



President's Newsletter Vol 20, Nr 1, July 2023

Antique Classic & Historic Automobile world

Fellowship of Rotarians

more than 30 years old and unabated energetic!!

Dear Members,

National Chapters and our Fellowship resumed at full steam the organization of tours. We noticed that our classic cars have been well checked and conserved during the long lock-down period.

II Tours in 2023

In April the Falmouth-organized Tour of Cornwall saw participants from the UK, Germany and the Netherlands and they all agreed that our friends in Wales, who promised 'You may well have visited Cornwall many times, but we guarantee that you will go to places where you haven't been before' in full delivered.

In May our German Chapter ROFD organized the Muensterlaender Castle Tour on May 5th, followed on June 2-3 by the Husumer Coastal Tour.

In Switzerland the new Swiss Chapter (RDCV-CH/FL) Chapter took members to the beautiful area of Luzern, Emmental and Berner Oberland from May 5-6.

From June 18-24 ARACI organized this year's Europe Tour from Coast-to-Coast (see below).

In September RRAF-UK invites us to its Scotland Highland Tour and on October 7-8 the Dutch Chapter (RRAF-NL) organizes a tour through Twente- the eastern area of the Netherlands from October 7-8.

As well in Italy a tour in the Maranello area will be organized from October 12-15, which includes a visit to the Maserati factory and a visit to the Ferrari Museum.

III Tours in 2024

In 2024 we will again see tours in Germany – the Muensterlaender Castle Tour in May and the Husumer Coastal Tour in June -as well as the Coast-to-Coast Tour in Italy in April and tours in Switzerland, Belgium and the Netherlands lateron.

On this occasion the Chapters are again asked to inform well in time the Secretary of ACHAFR about forthcoming tours in order to announce these on our website www.achafr.eu, which proves to be THE information and booking source to members of our Fellowships.

IV Europe Tours in 2023 and 2024

This year's ARACI/ACHAFR Europe Tour took us across the Apennines from the Adriatic to the Tyrrhenian Sea from June 18-24.

With 52 cars, including 30 from Germany, Switzerland, Spain and the Netherlands we started in Ascoli Piceno, stopped in the earth-quake hidden area of Arquata del Tronto to visit the Rotary Point, the facility built also with the support of our Fellowships and inaugurated in 2020 as a social gathering center, climbed the Forca di Presta to then descend to the blooming fields of Casteluccio. We continued to Assisi to visit the Upper Basilica and enjoyed the lunch well prepared by disabled young people trained at the La Semente farmhouse. In southern Tuscany we have been impressed by art and religion at the Abbey of Sant'Antimo, and of course by the cucina and the splendid vino in Montalcino. On June 23, the engines of the vintage cars have been left to rest and we took the boat to island of Giannutri and Giglio. Dinner on the beach in Orbetello concluded the event, which uni sono has been hailed as a great success by all participants, who with sincere thanks to ARACI's President Alberto Cerrachio and his great team said farewell and "alla prossima" .

In 2024 RRAF-UK invites us to the Europe Tour in the Normandy from September 9-12. Following positive experiences from a previous tour it has been decided to again take the lakeside Eden Park Hotel at Pont L'Eveque, as the base for the tour. The registration fee will be Pd 950,- per team covering the 3 days hotel accommodation, breakfasts, dinners and lunches on the 2 formal driving days.

Since participation at the tour is limited to 40 teams only, members interested should register as soon as possible via the forms already available on our website www.achafr.eu. Details of the programme will be on the website in due course.

V Annual General Meeting 2023

During the Europe Tour we held the Annual General Meeting of ACHAFR on June 21 , 2023 at Chianciano Terme. The Meeting has been attended by 35 members of the Chapters, who amongst other items agreed to the Financial Report 2022 and the Budget 2023. Minutes of the Meeting have been distributed to Chapters and others on mailing list and can be applied with the Secretary.

As per May 31,2023 our Bank account showed a positive balance of € 5940,-

Since the organisation of tours nearly came to a standstill in 2020 and 2021 the Board decided not to levy the yearly fee to the Chapters in those years and thus to support them. As a consequence, ACHAFR became solely dependent on contributions from new life-time members. Expenditures, particularly for IT have been under strict control.

The Board will decide in due course whether the fees to national Chapters will be resumed for 2024.

We are very pleased that after some years of (Covid- induced) standstill, our Fellowship is showing dynamism again and offers opportunities to join a variability of tours and to strengthen the main characteristic of our Fellowship: 'family festivals' of petrol heads. At those joint events and adjacent social gatherings, the close-knit car-family attitudes prevail over nationalities and languages and add to Rotary's philosophy of close cooperation and communication at home and across borders, which is extremely important and valuable in nowadays' changing environments and tendencies.

Together, we

KEEP ROTARY ROLLING

With finest personal regards

Dr. Matthijs van den Adel