

THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

Of The INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

An Association of Past Commodores

Volume 34 No. 1



January 2013 - 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.



2013 IOBG DIRECTORY

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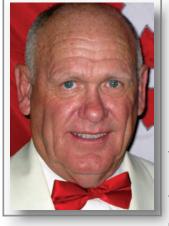
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President Chuck Browning



I hope everyone had a great time in Maryland. I really appreciated the attendance from my many friends both local and International. The Maryland Golf and Country Club and their staff really made us feel at home, it was a great place to have our Annual Ball and I think everyone enjoyed themselves.

I want to congratulate Past President Steve Willing and Shirley for a very successful year and I hope I can continue that success during 2013.

Congratulations to the officers that have moved up on the Executive Committee and to all other officers that have accepted the responsibility of office in their Chapters, District, and Regions.

I wish Mary Nye Meyers, Jerry Rudd and Herman Meyer a speedy recovery and I hope to see them at the Winter meeting in Florida.

We can make progress retaining our membership with better communications by our Chapter, District and Regional officers. We are not only asking for our officers to get involved but we are asking our members to get involved also, seek new members in your Chapters and help us make The International Order of the Blue Gavel more interesting to our boating community and bring more Past Commodores to our organization.

We want to know what is going on in our Chapters and Districts. Give us an article to be published in our next Lighthouse Bulletin.

Let's grow together in 2013.



INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

2013 WINTER REGIONAL MEETING • FEBRUARY 8 – 10, 2013 (Held in Conjunction with the District 8 Winter Meeting)



REGISTRATION FORM

District Number _____ Office Held _____

Hosted by: Venice Yacht Club 1330 Tarpon Center Drive Venice, FL 34285 941-488-7708, Fax 941-484-7603

by January 28 to:	
sons Event Cost	<u>Total</u>
\$16.25	
Cash Bar	
Galley Menu	1
\$17.50 \$15.00 Cash Bar	
\$60.00	
\$60.00	
\$60.00	
	\$60.00 \$60.00 \$60.00



INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

2013 WINTER REGIONAL MEETING • FEBRUARY 8 – 10, 2013 (Held in Conjunction with the District 8 Winter Meeting)



The Venice Yacht Club is proud to host the Winter Regional Meeting of the International Order of the Blue Gavel and District 8 IOBG General Meeting to be held February 8 - 10, 2013. We hope you will join us for an outstanding weekend of fun in the sun in beautiful tropical Venice, Florida. What an opportune time to escape the winter chill and relish in our warm climate.

The Venice Yacht Club was founded in 1951 and is one of the 13 original members of the Florida Council of Yacht Clubs. One may stroll downtown along the avenues for some very unique shopping in its many boutiques, antique and gift shops. The area also offers an art gallery, Venice Theater, library, and many restaurants.

On Friday the IOBG, IOBGA, and Humanitarian Foundation meetings will be held during the day. Cocktails will be served at 6:00 p.m. in Pearson's Cove followed by dinner of your choice in the Main Dining Room at 7:00 p.m. Dress is Yacht Club casual and reservations are required.

The IOBG General meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. in the Sunset Room on Saturday. The District 8 IOBG General Meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. in the Sunset Room. Dress is Summer Whites.

The ladies will be picked-up at the Yacht Club at 10:00 a.m. Saturday for a delightful trolley car tour of the city of Venice. Following the trolley tour, a walk through tour of the Kentucky Military Academy will be available. The trolley tour will end in the quaint boutique and restaurant area of Venice for shopping and lunch of their choice. Transportation will be provided back to the Club.

The IOBG dinner banquet that evening will begin with cocktails and hors doeuvres at 6:00 pm in the Sunset Room and dinner at 7:00 pm in the Main Dinning Room. Dress is IOBG summer whites with blue blazer and tie.

On Sunday morning a complimentary continental breakfast will be offered from 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Registration will be on Friday, at the front desk, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 am and 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm, and on Saturday from 9:00 am. – 12:00 pm The enclosed registration package includes details for all of the above events, and a list of local hotels which have offered IOBG attendees a preferred rate. Limited dock space is available for those arriving by boat. Call our VYC dockmaster at (941) 483-3625 for reservation.

Please print all appropriate information on the enclosed registration forms.

All reservations must be received by January 28, 2013 and sent to Venice Yacht Club attention Audrey Rice or can be faxed to 941-484-7603.

We welcome all IOBG members and have planned a great weekend for you in sunny Venice, Florida. *If you have any questions or requests* for special assistance, please contact: Venice Yacht Club Chapter IOBG President Bud Higginson at (941) 966-7494 or Secretary/Treasurer Audrey Rice (941) 474-2426.





INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

2013 WINTER REGIONAL MEETING • FEBRUARY 8 – 10, 2013 (Held in Conjunction with the District 8 Winter Meeting)



EVENTS SCHEDULE

Friday, February 8, 2013 Dress Code Summer Uniform Event Cost					
8:00 - 9:00	Registration				
8:30 - 9:00	Coffee and Pastries		Charge		
9:00 - 12:00	IOBG Executive Board Meeting	Conference Room			
9:00 - 12:00	IOBGA General Meeting				
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch	Sunset Room\$16	5.25		
1:00 - 4:00	Humanitarian Foundation Meeting	Conference Room			
3:00 - 6:00	Registration				
6:00 - 7:00	Cocktails/Reception	Pearson's CoveCas	sh Bar		
7:00	Dinner	Main Dining Room			
	Galley Menu - Reservations required - Ca				
Saturday, February 9	9, 2013 Dress Code Summer Uniform				
8:30 - 9:00	Coffee and Pastries	Sunset RoomNo	Charge		
9:00 - 12:00	Registration	Front Desk			
9:00 - 12:00	IOBG General Meeting	Sunset Room			
10:00	Ladies Trolley Ride, tour	Club Pickup\$15	5.00		
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch	Main Dining Room\$17	7.50		
1:00 - 3:00	District 8 IOBG General Meeting	Sunset Room			
5:45 - 6:00	Retreat Ceremony	Flag Pole			
6:00 - 7:00	Cocktails/Reception	Sunset RoomCas	sh Bar		
7:00	Dinner and Dancing				
	(Summer Uniform with Blue Blazer and T	•			
0 1 71	2 2012				
Sunday, February 10					
8:00 - 10:00	Continental Breakfast	Main Dining RoomNo	Charge		

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:

Hampton Inn: 881 Venetia Bay Blvd Venice FL 34292 – 941-488-5900 Junction US #41 and US #41 By-pass **Venice. Rates:** Standard double queen or king –IOBG Special \$145.00, 2.4 miles from Venice Yacht Club. The host hotel with 20 rooms available.

Fairfield Inn & Suite: 2935 Executive Dr. Venice FL 34292 941-488-4343-Exit #193 I-75 and Jacaranda Blvd. **Rates:** Standard double queen or King – IOBG Special \$129.00. 5.9 miles from Venice Yacht Club.

Be sure to request the special IOBG reduced rates when making your reservation.

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY JANUARY 17, 2013 TO GUARANTEE RATES.

Arrival by Car:

Interstate I-75 Exit #193 to Venice Ave. Follow Venice Ave. West to the Venice Beach – Right on The Esplanade – left on Tarpon Venter Drive – VYC on right.

We are served by three airports: Tampa (TPA) is 79 miles from Venice, Fort Myers (RSW) is 74 miles and Sarasota (SRQ) is 24 miles.

President - Elect Gary McGrath

Here we are again; ready to start a new Watch with all our new Officers. It seems like we just got home from Canada, where has the time gone. My father used to say "the older you get, the faster the time goes" and he was so right.



The meeting in Baltimore (Edgewater) was good and the yacht clubs were great. The Executive Committee decided to go with a new membership card and the General membership agreed, so by now you may have gotten your new cards. From all the reports, they are very well accepted.



I hope you have all reserved the dates of October 17-20, 2013 for the Annual meeting and my convention and inauguration. It will be held at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Concord California. I will send more information with all the costs involved within the next few months.

Our winter meeting in Venice, Florida will be held from February 8-10, 2013. I hope to see many of you there.

This year and next will be challenging for IOBG and other organizations similar to ours and we will need all the input we can get from our members.

See you in Venice, FL...

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

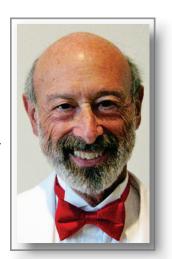
To order: Send this order form with a color sample of club burgee (business card or letterhead - we may have burgee on file) to Commodore Insignia. You can telephone your order using (800)-315-7485 or our Fax: (775) 782-4003.

Quantity		віаск	vvnite	Unit Price	iotai
	IOBG Blazer Emblem				
	Auxiliary Blazer Emblem				
Please P	rint				
I am a paid up member of IOBG District # Yacht Club Year Year					
Signature	9		Ship	to:	
	ve will be verified. Member verwhen shipped.	vill be billed	for		
		Contact P	hone Numbe	er:	
		Ema	ail Addresses	s:	

First Vice President Joel Kay

It is my honor to have served as the Blue Gavel 2nd Vice President this year. As such, I have learned a great deal about the operations of the organization having served on the Executive Committee, and been present at the Winter and Spring meetings. More importantly, I got to know members I only knew casually before, and I am the better person as a result.

Steve Willing's leadership has moved the Blue Gavel this year to a new high. He has taken personal responsibility for every issue coming before the organization, resulting in significant accomplishments and no real unresolved issues.



As liaison to the Auxiliary, I have met with President Ethel Keith, formally and informally. There are serious issues before the Auxiliary, and it will take more than a year for it to function in the desired manner. No one President can accomplish all that is necessary to put the Auxiliary on the proper track. It will take a concerted effort by Auxiliary members and the Blue Gavel to accomplish the necessary tasks.

Overall, it has been a busy, yet successful year. We've tried to appeal to under organized Districts, which has been enjoyable, but not profitable. As a result, we know that if we pour our efforts into the better organized Districts, the results will make for a better IOBG overall. For future consideration, we need to create a communication system whereby our members from the successful Districts can engage those from the lesser organized ones and hopefully create within these Districts a group of members more engaged in the organization.

Lastly, I am very pleased in the direction that the Humanitarian Fund is going under the new leadership of Bob Howe. He is very innovative in creating a better system of contributing to the Fund as well as organizing the accountability of the operation. It is very important in this day and age to have as transparent an operation as possible so that everyone knows exactly where the funds come from and where they are going.



Second Vice President Joe Dowdell



Thank you, nominating committee for your confidence in me, and likewise, thanks to all the members who cast ballots through their District Directors at the Annual meeting to elect me to this new position. Thanks also to Past President Steve Willing for his encouraging words this past year. I am glad he will still be around as immediate Past President to assist and offer guidance through 2013. This new job requires a complete shift in my areas of

responsibility. Up to now, I concentrated my efforts in the Southeast. According to the bylaws, I am now responsible for the Area Vice Presidents <u>west</u> of the Mississippi River and the District 51 Director which also covers members west of the Mississippi. This will be very interesting and a lot of fun besides, coming as I do from the Florida Keys.



This year, the overriding goal, the number one objective for all of us is to increase our membership. It is imperative that we increase members. Our numbers have been declining for the past ten years. We have reached the point where there is nothing left to cut from the budget. The organization must increase revenues, and raising dues is not the way to do it! Methods to increase membership were the topic of a workshop-like discussion at the Saturday meeting at the Annual convention in Edgewood, Maryland. The topic was kicked off by a presentation by Mark Vedaj, the District Director of District 7.

Last year, District 7 toppled District 8 from its long held perch as the leader of all Districts with regard to number of members. As a former District 8 Director, you can be sure I was paying close attention and taking notes. His talk and the discussions that followed created an enthusiastic atmosphere that showed in the questions, examples and comments from those in attendance. I will follow up to see that the information is being relayed down the line to the Districts in my area of responsibility.

I have other responsibilities too, so I will be very busy this year. Joel Kay informs me that the Second Vice President traditionally is the liaison officer to the IOBG Auxiliary. This should be no problem since I am already

IOBG and **IOBGA**

Clothing and Accessories

Approved Vendors

Pierside Promotions

c/o David Kutz 23911 Newell Lane NE Kingston, Washington 98346

Telephone: (360) 297-2935

Cell: 360-271-1105 Fax: 866-239-2070

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<u>yachtalettering@comcast.net</u> <u>www.companycasuals.com</u>

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy



Having completed a successful Annual Meeting in Maryland and getting back home a week before Hurricane Sandy ravaged the area, here are some excerpts from my treasurer's report that was presented to the Board of Directors:

The overall results as of September 30, 2012 are almost the same as the 2011year. Again this year the August regional meeting was not held. New for this year was the expansion of the Lighthouse as a vehicle for delivery of up-to-the-minute news and The Blue Gavel LOG. The electronic delivery method has proved very beneficial and saved \$3,609 over last year. The savings was used to offset year-to-year increases in travel expenses. We also have been updating the software for our web site to maintain security and keep up with changing technology. We also renewed our domain name, iobg.org for the next nine years.

Our balance sheet shows strength with \$120, 977 in total assets and members' equity of \$115,332. Our liabilities consist of normal expenses incurred in September but not paid until October plus the amount due to District 18 should they become reorganized.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2012 our net income of \$29,270 was \$131 less than the same date last year. Our dues revenue was \$1,360 less than budget and \$1,340 lower than last year. Our total expenses were \$3,101 less than budgeted and \$759 lower than last year. Some of the more prominent budget variances, in general, occurred as a result of timing differences in purchases and payments. For a complete copy of the treasurer's report contact the IOC in San Diego.

The membership statistics for this report was prepared as of August 1, 2012, the date mandated by the bylaws for determining the number of votes allotted to each District. The report shows we have 1,745 paid member, which is 21 less than last year. Since August 1 we have had six more members pay dues for 2012.

A budget for 2013 will be distributed and discussed separately at the Friday morning session of the Annual Meeting. The 2013 budget contemplates operation levels similar to 2012. There will not be a dues increase for 2012. We have been able to operate within our dues collections despite a lowering of paid members and rising costs. If the trends continue we will have to consider a dues increase because we have exhausted all options to reduce costs without seriously affecting operations.

2012 completes my 20th year as your treasurer. A large portion of my success is attributable to the cooperation I have received from the District treasurers. I cannot thank them enough. I have had the good fortune to visit many Districts and meet many members. I appreciate the hospitality that I have received over the years. I have also learned many things about boating around the country and use what I have learned in seminar presentations in my District during the last 15 years. My primary goal has always been to serve the membership as efficiently as possible and pledge to continue to do so in the future.

For 2013 we will have a new plastic membership card. The design was approved by the Board of Directors. For future years we will have a photo contest to find the photo to be used on the membership card. Watch for more information in the Lighthouse.







Many years have passed since I first became a member of the International Order of the Blue Gavel. It has been, and continues to be, an extremely rewarding experience. Our lives are fulfilled by the people we meet, and we have met some remarkable individuals. To be able to share our lives with people from far and wide, who share a common thread, the experience of having been a Commodore of a club, is amazing.

While I will be around for as many years as possible, my year at the helm has come to an end. I am confident the new officers will carry on to make this organization bigger and better. I thank all the officers and the members, who have shown me their support throughout this past year.

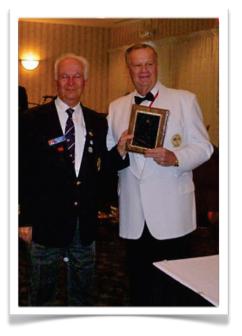
Membership in the International Order of the Blue Gavel, is given exclusively to those who have demonstrated their ability, and dedication to their clubs and the boating community, by having served honourably as Commodore. Such service should not be cast aside, and it is this realization that was instrumental in the formation of the IOBG. Your sleeve patch is an indication that you have served, and is recognised around the world. Wear it proudly, as it shows that you have achieved the level of recognition that membership in the world's only international organization for Past Commodores can give.

The secret to gaining the most from your membership is activity. The more you are involved, the more fun you have, the more people you meet through these activities, the more your realize the honour that you have achieved, as Commodore. Looking at all the various boating associations coast to coast you will see that most are led by Past Commodores. Most of these also belong to the International Order of the Blue Gavel.

I would like to thank Chuck Browning and the Bush River Yacht Club for a successful Annual Convention. Our year ended on budget, with membership holding its own. New members are the solution to keeping the annual dues stable. I encourage all members to attend a regional meeting when it is in your neighbourhood, or it is possible to travel. These meeting are the opportunity for you to meet some of the amazing people that I have come to know over the years. Your input is important to the success, and direction the organization will take as we move forward. Please feel free to contact any member of the Board should you have any questions or suggestions. Our contact information is available on our website www.iobg.org .

It has been a privilege to serve as International President of the International Order of the Blue Gavel for the





2012 Past President's Hward Gary Hall

We, who have had the privilege of serving the International Order of the Blue Gavel for many years, have seen the outstanding service of a few noteworthy individuals. It has been our deep pleasure to have served with them.

The Past President's concern has been that there is no vehicle for recognizing the significant contributions to the furthering of the goals of our organization by these noteworthy individuals.

This year's Past President's Award goes to an individual who, throughout the years, has quietly supported our organization and the Auxiliary and served when asked. At the Regional and Annual meetings he is in the audience for the Blue Gavel meeting or he is in the Auxiliary's meeting. The interesting thing is that when he is not there you know something is missing.

It is this kind of member that is the backbone of support for our Blue Gavel organization.

It is an honor to present this year's Past President's Award to Gary Hall for his quiet, steadfast support, and his time and effort for the betterment of the IOBG and its Auxiliary.

Congratulations!

Past President Vern Bendsen





J. O. B.G. Past Presidents

1955 - 2012

2012	Stephen Willing	1994	Dr. Richard Disraeli	1972-7	3*Raymond Hash
	Sun Parlour Boat Club		Southwestern Yacht Club		Shelton Yacht Club
2011	Vern Bendsen	1993*	Norman Gallagher	1971*	Ed Haecker
	Encinal Yacht Club		Chagrin Yacht Club		Hayden Island Yacht Club
	Ebony Boat Club	1992*	Wesley Holtzhauser	1970*	Bruce Calhoun
2010	Raymond Thompson		Pass-A-Grille Yacht Club		Elks Yacht Club
	Palm Coast Yacht Club	1991	Evertt Roberts	1969*	Robert McDermaid
2009	Jerry S. Rudd		Columbia River Yacht Club		West Vancouver Yacht Club
	Totem Yacht Club	1990*	Thomas R. Elmer	1968*	Charles McCurdy
2008	Richard Janiszewski		Tonawanda Island Launch Club		Des Moines Yacht Club
	Spray Beach Yacht Club	1989*	Norval "Cav" Cavett	1967*	Ken Wise
2007	Carol Promessi		Hawaii Yacht Club		Edmonds Yacht Cub
	Pittsburg Yacht Club	1988*	George Cooper	1966*	Randy Rockhill
2006	Harvey Sussel		Lighthouse Point Yacht Club		Rainier Yacht Club
	The Captains Yacht Club	1987	Dr. Burton Jay	1965*	Sam Crawford
	North Palm Beach Yacht Club		Southwestern Yacht Club		Olympic Yacht Club
2005	Art Theobald	1986*	Ernie R. Villaire	1964*	Story Birdseye
	Sandy BeachYacht Club		Wyandotte Yacht Club		Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club
2004	Larry Foote	1985*	Walter Bertram	1963*	Dr. Ed Chase
	San Joaquin Yacht Club		Hayden Island Yacht Club		Everett Yacht Club
2003	Art Garside	1984*	James Topping		Meydenbauer Bay YC
	Elba Mar Boat Club		Naples Sailing Yacht Club	1962*	Leroy Strasser
2002	Marion Hughes	1983*	E. Carl Schiewe		Totem Yacht Club
	Clover Island Yacht Club		Columbia River Yacht Club	1961*	Frank Metz
2001*	Robert Miller	1982*	Belding H. McCurdy		Queen City Yacht Club
	San Joaquin Yacht Club		Pass-A-Grille Yacht Club		Totem Yacht Club
2000	Louis A. Key, Jr.	1981*	Everett E. Weis	1960*	H.E. Richmond
	Chagrin River Yacht Club		Portland Yacht Club		Seattle Yacht Club
1999*	Frank Valdes	1980*	Fred Roth	1959*	Harold Fowler
	Pass-A-Grille Yacht Club		Cleveland Yacht Club		Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club
1998*	Ted Kendrick	1979*	Willis Angel	1958*	Richard McCann
	San Joaquin Yacht Club		Bremerton Yacht Club		Queen City Yacht Club
1997*	Phil Arms	1978*	Leonard St. Lewi	1957*	Harry Gundlach
	Navy Yacht Club San Diego		Pass-A-Grille Yacht Club		Bremerton Yacht Club
1996	Ira Nies	1975-7	7*Wesley W. Ortner	1956*	Art Russeh
	Columbia River Yacht Club		Portland Yacht Club		Seattle Yacht Club
1995*	Rolf R. Tinge	1974*	G. Dudley Henderson	1955*	Ev G. Henry - Founder of IOBG
-	The Captains Yacht Club	•	Salem Yacht Club		Rainier Yacht Club
	The Point Yacht Club				



US Sailing Representative Bill Thayer



With the 2012 hurricane season officially here, it is important to review and refresh your club's response plan for hurricane and severe weather. They encourage you to review the Hurricane Activation Plan Templates created by The Burgee Insurance Plan by Gowrie endorsed by US Sailing and is the only custom insurance for yacht clubs and sailing organizations.

US Sailing's 2011 Annual Report to Members came out in June. The Annual Report to Members summarizes US Sailing's programs, reports on financial results, and recognizes our generous donors for 2011.

Old Pulteney, US Sailing calling for Maritime Heroes Award Nominations. Old Pulteney Single Malt Scotch Whiskey and US Sailing have introduced the inaugural Old Pulteney Maritime Heroes Award. The two brands have partnered to express appreciation to the men and women in sailing communities across the country for their humanitarian achievements.

There will be an ISAF Measurers Seminar and Refresher Clinic held in conjunction with the J/24 World Championship at the Rochester Yacht Club (NY) on September 9-12. The last ISAF Measurement Seminar held in the U.S. was in 2005.

In June, US Sailing announced the Greatest American Sailor Tournament matching 64 American sailing living legends in a tournament-style bracket format to decide on a winner. The finals came down to two, Buddy Melges and Dennis Conner. Conner took it.

In keeping with one of the most treasured moments for any Olympic team, the U.S. Olympic Sailing Team was the guest of honor at "Good Luck USA" send off presented by Maclaren at the Larchmont Yacht Club (NY). And that ends my Olympic Sailing Report.

US Sailing is currently hiring for a number of positions, including Training Director. The nominations are out for Directors. Charlie Arms is up for one of the two Director slots.

US Sailing's 2012 Rolex Yachtsman and Yachtswoman of the Year Awards Nominations are now being accepted.

US Sailing's independent reviews of the Farallones Islands and Ensenada tragedies are out and our own George Knies wrote the rebuttal to the Coast Guard knee jerk on the Farallones Islands Race.











Being the Northwestern Area Vice President gives me another excuse (hooray) to drop-in and visit with District 5. Recently, they had their Change of Watch and I was so happy to meet the new Board and be able to share that evening with them. Shirley Ridley, the new District 5 President, and I had a wonderful conversation and shared a few ideas for the upcoming year. Hold on to your hats District 5...



District 1 had their Fall meeting and Change of Watch in September. At the meeting five new inductees were sworn-in.

District 1 had previously gone to an all electronic newsletter and has now further committed to continue their policy of a totally paperless District by voting to develop a new web site. The new web site will enable the District to utilize On-Line Dues Renewals, On-Line Registration for meetings and events and On-Line Merchandise purchasing. On-Site credit card processing will also be available for the members to renew their dues or make merchandise purchases.

It was also voted to go totally paperless with the publication of the District 1 Membership Directory. No more printing or postage costs, no monetary restrictions and no more worries about "how large the directory is getting". Now it can be limitless with pictures and additional information that might be needed or referenced. Members can choose which sections of the Directory they wish to print and which sections they will simply save on their computers. Many have expressed the need to have more than one directory and now they can have as many as needed just by hitting the "print button".



For those 3 or 4 members who we have identified as not having internet or computer access, their Chapters have been volunteering to print any correspondence, newsletters or directories that is needed for them to remain active and informed in the District.



District 1 has experienced increasing numbers of members who are now more informed and aware that the District and IOBG still values their contributions to Bue Gavel. Our attendance is reaching an all time high and we are striving to set the bar higher in 2013.

Congratulations to the District 1 Auxiliary for raising \$863.00 at the Fall meeting for our three foundations: Make a Wish, Wishing Star, and the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication.

District 5 William J. McKinney, District Director

District 5 had another good year in 2012 with membership holding at fifty members. The Executive Board developed a very active calendar beginning with a "Mid-Winter Happy Hour" in February. This was a first time event and was hosted by the district with appetizers and an open bar. All members as well as past and present commodores in the district were invited. The theme was to appreciate the membership and to get potential members to take a look at Blue Gavel. We did sign one new member and those who attended were very happy with the event.

Blue Gavel Cooks were introduced for the first time at the Columbia River Yacht Club. This group of Blue Gavel members from CRYC cooked dinner on the first Thursday of each month for the year. This has been a great way bring Blue Gavel to the attention of all of the CRYC members as well as being a great story throughout all of IOBG.

Two events in April began with the annual "Clean Up Cruise" to Hadley Landing on the Willamette River. Each year the District meets with the Oregon Parks Department to clean the picnic and dock areas of this public access park. This year there had been damage to the park signs so through donated labor and materials the district provided a new structure to mount signs on. In addition with a donation form a member we were able to purchase forty yards of gravel to be used at Hadley Landing to improve an access road to the picnic area. At the end of April we held our annual Spring Social that was well received by the membership.

June brought us the IOBG Annual Spring Meeting linked with the Portland Rose Festival. IOBG President Steve Willing and incoming President Chuck Browning were knighted by the Rose Festival Princess. Over 285 Royal Rosarians take part in this ceremony plus dozens of other participants. District 5 plays host to the IOBG for this event with meetings held at the Portland Yacht Club and a dinner at the Columbia River Yacht Club.

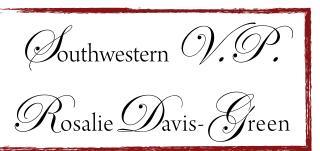
Our Annual Change Of Watch Meeting was held on September 26th with the focus on the election of officers for 2013. Below is a list of elected officers and appointed positions:

President Shirley Ridley
Vice President Duane Westfall
Secretary/Treasurer Steve Adkins
Trustee Bill Farr
Trustee: Nancy Dale
Immediate Past President and District Director Bill McKinney

As part of the marketing plan for 2012 the district has continued to distribute the Columbia Current newsletter to the membership, current commodores and selected past commodores in the boating community and place articles of our activities in local newsprint and yacht club newsletters.









Mistricts 1 6,10,11,14,15, 16,19 & 21

District 10 LaVon Plumlee, District Director

District 10 has continued to be a very active district in 2012 thanks to the planning by our Board. Seven new Past Commodores have been inducted this year for a total of 86 members. Our Board meets monthly for dinner meetings to explore new avenues to increase District 10 membership and activities. As a result, our members continue to enjoy the fruits of our labors. Our District co-hosted a Champagne Brunch at Navy Yacht Club Long Beach with a profit of \$1,000 that has been donated to the Children's Clinic of Long Beach.

This past month, District 10 hosted several events including touring the USS IOWA, attending a BBQ aboard the Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach at Barney's Beach House, plus our members enjoyed attending the Charity Regatta in support of the Children's Clinic of Long Beach.

We look forward to hosting several more activities in the next couple of months including a tour of Sea Launch Facilities in San Pedro, visiting the Los Alamitos Air Show, ending the year with our Duffy cruise and viewing of the Christmas Boat parade.

Our newly elected IOBGA President has been actively encouraging spouses to join and become active. Membership in IOBGA thanks to her endeavors is continuing to expand.

Membership Ombudsman: District 10 has selected a team of two to serve as Membership Ombudsman for District 10, and we believe these two persons will aide in expanding our membership and attendance at our functions.

<u>IOBG Humanitarian Foundation</u>: A letter was sent to each of the yacht clubs that are members of District 10 encouraging them to support the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation and soliciting a donation of \$100 to the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation. So far, we have received donations of \$300. We are in hopes of receiving more donations to this very worthwhile foundation.

Communications: District 10 has identified communications as a very important factor in our success. As such, our newsletter editor has again done a fabulous job for our members. In addition, E-mail and our







District 11 Sherry Barone, President



Attended and enjoyed the annual meeting in Baltimore Maryland. I was able to attend annual Board meeting, sightseeing at the Inner Harbor and yacht club dinner. The meeting included review of financial statement, membership discussions, reports and sharing information of events held at Districts. This year IOBG will be coming out with a new plastic membership card that looks great. The yacht clubs on the Chesapeake Bay were very hospitable and enjoyed the camaraderie of the event in Maryland.

We enjoyed 5 Windy Q events featuring BBQ with various yachting and nautical speakers this summer.

IOBG District 11 sailed in the sundowner Friday night race at Del Rey Yacht Club competing in various sailboats.

A wine tasting event was held at Westlake Yacht Club raising funds for youth sailing. IOBG District 11 provided matching funding with DRYC auxiliary for two at risk youth to sail in Del Rey Yacht Club summer program. The children learned sailing, rigging, boat maintenance and racing in Opti boats and competed in two regattas.

Upcoming event is our installation and brunch at Del Rey Yacht Club on Sunday 2 December 2012 with guest speaker DRYC Staff Commodore Irv Bied discussing cursing in the northwest.

District 14
Mike Billington, District Director

District 14 is working very hard to revive itself. We had a very well attended District meeting at Oyster Point Yacht Club. Thank you to Deanna Tomei and Larry Draper for setting up the meeting and brunch. Past President Vern Bendsen and First Vice President Gary McGrath gave speeches letting the members know about the fun and benefits of going to IOBG Regional meetings. Past International Legal Officer George Knies discussed the America's Cup races being held in San Francisco. Members discussed what kinds of activities they would like District 14 to have in 2013.

District members will again help with the upcoming Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association Wheel Chair Regatta. This event will once again provide veterans, many confined to wheelchairs, with the rare opportunity to experience a power boat cruise on the Oakland Estuary and San Francisco Bay along the San Francisco City front. On their return, the veterans will be treated to a picnic luncheon and entertainment on the grounds of Encinal Yacht Club. Most of our honored guests are U.S. Veterans residing in Northern California Veterans' Homes and Hospitals. This is a great event and well worth helping with.

The District 14 Executive Committee met at Village West Yacht Club to plan out 2013. The Officers for District 14 will be Director and President – Mike Billington, Vice President – Marge Bottari, Secretary – Susie West, and Treasurer – Vern Bendsen. In the future the progression through the chairs will be Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President, President and Director. Vern Bendsen is serving as interim Treasurer until a permanent Treasurer can be found. Communications will be a combination of regular mail and email with multiple notifications of each event. Plans for next year include a joint Induction meeting with District 19, a general meeting, a fun day with a lunch cruise on a Hornblower Yacht on the Bay, and a joint cruise out with District 19 to the marina at Rio Vista on the Sacramento River. We will also be assisting PICYA with the Wheelchair Regatta.

We look forward to an active future. Our membership is being bolstered by a number of District 19 members becoming associate members of District 14 and we are making plans to recruit many regular members

District 15 Michele Wold, District Director

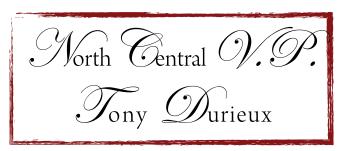
Greetings from District 15 in beautiful, sunny Southern California. We would like to take this opportunity to let you know what a wonderfully successful year we've had.

This year we concentrated on making the activities of our District more relevant to our members as well as providing service to our community while having fun at the same time. In keeping with that motto, our District President Blanche Gunther arranged for us to attend several plays as well as the Palm Springs Follies. We also had a lovely open house to welcome new members hosted by then District Secretary Kathy Smith and her husband Gary

Our first order of business was the annual Yacht Club Management Seminar presented by District 15 and held at Mission Bay Yacht Club in January. The Seminar this year included a new section on ABC rules which was very well received. This year, District 15 joined the Make- A -Wish Amazing Race held in Coronado, California. Our team, under the leadership of Gregg Hansen, raised over \$1500 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. A lovely basket made and donated by Past President Jeanne Irwin increased our donation. Secretary Kathy Smith planned our Summer Bash where we raised over \$300 for US Disabled sailors. They will be racing from Southwestern Yacht Club at the end of this month. It will be their first time on the West Coast and we are proud to have donated to their cause. In addition, Past District Director Linda Loftus organized a Santa Margarita and Silver Gate Yacht Club fiesta that raised a donation of \$260.00 for the Humanitarian Foundation.

Our new officers were installed at the Change of Watch Dinner, October 6th at Chula Vista Yacht Club. We're looking forward to another successful year under the leadership of new President Dave Lancaster, Vice President Kathy Smith, Treasurer Marshall Nemoy, Newsletter Editor Jeanne Irwin and Secretary Jim Jenkins.







*O*istricts 7, 9, 23 & 25

District 7
Tony Durieux, District Director

District 7 started its summer activities by hosting a cocktail party for the Greater Cleveland Boating Association (GCBA) Rendezvous at Port Huron on the shores of Lake Erie. District 7 holds this cocktail party each year to continue the awareness of the Blue Gavel to all boaters, clubs and Commodores. The participating clubs donate a basket of their choice that is raffled off. The proceeds help pay for the event.

District 7 then moves on to help host a cocktail Party for commodores from all over the Lake Erie. Each year Districts 7, 9 and 25 host this cocktail party for the ILYA (Interlake Yachting Association) power and sail regatta held at Put in Bay on Middle Bass Island, Lake Erie, Ohio. This get together has become a huge gathering of boaters from the surrounding shoreline of Lake Erie which includes several states and Canadian provinces.

Our next event will be to attend the annual meeting of the GCBA. The GCBA geographic membership area almost mirrors the geographic area of District 7. We find this an important meeting. Many past District 7 Presidents and Vice Presidents are past GCBA Commodores and or current line officers.

Now, we move to our Change of Watch for District 7. Our thanks to President Mark Vadaj for his willingness to give of his time to further the interests of the District and the Blue Gavel as an organization. With that said, we welcome President Elect Pat McIlwee as he takes over the reins of District 7. All is well with District 7 and we continue to maintain our membership and member interest in the Blue Gavel.

District 9
Becky Vincent, District Director

District 9 is having its Fall meeting and election of officers for 2013 at Monroe Boat Club. The meeting will be at 2:00 pm with the wonderful burgers that MBC is famous for following the meeting.

District 9 has been having an Ohio State/Michigan football pool for the past several years and this year is no different. Participants have the ability to win each and every week that both teams play a game. The big game between Ohio State and Michigan is usually the game that everyone looks forward to. This is the major fundraiser for District 9 and we appreciate all who take part.

The October meeting is when the membership votes on which humanitarian project or projects we will support with the funds that have been raised.

District 9 will also join forces with Districts 25 and/or 7 to provide pizzas for the ILYA fall meeting. We normally have a 50/50 raffle raising funds for our respective Districts or in support of a mutually agreed to program or project.

District 25 Sam Bileti, District Director As in the past District 25 continues to stress communication with officers, members, other clubs (especially those who have been losing members) and other Districts. We have had limited success in our efforts so far.

District 25 held an E-Board meeting at Sun Parlour Boat Club in Canada on August 30, 2012. The meeting was followed by a social evening. Refreshments were served and enjoyed by the Board and their spouses. A good time was had by all.

Great Lakes Steel Boat Club held a fundraiser for District 25 serving Zukins Rib/Chicken Barbeque on September 8th, 2012. About 160 people bought tickets and they were all very satisfied.

Now the bad news, two (2) of our Vice Presidents resigned so we have openings that need to be Filled. Other Vice Presidents will fill in until they are replaced. Bill Woods, current President, will be the new District Director in October.

District 51
Walt Kadyk, District Director

District 51 remains very small at five members.

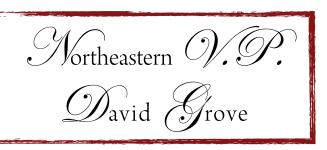
I am continuing efforts to find candidates for IOBG membership for those that would fall under District 51. I will continue to attend "Opening Day" ceremonies on behalf of Blue Gavel and make sure we are getting the word out.

I am sorry I am unable to attend the Annual meeting.



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.





Sistricts

3,12,20,
26 & 27

District 12
Vincent J. Core, District Director

On August 10th District 12 hosted a fundraiser for the 5th consecutive year for the Friends of Southern Sailing (FOSS), a 501 3c foundation which provides financial support to the Southern Regional High School Sailing Team. This year's event was hosted by Little Egg Harbor Yacht Club in conjunction with their Down Bay Regatta and the club's 100th anniversary celebration.

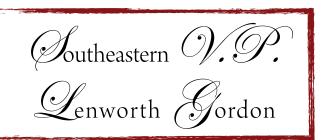
PC Jack Lampman and his wife Nancy, and Commodore Tom Cox were instrumental in coordinating the event and arranging for a very special guest. Gary Jobson, President of US Sailing, America's Cup Hall of Fame member, noted author and TV commentator, made a special presentation, "Sailing Speed and Passion" and a narrative covering the 100 years of LEHYC. Gary was very generous with his time and support, and donated much of the proceeds from his most recent book to FOSS. He also provided support and some of his sailing skills to the various teams that participated in the Rain Gutter Regatta, coordinated by PC John Coyle (LEHYC) and PC Bub Kovacs from Brant Beach YC.

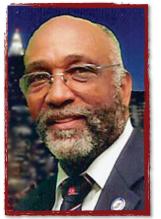


Once again it was a very successful event, with more than 100 guests. What makes this event unique is that everyone attending is requested to bring an hors d'oeuvre, while all the other food and refreshments are donated; so all the money raised goes directly to FOSS. This year the total proceeds were \$3,270, which means that District 12 has raised \$15,700 over the past 5 years.

Thanks to the support of all the members of all the clubs of District 12, Barnegat Light YC, Surf City YC, Brant Beach YC, Spray Beach YC and Little Egg Harbor YC we've had another very successful but short 2012 summer season here on Long Beach Island in New Jersey.









SEVP Report submitted by Past SEVP Joe Dowdell...

In July, President – Elect Chuck Browning and President Steve Willing visited with Robert P. "Buzz" Bisanz and other Past Commodores of Allatoona Yacht Club located north of Atlanta in Cartersville, Georgia. They were invited by PC Bisanz to take a look at their facilities and perhaps pick them for one of our upcoming meetings. They were greeted warmly and had a wonderful dinner with their Commodore and Past Commodores. By all reports, everyone was very friendly and happy to see them. The Allatoona Yacht Club is fully behind their Past Commodores and stated that their yacht club will pay all Past Commodores' membership in the IOBG as long as they support their club each year. After dinner, President Elect Chuck discussed with P/C Bisanz how we as IOBG needed his participation and involvement to get District 18 back in operation. He was the District 18 Vice President, and will move up to President position and also accept the position as District Director in District 18 for the coming year. I have also just been informed that P/C Kowert in South Carolina has been appointed to fill the vacant position of Vice President of District 18. He is the immediate P/C from Charleston Yacht Club. He believes interest in Blue Gavel at Charleston Yacht Club is building. He is very willing to recruit P/C's to join, or rejoin, as the case may be.

P/P Arden Theobold resigned as Secretary of District 8 but continues with his interest and involvement in District 8 affairs. Art has been actively involved in the IOBG for 38 years and shows no signs of slowing down. He is still the Historian and an officer in the Humanitarian Foundation. Just this week he contacted me and expressed his ideas about increasing member attendance at the annual District meeting.

Past District 8 President A. Lee Clifford died on Sept 2, 2012. He was a District 8 President in 2003 and again in 2009. Lee and his wife Ellie were active members of Royal Palm Yacht Club and the Cape Coral Cruise Club. Memorial services were held Friday, 14 September, 2012 at the Faith Presbyterian Church, Cape Coral, FL and several Blue Gavel members attended in winter uniform to honor his service.

In Florida, June and I visited Marco Island Yacht Club, Naples Yacht Club, Bird Key Yacht Club, Venice Yacht Club and Isles Yacht Club. At Bird Key YC, we had dinner with P/C Jamo C Powell and his wife Kathy. Jamo was President of Bird Key Blue Gavel Chapter in 2002, after serving as Commodore of Bird Key the preceding year. Jamo explained that it was customary at Bird Key to induct the immediate Past Commodore into the Blue Gavel Chapter, and make him the Chapter President. At Bird Key, the Past Commodores meet for lunch every other month.

At Venice Yacht Club, we enjoyed a special treat. The Blue Gavel Chapter at Venice Yacht Club devised a program in 2012 to help their yacht club by undertaking the sponsorship of three special dinner parties during the year. The Chapter decided on the theme, arranged for the entertainment and handled all the details, including the three fundraising raffles with the drawing for the winning ticket on the night of the party. We went to the second party on July 28 with Lenworth and Renee Gordon. The theme was New Orleans and the menu consisted of selections from well-known New Orleans restaurants. The entertainment was the dueling pianos of Mark and Clark. The raffle was for a helicopter trip for lunch at secluded Ussepa Island on Pine Island Sound and an aerial tour of the Venice area. All told, the Chapter will raise in excess of \$3,500 and they will make their presentation of needed items to their club's kitchen as part of the evening's events at the last of the three dinners. These sponsorship events have been so successful in fundraising for their club and making the Chapter more visible to their membership, they hope to continue the program next year.

SEVP Report Continued...

I was the installing officer at the annual meeting of District 8 at Isles Yacht Club in Punta Gorda, Florida October 5, 6 and 7.

Prior to the installation of officers, District Director Lenworth Gordon had the honor of making the Charter presentation to the newest District 8 chapter, Pelican Isle Yacht Club, Naples, Florida. Accepting the Charter on behalf of the Chapter were Bill Pittman and John F "Jack" Kindsvater.

I installed the newly elected officers at the installation dinner December 6. The Officers for 2013 are: President – George Eichman, President Elect – Bert Gartenhaus, First Vice President - Charles Ranson, Second Vice President - Bill Pittman, Treasurer - Bob Pease, Secretary – Bud Higgenson, and District Director – Lenworth Gordon. Following his induction, President Eichman appointed P/P Harvey Sussel as Publications Officer and Editor of the Gulfstream newsletter, Hal Bishop as Legal Officer and Lenworth Gordon as Supply Officer.

Harvey Sussel has given notice that it is time for him to retire and 2013 will be his last year as Editor of the Gulfstream.

In his report at the annual meeting. President George Eichman announced the formation of a committee consisting of P/P Harvey Sussel, P/C Charles Ranson and P/C Lenworth Gordon to study and recommend the system to best modernize membership communication. An early goal will be to save at least \$1,000 by publication of the Gulfstream electronically starting with the February 2013 edition. He also announced that one of his goals is enhanced involvement and support with the Humanitarian Foundation. As a start, District 8 will be earmarking \$1.00 from each member's dues to go to the Humanitarian Foundation this coming year.

Chuck Browning wanted to have a February regional meeting in the Southeast area, so in May, he asked me if I had a location to host such a meeting. He thought District 18 would be a great location. I responded by telling him about the current Chapters in District 18, and that I thought it would be difficult to arrange a meeting there in February. I suggested Venice, FL in District 8, who's Chapter had already expressed willingness to host a District regional meeting, so I called Bud Higginson, Venice Chapter President, to ask him to find out. In the meantime, Chuck contacted two clubs in District 18, Allatoona Yacht Club near Atlanta, and Charleston Yacht Club in South Carolina, and they both responded favorably. Chuck passed this information on to me, and asked me to follow up, indicating that either one of these clubs in District 18 would be good as far as he was concerned. So I said, "Chuck, I'll contact them and follow up, but I want you to know that I have already asked Venice to see if they could host us there in February, and what if they call me back and say Yes?" He said, "In that case, we go to Florida."

So I sent an email to the District 18 clubs asking about the possibility at this tentative stage, and I got immediate, enthusiastic affirmative responses. Then I got a call back from Bud Higginson at Venice, and their Chapter had voted to host the February meeting, the club manager was on board, so it was a go! That is how we ended up with the winter regional meeting at Venice Florida.

The Venice Yacht Club is proud to host the Winter Regional Meeting of the International Order of the Blue Gavel and District 8 IOBG General Meeting to be held February 8 - 10, 2013. We are served by three airports: Tampa (TPA) is 79 miles from Venice, Fort Myers (RSW) is 74 miles and Sarasota (SRQ) is 24 miles. In Florida, the custom is for all meetings the dress is Summer Whites. Dress for the IOBG dinner banquet is summer uniform (whites with Blue Blazer and tie.) The Event schedule, registration form and hotel information

are available for download on the IOBG and District 8 web site.

District 8 Lenworth Gordon, District Director

District 8 had a promising start for 2011-2012 under the leadership of Frank Hutchinson, Past President, who retired due to illness shortly after taking office. President George Eichmann was kind and filled in the gap for the remainder of this term. George carried on the task for bringing the district into the 21st century by delivering D8's newsletter, "The Gulf Stream" via the internet.

This effort is challenged with the ensuing retirement of seven year veteran, Past President, Harvey Sussell, as editor/publisher of "The Gulf Stream". Harvey will continue until October, 2013, and is committed to aiding a smooth transition to new management and transformation from print to electronically.



President, George Eichmann reported he has three goals for 2013: (1) Member participation (2) Electronic communications (3) Increased support for the philanthropic arm of The Blue Gavel, IOBG Humanitarian Foundation. District 8 was pleased to forward a check to the Humanitarian Foundation representing \$1.00 for every member in good standing with District 8.

District 8 held their annual passing of the gavel, October 6th, at the Isles Yacht Club in Punta Gorda. Here Southeastern VP Joe Dowdell swore in the slate of officers for 2012-2013. This membership meeting was highlighted by the presentation of a new Charter to "Pelican Isle Yacht Club"; District Director Lenworth Gordon swore in members of the new IOBG Chapter.

On fact finding mission to increase awareness of Blue Gavel within District 8, District Director Lenworth Gordon and International Southeastern Vice President Joe Dowdell, along with spouse, Renee and June attended the 2nd of three projects sponsored by the IOBG Chapter at the Venice Yacht Club. Renee Gordon is also the Treasurer of both the International Auxiliary as well as the Humanitarian Foundation. This is a successful project launched by members of Blue Gavel and is featured as an example for others to receive inspiration and develop their own projects.



We missed the 1st "We Love New York" a Valentine Party (like) in New York Cabaret. We thoroughly enjoyed the 2nd project, "The Best of New Orleans" Mark & Clark dueling pianos, renowned in places like Las Vegas, Atlantic City and many world stages. We invite you to join us when we return to Venice Yacht Club, Sunday, October 21, 6:00pm for a "Tex Mex Regional Dinner". -- May I add; that the chef is extraordinarily talented and promises a gastronomic delight.











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2013		2001	Carol Foote
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2011	Lucy Anthony	1999	Willa Wade*
2010	Audrey Hall	1998	Judy Miller
2009	Audrey Hall	1997	Jerry Key
2008	Pat Janiszewski	1996	Leona Nies
2007	Patricia Graven	1995	Pat Cleland*
2006	Jackie Evans Rudd	1994	Pat Cleland*
2005	Hope McLeod	1993	Mary Gallagher
2004	Carol Garside	1992	Mary Gallagher
2003	Carol Garside	1991	Rose Prell

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