



Volume 47.3 March 2021

Editor: Rod Fivelstad

OUR MISSION...

is to promote Rotary fellowship by encouraging clubs to sing,
to organize musical activities for performance at all levels of Rotary functions,
and to support community music organizations and school music programs.

IFRM, stronger despite Covid by Rod Fivelstad, IFRM Global Chair (RC of Grass Valley, CA)



March 2021, it has been one year since Covid-19 began to really impact and change our lives. It has not been the happiest year of my life, and in fact probably has been one of the most difficult. The difficulty comes as one of my great joys, corporate and choral singing in person was unceremoniously taken away from me. All of the choirs I participate in stopped rehearsing in person and all performances ceased. Bummer! Ah, but a bright spot appeared...ZOOM. Zoom does not create total satisfaction, nor replace the real joy of corporate singing and performance, it certainly beats the alternative which was singing to myself or no singing at all.

I have made many new IFRM friends through our Saturday morning IFRM Sings Zoom gatherings, which my wife, Susan and I host. Sometimes we just sing songs from the Rotary Song Book, or we work on learning a new piece of music, record our voices, and let John Ackenhusen work his magic with audio and video software to create the many songs now posted on our Facebook pages and You Tube Channel. These social media platforms also allow fellow IFRM members to showcase their musical talents. Take a look.

IFRM Sings via Zoom Saturday Mornings at 10 a.m. (Pacific Time) Note: Many places in the world will switch to some type of daylight savings time, but we do not all change on the same weekend. So please use your local internet connections to find out what time this occurs where you live. I live in California so the base time is Pacific Time, which is "standard time" until March 14, when we switch to Daylight Savings Time in the US.

Topic: IFRM Sings

Time: Saturday Mornings 10 a.m. (West Coast USA, Pacific Time) The Zoom link is always the same.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84894662814?pwd=bUIwM0w5TGhQc1E1TzY4dWZBZzFKUT09>

or if you like to log-in on your own.

Meeting ID: 848 9466 2814

Passcode: ifrmsings



Screen Shot from IFRM Sings

Expanding IFRM's opportunity to build Fellowship

IFRM Drop-in meetings. We started these as part of the Virtual Rotary Convention in Hawaii. It is a free-form Zoom meeting, designed to give members a chance to meet other IFRM members. In the future I want to encourage members to share examples of their musical talents. We will try these quarterly. I set up two Drop-in Meetings, close together but at different times to encourage participation from around the world. More detailed information will be in "Staccato". The next IFRM Drop-In will be toward the middle of April (April 16 &17). The April edition of Staccato will provide the details. In June we will once again have a presence at the Rotary International Virtual Convention and in the House of Friendship.

The ifrm@googlegroups.com Do you want to be connected with fellow IFRM members by email. Subscribe to our ifrm googlegroup. We exchange ideas and news, along with sharing information about IFRM sings and other IFRM gatherings.

IFRM is NOT just about Singing

At IFRM we want to encourage all types of musical expression and forms. Instrumentalists are also a very welcome and appreciated part of our Fellowship. What can we do for you? As your Global Chair, I want to hear from you with your ideas. You can reach me by email at globalchair@ifrm.org.

IFRM is now has an episode on the "I am Rotarian Podcasts" on Iheartradio.com. Global Chair Rod Fivelstad was Gwen Jones guest for Season 4 Episode 7. Give it a listen.

IFRM Website News

The **website update** for phase 1 is completed, which includes the reopening of the membership link. Visit ifrm.org. **Phase 2** is about to go live. Phase 2 reopens the database search capabilities for members to find other IFRM members who live near by, or have similar musical interests and skills. Watch for more details in Staccato.

Let's Do This! Work for a NEW RI Song Book, Continues!

By Susan DuPree

The RI Songbook, last published in 1999, fulfilled the needs of Rotary clubs who wished to continue the tradition of singing at their Rotary meetings. However, with the advent of new technologies that help us stay connected, we have changed our focus to be more attuned to the many cultures that make up our Rotary Family. Therefore, in the last decade, there has been an increasing number of Rotarians who have expressed their desire for a revised RI Songbook that better reflects our global membership.

IFRM Directors Curtis Reinhardt, Robert Bracegirdle and Susan DuPree, along with the Sing-a-long Director, John Ackenhusen are forming a committee to look at developing a new RI songbook. Ideas for this project include:

- adding *regional* songbooks with help from our Vice-Chairs
- making *all* editions accessible online -on our website.
- Publishing annotated, hard copy editions representing each region and used to raise funds, for example, for the IFRM Foundation.
- Creating criteria for all submissions to the IFRM Dropbox, then having IFRM musicians do the vetting.
- IFRM members vote on final selections

The Committee has been very busy building a database of possible songs to be included and are in the process of discovery and vetting, to make sure copyrights and other publication rights and permissions can be secured. The Songbook Committee meets monthly and is working hard to have this new on-line songbook by the Rotary Convention in Houston in 2022.

If you have input for the IFRM Songbook Committee, contact Susan DuPree at musicdirector@ifrm.org . **Let's Do This!**

IFRM Sings Zoom Link: Join Zoom Meeting Saturdays 10 a.m. Pacific Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84894662814?pwd=bUlwM0w5TGhQc1E1TzY4dWZBZzFKUT09>

Meeting ID: 848 9466 2814

Passcode: ifrmsings



Remember the good old days of face to face meetings

Long time IFRM member Ada Kahn will be introducing our IFRM membership to more of our IFRM Board of Directors in the Keeping the Beat Section. Let's meet 3 of our IFRM Board of Director Members Frances-Ann Satney, Judith Crowe, and Paddy Iyer.

Keeping the Beat... by Ada Kahn (RC of Evanston, IL)



...Frances-Ann Satney, IFRM Co-Chair for the Caribbean

Frances-Ann Satney is Vice-Chair, Caribbean, along with Dr A J Malcolm Charles. As a teenager she was involved with Rotary Rotaract assisting with fund raising projects. She joined Rotary in Dominica in 2001 at the urging of PAG Sammy Wyke who also introduced and encouraged her to become a lifetime IFRM member.

She has been a member of the Rotary Club of St Kitts (D7030) for thirteen (13) years, an IFRM member for five years, and an IFRM Director for two years. She is in

her second term as an AG for St Kitts and Nevis, assisting two Rotary clubs and a Rotaract club with their projects. Frances-Ann is currently on the team working on a new IFRM song book.

She lives in the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis, having moved there in 2008 to assume the Country Manager position with the Royal Bank of Canada. Frances-Ann has been with the bank for 40 years. She has a Bachelor's degree in Financial Services from Nipissing University in Canada and is an Associate of the Institute of Canadian Bankers.

Frances-Ann enjoys her new home base in St Kitts and Nevis with her husband Andrew, an active Rotary Partner-In-Service. The Federation has a population of about 50,000 and is a well-known tourist destination with top resorts including Marriott Hotel, Park Hyatt and Four Seasons in the sister island of Nevis. It is closest in the north to the islands of Antigua and St Maarten, and a three-hour direct flight from Miami.

The Rotary Club of St Kitts has 35 members, 8 of whom are women. The club is 52 years old and has contributed significantly to the community. Over the years they have facilitated ambulances and built a special wing at the JNF Hospital, the major hospital in the area, cared for the sick and shut-ins, supported health care initiatives and conducted an annual prostate screening project with a team of local and US-based doctors; this has raised awareness and resulted in medical response by many. "We support educational initiatives and take pride in the annual distribution of dictionaries to primary schools, for grades 4 and 5," says Frances-Ann.

The club sings the National Anthem of St Kitts and Nevis at weekly lunch meetings. Each year they sing at the Home for the Aged at Christmas time. They also do virtual karaoke and sing at club parties.

At RI conferences in Atlanta and Toronto, Frances-Ann enjoyed stopping at the IFRM booth and sharing brochures to encourage membership. She participates in the Saturday morning IFRM Zoom choir and is a church choir director. She is learning to play the piano, with lessons weekly from her nine-year old niece, Matea, who resides in Canada.

"We have musical programs locally, some with international artists, Gospel festivals, and church group concerts. I'd like to see a School of Music in our area that would provide lessons and programs at affordable prices. There is such a diverse population here, with a mix of cultures both English and Spanish. Many people come from the Eastern Caribbean, who are employed by the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank," says Frances-Ann.

"I like using Zoom. It works well to keep the business of the IFRM Board going. You meet colleagues whom you may not otherwise come across. However, it is tricky to manage the timing across many time zones," says Frances-Ann. She also enjoys using zoom for weekly Rotary meetings, occasional meetings of the Dominican Association, and family events with relatives in Dominica where her eldest brother Reggie lives, Canada and Boston (sisters) and Florida where her younger brother

resides with his family. Both Reggie and her sister Liz have joined IFRM at Saturday morning sing along sessions.

"Recently I asked our District Governor, Lisle Chase, for an opportunity to promote awareness of IFRM. We had a call involving several action groups with Rotary leaders throughout the District. I hope the call resulted in some new IFRM members," says Frances-Ann.

Frances-Ann and Andrew love traveling and experiencing the music of different places. Most recently (Jan 2020) while on vacation in Miami (last since Covid-19) they were fortunate to get tickets to a performance of Celine Dion at the American Arena which was packed to capacity. Music is dear to them and every trip includes a night at the theatre, or some music event. In the Caribbean it is Jazz Festival in St Lucia or Creole Musical Festival in St Kitts. After Mass, it is relaxing on Sundays listening to a wide genre of music readily available online.



Let's Keep the Beat and meet Judith Crowe, IFRM Vice-Chair for Europe

Judith Crowe, Vice-Chair Europe, has been a Rotarian for 17 years. She is currently a member of Olonzac en Minervois - Passeport (D1700), France. The club with seven members was founded in 2011; she was one of the founders and was President in 2015-2016. Her town is very small (population: 2,000) and is surrounded by many smaller villages. Olonzac is regarded as the capital of the Minervois, an area in the southern part of France. Many people go to larger cities to work, making recruitment of new members difficult.

She became an IFRM member in 2013 and an IFRM Director in 2020. There are 110 clubs in her District. "I would like to get more contributions for IFRM from other European countries. Language is somewhat of a barrier," says Judith.

"We organize fundraising concerts with external organizations. It is rare to find any musical activity within any club in France," says Judith.

Service projects in her club involve collecting spectacles for recycling, supporting a food bank, collecting bottle tops to help the handicapped, and others as needs arise. "We have helped local firemen, the tennis club, the rugby club, the judo club, and the association that helps integrate many incomers. These are all small projects suiting what we can do within our very local and rural community. Such activities are more controlled in France, more is done and expected to be done by the central and local governments. Such projects, common in other countries, are harder to achieve here, particularly by small clubs and in rural areas. There is great poverty and family life is more important here than in many other countries," explains Judith.

Judith retired from her career as an information scientist 14 years ago when she moved to France. She worked in special libraries covering many subjects, developing and maintaining data bases, plus archival work. She has a B.Sc Inf Sc. from Leeds Polytechnic, UK.

In her early 20s, before Rotary admitted women, Judith found her service "niche" by joining the UK Business and Professional Women's Federation, an international network of women whose aim was to help women achieve their full potential in work, home or public service. "I learned many life skills which have stood me in great stead in my working life as well as in Rotary," she says.

In 2004 Judith joined the Westminster East Rotary Club based in central London. She served as Secretary for two years and President in 2007-2008. Then upon her retirement, moved to France and transferred to RC Lezignan Corbieres et Minervois club in 2009 and again transferred when she founded RC Olonzac en Minervois in June, 2011. She served as Sargent at Arms, and Secretary to a French speaking club President.

Until two years ago, Judith was also a member of the local Inner Wheel. "They were far more active in the music sphere than either of the local Rotary clubs," she says.

Judith is one of triplets and comes from a very musical and Rotarian family. They sang in choirs, and one uncle played the organ in church. "Once my sisters and I sang in a folk group and appeared on a local radio station," she recalls.

Her "love affair" with France began in 1967 when she went to Montereau, southeast of Fontainebleau with a school group. Soon after that, the Rotary Clubs of Otley, where her father was then President and the Montereau club were twinned. "Once I was asked to translate speeches for the Otley Club president into French," she says. "They were exciting times and really introduced me to the internationality of Rotary which I now find happily in IFRM."

And the Beat Goes On with our IFRM Vice-Chair for India...

Padmanabhan Sundresan Iyer, known as Paddy, IFRM Vice-Chair, India, has been a member of the Rotary Club of Thane Hills (D3142) since 1997. His club has 97 members, of whom 7 are women. His town, Thane, a suburb of Mumbai, is crowded with a high density population. His District has 92 clubs.

As a Director, Paddy promotes the IFRM concept throughout India, encourages Districts to form their own chapters and organize musical workshops. He strives to bring cohesiveness to all chapters. Further, he promotes IFRM by word of mouth by talking to DGs and key members of clubs.

"I started IFRM in our District with the support of then VC Nagesh. I was a Zonal head for two years before becoming Vice- Chair India and Sri Lanka. "I love what I'm doing right now for IFRM. I'm getting support from IFRM Global to achieve what I set as a goal for myself," says Paddy.

"Ours is a musical club. We have regular musical shows by members, music quiz shows, etc. We have many members who sing well. Songs are generally from the India cinema, Bollywood," says Paddy. "We have not yet used the Rotary song book as we do not have singers who know English songs."

Paddy sings and plays a keyboard. His entire family is very musical. His wife, Radhika sings well. His son is a music lover as are his sisters and brother.

"In our city there are regular music activities. We have many shows in which top professionals from the country perform. Western music is not very popular in our city. I would love to promote and attend some Western music shows," says Paddy.

"Our club has participated in many service projects. The larger ones are building a blood bank, building toilets in villages, and checking dams to conserve water," he explains.

A note from the Editor:

Each of these new IFRM Board Members have already made notable contributions to the development of IFRM as a truly **INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP** of Rotarian Musicians. We are so fortunate to have them as IFRM Board Members.

IFRM Goes around the World

Did you know that IFRM has more than 700 members from 43 different countries? We are truly an international fellowship bound together by the joy of music. Whether you simply love music or are a performer, this Rotarian Fellowship is for you. The IFRM Board of Directors includes its officers (President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chair, Past Global Chair and Vice Chairs connected to various geographical areas around the world, and Board Members with special responsibilities). Following is an opportunity to meet

some of these IFRM members and learn a little about them and their connection with IFRM. Here is a quick update on our IFRM Board of Directors.

Bonnie Sirower IFRM Treasurer is keeping busy, working on grants for Music Mends Minds and a Water project in Central America.

Madhu Bishnu IFRM Social Media Director



Madhu helps coordinate all of our Social Media including Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram.

Gregory Bakunzi Vice-Chair/Africa



Greg Bakunzi,
Red Rocks Initiatives For Sustainable Development
www.redrocksinitiative.org

Paddy Iyer Vice Chair for India and Sri Lanka



Paddy continues his very busy responsibilities in India and Sri Lanka. India and Sri Lanka have four District Level IFRM Chapters. Each chapter has its own Installation Event, which are quite spectacular. You can see snippets of these events on the International Fellowship of Rotarian Musicians YouTube Channel and in Facebook. Paddy is featured in our Keeping the Beat section this edition.

Vice Co-Chairs for the Carribbean Frances-Ann Satney and Dr. Malcolm Charles. Learn more about Frances-Ann in Keeping the Beat.



Jean-Louis Nguyen Qui

Vice-Chair/Asia

Jean-Louis is another director with large geographical, language, and cultural differences. We will learn more about these challenges and successes in a future MUSIC NOTES.

Judith Crowe *Vice Chair Europe*



Judith is one of our featured Board Members in the Keeping The Beat section.

Robert Bracegirdle Vice-Chair United Kingdom has a very busy Zoom Schedule every week. He says he does some time suffer from Zoom Fatigue.

Judy Walker Rotary World Choir director has already begun to think about our next Rotary World Choir in Houston in 2022.

Susan DuPree is busy with the new Song Book project

Howard Bridgman is a busy guy in Australia

Barry Oxford is our Membership Chair. He is extremely busy as we bring the new website on-line and re-activate the new members registration.

Lee Denlinger, our immediate past chair continues to provide insights into all aspects of the operation of IFRM.

Curtis Reinhardt helps with coordination of various projects including work the the IFRM Foundation and the New Song Book Committee.

Susan Fivelstad, our IFRM Secretary keeps our Global Chair, Rod, in-line and focused on the work of IFRM.

IFRM Foundation



Peter Sotheran
CEO, IFRM Foundation

Did you know that IFRM has a Foundation that is a 501c3 Charitable Organization in the United States? Donations to the IFRM Foundation are tax deductible. The Foundation has supported many worthwhile music literacy programs around the world particularly focusing on youth projects. Take a look at the IFRM website for more information and consider making a donation to further the wonderful work of the IFRM Foundation.

Rotary International Virtual Convention 2.0

RI has once again needed to change its plans and be flexible as the RI Convention set for Taiwan has been cancelled. Plans are underway for a Virtual Convention June 12-16 and IFRM will have a presence at the Convention in the House of Friendship. Watch for information about the Virtual Convention, sign-up and plan to visit our "booth" in the virtual House of Friendship.

WE, at IFRM, have already started to plan for the RI Convention in Houston, and very much want to re-institute our Rotary World Choir. Keep watch for more information at our website: ifrm.org, and in Music Notes and Staccato.

IFRM operates in accordance with Rotary International policy, but is not an agency of, nor controlled by, RI.

Membership Application/Renewal Form

Membership is open to ALL persons Interested In Music and Fellowship.
Rotarians, spouses, Rotary program participants and alumni and Non-Rotarians, too.

Please Check One

Dr. Mr. Mrs. Ms. Rotarian Spouse Rotaractor

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ New Member Renewal
Rotary Club Name _____ District No. _____ Country _____

Mailing Address _____

Home Phone _____ Mobile Phone: _____

Work Phone _____ Email (Required) _____

I am a Rotary Song Leader Piano Player My Voice is (circle one) S A T B

Musical Talent/Occupation: _____

I am enclosing my dues of

US \$35 for **3 years** membership (includes pin for new members)

US \$35 for 3 years **renewal**

US \$200 for **Lifetime Membership**; \$100 for member's **spouse** Total: _____

Plus donation _____ for IFRM projects Total: _____

Plus # _____ of Small 1/2" x 1" G Clef Pin(s) at \$5 each & \$2 for Shipping Total: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: US \$ _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Make checks payable to **IFRM**, and mail to: **IFRM** <<<NEW ADDRESS<<<

P.O. Box 2438
Grass Valley, CA USA

Or pay on-line through **PayPal** at www.IFRM.org (membership)

IFRM Board of Directors (2020-21)

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Lee Denlinger, Immediate Past *Global Chair*, Brentwood, CA USA
email: lee_denlinger@yahoo.com

Susan Fivelstad, *Secretary*, Grass Valley, CA USA e-mail: secretary@IFRM.org

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