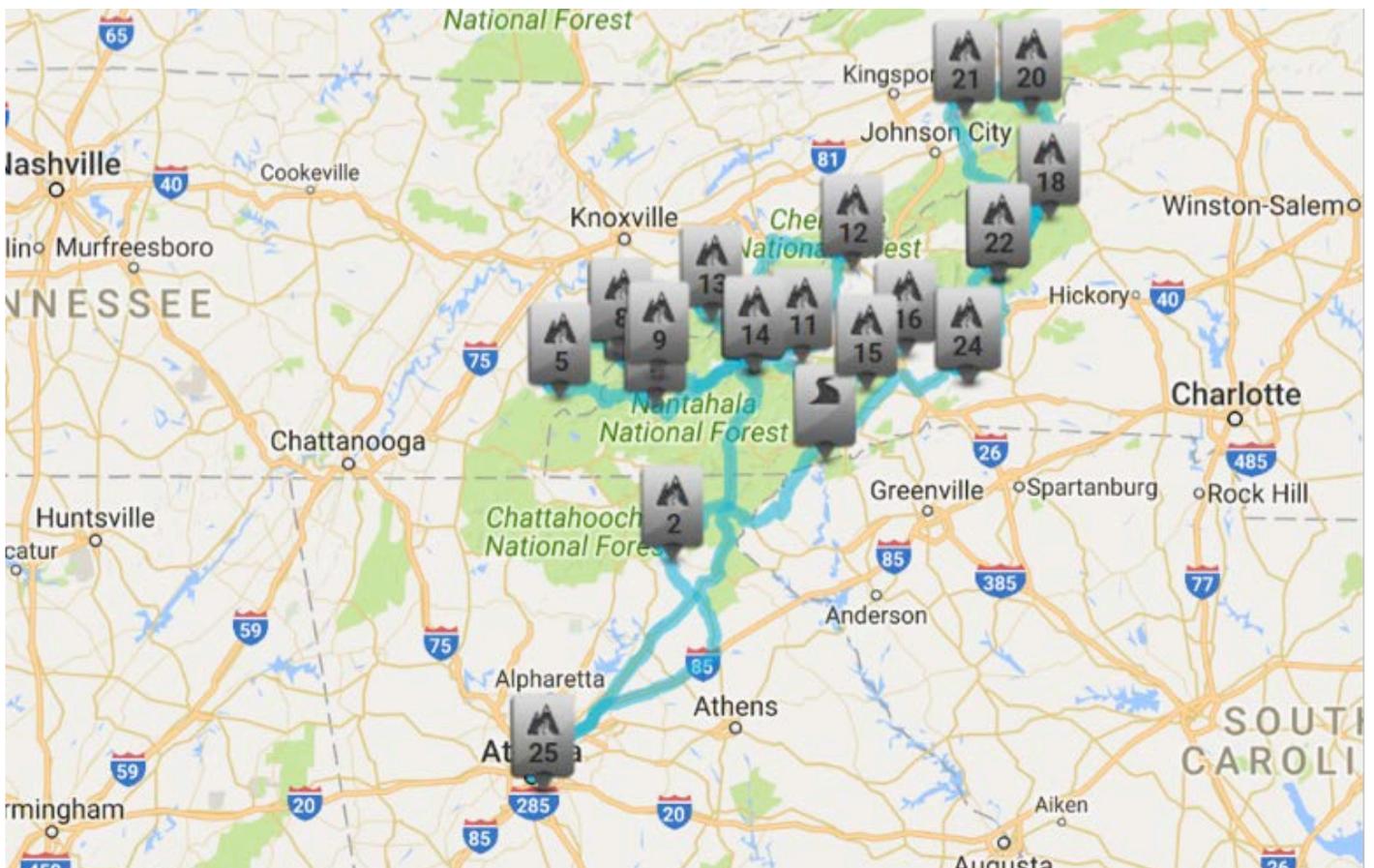
We will then continue up the Blue Ridge Parkway and on our 5th and 6th nights will be in Little Switzerland, North Carolina as we enjoy rides and activities near there including US 421 (a.k.a. the Snake), Grandfather Mountain and the opportunity to ride your motorcycle on the Bristol Motor Speedway, in Bristol, Tennessee.

Our 7th night will be near Lake Lure, North Carolina where we will experience Chimney Rock. And on the 8th day we travel back to Atlanta, Georgia completing a wonderful week of riding and fellowship.

Not enough? Separating from the rest of the group at the end of the Little Switzerland activities, we have an optional 3 day side trip to the "Outer Banks": site of the first manned flight at Kitty Hawk, iconic light houses, ferry ride to Beaufort Nags Head, attend the famous outdoor drama "The Lost Colony" and then the ride back to Atlanta.

If you have never experienced riding in these areas, boy, are you in for a great treat! For those of us that already have been to at least some of these areas, I'm sure you agree they are a timeless pleasure that can be enjoyed time and time again.

Keep your eye on our [www.ifmr-na.com](http://www.ifmr-na.com) web page for the pending registration and hotel information.



# Rotary Polio Moto Riding with Rotary to End Polio

March 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>

By Joseph Michael Dickerson

I am a Rotarian, Lt. Gov. for Youth Services District 5930. I am past president of my club, The Laredo Rotary Club. I am also Assistant Scout Master for Troop 201, Crew Advisor for Crew 201, and Aztec District Training Chair. To pay the bills, I am an attorney, Board Certified in Estate Planning and Probate, by Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

I have been motorcycling for around 5 years. My longest ride so far has been around 150 miles. I have wanted to do an "epic" ride, but I wanted it mean more than just taking to the road and feeling the wind while I ride. I wanted it to mean something and make a difference. So I put together my love of Rotary fellowship, a passion to make a global impact and my desire to make this epic motorcycle trip. So ending Polio is what I decided to take on through RI's End Polio Now Campaign and I hope you will join me to raise funds for this great cause.

Rotary Polio Moto Ride's goal is to raise \$5,000, which will be matched by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

We have a block of rooms at the Rotary District 5930 Rate at Comfort Suites next to Corpus Christi Harley-Davidson 538 S. Padre Island Drive.

Please Make Checks Payable to RI Foundation - Polio Plus  
Mail to: Rotary Polio Moto Ride, C/O Joseph Michael Dickerson, 2 Lindenwood, Laredo, Texas 78045

The Ride.....We will stop at many Rotary cities within District 5930. Rotarians and non-Rotarians can get involved by riding, donating, or hosting an event.

This motorcycle ride and fundraiser is part of something bigger than our South Texas District. This is a part of a global initiative to eliminate this crippling disease from the planet.

## Rotary Polio Moto Route

Laredo -> Falfurrias 95  
Falfurrias -> Rio Grande City 85  
Rio Grande City -> Pharr 41  
Pharr -> Harlingen 36  
Harlingen -> Brownsville 28  
Brownsville -> Kingsville 120  
Kingsville -> Corpus Christi 45  
Day One Total 450 (March 25)

Corpus Christi -> Rockport 34  
Rockport -> Port Lavaca 50  
Port Lavaca -> Ganado 36  
Ganado -> Edna 10  
Edna -> Victoria 28  
Victoria -> Beeville 55  
Beeville -> Alice 54  
Alice -> Freer 39  
Freer -> Laredo 63  
Day Two Total 369 (March 26)  
**Total trip 819**

[jmd@dickersonlaw.com](mailto:jmd@dickersonlaw.com)



# Rotary Honors an Unsung Hero Riding with Rotary to End Polio

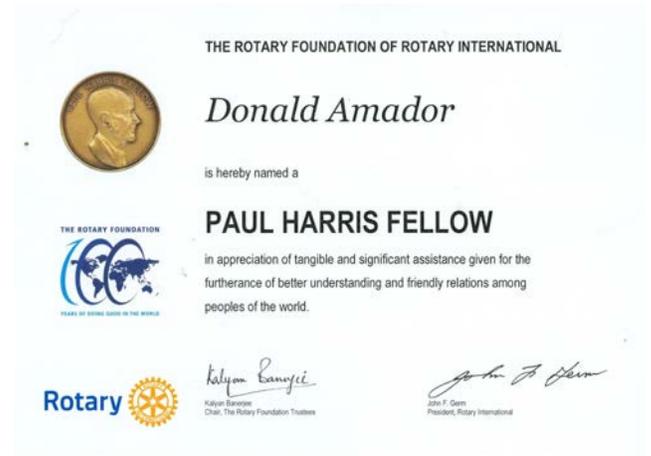
By Larie Trippet

Those in the western USA understand how the federal government owns/controls huge amounts of land. And it is on those public lands that our off-road brethren like to ride and compete. For decades there have been forces (environmentalists) who wish to exclude motorized recreation from public lands. Don Amador has challenged and fought those forces for decades. I too was in that battle for a long time, starting in the 70s. I have worked with Don, and know Roberta, who is in my district.

To be honest, Don is not alone. There are many organizations and individuals who work together to support responsible off-road riding and racing.

Kudos to Rotary, Roberta and Don!!!

<http://quietwarriorracing.blogspot.com/2017/02/ohv-trail-lead-receives-national.html>



# IFMR E-CLUB

## Riding with Rotary to End Polio

By Rory Windrim

Attention Please!

First and Third Monday of each Month at 5:00pm EST

IFMR-NA is announcing the start of an E-Club for persons interested in belonging to the International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians but are unable to attend a traditional club. This would be ideal for persons wanting to be part of Rotary but have issues attending a traditional club for various reasons, meeting times, relocation, travel, to name a few.

Belong to a Traditional Club but are also interested in the Motorcycling Fellowship E-Club? We are discussing the possibility of an associate membership at a nominal cost.

The first meeting was held online, January 30, to start finding out interest in forming an E-Club. (We are currently using Zoom meeting app for the online meeting) We had eight people participate in the online meeting with great interest and volunteering for positions to help start the process. We will follow the same process as starting a traditional club with temporary officers and committee members until there are enough members to charter the club. At that point, club positions will filled by persons nominated and voted on by the members.

We held a second successful meeting on February 6 with 14 people present. Momentum has started. We will soon open a Facebook page and a CLubRunner website where we will post our regular meeting connection information.

Dues! There will be dues to pay as in any Rotary Club, Rotary dues in addition to operating costs such as website costs and ClubRunner software costs. Dues are still under discussion until costs are finalized.

Fundraising ideas are being discussed to raise money for club cost.

As in all new ideas, nothing is written in stone. All ideas and input is welcome for consideration in developing this E-Club.

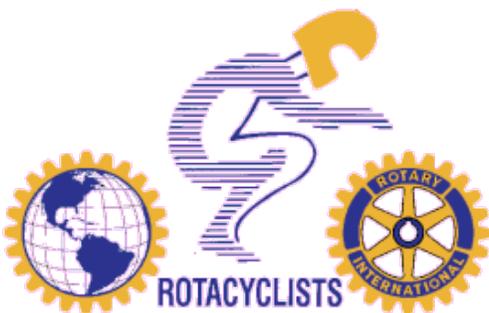
Please join us online for information, input or to just visit as you might a traditional club.

Our next meeting Monday, February 20, 5 p.m. Eastern time zone

Zoom Meeting Connection info: <https://zoom.us/j/111938245>

Download Zoom at <https://zoom.us/download>

Rory Windrim



# Search for new IFMR-NA Merchandise Director

By Bob Shriner

We were saddened to learn of the death of Ken Brandt, who had served IFMR-NA for many years as Secretary and Newsletter Editor and for the past 7 years as Merchandise Director. As a result, we are now faced with the task of finding an IFMR member to assume this position, to promote and manage the IFMR-NA Merchandise Store, and to serve as a member of the IFMR-NA Executive Council.

If you would like to be considered for this position, would like to recommend another member of IFMR for this position, or want more information about the position, please contact me at bob@shriner.com or 703-795-4355. Your ideas, suggestions, and help are needed at this time.

## A nugget of religious trivia... The patron saint of motorcyclists is

**St. Columbanus**

By Rory Windrim

The patron saint of motorcyclists is St. Columbanus

“The Vatican has officially endorsed an early Irish saint, Columbanus of Bobbio, as the patron saint of motorcyclists. He was born on the Carlow/Wicklow border in the year 543 ad, and died at the monastery he founded in Bobbio, in what is now Northern Italy in 615 AD, after many years of traveling around Europe.”

<http://www.columban1400anniversary.com/patron-of-bikers.html>



“...as an aged motorcyclist I am in need of all the help that I can get. A Saint watching over me or an angel on my shoulder is certainly desirable.”

*-Otto Rieve*

## Gettysburg ride

The dates for the Gettysburg ride are 27-30 April 2017 .

On Friday morning we will tour the Gettysburg Battlefield. In the afternoon we ride to Antietam. On Saturday we will do an out and back to the 911 memorial.

Hotel information is

[http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/M/MDTGHGI-FMR-20170427/index.jhtml?WT.mc\\_id=POG](http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/M/MDTGHGI-FMR-20170427/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG)

Group Name: IFMR

Group Code: FMR

Check-in: 27-APR-2017

Check-out: 30-APR-2017

Hotel Name:

Hilton Garden Inn Gettysburg

Hotel Address:

1061 York Road

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

17325

Phone Number:

7173342040

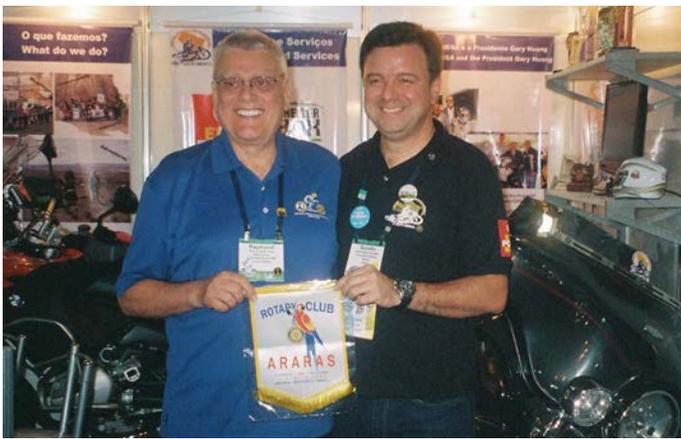
Please contact:

John G. Kramb

District 7390 Rotary Foundation Chair 2016 -

District 7390 Governor 2015-2016

717 642-5410



Incoming IFMR World President Raymond Plue with out-going IFMR World President Adilson Bonatto at RI Convention IFMR Booth at Sao Paulo, Brazil convention



IFMR World President Raymond Plue with IFMR-NA President Chris Jones at Seoul Korea RI convention



IFMR World President Raymond Plue with the second IFMR World President Ron Lyster at Seoul Korea RI convention

If you'd like to organize an IFMR ride in your area, just do it! And let us know at [editor@ifmr-na.org](mailto:editor@ifmr-na.org) and we'll help you promote it. You can also get help with planning and promoting local rides from your Regional Director; and, if you're interested, you can ask him to be designated as an official IFMR "Ride Guide" (roughly equivalent to a Rotary assistant governor) to help promote IFMR and organize rides in your area. Go for it!

For info on domestic and international IFMR rides, also check [www.ifmr-na.org](http://www.ifmr-na.org) and [www.ifmr.org](http://www.ifmr.org). If you plan an IFMR event in your area, send information about it to newsletter editor, Juan Yebra: [editor@ifmr-na.org](mailto:editor@ifmr-na.org) and to webmaster Chris Jones at [webmaster@ifmr-na.org](mailto:webmaster@ifmr-na.org)

\* \* \*

Start planning your IFMR rides now! Pick the date and location, then let us know and we'll help you get the word out to other IFMR members in your area. Also, let your DG, ADG, and district bulletin editor know; and ask them to help you spread the word among Rotarians who may not have heard of IFMR yet.

**IFMR . . . Join, Ride, Share, Enjoy!!!**