



# THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL  
AN ASSOCIATION OF PAST COMMODORES

*Volume 32 No. 2*

*March/April 2011*

*Mary Nye Meyers, Editor*

The mission of IOBG is to recognize past commodores of the international yachting community and unite them in order to promote the highest ideals of yachting and preserve its customs and traditions through social, educational and humanitarian programs.



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# President Vern Bendsen



Following 'Your Rainbow' takes you to all kinds of beautiful places where you meet and make new friends and renew friendship with your fellow boaters. And that is what happened at our Winter Regional Meeting.

A big Thank You to District 8 for hosting our Winter Regional Meeting and a very SPECIAL Thank You to the Isles Yacht Club's Blue Gavel Chapter and the Isles Yacht Club members and staff for their wonderful hospitality.

What is the easiest thing to do; yet it is one of the hardest thing to do? It is called communication.

My number one priority this year is to have a working communication system in place, whereby we can communicate to every member; and they can communicate to everyone on the Executive Committee. Communication is defined as a sending, giving or exchanging information. And it takes two to communicate: one to send something, one to receive it.

The International level of the Blue Gavel has had a problem communicating with the membership for a long time. For the past several years, your Executive Committee has been working hard to change this so we can communicate regularly with our membership. I do not want to hear, 'We sent a letter to the Executive Committee, or a specific individual and never got an answer.'

We want to be more member oriented. We want our membership to know what is happening. We want our membership to give us their input. And we can only do this by communicating with each other.

We are open for suggestions; but always remember; a suggestion must be for the benefit of the whole organization, not just for a few. To help with this, several things have happened:

\*We have a place on our web site for the membership to send us their concerns and thoughts.

\*Our first edition of the Lighthouse bulletin went out to the membership in the past few weeks. The Lighthouse will be sent to all every 4 to 6 weeks.

\*The Nominating Committee will have two regular Blue Gavel members on it; one from the East and one from the West. Neither one holds any office with the Blue Gavel. Each will have a term for 2 years, except for the West, this year it is one year. This will stagger the terms of office.

I know change is hard, especially when the same way has gone on for years. There will be some who do not want to change, but change we will. We must keep up with the times. I ask each and every Blue Gavel member; 'Help us with your organization to change into the 21st century'.

It is you, the Blue Gavel member that makes our organization special, because we are positive people who can talk to each other, work with each other, do business with each other and have FUN with each other.

It doesn't get any better than that - - -  
and remember: OPTIMISM IS CONTAGIOUS!

# President Elect Marc Connelly



A huge round of applause to District 8 for a great Winter Regional meeting. "Many Thanks" to the Isles Yacht Club, P/C Charles Martoglio and his committee. Not only was our reception warm but the weather cooperated to make we northerners quite comfortable.



When I met P/C Martoglio, he indicated I was known by one of their members. To my surprise that person turned out to be P/C Dick Treadway. Dick was the 1964-1965 Commodore of my club before moving to a warmer climate. Dick, it was so nice to see you and Barb again after all these years!

As President Elect part of my job description is to support the President. On a daily basis, I can expect no less than one email. This kind of communication really helps us support IOBG as an organization. Likewise with 1st V.P. Steve Willing and 2nd V.P. Chuck Browning reporting, the communication is great.

My position also includes the current budget, auditing our financials and working with P/C Nemo in preparing next years budget. As this note is finished I will sit down and review current financial positions. If you are wondering, yes we are in good financial condition.

Lastly Kathy and I would like to enthusiastically invite each of you to the 2011 Annual Meeting in Buffalo / Niagara on October 20 - 22 - 2011.

We look forward to seeing you!

## *IOBG and IOBGA*

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### *Approved Vendors*

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**Pierside Promotions**  
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**Yachta Lettering**  
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# First Vice President

Stephen Willing



SNOW, for those of us who reside in the northern states and the provinces of Canada, we know what it is, and we've had enough! While for some it's only March, for the rest of us, it's the cusp of another boating season. Boat wells, or boat slips, as they are called in some areas, must be reserved and paid for by the end of the month. Bottom paint and waxes are being ordered, and marine electronic shows, are popping up like the tulips in spring.

Last year, the IOBG moved ahead with new initiatives and features, and just as you prepare your boat for the upcoming season, you should also prepare yourselves for another great year of IOBG membership.

This means that your membership should be paid, and if you wish to be an active member, you should also be aware of the new by-laws, passed last year. Every member of a District Board of Directors should by now, have downloaded the new by-laws from our website ([www.iobg.org](http://www.iobg.org)). The cost to print your own set is minimal, less than 50 cents for paper and ink. You can do it at home, at your local Staples or at any other business store or public library.

At this time, the Policy and Procedures Manual is being updated and brought in line with the new by-laws, however the duties of the District Officers and the Area Vice-Presidents are still available on the website for your use. When the revised Policy and Procedures Manual is approved and uploaded, you should print it for easy access.

Area Vice Presidents and District Directors are required to submit statistical reports before each regional meeting. These reports are located on the website ([www.iobg.org](http://www.iobg.org)) and can be filled in online and submitted electronically. A report for the LOG newsletter, outlining your Districts' activities, should also be submitted before each regional meeting, with a copy to the Area Vice President and the LOG Editor. This should be submitted electronically, when possible, for ease of use by the LOG Editor.

The IOBG executive board has worked diligently to make the fulfillment of the duties of the Area Vice-Presidents and District Directors easier. It's the duty of these officers to complete these forms and submit them in a timely manner. Your cooperation is appreciated.

We would not put our boats in the water without proper preparation; the same should apply to our duties as officers. Of course we have made sure our boats are ready, and we are eager to get underway, have we forgotten our spouses? For a nominal sum, our spouses can become members of the IOBG Auxiliary, (applications can be found at [www.iobga.org](http://www.iobga.org)).

All members are encouraged to attend any of the regional meetings. Meeting the board members and enjoying the friendship is an important part of membership in your organization. Hope to see you soon.

## *Meeting Minutes*

The Executive Committee, in response to suggestions to reduce the publishing cost of the Blue Gavel LOG, has decided not to print the Minutes in future issues of the LOG.

The minutes will now be available on the IOBG web site, [www.iobg.org](http://www.iobg.org) - or to request a set by mail, please contact:

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# Second Vice President

## Chuck Browning



Did everyone have a good time at the winter meeting in Florida? If you didn't you were not there. I would like once again to thank the IOBG Officers and members of Isles Yacht Club for their hospitality and the great job they did putting everything together.

We accomplished a lot during this meeting and I think we will do the same at all our meetings this year, especially if we can get everyone communicating. Communications will continue to be our theme and you will continue hearing this from all our Officers and the Executive Committee. We want to hear from every member that has a suggestion or idea dealing with our communication skills or any other subject that they want to bring to our attention.

Everyone has heard about the earthquake in New Zealand. The news that we are getting isn't very encouraging. Our prayers are with them and I hope everyone escaped this destruction without injury. If there is anything that we can do, I hope the members of District 75 will call on us.

2011 will be a great year and I would like to see all of you in Portland at the Spring Regional Meeting. It looks like District 5 has a lot of events planned.

### Electronic Delivery of the Blue Gavel LOG

For the next issue of The Blue Gavel LOG those member with valid email addresses and opened the last issue of The Lighthouse will receive the March issue of the LOG electronically. You may print a copy on your printer or print only the pages you need.

All others will receive a printed copy of the LOG by mail. For the July issue of the LOG, all members with a valid email address - whether they opened the Lighthouse email file or not - will receive the LOG electronically. This policy was instituted by the Executive Committee to reduce operating costs and not raise dues.

Remember, if you travel with the seasons and your LOG comes back as "temporarily away" (the snowbird indicator used by the Post Office) you do not receive anything anyway because we do not forward such returned items. It is better to receive the LOG as part of your email.

# Treasurer Marshall Nemoy



At our February Regional Meeting I presented the financial statements as of December 31, 2010 and the year then ended. Here is a summary of the results:

IOBG had a net income for the year ended December 31, 2010 of \$3,763 as compared to the \$7,468 loss for 2009, a net change of \$11,231. During 2010 our dues collections were \$73,150 which was \$9,250 less than budgeted and \$9,650 less than the prior year. However, our total expenses for the year were \$13,504 lower than budget and \$22,021 lower than the prior year. Most of the savings resulted from the elimination of one regional meeting and lower than expected attendance at the Annual Meeting. Significant savings were also experienced in the clerical services and travel expense areas.

Our total assets increased by \$8,767 to \$106,233. Of that amount \$5,640 resulted from higher collections of 2011 dues prior to December 31, 2010 as compared to the same date last year. Such income is deferred income to be recognized in 2011. Our liability to District 18 was reduced by \$1,500 of funds we are holding in trust which were advanced to them to reorganize their district.

The elimination of one regional meeting contributed to the overall positive results for the year. However, the process has introduced new questions about communication and administrative responsibilities. Some are of the opinion that the period of October to June is too great to go without a meeting of the executive committee. For 2011 there will be a February meeting but the August meeting will be eliminated. This introduces another problem of announcing the nominees and discussing items to be submitted to the Board of Directors at our Annual Meeting.

I was very pleased with the progress that was made at our Regional Meeting at the Isles Yacht Club. The members of District 8 and, in particular, the members of Isles Yacht Club were very gracious hosts. At our Friday session we discussed the update of our Policy Manual and took comments from those in attendance. We listened to the concerns of some members about the wording in our bylaws. The discussions were businesslike and provided a better understanding of their concerns. I believe we should adopt the format that was used at the meeting for our future regional meetings.

Our first edition of the news bulletin, *The Lighthouse*, appears to have been well received by a majority of the members with valid email addresses. However, we still had many members who received the email but never opened the file. *The Lighthouse* is intended to be a brief bulletin type publication to keep all our members informed about what is happening in IOBG. It is planned to be published approximately once per month. Look for IOBG in the subject line.

Telephone numbers and addresses of members are protected by the Privacy Act of 1974. As a matter of policy, rosters of names, addresses and telephone numbers shall not be made available to the general public or any outside organization. Privacy of all rosters shall be safeguarded and the page clearly labeled.

The publication of these rosters, addresses and telephone numbers on any computer on-line service including the Internet is prohibited by the 1974 Privacy Act.



# Legal Officer George C. Knies



An inquiry was recently received concerning the induction of Honorary Yacht Club Commodores into IOBG. Clubs and other organizations have used this honor to award persons of political, business and social prestige who in many instances have no specific connection with the primary function/mission of the club, i.e. local sheriff, mayor, bank president, etc.

Traditionally a Yacht Club Commodore is elected by his/her club membership after ascending "through the chairs", thus affording him/her skills and experience in most facets of club management, yachting and social activities. Our pledge emphasizes the responsibility of our members to engage as advisors to their clubs, a service that demands experience and respect. There is no provision in our Bylaws or Policy Manual for such an appointment. Honorary Yacht Club Commodores are not eligible for membership in IOBG.

## Revisiting Club Web Sites & the IRS

The IRS has thousands of new hires that are straining at the bit to open new investigations. Tax-exempt organizations making less than one million dollars a year are now prime targets. IRS has not published clear guidelines for 501(c)(7) tax-exempt organizations when dealing with the Internet. Actually, they have not published definitive information for any tax-exempt organization to date. The IRS has informed the tax-exempt industry that it is concerned about some of the activities found on the Internet and have asked for input from professionals on how to deal with this new medium of communication. Tax concerns have been expressed in both private meetings and at public forums where Treasury officials are present. Much of their concern in the past has been directed toward 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organizations, this policy has now expanded to 501(c)(7), etc organizations Charities have been, and will continue to be, prime targets of IRS audits and rulings.

The IRS will be looking at tax-exempt organization's web sites. One official has disclosed that the Internet will play a central role in future IRS audits in order to gather pertinent information. The Internet was said to provide access to such useful information for IRS examiners, that an internal memorandum has been issued authorizing employees to use the Internet for their research. One IRS Branch Chief went so far as to state that an Internet search could provide valuable information about a particular industry under examination. The IRS knows there is a wealth of information to be found on the Internet and that this information may generate additional tax dollars for the Treasury

Clubs should not do something on the Internet that would not be done in their own clubhouse.

Clubs should not do something on the Internet that would not be done in printed form, such as in flyers and newsletters.

If establishing a club web site, do so for your members' benefit, not for the benefit of the general public.

A web site should become a forum for attracting members to join together, as in the use of the club's facilities.

Linking to any commercial sites may be dangerous to the club's tax health.

Remember the "Unearned Income Rule" 15% maximum from non-club members

# IOBG Spring Regional Meeting

Thursday, June 9 - Sunday, June 12, Portland, Oregon

Hosted by District 5

in conjunction with

The Portland Rose Festival

District 5 welcomes you to participate in an IOBG tradition over 40 years in the making—the IOBG Spring Regional Meeting held in Portland in conjunction with the famous Portland Rose Festival. This year's business meetings and lunch will be Thursday at the beautiful Columbia River Yacht Club located on the "Mighty River of the West." Friday evening, just a bit further east on the Columbia River, attendees will relax at Portland Yacht Club, enjoying a social hour and Western "cook it the way you like it" barbecue with all the "fixins."



Amid your yacht club activities you will delight in a festival that is over 100 years old, the Portland Rose Festival, Portland's icon of civic pride--when we become the mythical land of Royal Rosaria. There are events to please everyone from a huge carnival on the waterfront to one of the best rose shows in the country. As is the tradition, IOBG's incoming president will be knighted on Friday by the Queen of Rosaria in Portland's gorgeous Rose Garden overlooking the city. Saturday is a spectacular parade of floats, topped off by the Grand Ball. This year's theme Rose Festival theme is "A Carnival of Roses" and assures all the fun of a carnival with all the magic and wonder that is a beautiful rose.

Special accommodations are provided for IOBG at the Rose Festival headquarters hotel, the Lloyd Center Double Tree. This hotel, right on the light rail line, is convenient to shopping and all of Portland's downtown attractions. You have the option of signing up for a host of perks and activities you will find on the Rose Festival form that follows. That reservation form is sent to the Rose Festival Association. You will note that registration for the District 5 coordinated meetings at Columbia River and Portland Yacht Clubs requires a separate form mailed to District 5. We apologize that it takes two steps to complete your registration, but we know the extra benefits of the Rose Festival package make that step worthwhile. We look forward to making your visit to Portland productive and truly enjoyable. So, as President Vern says, "Follow your rainbow" to Portland this June. See you then.

Ron Timmerman, President, District 5

# International Order of the Blue Gavel

## Spring Regional Meeting Hosted by District #5

Portland, Oregon

June 9 - 12, 2011

### Thursday, June 9 – Business Meetings

Transportation from Double Tree to CRYC by car pool or taxi

#### **Dress of the Day: Summer Uniform**

*Blue Blazer, White Shirt, Pants, Socks & Shoes, IOBG Tie*

#### **Columbia River Yacht Club**

37 N Tomahawk Island Dr. Portland, OR 97217 (Hayden Island)  
503 289 6561

9:00 AM..... IOBG Executive Committee Meeting  
Coffee, Tea and Pastries  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM..... IOBG General Meeting  
IOBG Auxiliary General Meeting  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM..... Lunch ..... number @ \$15.00 ..... Total \$ .....  
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM..... IOBG General Meeting (Continued)  
Humanitarian Foundation Meeting  
3:30 PM ..... Transportation back to Double Tree Hotel by car pool or taxi.

### Friday, June 10 – Western BBQ

Transportation from Double Tree to PYC by car pool or taxi.

#### **Portland Yacht Club**

1241 NE Marine Drive Portland, OR 97211  
503 285 1922

**Dress is casual**

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM..... Social - No Host Cocktails  
6:00 PM..... Western BBQ Dinner, salad bar, baked potatoes, western chili, "make your own"  
Ice cream sundaes with Oregon berries and all the trimmings.

number @ \$23.00 ..... Total \$ .....

Select your Entrees:      Number of marinated Chicken Breasts \_\_\_\_\_ # of marinated Steaks \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED: \$ .....

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO  
"IOBG District 5" AND SEND THE RESERVATION FORM TO:**

Bill McKinney, Blue Gavel District 5, 426 N Lotus Isle Dr, Portland, OR 97217

billmckinney3@gmail.com

**Deadline: May 28, 2011**

Questions? Ron Timmerman, District 5 President 503-297-1030 Email: rontimmerman@msn.com

District Number \_\_\_\_\_ Yacht Club \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE/GUEST \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY/ST \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_



# HOSPITALITY WEEKEND EVENT REGISTRATION

THE 2011 ROYAL ROSARIAN  
ROSE FESTIVAL HOSPITALITY WEEKEND  
JUNE 9-12 • PORTLAND, OREGON

Thank you for registering for the 2011 Royal Rosarian Rose Festival Hospitality Weekend. Registration is as easy as 1-2-3. Discount is available through Friday, May 20. **Please be sure to return this registration form no later than Friday, June 3, 2011.**

## 1 SELECT

### FULL REGISTRATION

This option includes the Hospitality Suite on all days, Fun Night - Rock'n Blues, The Olympic Grand Floral Ball\*, Farewell Breakfast, and transportation to the Knighting Ceremony [Note: The Queens' Garden Party luncheon and Queen's Coronation are not included with full registration].

Couple .....	\$299 per couple .....	x _____	couple/s.....	= \$ _____
Couple (after May 20).....	\$319 per couple .....	x _____	couple/s.....	= \$ _____
Single .....	\$155 per person .....			= \$ _____
Single (after May 20) .....	\$165 per person .....			= \$ _____

### ALA CARTE EVENT REGISTRATION

Individual event tickets can also be purchased.

Hospitality Suite for 3 Days.....	\$50 per person .....	x _____	tickets.....	= \$ _____
Hospitality Suite for 1 Day (Indicate day): Thurs Fri Sat.....	\$27 per person .....	x _____	tickets.....	= \$ _____
Queens' Garden Party (Friday) .....	\$35 per person .....	x _____	tickets.....	= \$ _____
Fun Night - Rock'n Blues (Friday).....	\$60 per person .....	x _____	tickets.....	= \$ _____
Grand Floral Parade / Coronation Preferred Seating (Saturday)**.....	\$30 per person .....	x _____	tickets.....	= \$ _____
The Grecian Olympic Ball (Saturday)* .....	\$70 per person .....	x _____	tickets.....	= \$ _____
Farewell Breakfast (Sunday).....	\$25 per person .....	x _____	tickets.....	= \$ _____

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:**..... **US \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*INDICATE MEAL CHOICE FOR THE OLYMPIC GRAND FLORAL BALL ON THE BACK OF THIS REGISTRATION.**

\*\*Grand Floral Parade / Coronation Preferred Seating Tickets are available until May 20, 2011. Parade tickets can be purchased after May 20, 2011 by calling 877.789.7673, subject to availability and handling charges. The parade can be viewed at no charge on its route, which is five blocks from the Doubletree Lloyd Center on MLK Jr. Blvd. Tickets for the Grand Floral Parade Preferred Seating / Coronation are non-refundable.

## 2 PAYMENT

My check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed made payable to Royal Rosarians **OR**  Please bill my  VISA  Mastercard

Amount Authorized: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Account #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ **Email (for confirmation):** \_\_\_\_\_

Organization (if any): \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

## 3 SEND

Please send your Registration to:

**ROYAL ROSARIANS 2011 HOSPITALITY**  
**8410 NW COPELAND ST • PORTLAND, OR 97229-6765**



**THE 2011 ROYAL ROSARIAN  
ROSE FESTIVAL HOSPITALITY WEEKEND  
JUNE 9-12 • PORTLAND, OREGON**

Please indicate the name of each person with meal selection if attending the Olympic Grand Floral Ball:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  Beef  Fish  Vegetarian

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  Beef  Fish  Vegetarian

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  Beef  Fish  Vegetarian

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  Beef  Fish  Vegetarian

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  Beef  Fish  Vegetarian

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  Beef  Fish  Vegetarian

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  Beef  Fish  Vegetarian

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  Beef  Fish  Vegetarian

Please contact the hotel for any special needs due to physical disability or dietary restrictions.

**HOSPITALITY SUITE SILENT AUCTION**

Yes, I'd like to contribute an item to the Silent Auction. Here is a description of my donation:

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I will send my donation (gift certificates, etc)  Please call me to arrange for pick-up

**HOSPITALITY SUITE HORS D'OEUVRES**

Yes, I'd like to ask my favorite local restaurant to donate an appetizer for the 100 Bites for Rosaria Program.

Restaurant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ [You will be contacted by Vicky Rice for details]

**For additional assistance with event reservations, please contact:**

**Marjie Dreiseszun | Event Reservations Chairwoman**

503.297.7829 | marjie@dreiseszun.com

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS ARE MADE SEPARATELY**

The host hotel is the Doubletree Lloyd Center. The room discount code is 'RRH'. Rates are \$129 or \$139 plus tax per night. Call the hotel directly at 503.281.6111 or 800.996.0510 to make reservations.

The hotel address is 1000 NE Multnomah, Portland, OR, 97232. **Hotel reservation cutoff is May 18.**

**2011 HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE**

**THURSDAY JUNE 9**

3 - 8 pm Registration - Lobby  
3 - 8 pm Hospitality Suite - 14th Floor Presidential Suite

**FRIDAY JUNE 10**

8 am - 5 pm Registration - Lobby  
8:30 and 9 am Buses leave from hotel to the  
Knighting Ceremony in Washington Park  
10 am **Royal Rosarian Knighting Ceremony**  
Washington Park Amphitheatre\*  
11:30 am Buses return from Washington Park to hotel  
12 noon **Queens' Garden Party - Ballroom**  
(optional) Tickets purchased separately and include luncheon.  
1 - 4 pm Hospitality Suite - 14th Floor Presidential Suite  
5:30 - 10 pm **Rock'n Blues Fun Night - Ballroom**

**SATURDAY JUNE 11**

8 am Tri-Met MAX Light Rail is free from the hotel to  
(optional) Memorial Coliseum for Float Viewing, Queen's  
Coronation, and Grand Floral Parade  
8:30 am Coronation of the 2011 Rose Festival Queen  
(optional) Preferred seating is included with purchase.  
10 am Grand Floral Parade  
(optional) View the parade from any vantage point along its  
route or remain in Coronation seating.  
1 - 4 pm Hospitality Suite - 14th Floor Presidential Suite  
6 pm **The Olympic Grand Floral Ball - Ballroom**

**SUNDAY JUNE 12**

8:30 am **Farewell Breakfast - Ballroom**  
11 am Placement of the Queen's Plaque  
Washington Park Rose Garden

# OFFICIAL NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS

Submitted by  
Past President Ray Thompson  
Committee Chairman

Notice is hereby given in accordance with our Bylaws that the Nominating Committee for 2011 consists of Immediate Past President Ray Thompson, Chairman; P/P Jerry Rudd; President Vern Bendsen; Michael Billington-Western member and Thomas Ellis-Eastern member.

The Nominating Committee is charged with presenting a slate of Officers to the membership and Board of Directors for consideration and election.

Members in good standing wishing to be considered for an elected office must submit their letter of consideration to each member of the Nominating Committee either by e-mail or direct mail by June 5, 2011 for consideration by the Nominating Committee at the June Regional Meeting.

The Nominating Committee intends to announce its recommended slate of Officers at the June Regional Meeting.

Elections will be held at the October 2011 Annual Meeting in New York.



1380 Centerville Lane #32  
 Gardnerville, NV 89410-9715  
 Email: Comsignia@aol.com  
 www.commodoreinsignia.com



(775) 782-3380  
 (800) 315-7485  
 Fax: (775) 782-4003

IOBG Blazer emblems are authorized for sale by Commodore Insignia. These emblems have the Blue Gavel Burgee on the left staff and the Commodore's club on the right staff. They are available in a white or black background and the price is \$20.95 each plus shipping and tax.

BLAZER EMBLEMS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR THE AUXILIARY

To order: Send this order form with a color sample of club burgee (business card or letterhead - we may have burgee on file) to Commodore Insignia. You can telephone your order using (800)-315-7485 or our Fax: (775) 782-4003.

Quantity		Black	White	Unit Price	Total
	IOBG Blazer Emblem				
	Auxiliary Blazer Emblem				

Please Print

I am a paid up member of IOBG District # \_\_\_\_\_ YachtClub \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
 IOBGA District # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Ship to: \_\_\_\_\_

The above will be verified. \_\_\_\_\_

Member will be billed for emblems when shipped. \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Addresses: \_\_\_\_\_



*Thanks for the Pictures...  
 Contributing LOG photographers  
 for this issue...*

*Marybeth Thayer  
 Mary Nye Meyers*





# *US Sailing Representative Report*

*by Bill Thayer*

The Arthur B Hanson Rescue Medal was awarded to a crew for rescuing a sailor from Payette Lake in Idaho by the Safety-at-Sea Committee for the seamanship they displayed and to the crew of the United States Merchant Marine Academy's sail training vessel Summerwind for a rescue made off the Maine coast in dense fog during the Castine Classic Yacht Race.

November 13th ESPN Classic presented a sailing tripleheader hosted by our President, Gary Jobson featuring three hours of spectacular footage beginning with "Man against Nature: Long Distance Racing", then the "2009 New York Yacht Club Invitational Cup" and ending with America's Cup 12 Meter Era Retrospective".

US Sailing's 2010 One-Design Symposium presented by the Gowrie Group was held in Corona del Mar, California the weekend of November 13-14 at the Balboa Yacht Club.

Several Sport Contributors were honored.

Service Award "John Gardiner, Jr Trophy": John "Zeke" Durica of Dunedin, FL

Regatta Award: The Fishing Bay Yacht Club of Deltaville, VA

Leadership Award: Christine Porter and Carrie Bargren of Madison, WI

Creativity Award: Sailgrove's Chris Love and Pat Hitchins

Club Award: The Brant Beach Yacht Club of Brant Beach NY

The 2010 US Sailing National Championship season came to conclusion December 3, 4 and 5 in St Petersburg, FL with the true spirit of competitive sailing displayed at the Disabled Sailing Championships hosted by the St Petersburg Yacht Club on Tampa Bay.

The first ever US Sailing Yacht Club Summit will be held April 2nd and 3rd at the Fairmount Hotel in Chicago, IL. Flag officers, general managers and committee chairpersons of yacht clubs and community sailing organizations of all sizes are invited to participate.

Stan Honey, Palo Alto, CA and Anna Tunnicliffe of Plantation, FL are Rolex's Yachtsman and Yachtswoman of the year for 2010.

US Sailing's 2011 Rolex Miami OCR, the second stop in the International Sailing Federation (ISAF) Sailing World Cup circuit, made waves throughout the global sailing community last week. 716 sailors from 53 countries competed in 10 Olympic and three Paralympic classes on seven different courses on Biscayne Bay at the end of January.

US Sailing's 2011 National Sailing Symposium held in January at the Marriott Suites in Clearwater, FL had over 270 sailors attending with one third being first time attendees.





**INTERNATIONAL PAST PRESIDENT**  
**Rolf R. Tingle**

February 25, 1932 - February 17, 2011

Rolf R. Tingle, age 78, formally of Chagrin Falls, passed away peacefully at home with family February 17, 2011. Rolf was born February 25, 1932 and remained married to his high school sweetheart, Marjorie for 60 years.

Rolf graduated from CFHS in 1950, attended OSU and served in the U.S. Army Reserves. Rolf owned and operated Valley Motors 1954-57. A Charter member of Chagrin Valley and West Geauga Jaycees, Geauga County Democratic Chairman, and full delegate to the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago.

Rolf loved boating. He immersed himself in many organizations representing rights of recreational boaters. Past Commodore of TCYC, Past Commodore of GCBA, Past Commodore I-LYA, Past International President of the International Order of the Blue Gavel, and past chairman of the Issues and Policy Committee for National Boating Federation.





# Southwestern V.P.

Districts 6, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 19, 21

## Gary McGrath

District 10 has had an active year with functions almost every month. In September they had a luau and a Charity Regatta Brunch. They continued in October with a Brunch at Long Beach YC and in November with a "Burn Your Own Steak" at the Seal Beach YC. They wrapped up the year with a Dinner at the Huntington Harbor YC followed by a Duffy Cruise to see the decorated homes. Following the Duffy cruise they gave their membership a pep talk and information on upcoming activities for the coming year. They feel these activities are helping to bring new members and retain old members. Director George Demos and myself are working to sign a new Chapter "Sea Gate YC" and should have that completed by the end of February or early March.

District 10 started the year presenting their Annual Yacht Club Management Seminar at the Mission Bay Yacht Club. This is a half-day seminar covering Yacht Club History and Protocol, Club Associations, Club Organization and Structure, and Legal and Financial Considerations. They were also fortunate to have a special presentation given by RBOC President Linda Bensen. Also in attendance was IOBG President, Vern Bendsen, for a question and answer session. Their new President, Michele Wold, is planning some great activities for the upcoming year. One of the activities she is planning is a Wii bowling tournament and hors d'oeuvre contest. She says her main focus this year will be on new members and promoting camaraderie among current members.

District 16 had their Change Of Watch in February with a buffet breakfast by the pool at the Harbor Island YC. Attendance was good and there was a lot of enthusiasm for the coming year. Last year one of their projects was making stockings for their local seniors that have their food delivered to them. Their IOBGA ladies got together and crafted over 120 stockings for this deserving population. They filled them with treats and each stocking was different and a work of art and love. Their recipients were thrilled with their gifts; they are already planning strategy for next year. They continue to support the local youth by donating scholarships to the local sailing programs, and this year made a generous contribution the Pacific Corinthian Youth Foundation. They also hold a Holiday party with admission being a donation of canned goods for the local food bank. They are planning on having an exciting 2011 with many additional activities in addition to those listed above.

For two years I have been working on signing a new Chapter in District 19 (Capital City YC) and finally I will have that consummated by late February.



District 11  
Rosalie Davis-Green, Dist. Director

District 11 installation of officers was held at a brunch at Del Rey Yacht Club, Marina del Rey, California on December 12, 2010. PC Lindsey Philpott gave a talk on "Decorative Knotting". Lindsey is a member of the International Guild of Knot Tyers and the author of the Ultimate Book of Decorative Knots. A beautiful coffee table edition was available for our perusal.

Renewals are coming in slowly. Many members missed the first dues renewal notice. Members began contacting us in late January reporting they couldn't find the dues renewal. A second dues renewal notice was sent on February 13, 2011. March 19, 2011 is the Member Appreciation Lunch at Pacific Mariners Yacht Club, the home of one of our larger Chapters. All members with paid up dues get a free lunch including those who bring their dues check with them.

Two IOBG inductions of new Past Commodores were done at the Chapter's installation of officers for South Bay Yacht Racing Club and Women's Sailing Association of Santa Monica Bay. The rest of the inductions are scheduled for Opening Days in March, April and June.

The ever popular Wine Tasting sponsored by Port Royal IOBG Chapter and Yacht Club is May 15th from 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM. The summer evening Windy-Ques at the Del Rey Yacht Club patio are: June 20, August 16, and September 20. These activities are fundraisers for the Junior Sailing Scholarship Fund. Some professionally run boating activities are being considered for summer. These will be announced later if arrangements can be made at a reasonable price.

We are focusing on fun, keeping our members connected with each other, as well as, making an investment in young sailors in order to preserve our sport and pastime.

District 19  
Herman Meyer, District Director

District 19 began 2011 with enthusiasm. Our change of watch took place on board a vessel of the Hornblower fleet out of Pittsburg, California. I didn't get the official count but it appears the boat was sold out.

Our new President, Captain Pat Carson, has taken the helm with a new vigor. P/C Ray Mitchell moved up to VP and is very active. The remainder of our officers, P/C John Anthony, Secretary and P/C Estelle McGrath, Treasurer round out our slate of officers.

Our induction of new members took place at the new facilities of Marina West Yacht Club at Tower Park on the Mokulumne River. Our membership now stands at about 150. This event also drew more members than was expected. In fact many of us ended up eating on the porch.

District 19 is also fortunate to have a celebrity list of active members beginning with Carol Promessi, Past International President, and current International President, Vern Benson. Almost all of our efforts last year, were in some way were affected by the promotion of Vern and the convention we co-hosted with District 14 last fall.

This year we look forward to a relaxing good time, boating, barbequeing, and enjoying pressure free meetings. We have an active website, <http://www.iobgdelta19.org> and we welcome all of you to our functions if you should be so fortunate as to be in northern California this year.

At the end of 2010 the Board of District 14 met to debrief after the participation in the International Blue Gavel's Annual Conference held in Alameda, California, District 14. We wanted to recap the information shared for the growth we envisioned for the future of IOBG. At the core of our conversation was the advancing of information with more visibility; featuring the Humanitarian Foundation as our main fund-raising activity and the publics served and the benefit derived from the dollars contributed.

As a newly appointed Ambassador of the Foundation, I shared with a few yacht clubs in D-14, the current goals of the foundation, the desire to work more closely with the local chapters to jointly serve the needs of our communities. I also shared the pride we as past commodores of our individual chapters experience when we work together as an international organization, knowing that our subsequent far reaching linkage of chapters brings more meaningful support and greater depth to the service we can provide. The success of each sitting is directly related to the support from the membership of the individual chapters and which goes a long way in building the credibility on which the invitation to become a Blue Gavel member is linked.

Renee Gordon, International Secretary of The IOBG Auxiliary, joined me at these presentations as the liaison between IOBG and IOBGA. In December we both travelled to the Island Nation of Haiti. We stopped in Port-au-Prince to see the aftermath of the earthquake on our way to Port-de-Paix. This was an official visit for the Sister City of Oakland, CA and Port-de-Paix, Haiti, which was established in November 2010, under the umbrella of the Caribbean Cultural Association; which we serve as Executive Director and Treasurer. We explored the opportunity for pleasure crafts to visit the port serving that city. We consulted with the Mayor of Port-de-Paix in that regard who gave his wholehearted support. We also spoke with the media we hoped would assist in shaping the delivery of communications to facilitate the locals, accommodating the access to supplies and transportation to the hinterlands for sight seeing and entertainment opportunities. There is ongoing conversation towards the birth of a yacht club in that part of the Island which was direct access to the southern Islands of Florida.



*Above: Photos of the harbor in Port-de-Paix, Haiti. In the distance, Cargo ships are anchored to unload their cargo. Below: small crafts used to unload cargo, for fishing and masts are raised to attach sails when used as ferris to take passengers to nearby Turtugo Island.*

Closer to home the Past President of D-14, Jane Brennan and myself inducted a new member from the Berkeley Yacht Club, among other new members added within our District. Most importantly, Susan Jacquelin, transferred from Hawaii to a contract position with the U.S. Coast Guard, Alameda Station. Susan is now a proud member of Blue Gavel at Encinal Yacht Club, in D-14 and pledges to do whatever she can to strengthen the relationship between the Coast Guard and IOBG. Already, we have laid out plans for IOBG, District 14 to have combined activities with the Coast Guard added to the 2011 IOBG program activities.



*Above: Oakland Fire Fighters and volunteers shuttle and assist wheelchair bound and amblituries unboard volunteer vessils with crew for a day on the San Francisco Bay. A Bar-B-Que will follow with music on the lawn at Encinal Yacht Club.*



*Crab Feed at Berkeley Yacht Club.*



*Summer Sailstice at Treasure Island Yacht Club.*



*Sunday Brunch and Fund raiser at Berkeley Yacht Club.*

District 14 activities in 2011 will continue to include the: Annual Crab Feed at Berkeley Yacht Club, March 13, 2011; South Bay Opening Day on the Bay; Summer Sailstice, Encinal Yacht Club; Youth Sailing Regattas, Encinal Yacht Club; Wheelchair Regatta, Encinal Yacht Club; Annual Brunch, Berkeley Yacht Club; Field trip/s to be announced.

All fund-raising efforts in 2011 is to support the IOBG and IOBGA's Humanitarian Foundation and broaden awareness of Blue Gavel and it's activities in our community.



# North Central V.P.

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Districts 7, 9, 23, 25

**Joel Kay**

## District 7 News

I attended the winter e-board meeting, January 27 held at Forest City Yacht Club. Forest City YC was a great host for this meeting, and the membership wanted to show off its newly renovated building.

Scheduled upcoming events are:

March 24 - Blue Blazer North. This event, again, will be held in the party room of 1 Bratenahl Place. Invitations will be going out soon to all Chapter commodores and vice commodores. About 50 commodores and their spouses are expected for this event.

The Blue Blazer South is currently being planned. A committee of VP's has been assembled to put this event together.

The next e-board meeting will be held March 10 at Mentor Harbor Yacht Club at 7:30pm. The District will be working on publishing its 2011 calendar at this meeting.

The President's Ball, honoring President, Tony Durieux, will take place April 8 - 10 at the Doubletree Hotel. Announcements for this event have already been sent. The planning committee is working on making this a great event. There will be a "Hospitality Room" Friday evening - April 8; daytime programming for Saturday - April 9; and the Ball - Saturday night should be a wonderful event.

The Greater Cleveland Boating Association has planned its annual "Rendezvous" to take place during the weekend of June 24 - 26 at the Huron Boat Basin. District 7 will host the cocktail party, Saturday June 25.

The Inter Lake Yachting Association will be hosting its annual party in Put-in-Bay the last weekend in July. On Saturday, July 30, the Gavel will host the Cocktail Party; Gavel members from Districts 7,9, 23 and 25 are expected to be present for this super event.

District 7 IOBGA is having Chili Cook Off February 6 at IntercityYacht Club. The Auxiliary is also planning a brunch to be held at Sandusky Yacht Club, May 5, and an "Afternoon Fall Fashion Show" to be held at 1 Bratenahl Place party room on September 11.

Other business:

A committee has been assembled to create 3 new Chapters in the Pittsburgh, Pa, area. The clubs are: Fox Chapel Yacht Club; Pittsburgh Yacht Club; and Oakmont Yacht Club. Oakmont YC is the oldest inland lake yacht club in the country.

Membership dues is trickling in. The VP's are working on their respective Chapters to increase membership and bring back former members who still live in the area.

#### District 9 News

I have been in touch with District 9 District Director, Pat Slee. He informed me that he has been contacted by some of the presidents in District 9 about placing articles in the "Log." He also informed me that the new president of I-LYA is Fred Schroeder, who is a Past Commodore of Cooley Canal Yacht Club and a Gavel member.

#### District 23 News

District Director Bob Sapita informed me that the District has spent a great deal of time adopting new by-laws. I believe that Bob has been the one working on the by-laws. Tower Harbour Yacht Club had its e-board meeting at which time the 2011 calendar had been developed. THYC is trying to put together a rendezvous during the summer for the clubs along the west coast of Lake Michigan.

District 25 Russell Skitch, Dist. Director
-----------------------------------------------

The long winter is about to come to an end. Blue Gavel members in District 25 have been coming together to fund raise and get rid of cabin fever.

On Sunday February 13th ElbaMar Boat Club Blue Gavel hosted a brunch. A delicious buffet was set out for all to enjoy. Attendance was well over 100. P/C's from many of the local clubs were in attendance to support the event.

On Sunday February 27th the Past Commodore Club of Ford Yacht Club hosted a Spaghetti Dinner. Many of the Blue Gavel members of District 25 attended and supported their fund raising efforts.

The upcoming Spring General Membership meeting will be held on Sunday, April 14 ,2011 at 2:00 pm at Mariners Boat Club. I hope that as many members as possible will try to make this meeting and support our District.

This summer's rendezvous honoring President Sam Bileti is well into its planning stages. This year's event will be hosted at Wyandotte Yacht Club, June 17th through the 19th. Information and attendance forms will soon be available on District 25's website. Stay tuned for updates it will be an event that should not be missed.

We are looking forward to the Spring thaw...



# Northeastern V.P.

Districts 3, 12, 20, 26, 27

## Robert Howe

In the last LOG I was introduced as the “new” NE Regional V.P. Well, I'm still “new” as I have not met most of you yet but I am making an effort.

I have traveled to District 26 and met with District Director Ernie Odierna and his staff. He and lovely wife Camilla served as my host for the evening and I owe them a great hardy “Thank You”. Ernie and his crew have been busy this year and have added a new Chapter to their District. Let us all welcome The Huguenot Yacht Club and three of its members to our ranks.

I have called and reached out to all the District Directors in the NE Region and realized it was winter and many of them have “gone” South for the winter. I did manage to track down District 20's Director David Meshulam. He has some good ideas that I hope to implement soon in the region. More on this as he and I develop the details.

District 27 Director Dave Grove has been very busy attending opening day ceremonies with even more to come as the weather gets warmer.

I said this in the last issue of the LOG but it is worth repeating as we move into the 2011 boating season:

For all of us Past Commodores, IOBG offers us an opportunity to continue to serve without the full burden of “managing”. What is needed from all of us is input on the “How & What” IOBG International can do to assist local Chapters. This is where YOU come in. Contact me at any time: Robert (Bob) Howe, (C) 703-517-5482 or (H) 301-352-3898 or pscoldsalt@hotmail.com . I want stories of what is going on in each of the Districts. Together we can strengthen IOBG and or Districts. Don't forget to renew your IOBG membership!!

I hope you have a great 2011 boating season. See you at the meeting in Portland in June..



Humanitarian Foundation Meeting



District 3  
Lewis Smith, Dist. Director

District 3's holiday party was held at LaSalle Yacht Club. My wife Margot and I were chairmen, assisted by Don Peacock, Tonawanda Island Yacht Club and Paul Schneeberger, Buffalo Launch Club. The event was really well attended. LaSalle's club manager and Commodore Steve Tesak made hosting the party a real pleasure.

Since the 1980's District 3 has chosen a "Boater of the Year" from amongst our members. This is an individual whose boating activity has provided a contribution to boating, their club and served to enhance boating on a local, national or regional level.

For over 70 years P/C Dick Dobmeier has provided pride, inspiration, advice, enthusiasm and a commitment to tradition. Dick's traits have had a huge impact on boaters and organizations with whom he has had contact.

Dick, a P/C from Buffalo Launch Club (1988) and his daughter Sue a P/C from Niagara Sailing Club are one of two father/daughter P/Cs in the country. "Congratulations Dick"



In January I swore in new members from the Buffalo Yacht Club and LaSalle Yacht Club. Welcome P/C's Bill Briedenburg and Steve Tesak. Western New York is looking forward to hosting the International Convention this October. Arrangements for a newly renovated hotel in Niagara Falls on the Niagara River are being handled by Tom Hauser and his wife Sharon. Sandy Beach Yacht Club is planning a "Welcome to Buffalo" event (remember 2004). Please plan to come and make Marc Connelly's installatin a special one.

On a sad note, we mourn the loss of James Huggins who passed away suddenly in January. Jim was Commodore of Sandy Beach Yacht Club in 1977 and has been a loyal Blue Gavel member ever since.





# Southeastern V.P.

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Districts 8 & 18

## Tom Sullivan

The Winter Regional Meeting of the IOBG was held at the Isles Yacht Club, Punta Gorda, FL on Feb. 18 & the District 8 Meeting was held on Feb. 19, 2011.

After a Moment of Silence, the International Winter Regional meeting went into full swing covering such subjects as:

- a. Executive Committee Reports from all line officers.
- b. The reports of Area VPs & their progress (or lack thereof) for each area.
- c. The Humanitarian Fund & how it is organized.
- d. All Appointed Representatives gave full reports (ie: Boat US, Membership/Marketing, USCGA, & US Sailing)
- e. Committee Chairpersons covered----The Annual Meeting in October which will be held in Buffalo NY, Annual Review, Audit, & ByLaws.

A most important & extremely well presented presentation was given by PC Kurt Kuehn, Past President of the Isles Yacht Club Chapter. PC Kuehn expounded on three subject areas which recently have been added to the International Bylaws:

- a. Clubhouse or permanent meeting place is not enough of a requirement for Blue Gavel Membership because this could allow for a Private Home or PO Box to be used for a Membership Address.
- b. Confusion exists between the International Bylaws & District 8 in that the 75 Member requirement of Dist. 8 is in conflict with the International Bylaws of "enough members to sustain itself".
- c. The new Bylaws now allow for any Organization calling itself a Yacht Club to be eligible for IOBG Membership (ie: Fraternal & Condo Organizations). At one time Member Owned Yacht Clubs were the major source of Blue Gavel Membership.

The areas mentioned above seem to dilute the value of Chapter & Individual Membership for the IOBG.

PC Kuehn also covered these areas at the Dist. 8 Meeting on Sat. Feb. 19, 2011.

At the Dist. 8 Meeting another major discussion was held concerning the request & suggestion of St. Augustine YC that reciprocity be made a requirement of IOBG Membership. D8 Leadership felt the IOBG as a "helper of Yacht Clubs" is not in a position to speak for each individual Yacht Club.

Future District 8 Regional Meetings are:

LIGHTHOUSE POINT YC	4/17/11
GULF HARBORS YC	7/17/11
PALM COAST YC	10/15/11

District 8  
Joe Dowdell, Dist. Director

I was President of District 8 when I attended the Spring Regional Meeting in Portland Oregon. I was talking to Vern Bendsen there, and he said if he could help District 8 to let him know, so I asked him "How about having an International meeting in District 8 in 2011?" He said that sounded good to him so I started working on that idea. This was June, 2010. I knew that International had eliminated their winter meeting in 2010, and the spring meeting was usually in Oregon, so I had in my mind, making our summer meeting a joint International and District 8 meeting. I had already contacted Dorothy Strunk, the Isles Yacht Club Chapter President to ask if her Chapter would host a District meeting. Isles Yacht Club Chapter had never hosted a District 8 meeting. Her Chapter met and had agreed to host District 8's meeting January 21-22. Our spring meeting at Lighthouse Point Yacht Club on April 15-16 was firm, and I knew that our Change of Watch would be in President-Elect Frank Hutchinson's home club, Palm Coast. I asked our Past District President, Past SE Area Vice President John Button if he could see if Gulf Harbors Yacht Club could hold the Summer meeting.

Things were looking good by the time I went to the Regional Meeting in Baltimore. There I learned that District 8 was definitely in the running to host a summer meeting. It was between Texas and Florida, according to Vern's report. He would let me know in a few days. I tipped off John Button to see if Gulf Harbors would be willing to host the International Regional meeting in July. Then I waited for confirmation from Vern. Well, after I got back from Baltimore, I received word from Vern, that the Executive Committee wanted to resurrect the Winter Regional Meeting, hold it in February, and not have the summer regional meeting!

I wanted very badly for District 8 to host an International meeting in 2011, but it suddenly wasn't looking too good. But maybe Isles Yacht Club Chapter would be willing to move their date from January to February, and agree to host the International Organization at the same time. Remember, Isles Yacht Club had not hosted such meetings in the past, it was short notice, it was the height of the winter season in Florida, and the Isles Yacht Club had other events planned in February. There was also the question that even if Isles Yacht Club and their Blue Gavel Chapter was willing, would the International Committee agree to come to Florida. I was very worried, to say the least. Charles Martoglio and the Isles Yacht Club stepped right up and took over, and Vern told me to quit worrying, they would be there. Everything worked out beautifully and the Winter Regional Meeting in Punta Gorda was a big success. I am sure details, pictures and stories will appear elsewhere in this issue.

The hot topic at the recent District Winter Meeting at Isles Yacht Club was recent bylaws changes, and the apparent conflict created between District 8's Bylaws and International's Bylaws regarding the requirements to be a Qualified Yacht Club. The issue was stated in a letter written to the Presidents of both organizations *"The membership of the Isles Yacht Club Blue Gavel wishes to express our concern regarding the changes that were made to the 2009 IOBG and District 8 Bylaws, with particular respect to IOBG Article IV - Membership, Sections 2(b) and 2(c). We also take issue with the deletion of the wording in IOBG 2(d) which was also removed from the 2009 District 8 Bylaws."*

The International Executive Committee politely heard the request at their meeting Friday morning February 18, and took the request under advisement. The District 8 Executive Committee heard the presentation at their meeting on Saturday afternoon, February 19, and voted to study the request further, expand the study to include the questions raised at the International meeting earlier, and if found warranted, would put results to the membership at a membership meeting for possible further referral to the International Committee.

Another interesting item on the District 8 meeting agenda was a letter from the St. Augustine Yacht Club Blue Gavel Chapter advising District 8 that St Augustine Yacht Club had agreed to extend the privilege of reciprocity to all past commodores who are currently members in good standing in IOBG District 8. The letter went on to say that reciprocity between clubs whose Past Commodores are members of IOBG would be a benefit of membership that would encourage past commodores to become a member or rejoining Blue Gavel. The letter concluded, however by suggesting that reciprocity be made a condition of membership, and that every District 8 application contain a statement that his governing board will allow the privilege. It was pointed out by Past International President Ray Thompson that his club had tried to start a reciprocity agreement with nearby yacht clubs, and it was quickly ended when the clubs that were members of the Florida Council of Yacht Clubs, which limits reciprocity to those clubs that were members of the council, were threatened with sanctions if they participated in such a plan. A discussion involving other Chapter Presidents present quickly showed widespread support for the idea of encouraging voluntary reciprocity, but there was little if any support for making it compulsory and a condition of Chapter membership.

## Other Chapter News from District 8

IOBG President Vern Bendsen and his wife Linda attended the Marathon Yacht Club's "Lighting of the Fleet" event December 10th. The Blue Gavel Chapter is very involved in this annual event where members decorate their boats with festive holiday light displays and vie for the coveted "best overall" trophy selected by the judges. The evening activities commenced when the members of the Blue Gavel assembled in uniform to conduct the Sunset Flag Ceremony. President Vern Bendsen participated in this moving ceremony. Later, a Blue Gavel detail again fired the cannon to signal the fleet to switch on their vessel's display. Members and Guests then walked the docks to view the beautifully decorated yachts before dinner.

Blue Gavel member Rich Dugan and his wife Eileen, presented the awards, donated by the MYC Auxiliary, to the winners following the dinner.



On Sunday, December 12, Vern and Linda joined several Chapter members and their wives to partake in the wonderful buffet selections of the annual Commodore's Christmas Brunch. District Director Joe Dowdell and June, Commodore Larry Wagner and his wife, Deedee, Chapter President Tom Smith and Marie, and Secretary Steve Wurster and Gwenn, were among those there to share their thoughts and ideas Vern was impressed to see that the Chapter's Charter has been framed and prominently displayed in the lounge since 1983. When told about the involvement of the Chapter in the various Club activities, Vern commented that the ideas should be shared with other Chapters in the organization.

### **INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL - DISTRICT 8 2011 SPRING REGIONAL MEETING APRIL 15 AND 16, 2011**

**LIGHTHOUSE POINT YACHT CLUB**

2701 NE 42ND Street

Lighthouse Point FL 33064





# IOBG Humanitarian Foundation

IOBG Humanitarian Foundations, Inc.

## **PATRON OF THE FOUNDATION PROGRAM**

IOBGHF launched a program to provide special recognition to contributors who donate \$100 or more. Each contributor will be awarded a distinctive "action for life" pin which signifies their status as a patron of the foundation.

Please help us as you consider your tax strategy for this year.

"The International Order of the Blue Gavel Humanitarian Foundation provides the boating community the ability to create real differences in others' lives. The foundation provides resources to existing charities and benefits communities through new initiatives involving boating activities and education."

This is the Mission Statement of the Humanitarian Foundation.

*P*resident Robert Howe

A sincere Thank You to Punta Gorda and the Isles Yacht Club for an absolutely stunning regional meeting.

We have a lot of new things going on with IOBG-HF. Fundraising efforts and developing new ideas for starters. Communication and Education are our focus for 2011 moving forward. Communication to our members of what the Foundation stands for, how it operates and education for our boating members (We are all or used to be boating members.)

John Anthony is our newest HF Ambassador and has started making plans to increase our fundraising efforts. We will continue distributing donation envelopes at meetings and upon request for everyone to hand out that will enable individuals to donate to the HF. We will attempt to "Pre-Approve" projects that meet the goals and objectives of the IOBG and the IOBG - HF. It is a great way to donate and it will be a tax deduction donation for the individuals. As you may know, IOBG - HF is a 501 c 3 organization, incorporated in the state of California and with the IRS. This means that eligible donations are tax deductible. For just \$100.00 you can have a IOBG-HF pin.

Bill Thayer is leading the effort to develop a evaluation criteria for future IOBG - HF grant request in order for the Board and members to better understand what the HF is about and better align with goals and objectives of the IOBG itself..

Lenworth and Renee Gordon will be working with Mary Nye Meyers on the web page that will be created for IOBG-HF. We will be publishing our new project selection process as well as promoting the past, current and future pre-approved projects. The Foundation will develop a budget to better manage the Foundations actions and better serve the IOBG members. A new tri-fold will be forthcoming. We are hoping to list each project the HF hopes to fund and highlighting the positive impact they are having in their Districts. Our goal is to list at least one project from each District that has been approved. In order to make this happen, we need each District to submit their Local Area Project for inclusion. We also need each District to help us raise the funds to support the projects.

Our current projects that have been considered and have been approved for partial support this year are: Sea Scout Ship TiKi Too and the Long Beach Charity Regatta that supports several children's projects. We are still considering additional amounts pending future donations.

Finally: I want to invite everyone to our meeting coming up in Portland in June. I hope to see everyone there.

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2011

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# International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary

## *P*resident Lucy Anthony

Hello to all, I hope that your weather is good. While it seems that winter is still hanging on, it was a pleasant change from the cold and rain to warm sunny Punta Gorda, Florida. If you weren't at the Regional meeting, we missed you.

Our regional Executive Board meeting was held at the Isles Yacht Club, and we all heard reports on what everyone is doing.

Susan Sullivan is working on getting information from the Southeast districts. Nancy Kay reported that the North Central district had a great chili cook off and a Super Bowl party. Ethel Keith won first place with her chocolate chili.

Shirley Willing has made a booklet which is a great operational manual for IOBGA, and we will be exploring these in Portland, so please try to attend. Evelyn Hutchison and Dorothy Thompson are putting together boxes for the troops overseas, a very worthwhile project, we need to support any way we can. Kathy Connelly spoke about the Annual meeting in Buffalo New York and the tremendous effort it takes.

It was great to have Past Presidents Shirley Willing and Jerry Keys there with us.

On Saturday, the Islettes presented a luncheon and fashion show with the clothes coming from Nichole's collection and Captain's Landing of Fishermen's Village. At our table were Alberta, Ethel Keith and her friend Carol, BJ and Carol Shogren, who was celebrating her 62nd wedding anniversary. The setting and the venue were just perfect for a wonderful afternoon.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your President. Hello my BFF Audrey and it was great to see my sweet pea.

See you in Portland...

Susan Sullivan  
IOBGA 1st Vice President  
Southeast District Director

Just wanted to say what a great time we had at the Isles YC at our International Meeting. The hospitality & friendship that was extended to all made our weekend really special.

Our Auxiliary meeting went very well & our discussions opened up a lot of issues & objectives that we needed to communicate about.

Evelyn Hucthinson from the Palm Coast Chapter provided us with an insight to the wonderful program they have started-----for our Troops.

I am delighted to say I have just been informed that Halifax River YC , Daytona Beach has 8 Members coming back in to the IOBGA.

The future is looking bright !!!



District 8  
Evelyn Hutchinson, Palm Coast YC IOBGA President

As President of Palm Coast Yacht Club's IOBG Auxiliary, I, with my membership, have spent time in what I call an Auxiliary Identity Search. With our Mission in mind, we began to look for some activity that would accomplish two goals--to help some cause in some small way and to raise PCYC awareness of the existence of an IOBG Auxiliary. These are admirable goals and we soon realized that concern for our young folks in foreign battlefields was/is a ubiquitous and shared emotion which offered an opportunity for the Auxiliary to accomplish its goals and, in addition, to stay within its budget.

We used PCYC's monthly newspaper, The Pilot, to inform the general membership of the program and, at the same time, to request their help by making contributions of items from a list we provided. We placed two large boxes in the Club lobby labeled "Treats for Troops" and it took little time for the boxes to be filled with snacks, cookies, nuts, toiletries, movies, magazines, books and greeting cards and notes. My granddaughter's daycare center made valentines to be included in February.



Along the way we discovered that two of our member families' sons are in Iraq and Afghanistan. This made our effort much more personal. One, Commander John Hildebrandt, leads a group of ninety men and women stationed in a primitive part of Afghanistan where they are allowed a shower every three days and a hot meal once daily. The second, Major Scott Whitehurst, is stationed in Iraq in Operations Planning I believe. Commander Hildebrandt has written to explain that his shipments are forwarded directly to his troops in the more remote location. Major Whitehurst has been in touch to say that especially the home-baked treats are happily received; indeed, to quote him "...the brownies were terrific and may have helped me get a promotion..."

Finding these men in our own membership has given faces to our effort and has made it easier to shop and bake and write notes. The other result is that my hope to make the Auxiliary more familiar has been realized to an extent. More members now have an idea of the IOBG and how IOBGA supports its activities.

I cannot say how impressed I have been by the generosity of our membership and its capacity to participate. Donations for postage have come from some who are unable to shop but want to be involved. We use the USPS flat rate boxes at \$12.95 each and, believe me, a lot of goodies can be stuffed inside. I have for long been impressed with IOBG's Humanitarian Foundation, and while we are still unable to contribute directly, at the very least, we are aware of its principles.



## 2011 DISTRICT OFFICERS & AREAS SERVED

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| <p><b>#3 PRESIDENT- Northeast</b><br/>Warren C. Schafer (Kathleen)<br/>7241 Plank Road<br/>Lockport, NY 14094<br/>Tel: 716-439-8059<br/>wcsunit@netscape.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Gary LaRossa (Maryann)<br/>369 Stillwell Avenue<br/>Kenmore, NY 14217<br/>Tel: 716-876-7114<br/>glarossa@verizon.net</p>                                                                         | <p><b>#9 PRESIDENT- North Central</b><br/>Becky Vincent (Barry)<br/>1401 West Erie Road<br/>Temperance, MI 48182<br/>Tel: 734-847-7010<br/>Cell: 419-215-6162<br/>Bus: 419-479-3950<br/>Email: beckyvincent@bex.net<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Jack White (Joanne)<br/>12292 Lakeshore Dr.<br/>LaSalle, MI 48145<br/>Tel: 734-242-4558<br/>Email: commodorej@aol.com</p> | <p><b>#18 PRESIDENT- Southeast</b><br/>Mike Barbrow (Jane)<br/>1614 Lakecove Way<br/>Knoxville, TN 37922<br/>Tel: 865-671-8898<br/>Cell: 865-310-0910<br/>mdjib@aol.com<br/><b>SECRETARY/TREASURER</b><br/>Randal E. Blalock<br/>10612 Eagles View Drive<br/>Knoxville, TN 37922<br/>Tel: 865-671-7624<br/>randaleb1@tds.net</p>        | <p><b>#25 PRESIDENT- North Central</b><br/>Sam Bileti (Kathy)<br/>37874 Erna Drive<br/>Sterling Heights, MI 48312<br/>Tel: 586-979-0725<br/>Bus: 586-202-7320<br/>sbileti5741@wideopenwest.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Shawn O'Neil (Laurie)<br/>Tel: 519-776-4125<br/>shawn@laubri.com</p>                                                                                                        |
| <p><b>#4 PRESIDENT- Canada</b><br/>Ron Defieux (Linda)<br/>641 Blueridge Ave.<br/>N. Vancouver, BC V74 2J4<br/>Canada<br/>Tel: 604-987-7425<br/>Fax: 604-985-7263<br/>rdefieux@shaw.ca<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Betty Harris-Peake (Dennis)<br/>1078 English Bluff Rd.<br/>Delta, BC V4M 2N6 - Canada<br/>Tel: 604-943-4923<br/>Fax: 604-943-1205<br/>bettyharrispeake@hotmail.com</p> | <p><b>#10 PRESIDENT- Southwest</b><br/>LaVon Plumlee (William)<br/>5292 Auburn Circle<br/>Westminster, CA 92683<br/>Tel: 562-252-9681<br/>lplumlee@nyclb.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Jon Fults (Lois Jean)<br/>3914 Mistral Drive<br/>Huntington Beach, CA 92649<br/>Tel: 714-846-7548<br/>jfults@verizon.net</p>                                                     | <p><b>#19 PRESIDENT- Southwest</b><br/>Pat Carson (Barbi)<br/>302 Cypress Drive<br/>Rio Vista, CA 94571<br/>Tel: 209-351-1584<br/>pat@boatcaptain.net<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>John Anthony (Lucy)<br/>171 Bel Air Cir.<br/>Fairfield, CA 94533<br/>Tel: 707-399-8283<br/>Cell: 707-631-4318<br/>jojotolly1@aol.com</p>                 | <p><b>#26 PRESIDENT- Northeast</b><br/>Thomas O'Connor (Sally)<br/>22 Plymouth Road<br/>Bayport, NY 11705<br/>Tel: 631-234-9299<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Martin L. Egeland (Mary)<br/>4 Chalden Court<br/>Huntington Station, NY 11746<br/>Tel: 631-351-0935<br/>Bus: 212-594-5382<br/>carolprin@aol.com</p>                                                                                        |
| <p><b>#5 PRESIDENT - Northwest</b><br/>Ron Timmerman (Gayle)<br/>258 NW Skyline Blvd<br/>Portland, OR 97210<br/>Tel: 503-297-4437<br/>Cell: 503-805-6303<br/>Bus: 503-297-1030<br/>rontimmerman@msn.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Jerry Miller (Sue)<br/>15298 NW Casey Drive<br/>Portland, OR 97229<br/>Tel: 503-629-0588<br/>Cell: 503-880-1446<br/>j_s.miller@comcast.net</p>        | <p><b>#11 PRESIDENT- Southwest</b><br/>Julie Albright<br/>2610 Portland St. #306<br/>Los Angeles, CA 90007<br/>Tel: 714-249-8632<br/>Albright@usc.edu<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Mark Abel<br/>13900 Palawan Way, Slip #12<br/>Marina del Ray, CA 90292<br/>Tel: 310-766-6878<br/>markabel@hotmail.com</p>                                                               | <p><b>#20 PRESIDENT- Northeast</b><br/>Stanley Zieliński (Charlotte)<br/>121 Yale Terrace<br/>P.O. Box 333<br/>Linden, NJ 07036<br/>Tel: 908-486-2094<br/>staszziel@aol.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Open</p>                                                                                                                           | <p><b>#27 PRESIDENT- Northeast</b><br/>Jack Fitzgerald (Sandy)<br/>3902 Hazel Court<br/>Abingdon, MD 21009<br/>Tel: 410-671-6345<br/>Cell: 410-937-2517<br/>fitzandcompany@aol.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Dave Polenizo</p>                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <p><b>#6 PRESIDENT - Southwest</b><br/>Michael Vining (Doreen)<br/>91-217 Lukini Place<br/>Ewa Beach, HI 96706<br/>Tel: 808-271-5470<br/>mysails@hawaii.rr.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Donna B. Salisbury (Ed)<br/>98-988 Palola Way<br/>Aiea, HI 96701<br/>Tel: 808-485-0002<br/>donnaed@earthlink.net</p>                                                                           | <p><b>#12 PRESIDENT- Northeast</b><br/>Vincent J. Core (Eileen)<br/>739 Fairmount Avenue<br/>Chatham, NJ 07928<br/>Tel/Fax: 973-635-7415<br/>Cell: 201-401-8484<br/>sailcore@att.net<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Open</p>                                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>#21 PRESIDENT- Southwest</b><br/>Bonnie Gibson<br/>1780 Santa Ana Ave. #3<br/>Costa Mesa, CA 92627<br/>Tel: 949-631-4869<br/>blgibson@aol.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Merry F. Keller<br/>1500 Concord Avenue<br/>Fullerton, CA 92831<br/>Tel: 714-680-5076<br/>mfkellerca@earthlink.net</p>                                     | <p><b>#70 PRESIDENT- England</b><br/>Ron Judd (Caroline Dodd)<br/>Crofters Cottage 41 Glynn Road<br/>Peacehaven, East Sussex<br/>England BN10 7SH<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Sue Young (Bill)<br/>5 Grasmere Grove<br/>Rochester, Kent<br/>England ME2 4PN<br/>Tel: (44)(0)1634 713478<br/>bluesil@hotmail.com</p>                                                                                    |
| <p><b>#6 PRESIDENT - Southwest</b><br/>Michael Vining (Doreen)<br/>91-217 Lukini Place<br/>Ewa Beach, HI 96706<br/>Tel: 808-271-5470<br/>mysails@hawaii.rr.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Donna B. Salisbury (Ed)<br/>98-988 Palola Way<br/>Aiea, HI 96701<br/>Tel: 808-485-0002<br/>donnaed@earthlink.net</p>                                                                           | <p><b>#14 PRESIDENT- Southwest</b><br/>Jane C. Brennan<br/>25 Porto Bello Drive<br/>San Rafael, CA 94901<br/>Tel: 415-456-1834<br/>Bus: 415-456-1812<br/>tbrenj2@comcast.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>George Knies (Ann)<br/>2333 Lariat Lane<br/>Walnut Creek, CA 94596<br/>Tel: 925-953-8432<br/>Fax: 925-944-0474<br/>geoknies@att.net</p>                          | <p><b>#22 PRESIDENT- Northeast</b><br/>David Loughran<br/>1203 Bay Ave.<br/>P.O. Box 746<br/>Mantoloking, NJ 08738<br/>Tel: 732-892-8388<br/>dploughran@comcast.net<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Betty Jane France (Robert)<br/>13 Paul Jones Dr.<br/>Brick, NJ 08723<br/>Tel: 732-477-3732</p>                                             | <p><b>#75 PRESIDENT- New Zealand</b><br/>Ronald (Ron) Stephenson (Kay)<br/>P.O. Box 549<br/>Thames, New Zealand 3540<br/>Tel: 64-7-862227<br/>Bus: 64-7-8687510<br/>kay-ngarimubay@hotmail.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Christine Conn (Martin)<br/>28 Elderberry Road Burswood<br/>Manakan City, New Zealand 2013<br/>Tel: 64-9-2747447<br/>Fax: 64-9-5258284<br/>picketywitch@slingshot.co.nz</p> |

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