October 30, 2012

** Coming Soon **
New IFMR Shirts, Caps, and More

Ken Brandt wasted no time getting the IFMR merchandise program up and running again. He showed up at the OBX ride in September sporting samples of the new IFMR shirts and caps that he’d ordered and used those of us at the event as his ‘test market’ group.

Here’s a photo I took of Ken modeling the blue IFMR baseball cap and a bright yellow IFMR shirt. Below is a photo of my partner Rachel Lynch modeling a bright blue IFMR shirt which is also available. We promptly ordered both shirts and two caps, as did several others at the event.

Ken is now in the final stages of readying a full-scale introduction of these new items and other IFMR branded merchandise. But if you can’t wait to get your hands on one of these great new items to wear to your next Rotary event, contact Ken at keystnken@aol.com for more information and to arrange your order.

If you haven’t done so already, it’s past time to pay your 2012-13 dues. But it’s easy! Just go on-line to www.ifmr-na.org, then select Pay/Renew Dues via Credit Card, and click on the BUY NOW button at the bottom of that page.

*** COMING EVENTS ***
Mark you calendar and plan to join us

Friday, Nov 2: IFMR Napa Valley Ride. Rotary fun and fellowship in California Wine Country. Contact Don Thiele (dtheile@aol.com) for more details.

Early May, IFMR 2013 Spring Get-Together, Loch Haven, PA. Contact Ken Brandt (keystnken@aol.com) for details as they become available.

June 22-23, 2012, IFMR Pre-Convention Ride, Lisbon, Portugal. Contact Cornelius Neufert (secretary@ifmr.org) for details.

Midsummer 2013, IFMR Summer Get-Together, TBD in Ontario-Quebec. Contact Blair Campbell (blarecam@gmail.com) for details as they become available.

For info on other domestic and international IFMR rides, visit www.ifmr-na.org and www.ifmr.org
IFMR Fall Get-Togethers at OBX and Smoky Mountains Draw Members Far & Wide

In mid-September some 20 IFMR riders and passengers gathered at Nags Head, NC, on the Outer Banks for a three-day weekend ride organized and led by NC Ride Guide Carlton Pernell and PDG David Arnn. Riders came from as far away as Ontario, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

From Nags Head the group rode along the mainland side of Albemarle Sound, crossing several rivers and inlets on short ferry rides, then taking the two hour ferry from the mainland to Ocracoke Island, where they enjoyed a great fellowship dinner, spent the night, then got a guided tour of Ocracoke by IFMR members Jon and Susan Spittle, who spent the week vacationing there.

From Ocracoke, the group then took a short ferry ride to Hatteras and continued northward on the coastal highway back to Nags Head for a final fellowship dinner before heading home the following day. The group was joined for that dinner by local DG Thomas “Skip” Morgan (District 7720), who thanked them for visiting his district.

It was virtually impossible to determine who came the farthest for the event. Blair Campbell and Jack and Donna West rode down from Ontario, while PDG Gerry and Debby Jackson and Rory and Judy Windrim came down from Michigan. It was too close to call, so all were declared “Winners” for coming so far to join us; and we’re glad they did.

In mid-October fog, rain, and stormy weather kept a few riders away, but a hardy group still made it to Townsend, TN, for a great IFMR weekend “Fall Foliage” get-together in the spectacular Great Smoky Mountains of TN and NC organized by IFMR members Tom Kale, Mark Hall, and others from the local SE TN IFMR group (aka “Black Sheep of Rotary”).

Fortunately, the weather quickly improved and the group enjoyed two days of great mostly-sunny weather, beautiful fall foliage, and awesome mountain scenery and roads, including the infamous US 129 ride up to Deals Gap on the “tail of the dragon” with its 318 turns in 11 miles! Something never to be forgotten!!!

Michigan members Rory and Judy Windrim were again tied for “Came the Farthest” honors, this time with Tom Dines, who rode up from southern Florida.

If you haven’t yet attended one of these IFMR get-togethers, plan now to attend one in the near future. Or organize one in your area; and I'll do my best to be there.

International website
www.IFMR.org

North American Chapter
www.IFMR-NA.org