



International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians

North American Chapter (IFMR-NA)

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-- IFMR-NA President's Newsletter --

Chapter President

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IFMR Spring Get-Together Altoona, PA -- May 6-8

The IFMR Spring Get-Together in Altoona, PA, is shaping up as another great ride and fellowship event. Riders have already signed up for the weekend get-together from as far afield as Michigan, Ontario, and Virginia. If you haven't yet made reservations for the event, now is the time to mark your calendar and call the Altoona Comfort Inn & Suites (814-942-2600) to take advantage of the \$89/night rate that event organizer Steve Seltzer has arranged for the IFMR group.

Steve has put together a splendid 200-mile loop ride thru the Pennsylvania mountains for Saturday, as well as laid out a number of local attractions and short rides in the area for those who arrive early on Friday. He's also planning a Friday evening reception at his home on Friday evening; a Saturday evening fellowship reception and catered dinner at his Honda dealership; and a 'farewell' breakfast on Sunday at his favorite breakfast place. It's going to be another great get-together weekend. Don't miss it!

For more information, contact Steve Seltzer at steveseltzer@atlanticbb.net or (814) 944-5303, Ext. 301

Existing IFMR-NA.org Website is Beyond Repair; To Be Replaced

After months of discussion and frustration, the IFMR-NA IT team has reluctantly concluded that the existing website needs to be moved and rebuilt on a different server to meet our needs. If possible the existing text-based bulletin-board system may be retained during the transition.

The team is now looking for possible hosts for the new website. If you know of a Rotarian-owned webhosting site/service that might be interested in adding IFMR-NA.org to its clients, please pass the information to IT team leader Ron Lyster at Ronald.Lyster@Lyster.com → → →

Planning for IFMR POLIO PLUS Rides to New Orleans Gaining Momentum

Immediately after the Rotary Foundation sent an announcement to all the District Governors and POLIO PLUS chairs in North America about IFMR plans for fund-raising rides to the New Orleans convention, I began receiving a steady stream of emails and phone calls from District Governors and others expressing enthusiastic support for the project and asking how they might help.

Several indicated they plan to make it a district project, perhaps asking each Rotarian in the district to contribute at least one cent per mile for the distance to New Orleans. Others, whose districts included one of the planned routes to New Orleans, expressed interest in arranging 'meet & greet' opportunities as the riders passed thru. Still others wanted information about where they might rendezvous with one of the main groups to join the ride to New Orleans. Many asked for information about where each group of riders planned to make overnight stops along the various routes (and I'll indicate that below).

New Routes Added: In addition to the four main ride groups previously announced -- originating from Albany, NY; Chicago/Evanston, IL; Sacramento, CA; and Seattle, WA -- an additional route along the Gulf Coast from Miami, FL, has recently been added and is being organized by Ride Captains Allen Leggett (alsu@sbcglobal.net) and Earl Halle (ebhalle@aol.com). Riders in that part of the country should contact Allen or Earl for more details to join their group. (Continued on next page → → →)

Meanwhile, IFMR-NA members should continue to use the IFMR-NA@Yahoogroups.com email list-server to exchange information. If you haven't updated your membership information and paid your IFMR-NA dues for 2010-11, you may be asked to do so in order to use the list-server.

Continued: New Routes

A number of other individuals and groups have also contacted me about arranging to rendezvous with the Albany group that I'll be leading. Among them is a group from central NC being organized by Carlton Pernell (carltonpernell@aol.com), which may also collect riders coming from the Delmarva and Tidewater areas.

If you are interested in organizing a group of your local riders and rendezvousing with one of these groups, contact one of the Ride Captains on the route you're interested in and work out details with them.

Overnight Stops Planned: Overnight stops for all routes have now been tentatively identified and are listed below, along with contact information for their Ride Captains.

ALBANY, NY – Bob Shriner (rshriner@aol.com)
Charlie Foote (bcfoote@aol.com)
Bill Smith (smithatlg@aol.com)

Sunday, May 15 -- Chambersburg, PA (Hagerstown?)
Monday, May 16 -- Roanoke/Salem, VA
Tuesday, May 17 -- Cherokee, NC
Weds, May 18 -- Tuscaloosa, AL
Thurs, May 19 -- Baton Rouge, LA (groups converge)
Friday, May 20 -- NEW ORLEANS

CHICAGO/EVANSTON –

David.Phelps@EffectusLLC.com
Bob Mutchler (tunerman1@aol.com)

Tuesday, May 17 – St. Louis, MO
Weds, May 18 – Memphis, TN
Thurs, May 19 – Baton Rouge, LA (groups converge)
Friday, May 20 – NEW ORLEANS

SACRAMENTO – Doug Holck (holckster@aol.com)
Helmut Sommer (hgsommer@yahoo.com)

Saturday, May 14 – Barstow, CA
Sunday, May 15 – Flagstaff, AZ
Monday, May 16 – Albuquerque, NM
Tues, May 17 – Amarillo, TX
Weds, May 18 – Dallas, TX
Thurs, May 19 – Baton Rouge (groups converge)
Friday, May 20 – NEW ORLEANS

SEATTLE – Marc Baker (Mqbhdrotary@gmail.com)
Otto Rieve (ottorieve@telus.net)

Friday, May 13 – Boise, ID
Saturday, May 14 – Ely, NV (or Delta, UT)
Sunday, May 15 – Pueblo, CO
Monday, May 16 – Amarillo, TX
Tues/Weds, May 17 & 18 – Dallas, TX
Thurs, May 19 – Baton Rouge, LA
Friday, May 20 – NEW ORLEANS

MIAMI, FL – Allen Leggett (alsu@sbcglobal.net)
Earl Halle (ebhalle@aol.com)

Tuesday, May 17 – Tampa, FL
Weds, May 18 – Panama City Beach, FL
Thurs, May 19 – Baton Rouge, LA (groups converge)
Friday, May 20 – NEW ORLEANS

Donor/Pledge Forms & Records: We are working with the Rotary Foundation staff to provide an on-line donation and pledge site that will track and tally pledges and donations by individual, club, and district for support of IFMR POLIO PLUS riders. We're still trying to work out the technical details to enable donations to go directly to the Foundation via a secure internet connection, which would greatly simplify the process of collecting, tabulating, and recognizing donations; and it would probably increase total donations.

Meanwhile, we've heard from several IFMR members and district fund-raising who have created their own local forms for that purpose. Until the technical difficulties are solved and an on-line donation site is available, locally developed forms and records are the next-best alternative, particularly if they are worked out in consultation with your district's POLIO PLUS chair or Foundation chair.

Marc Baker (Mqbhdrotary@gmail.com), Ride Captain for the Seattle group, is also developing a form that he has offered to provide to anyone else who is searching for a format. Contact him if you're interested in looking at that.



Continue to spread the word about the IFMR POLIO PLUS rides to New Orleans among your biker friends and fellow Rotarians and plan to join us, either in person or by supporting POLIO PLUS.

The project is not only going to benefit POLIO PLUS but it's also raising awareness of IFMR all across the country, and beyond. I've already heard from a group of IFMR riders from England and the Netherlands who plan to fly to Dulles International Airport, rent motorcycles from Eagle Rider, and join the Albany group as it passes thru Virginia. Another couple of IFMR riders from Australia tell me they are looking into arrangements for flying to San Francisco, renting motorcycles, and joining the Sacramento group for the ride to New Orleans, then continuing on to Washington, DC, after the convention. *Great international fellowship!*

And you can also get information about great IFMR rides in other parts of the world by going to www.IFMR.org and clicking on the new *TourTable* link.

Bob Shriner