

THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

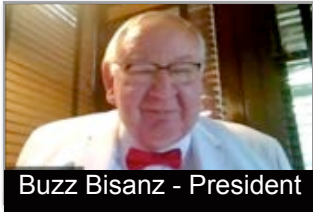
Of The
INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

An Association of Past Commodores

Volume 42 No. 1

December 2020

Mary Nye Meyers, Editor



Buzz Bisanz - President

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.



Mary Nye Meyers
Executive Secretary
Communications Director

2020 Annual Meeting October 16 & 17, 2020



Mark Vadaj - Pres. Elect



Kathy Smith - 1st VP



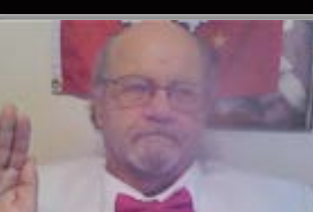
Marsha Landreth - 2nd VP



Marshall Nemoj - Treasurer



Sheila Anderson - SWVP



Jim Martinson - NWVP



Not Pictured: Karen Shea - SEVP Steve Hyder - NCVP Steve Tisack - SEVP

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Boat U.S. Membership

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Reflects Updates Received
as of December 15, 2020

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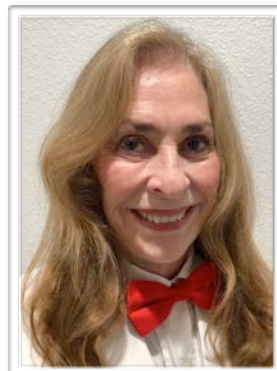
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President

Robert P. "Buzz" Bisanz



It's now a few months past our IOBG annual meeting and everything is beginning to settle into normal business for our organization. Welcome and let's have a great year.

First let me thank everyone for your support in placing me in the position of International President. I think it is important that you know a little about my yacht club background. Let me provide you with a short history of my involvement in boating and yacht club leadership.

I have been a member of this IOBG organization since 2005 after serving my qualifying term as the Commodore of Allatoona Yacht Club in Georgia in 1987 and again in 1991. My wife Nancy and I own a floating house moored at the Allatoona Yacht Club. We joined our club in 1982 and have been members since that time. We have four grown boys who grew up in and on the water either fishing, swimming or water skiing. In fact our twin boys were water skiing at the age of 2 ½.

My life in Blue Gavel started as a member assignment to District 50 then we heard about District 18 and became of member of that District which today is my home District. My service in the leadership role in the District began by serving 2 years as District Vice President, 2 years as District President, 2 years as District Director, an additional 2 years as District Director while serving 2 years as Southeast Area Vice President then I moved into the International leadership rotation.

I served the usual 1 year as International 2nd Vice President, 1 year as 1st Vice President, 1 year as President Elect and now as your International President. I also served 3 years as a Board member of the International Order of the Blue Gavel Humanitarian Foundation. One of those years I served as its Vice President. I had to resign from the Foundation at the time I was nominated for International 2nd Vice President.

My service as Southeast Area Vice President included the territory of Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida. The area was geographically spread out and that caused challenges in providing proper coverage and support. But we did have fun attending meetings across the territory. I would not exchange my time in the SE Area as we met many fellow Blue Gavel members and visited many yacht clubs and boating clubs that we would otherwise not have visited. So that is a brief summary of my IOBG activity and how I moved into the position of being your President.

Now let's talk about our IOBG Annual Meeting. This year's annual meeting was unique in that it was the first annual meeting to be conducted via the internet and not in person. The Covid virus forced us to use a software package called ZOOM and our member and officer participation was very good. A quorum was met and our business was successfully conducted. It is now time for us to zero in on specific enhancements to further grow our membership and your participation in the organization.

The 2021 year looks like we will still face the Covid virus which will continue to cause issues with onsite meetings and visitations. I hope we get a chance to have a regional meeting in Atlanta on April 23-24, 2021. Yes, we are going to try one last time to meet in Atlanta. If the virus prevents our onsite regional meeting in Atlanta we will conduct our meeting on ZOOM. We were very successful in conducting our business via ZOOM for the Annual Meeting and look forward to continuing with ZOOM when required.

I invite you to stay on board with us this year and continue to interact with your fellow past commodores. Please consider inviting a fellow Past Commodore to join the Blue Gavel and enjoy 2021.



International Order of the Blue Gavel

The Association of Past Commodores

To: All IOBG Members
From: Robert P. Buzz Bisanz, President, IOBG
Date: December 16, 2020
Regarding: Reduction in 2021 IOBG Member Annual Dues

The IOBG Executive Committee in their meeting held on December 15, 2020 decided to reduce the **international portion** of your IOBG membership dues to \$40.00. The Committee believes this action will bring some relief to our members and assist our districts in growth and retention.

This reduction is effective immediately which brings our international annual dues to \$40.00 per member for this fiscal year 2021.

The annual dues will again be looked at during the annual budgeting process and a recommendation to continue at the current level or make a change will be presented at our Annual meeting in October 2021.

Any member who has paid their 2021 dues of \$50.00 to the International office will have a refund sent back to your perspective district treasurer who in turn will send you a refund.

Please let your fellow IOBG members know of the 2021 dues reduction. We hope this may assist in your membership retention and District membership growth in 2021

If you have any questions, please contact your IOBG Area Vice President.



President - Elect Mark Vadaj

For The 2020 year, many of us in IOBG have experienced tragedy, financial setbacks, loss of loved ones and a drastic change in the way we communicate, conduct business and live our lives. From my family to yours, to the clubs, chapters and members in IOBG, I offer my sincere sympathy and appreciation of your situation.

I do, however, believe that there is a bright side to our circumstances. The Executive Officers have never worked harder and longer for IOBG. Together with knowledge and business experience, we have turned obstacles into opportunities. Under President Sherry Barone this Team has developed safe, effective, and cost minded means to conduct our operations and business meetings. We have minimized the impacts of the health pandemic upon IOBG and are looking forward to a stronger membership with improved financial stability and greater membership benefits. If you are receiving and reading the Log Newsletter and the Lighthouse Publication you already know about many of the added benefits. If you are not receiving the Log in a printed version, please contact your District President or subscribe to our Printed version of The Log by viewing our website at www.iobg.org There you will find a subscription form to receive a printed version. I highly recommend that each Chapter or Club Subscribe.

This year the IOBG was unable to conduct in person meetings and travel to various Yacht Clubs and Chapters as intended. Under the Leadership of President Sherry Barone, the Officers of IOBG from the District Directors to the Executive Board, managed successfully to Advance the Organization, Improved Communications, and Brought Tangible Assets to IOBG Membership. Thank You, President Sherry. Congratulations on a remarkably successful year.

After many years of efforts on behalf of the IOBG Officers, IOBG can answer the repeated questions of:

- What do I get for my Membership?
Significant discounts from Major Retailers, Hotels, Rental Cars, Sherwin Williams, Home Depot, and more to come.
- How can I learn what is going on both at a District and International Level?
Access to printed copies of the Log Newsletter for just \$21.00 including postage.
- How can I better communicate with our Chapters in the district and regional area?
Free access to the IOBG Zoom Account for Web Conferencing.
- What has IOBG done for my district.
Through cost cutting measures, IOBG provided direct financial support to districts.
- What is proper Uniform and Flag Etiquette?
See the Online Policy and Procedure Manual on the IOBG Web Site – www.iobg.org

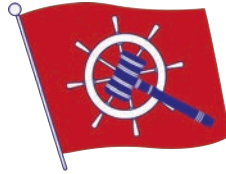
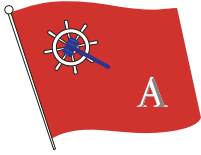
Looking forward in 2021, The IOBG is rolling out the Elite Chapter Program where each chapter can participate to offer hospitality and tangible benefits to IOBG Members. I welcome your interest in how to participate and invite you to contact me directly on how your Club can qualify for eligibility.

IOBG Membership in 2021 has never looked better or offered more. Please help us by sharing this news with other Past Commodores or invite them to a IOBG Event near you.

Thank You Once Again for Your Continued Commitment and Contribution to,
“Yachting’s Most Prestigious Fraternity”

International Order of the Blue Gavel

Printed LOG Newsletter Subscription Form



All IOBG members that have a valid email address receive an “electronic” version of our LOG Newsletter. Many of our members have inquired about receiving a printed version for their own use or as a gift to a Member, Club, Chapter or as a Memorial for a Past Member.

We are committed to improve communication and information to our membership. We welcome and encourage you to subscribe to a yearly subscription for only **\$21.00 per year** which includes printing, mailing and handling. Each subscription contains valuable information on local, regional and International events, schedules for activities and meetings, a directory of Officers, Officer reports, and our members. Also included is information from our IOBG Auxiliary and Humanitarian Foundation.

Subscriptions run from January - December of each year.

Make Check Payable To: IOBG

Submit Payment To:

IOBG International Operations Center

P.O. Box 420955

San Diego CA. 92142-0955

Date: _____

Check the appropriate use:

Members Use: _____ Chapter / Club Use: _____

District: _____

Members Name: _____

or

Chapter / Club: _____

Street Address: _____ or P.O. Box: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Point of Contact: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____



*First Vice President
Kathleen Jo Smith*

It truly is a shame we did not meet in person in beautiful Atlanta, Georgia. I'm sure we all were looking forward to the activities that Buzz had planned for our pleasure and entertainment.

We have had a year of disappointments and unfortunate cancellations. Absolutely nothing has gone as planned this year.

But, we have had great opportunities to grow in unexpected ways, and to learn new ways to keep in contact with those near and dear to us. We have been able to continue to have meaningful meetings and even enjoyable social occasions.

Through the leadership of our 2020 President, Sherry Barone, the able assistance of our Communications Director, Mary Nye Meyers, and the generous volunteer efforts of Dawn Shaffer-Nemoy, we have, if not conquered Zoom, we have managed to wrestle it to meet our needs.

Through Zoom, we have had regular meetings, Round Table meetings, an Irish themed Happy Hour, and Executive Committee meetings. We have been able to continue to conduct the business of our organization. Really a testament to how adaptable we are.

Our Districts have adapted as well. Our Area Vice Presidents have held Round Table meetings, and, at the District level, Board of Director meetings are being held over Zoom. Almost business as usual.

Here's hoping for renewed energy and revitalization for 2021, and a speedy end to the pandemic and the social, economic and health repercussions. And to an actual, as opposed to a virtual, meeting in Atlanta in April 2021.



Second Vice President

Marsha Landreth

What an honor it is to serve as 2nd Vice President on the IOBG Executive Committee for 2021. Thank you for your support and confidence. I became a member of IOBG in 2002, serving as District 16 Director in 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2019; Protocol Officer since 2009; and Recording Secretary from 2016-2020. This coming year as 2nd Vice President, I look forward to working with the Executive Committee and the Districts west of the Mississippi.

You might have thought it odd to be a District Director for three years in a row. I'm actually thankful for the opportunity because it took two years of practice before I knew what I was doing. I was able to meet so many wonderful people at the Regional and Annual Meetings, and learn about IOBG from them. Without that camaraderie and communication, I never would have been as enthusiastic and involved as I am now. (A big shout out to Bill and Marybeth Thayer for taking me under their wings.) Sure, it is nice to have a Blue Gavel card to obtain reciprocals and value-added discounts, but having the fellowship of those who have shared the experience of going through the chairs at a yacht club is what really matters to me.

The world has changed and because our organization has not been able to meet in person, it is important to continue our efforts to communicate and interact via Zoom, emails, telephone calls, etc., to ensure we are recognizing Past Commodores of the international yachting community and uniting them to promote the highest ideals of yachting and preserve its customs and traditions through social educational and humanitarian programs, as stated in the IOBG mission.

Even H.G. Wells didn't see 2020 coming and it has been more devastating than any fictional account; however, boating has never been better because we have time on our hands, it is an outdoor activity, and allows for social distancing. So how can you help? As our communities open up again, I encourage each District to evaluate its role in the boating community. Are our activities relevant to the member's interests? Are we interacting with all the yacht clubs? Are we picking up the phone and touching base with other members and potential members? Are we providing boating education to the communities? Make IOBG a fundamental part of your local yachting community. One way to insure that, is to post your events on the IOBG Website so other Districts and your community know what you are achieving.

To all members, I encourage you to become involved and join the fun. Come to the Regional and Annual Meetings. The opportunity to greet old friends and make new ones is an integral part of the IOBG experience. And lastly, in order for the organization to make real progress, we need to hear from you with your comments and concerns. Our phone numbers and e-mail addresses are on the website at www.iobg.org and in every LOG newsletter. Until next time, stay safe.

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.



Immediate Past President
Sherry Barone

As the 2020 President of IOBG my Mission Statement is to cultivate RESPECT for our long-standing traditions and for each other.



What a year 2020 has been. My year started with the annual meeting in Marina Del Rey, California with a full agenda starting on Wednesday, Oct. 16 through Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019. Some of the highlights of showing off my town and yacht club included a television taping of Jeopardy, Beverly Hills, Rodeo Drive shopping, Greystone Mansion, Stage Coach Museum, Gardens of the World, boat rides (Electric boats Westlake and Fire Department 110 Boat /DRYC race committee boat-Marina del Rey) , and having events at 5 yacht clubs (Del Rey YC ,South Coast Corinthian YC, California YC, Marina YC, and Westlake YC). I had a full year's worth of events, regattas and international meeting planned.

So off to work we went with visiting Ireland on February 8, 2020 to plan the Summer Regional meeting on August 13-16, 2020 with Howth Yacht Club and Malahide Yacht Club with dinners, events and attending the Fireball World Regatta. I also reached out and visited Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. I wrote letters to past Canadian IOBG members . Northwestern Area Vice President Jim Martinson is working on following up and reengaging the Canadian membership.

Then came the pandemic and has thrown us all into uncertain and unprecedented circumstances. Our goal is to be proactive and protect the health and safety of our IOBG members. To this end, the Executive Board made the decision to cancel our Portland Spring meeting hosted at Columbia River Yacht Club.

Then, as time progressed, came the canceling of ALL meetings due to the ongoing pandemic and safety of our membership. We introduced Zoom video conferencing for all our monthly meetings, the Spring Regional meeting, the Summer Regional meeting and the Annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. I want to thank Dawn Shaffer for instructing us in the ways of Zoom and IOBG Treasurer Marshall Nemoj who purchased this invaluable tool for IOBG that was used as our link to members. Dawn provided detailed instructions and mockup sessions to train all Executive Committee members, Area Vice Presidents and District Directors. Zoom was expanded to Area VPs and Directors to use for meetings, roundtables, installation of officers and discussions in their own districts.

It's no surprise then that our reliance on video conferencing platforms such as Zoom is shaping and transforming the ways we communicate in lockdown as IOBG embraces the digital technology as a part of doing business. One thing's for sure...no matter what happens over the coming months or years, the spontaneous beauty of small talk and missing seeing everyone at events will always have a special place in my heart and I look forward to seeing everyone soon.

Thank you to Mary Nye Meyers for her updated monthly communication via the Log newsletter, Lighthouse eBulletin and President letters, as well as her design and programming of new forms for Presidents, Annual meeting voting and new correspondence forms.

On April 18, 2020 I hosted a round table discussion with the Executive Board, AVPs and 2 Representatives from each area. The roundtable discussions are an opportunity for participants to get together via Zoom to examine such topics as: IOBG membership, increase participation, growth and the needs of members. The AVPs followed multiple roundtables with District roundtable meetings via Zoom and report at the Spring meeting.

Continued...

This year's 2020 Spring meeting was held via Zoom. We started on Wednesday, June 3rd with a cocktail hour and a Meet & Greet evening. The Spring Meeting was held via Zoom on Thursday, June 4, 2020 instead of as planned at the Columbia River Yacht Club in Portland, Oregon.

All Opening Days were cancelled as well as many events.

On July 16, 2020, I provided a Presidential stipend to IOBG. District Directors, IOBGA (Auxiliary) and IOBG Humanitarian Foundation treasurers or designated person received between \$100-\$300 for our membership totaling \$5,900 to help membership for with local events & fundraising due to our pandemic.

The Summer meeting scheduled on August 13-16, 2020 to Ireland was cancelled due to the pandemic. Federal, state and local regulations determined "No international travel" so we brought Ireland to IOBG at the "Wearing of the Green" Summer Regional meeting via Zoom video conferencing.

Wednesday, August 12, 2020 was a 'Meet & Greet with live Irish Music by Bria Schecker. Cia Brio Duo and Piano player Jon Lee-Rocket It Man entertainment. We brought Ireland to IOBG via zoom video conferencing. The Summer Regional meeting was held on Thursday, August 13, 2020 with summer uniform.

I want to commend District 8 for the 1st underwater Clean-up of Venice Yacht Club Marina. The community service in action was demonstrated even in a pandemic that IOBG is giving back to the community. Thank you District 8.

I have arranged some IOBG discounts with Hertz, Avis, Hilton Pacific Business Program, Choice Hotels, Batteries and Bulbs, National Purchasing Plan, Harry and David, Skechers, Sherman Williams, Home Depot as some of our examples saving 9-30% . My President's letter instructs members how to get discounts and our accounts, as an added benefit to our IOBG members. See the discounts in this LOG newsletter.

Mary Nye Meyers developed a new voting system for the Annual meeting via Zoom after testing 5 online programs not meeting our needs. More than a month of testing voting products by Dawn Shaffer, Mary Nye Meyers and myself, as well as mock voting were done. At our teleconference the new online voting system was tested and worked well meeting our bylaw criteria. Thank you Mary Nye Meyers.

Outstanding service awards were given on August 13, 2020 to IOBG Treasurer Marshall Nemoy, National Boating Federation Liaison & District 1 member Marlene Barrington and Communications Director Mary Nye Meyers.

We have lost 2007 Past Auxiliary President Trish Graven (District 7) to Covid-19 and District 11 member Kristin Tyminski. They will be missed and our condolences to their family and friends.

IOBG financially is healthy with 1450 members. We spent \$19,118.59 this year on new expenses of redirecting budget as follows:

Communications contract program and design, special projects, software, online voting for annual meeting:
\$4992

- IOBG District Directors, IOBGA and IOBG H-F stipends: \$5900
- Late AVP travel expense in 2019: \$2900
- President Award: \$102
- Zoom: \$150
- Zoom support, gift cards and training: \$800
- Summer meeting music: \$450
- Annual meeting support and gift cards: \$717.75

The board voted to move the \$5500 from the 2020 budget for the annual meeting to support Buzz's regional meeting event in April 2021 due to pandemic.

The total revenue in 2020 was \$78,996.25 less expenses \$39,181.16 with a net income \$39,815.09. Buzz will request to treasurer by letter \$5500 from 2020 budget for regional meeting event in April 2021 therefore the true 2020 net income (profit) is \$34,315.09 as of month end September 2020. It is estimated that the October budget thru the annual meeting on October \$17,2020 will not exceed \$3,2158.17 (IOC) so a net income (profit) is \$31,056.92. The excess funds will go into the general IOBG account.

Be safe and look forward to boating, sailing and our new normal as we safely venture and integrate back.

Thank you for your help and support this year. Wishing us all the very best for the upcoming future



2020 President's Award

This is a one time award recognizing two remarkable people from the IOBG organization with years of service.

The President's award was given to **Mary Nye Meyers** and **Tony Durieux** for their excellent work during this pandemic year.

Mary Nye Meyers



During this unprecedented time Mary continues to keep our members in the forefront of technology with the IOBG web site, LOG newsletter, the Lighthouse eBulletin & various "President's Letters". Her excellent skills in design, coding and implementation has allowed IOBG to continue to provide members with up-to-date information. She has been the rock with all the history, communication and knowledge of IOBG.

When I think of Mary I think of all the time she volunteers and utilizes her skills inside IOBG and all its branches. She continues to use her Web Master services to maintain and develop the IOBGA and IOBG-HF web sites AT NO CHARGE as her way to help support these organizations. Mary determines the IOBG web site's needs and requirements and has suggestions for improvements. Mary implements and ensures web site security and data protection while monitoring and analyzing site performance.

It is my honor to give the 2020 President's award to Mary who continues to exceed outside of the box. We honor the one and only communications guru and thank you for your service in 2020

Mary's Background

Mary has spent many years sailboat racing in the Pacific Northwest & the Pacific Ocean in such races as the Pacific Cup and the Swiftsure International Yacht Race (11 times as a co-skipper and driver). She is an avid sailor while having the highest competitive edge. One time Mary finished the Swiftsure International Yacht Race with a broken vertebrae in her neck that she received during the race. Mary is married to Mike Meyers, a fellow sailboat racer and Corvette enthusiast. They both show (display) their own corvettes in car shows across the middle & western United States. They also enjoy competitive racing with each other sometimes reaching speeds of 196 MPH. She is the 2003 Commodore of the Corinthian Yacht Club of Tacoma (Washington State).

IOBG Background

- 2003 - Mary joined IOBG from District 1 (Washington State) at the end of her commodore year.
- 2005 - Recruited by International Blue Gavel for LOG Newsletter Editor-in-Chief. Took over formatting, layouts & publication of a full-color newsletter that was previously outsourced to an outside publishing business, saving money for IOBG.
- 2008 - Received the Past Presidents' Award for "her innovation & dedication" to the IOBG Log newsletter since her first publication in July 2005.
- 2008 - Launched new IOBGA (Auxiliary) website with inter-active pages and continues to serve as webmaster.
- 2009 - Developed, Designed, Launched the District 8 (Florida) website with interactive pages.
- 2011 - Introduced the 'Lighthouse' web-based/email delivery system to send out the LOG newsletter, meeting announcements & other news to members of IOBG, saving thousands of dollars in printing & postage.
- 2012 - Developed an online credit card payment system that was first utilized for the Annual Meeting registration and continues to be used for Regional & Annual Meetings.
- 2012 - 2015 - Northwestern Area Vice President
- 2014 - Became Publishing Editor of the (40 page) annual "IOBG Directory of International & District Officers."
- 2015 - Created & maintains newly designed IOBG website with inter-active pages and online payment capabilities.
- 2016 - Launched the new IOBG-Humanitarian Foundation website with inter-active pages & online credit card capability.
- 2016 - Title is changed from LOG Editor-in-Chief to Communications Director to better encompass the multi-leveled duties performed since being appointed LOG Editor-in-Chief.
- 2017 - Took on the redesign & assist in the production of the IOBG & IOBGA burgee pin going from \$13.95 to 93¢ per pin with better quality.

Design & production assistance of varies Annual Meeting pins.

Used 'vectoring' software programs to create (clearer/cleaner/website ready) logo images of IOBG, IOBGA, IOBG-HF and the District Achievement Award pin.

2017 - Assist with and implement the ordering of International and District level name badges with better quality pin and magnetic backing.

Continued...

2020 President's Award Continued...

- 2018 - Developed an online dues payment system for IOBG District 11 that is still used today.
- 2020 - Design, develop and integrate the ZOOM forms needed to conduct the virtual telecons regional meeting as well as the Annual Meeting. Forms include: Online Voting, Registration Forms, links for downloading budgets reports, agendas, and Zoom meeting links.

Summary

When I think of Mary, I think of all the time she volunteers and utilizes her skills inside IOBG and all its branches IOBG, IOBGA and IOBG H-F. She continues to use her Web Master services to maintain and develop the website AT NO CHARGE. It's her generous way to help support IOBGA and IOBG-HF. Determining IOBG website needs and requirements, Mary has many suggestions for improvements. Mary implements and ensures website security and data protection, while monitoring and analyzing site performance.

It is my honor to give the 2020 President Award to Mary who continues to exceed out of the box . It is my honor to give this award to the one and only communications guru, and IOBG devoted friend. Thank you for your service in 2020.



Tony Durieux

During this unprecedented time Tony has stepped up beyond his requirements as IOBG Past President. Due to Bud Higginson's health issues Tony stepped up and filled the role of his mentor as Alternate Immediate Past President. Talking quite often with Tony, he is always giving help to all members and mentoring future AVPS and EXCOM officers.

Tony offered insurance advice during some legal issues and always helpful to IOBG. What makes him special is that he has excellent managements skills, insurance background and years of boating experience. He has belonged to many organizations and chaired many committees.

IOBG Background

Tony spent his teenage years on Turkeyfoot Lake in Akron, Ohio. He had an outboard that he and his friends used for fun and skiing. His dad had a fishing boat at what was then called Bar Harbor. After he went to college and got married to Sandi, boating went by the wayside except for the times he went fishing with his Dad. The next year they were invited to join Catawba West Harbor Yacht Club. Tony and Sandi enjoy many social functions, cruises and poker runs with the club.

IOBG Boating Background

In 2003 Tony was elected Rear Commodore of the yacht club. Unfortunately later that season a fire completely destroyed our building. Tony, with the Executive Committee and the Trustees, then had the responsibility of gathering information about what the members wanted and building a new building. In 2005 Tony became Commodore of CWHYC and attended over 30 Balls that year.

After his Commodore year he was approached by Ken McCloud about getting involved in IOBG. A great step that he and Sandi have enjoyed in the years since. He became North Central Area VP and worked his way thru the chairs until 2015 when he was elected International President. Over those years they have traveled to many wonderful places and welcomed at many yacht clubs and met so many wonderful friends. As the IOBG President-Elect he was honored by being knighted at the Rose Festival in Portland, Oregon in 2014.

In 2020 Tony accepted the Alternate Immediate Past President as appointed by President Sherry Barone.

Tony has accepted a nomination to serve on the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation Board in 2021.

Over the years so many people have offered invaluable help to Tony such as Joel Kay and Steve Willing who were always there to offer help and support. Serving this past year is a privilege and gaining a good friend in the process

Summary



Tony created the District Achievement Award as President in 2015 and after 3 years has transferred his duty to 1st VP Kathy Smith to continue this recognition of districts.

Tony ran the audit committee and volunteered to be an alternate to fill in for Bud Higginson and supported me with my Annual meeting and started sharing and posting all electronic documents to incoming officers.

When I think of Tony, his leadership motivation and strategic decisions, are made quickly and decisively, sharing IOBG lessons and learning the navigation system while mastering history of the organization. It is my honor to present the 2020 President's Award to Alternative Immediate Past President and friend Tony Durieux to thank you for your service and help in 2020.

2020 - 2021 Business & Hotel Discounts for IOBG Members

International 2020 IOBG President Sherry Barone has contacted companies to set-up and offer IOBG members corporate savings with discounts. On all of the accounts you will use your own credit cards for the IOBG Business Plan discounts.

Car Rentals



AVIS AWD Number: Z137829
Company: IOBG Program
<https://www.avisforbusiness.com/rewards/>

15 % discount
1-800-352-7900



Hertz CDP Number: 2203674
Company: IOBG Program

20% discount
1-800-654-4173

<https://www.hertz.com/rentacar/rental-car-deals/hertz-business-rewards>

Services



National Purchasing Partners Discounts Include: Harry and David, Tire Buyer, Skechers, Office Depot, Sherman Williams (10% - 30%) Hotelogical: (up to 70%) Example will be rolled out next month.

The International Order Of The Blue Gavel
NPP Member ID: M-5788206
Your company passcode is: 968A471D

Forward this email to your team. They can [sign up here](#) for NPP employee savings. Check out all of our [employee discounts here](#).



www.BatteriesPlus.com
Member number M-5788206

Discounts from 20% - 70%
Need help? Call (310) 313-2550



Home Depot Pro Xtra

Lowe's for Pros

Both Programs: You can use these discounts at stores only when paying with your credit card or cash. No online orders...Only the IOBG Treasurer Marshall Nemoj can use online to pay for IOBG items.

Home Depot Help Number (if there is a problem): 800-535-5000
Savings vary from 20% - 40% and can be item specific

Both **Home Depot** and **Lowe's** have professional accounts that are great for all businesses, not just contractors and handymen (though they will definitely want to join both of these programs).

Home Depot Pro Xtra is a small business discount program that helps you save on things like paint, lumber, tools and tool rentals, and other office renovation necessities.

Pro Xtra members can take advantage of special services, savings, and business tools.

Volume Pricing

Save money on qualifying orders of \$1,500 or more.

Paint Rewards

- Save up to 20% on paints, stains and primers in-store and online
- Free factory tinting & color matching
- Phone-in orders



IOBG Pro Xtra: Pro Loyalty Program

Use at store only:

At Checkout in the store give the IOBG email: bgtreas@iobg.org and phone number: 858-565-1093 for Pro Xtra Discount



Lowe's for Pros lets you save money on bulk purchases, access exclusive members-only sales and benefit from tax-free purchases.

At Checkout in the store give IOBG email: bgtreas@iobg.org and phone number: 858-565-1093

Free Delivery

Savings from 10% - 35% Varies on items.

Hotels

Choice Hotels - Business Program Discount
(Clarion, Cambria, Comfort, Quality Inn)
1-800-300-8800

6,400 Hotels
www.choicehotels.com

ID number: 00362220
10% Discount Access



Hilton - ASIA PACIFIC LOCAL BUSINESS PROGRAM

Australasia – Exclusive Rate From 9% off the Best Available Room Only Rate. As a valued corporate member of our Local Business Program, enjoy an exclusive discount from 9% off on our Best Available Flexible Room Only Rate at participating hotels within the Hilton portfolio in Australasia. Plus, Hilton Honors™ members will also receive free WiFi*. Register now for your unique Corporate Code to book. Becoming an LBP member also gives unique meeting rates and flexible terms and conditions for meetings held in participating hotels within Australasia.

Greater China and Mongolia – Exclusive Rate From 10% off the Best Available Room Only Rate

As a valued corporate member of our Local Business Program, enjoy an exclusive discount of from 10% off on our participating hotels within the Hilton portfolio in Greater China and Mongolia. Plus, Hilton Honors™ members will also receive free WiFi*. Register now for your unique Corporate Code to book.

India – Exclusive Rate From 10% off on the Best Available Rate plus Breakfast

As a valued corporate member of our Local Business Program, enjoy an exclusive discount of from 10% off on the best available rate plus breakfast participating hotels within the Hilton portfolio in India. Plus, Hilton Honors™ members will also receive free WiFi*. Register now for your unique Corporate Code to book.

Japan & Korea – Exclusive Rate

15% off on our Best Available Flexible Breakfast Inclusive rate

As a valued corporate member of our Local Business Program, enjoy an exclusive discount of 15% on our Best Available Flexible Breakfast Inclusive rate at participating hotels within the Hilton Worldwide portfolio in Japan and Korea. Plus, Hilton HHonors™ members will also receive free WiFi*. Register now for your unique Corporate Code to book.



International Order of the Blue Gavel
The Association of Past Commodores



New Zealand

PRESIDENTS REPORT

42nd Annual General Meeting

Tauranga, NZ

September 2020

Greetings and welcome to the 42nd AGM of the IOBG New Zealand Chapter 75. I hereby present my report for the year ending 30th June 2020.

After a fantastic and successful AGM in Christchurch. Thanks to Keith and Patsy's organization, we visited the Casino, the Air Force Museum at Wigram, the Botanic Gardens and the cable car followed by the dinner on the tram. We arrived home exhausted.

With Chris Conn's assistance, the local Tauranga members and guests had a Christmas celebration at the Omokoroa Boat Club and a dinner at the Black Sheep Restaurant at Whakamarama .

The group was saddened by the deaths of Hal Wagstaff OBE, Alf Rendell, Lance Jones and Dennis Win during the past year. Alf Rendell was our oldest member at over 100 years old, a great man.

As a co-trustee of the Blue Gavel Charitable Foundation, I attended several meetings in Auckland at the Takapuna Club and one in Thames, traveling with Bill Mitchinson and Andrew Morrison. Details of the progress of the BGCF follow in the report from Andrew .

Needless to say the arrival of Covid-19 with lockdown and bubbles put a temporary halt to our activities. However, Andrew is moving things along with three new trustees. We are sad to lose Bill Mitchinson and Ev Johnson as trustees and thank them for their dedication and assistance.

I anticipate that now NZ is Covid-19 controlled and with the upcoming America's Cup series in 2021, there will be more interest in sailing and boating activities.

IOBG should continue to promote membership to all boat and yacht clubs and welcome retiring commodores to the organization helped by Yachting NZ. We do need some new blood to stir us up!

So, the way forward:

1. Promote IOBG membership to clubs
2. Support BGCharitable Foundation (BGCF) as a means of seeking funds
3. Review and recommend projects suitable for funding support
4. Have a good social time in our respective locations
5. Have fun

Finally, thanks to our Secretary/Treasurer Sydney for her hard work for both IOBG and BGCF. I have pleasure in tabling my report.

John Budden, President

NOTES

These Resolutions were received prior to the 2020 Annual General Meeting which was cancelled due to Covid-19. As such they "lie on the table" until a formal AGM can be held.

In respect of Resolution Two, Andrew Morrison is addressing the issue of increased membership with Yachting NZ as a combined IOBG and BGCF effort.

RESOLUTION ONE

"THAT subscriptions be increased by \$20.00 per annum, increasing total membership fees to \$80.00 per annum . Increase to commence in the 2020-2021 year."

Proposed: Ron Stephenson Seconded:

RESOLUTION TWO

"THAT IOBG aim to increase membership which will require the effort of all current members to recruit new Past Commodores to join ."

Proposed: Ron Stephenson Seconded:

REPORT FROM BLUE GAVEL CHARITABLE FOUNDATION - New Zealand

We are pleased to report on major progress over the last year, briefly summarized as follows:

1. Following the Unanimous Resolution to proceed with establishing a Charitable Foundation with a view to becoming a benevolent organization dedicated to help yachting causes in NZ, by facilitating Grants and advances to meet "needy" and "good" causes,---- we have successfully taken a number of positive steps as follows:

- a. The Charitable Foundation is registered .
- b. We have achieved a Memorandum of Understanding with Yachting NZ
- c. Yachting NZ has undertaken to communicate the Message to all Yachting and Boating Clubs
- d. We have (reluctantly) accepted Resignations of Trustees Evelyn Johnson and Bill Mitchinson, but are delighted that three dynamic younger Trustees have been appointed and we are in the process of formally completing resolutions and registration for Ben Morrison(former Commodore at Wakatere, a well known lawyer and National & Interdominion Champion yachtsman); Sally Garrett, a well respected and capable sailor and former RAYC Commodore; and Angie Georgiou, a director of Bloomsbury and well connected Financial advisor .

These good new Trustees join Andrew Morrison, Ron Stephenson, Ralph Roberts and John Budden as Trustees .

- e. Ron Stephenson has done a great deal of good work in producing public relations and presentation material for yacht clubs.
2. We have a great deal of work to achieve our objectives and make Blue Gavel a relevant organization, and to work in harmony with YNZ - with a marvelous opportunity to provide a real financial backbone for yachting clubs AND to succeed, our immediate purpose are to gain Membership by attracting former commodores to join us, to actively encourage Clubs to apply to our Charitable Foundation where needy causes arise, and to try and get philanthropic grants and assistance so we can meet those needs .
3. We MUST ask all Blue Gavel Members to actively recruit new Members . The organization and the Committee have not been effective (partly due to our aging membership) AND the Trustees are now urgently pleading that a real effort is actually undertaken by each and all our members .

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES, ANDREW MORRISON



N.B.F. Representative Marlene Barrington

NBF Past President - IOBG Delegate & District 1 Member

Earl Waesche, NBF Legislative Director

Email: ewaesche@comcast.net

President Trump Pledges to Allow E15 Ethanol in E10 Pumps: President Trump announced he had approved an order that will allow 15% ethanol to be in 10% pumps. He also cited Iowa and South Dakota officials as well as EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler and Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue. Trump noting that decisions on allowing such changes in blender pumps would also have to be approved by individual states.

Subject only to State approval, our important Ethanol Industry will be allowed to use the 10% Pumps for the 15% blend. Trump did not make any mention of any EPA decision on the 67 pending small-refinery exemption requests awaiting a ruling from EPA. It was reported on Sept. 9 that Trump had ordered EPA to reject the small-refinery exemptions, but no announcement has been made yet. Trump, in his own presidential race, has maintained strong support in rural America.

NBF has long been opposed to E15 Ethanol, and has published articles in our monthly Bulletin expressing our opposition. For those areas in the U.S. that have been unable to get E10 using E15 has caused excessive damage to their engines. The Energy Department has proven this with their tests of marine engines using E15 Ethanol. NBF is not in favor of President Trump's pledge to allow E15 Ethanol at E10 pumps. NBF is not in favor of this, but is reporting on Trump's order to allow E15 Ethanol in E10 pumps.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) News Release: The NTSB called for major safety to small passenger vessels after the investigation of a 2019 California dive boat fire that killed 34. The 75-foot recreational diving vessel, Conception, with 33 passengers and six crew aboard, was anchored in Platt's Harbor, off Santa Cruz Island, when it caught fire in the early morning of Sept. 2, 2019. All 33 passengers and one crewmember died of smoke inhalation after they were trapped in the berthing area while a fire raged on the deck above. Both exits from the berthing area led to the fire and smoke-filled enclosed area above.

The NTSB called for all vessels similar to the Conception with overnight accommodations to be required to have inter-connected smoke detectors in all passenger areas. It also recommended that a secondary means of escape lead into a different space than the primary exit, in case a single fire blocks both escape paths. The NTSB also called on the U.S. Coast Guard to develop and implement an inspection program to verify that roving patrols are conducted, as required for the safety of sleeping passengers and crew. NTSB investigators found the absence of a required roving patrol on the Conception likely delayed the initial detection of the fire, allowed for its growth, precluded firefighting and evacuation efforts and directly led to the high number of fatalities in the accident.

(Article Continued...)

Contributing to the undetected growth of the fire was the lack of a Coast Guard regulatory requirement for smoke detection in all accommodation spaces. Contributing to the high loss of life were the inadequate emergency escape arrangements from the vessel's bunkroom, as both exited into a compartment that was engulfed in fire, thereby preventing escape. A synopsis of the investigation's findings and recommendations is available online at <https://go.usa.gov/x7a7G>

The full, revised investigative report will be issued in the next few weeks on [nts.gov](https://www.nts.gov) and on Twitter @NTSB_newsroom.

Senators Ask the FCC to Reconsider Approval of Ligado L Band Wireless Plan: Political pressure is mounting for the FCC to reconsider its decision last month to allow upstart [Ligado Networks to repurpose satellite spectrum to build a 5G network](#) of smart, industrial devices on the ground. A bipartisan group of 32 US senators [sent a letter to the agency](#) urging it to reverse its decision, citing claims by the Pentagon that the service would interfere with GPS navigation.

The letter also included signatures from six senators that sit on both the Armed Services Committee and the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, which oversees the FCC. The senators asked the FCC to "immediately stay and reconsider their order" and to "more fully consider the technical concerns raised by numerous federal agencies and private sector stakeholders."

The letter criticized the FCC for "the hurried nature of the circulation and consideration of the order itself -- during a national crisis, no less."

The FCC said it "stands by" its bipartisan and [unanimous decision made on April 20](#) to permit Ligado to use its spectrum for 5G. The agency says its technical experts have studied the interference issues for nearly two decades and have concluded that the safeguards spelled out in the commission's approval last month, including power limits on Ligado's radios, should mitigate any dangerous interference.

Adm. Schultz Participates in a Spill of National Significance (SONS) Seminar: Coast Guard [Commandant Admiral Karl Schultz](#) hosted executives from 18 federal and state agencies at Joint Base Andrews September 9 for the 2020 Spill of (SONS) Executive Seminar. The overarching goal of the seminar, which is held every one-to-three years, was to familiarize agency principals with national oil spill response policies and explore interagency coordination procedures during a SONS. The seminar also served as an opportunity to build and strengthen relationships and promote mutual understanding of the federal government's roles and responsibilities under the National Response System.

Since 2002, the U.S. Coast Guard's SONS Exercise and Training Program has included executive-level tabletop exercises and seminars designed to provide principal-level officials across the federal government with an opportunity to explore and discuss complex policy considerations related to a major oil spill and/or hazardous substance release. The 2010 Deepwater Horizon incident highlighted the critical need for increased senior-level participation in future SONS exercises. The SONS Executive Seminar was very successful.

Northwestern V.P. Jim Martinson

Districts 1 & 5



Most probably as with the rest of The International Order of the Blue Gavel, 2020 in the Northwest Region has been a year that we hope not to repeat. As with the rest of the country and the world, we have had to adapt to the restrictions of a pandemic situation. As we all know countless numbers of events, whether nautical or not, have been canceled so recruitment and furthering of the Orders' mission has been severely curtailed in most areas. Still the resilience and forward thinking of the International Officers has shown that we can remain viable and will be stronger in the future as a place of support for Past Commodores and their clubs.

In both District 1 and in District 5, the Chapters have been able to do a fair amount of cruising and careful socializing. Because of the limited membership in District 5 however, it is still a work in progress and hopefully it will be able to grow at some point. I am hopeful that we can do better in 2021.

District 1 had the Fall Change of Watch meeting via Zoom on September 19, 2020. As I have previously reported, the board has graciously agreed to keep the status quo and serve another term intact due to the unusual situation. We were extremely fortunate to be able to have the 2020 International President-Elect Buzz Bisanz attend and preside in the swearing-in ceremony for our Board. Everyone appreciates that he took the time and enjoyed having him attend. The District also thanks the International for the stipend and show of support sent to the District 1 Treasurer.



I greatly appreciate that we can keep everyone engaged and active in moving forward in District 1. I salute those members of District 1 and very much appreciate their support of me. The District is still making plans for having meetings in the 2021 year. It is optimistic that we may have in person meetings but is realistic that we may have to continue using online meetings until we can feel that our membership can congregate safely. The District continues also to

hold monthly Board meetings online successfully using the I.O.B.G. Zoom account.

In closing I would like to extend my thanks to the International Board Members starting with President Sherry Barone for the support shown to me this past year. I am looking forward to continuing as Northwestern Area Vice President for 2021.

Southwestern V.P. Shelia Anderson



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

2020 has been a year of change and uncertainty. We were unable to travel but we did meet through ZOOM! I held round table meetings to discuss membership retention. Our jobs as leaders in the yachting community is to help keep our districts engaged and safe during this difficult time.

This was not an easy task. I would like to say a very special thanks to Sherry Barone for being an extraordinary leader in 2020. She kept us on track and focused. I am looking forward to working with President Buzz Bisanz and the Executive Committee in 2021.

District 10
Joyce Jackson-Coomber, District Director

As we come to the close of 2020 we look back on the many ideas we had for events and fundraisers. Unfortunately due to the Pandemic we put these ideas on hold.

District 10 was able to do two inductions into IOBG even though we had plans for several more. John Caldwell was inducted at a limited Opening Day event for Seal Beach Yacht Club. Our second new member Paul De Graw was inducted at Huntington Harbour Yacht Club at one of their festive Taco Tuesdays. At the same time the past commodores who attended The Old Timers Luncheon put on by SCYA were able to present Huntington Harbour with the award for most attended past commodores at the event.

In December we are planning a dinner for District 10 to be held at Sebastiani's Italian Bistro in Huntington Beach. The restaurant is owned by one of our members Phil Ventura, Staff Commodore of Hunting Harbour Yacht Club. It will be a Christmas theme. Of course the current guide lines for Orange County restaurants will be observed.

Membership is down for District 10 but hopefully 2021 will see the end of the Covid and we will be able to get back out on the water and enjoy the events and fund raisers that IOBG promotes.

District 16
Tom Shideler, District Director

The same as with other districts, when COVID-19 hit early in the year, most yacht club activities were canceled or postponed. This included Opening Days, races and events involving more than just a few people.

However, individual boaters, and small groups of boaters, have been very active with or without official club sponsorship. Boaters are tired of being cooped up and we believe that once this situation subsides, yacht club activities will be very strong.

District 19


It has been a different year for all of us I'm sure and Delta District 19 is no exception. We were able to have our annual induction meeting in February before the COVID 19 lockdowns took effect. We inducted 12 new members at the meeting. Our membership for District 19 with our new members is 143.

After the Induction Meeting the shelter in place and lockdown orders have kept us all from getting together for the fun and camaraderie that we enjoy so much. We usually would have a picnic for our members and would invite all the current Flag Officers of our Chapters so they can see what IOBG is about and the benefits of membership. We are hoping to keep our new member numbers up in 2021 without the usual events. We are concerned it may effect member renewals as well.

The Board has decided it is best and easiest to have all of our current officers serve another year as nomination, election, and Change of Watch meetings have all been cancelled.

Our Board for 2021 will be just as 2020: President – George Iaconis, Vice President – Jan Cutaia-Iaconis, Treasurer – Ben Blair, District Director – Paul Clausen, and Past District Director – Roger Beebe. Our long time Supply Officer Don Dietz has stepped down. He did a fantastic job and his efforts will be missed, but we are hoping we will not have to miss him. The position has been taken by Linda Gordon and we are sure we have another excellent Supply Officer.

We will have a Board meeting tentatively scheduled to set the 2021 schedule and, with luck, we will be able to meet in person and enjoy IOBG to its fullest again.

1380 Centerville Lane #32 Gardnerville, NV 89410-9715 Email: Comsignia@aol.com www.commodoreinsignia.com		775-782-3380 800-315-7485 Fax: 775-782-3380
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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, black & navy background and the price is \$23.95 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	Navy	Unit Price	Total
IOBG Blazer Emblem					
Auxiliary Blazer Emblem					

Please Print

I am a paid up member of IOBG District # _____ Yacht Club _____ Year _____
 IOBGA District # _____

Signature _____ Ship to: _____

The above will be verified. Member will be billed for emblems when shipped. _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Email Addresses: _____

North Central V.P. Steven Hyder



Districts 7, 9, 23 & 25

Welcome to Winter! As we all know and have experienced, we have had a very tough year thus far. We all hope and pray that 2021 will be a much better year. All the Districts that I represent were able however to successfully hold their annual meetings and Change of Watch.

Congratulations to the District 7, District 9 and District 25 Executive Boards. District 23 only has a few members, so the district as a whole is not active. However, D7, D9 and D25 are working hard on planning for the upcoming 2021 season.

D25 recently held a Blue Blazer event where they introduce "The Gavel" to the current Club Commodores in their district. This event was well attended. D7 and D9 have similar events however due to the circumstances they were unable to hold them this year.

Congratulations to District 9 for winning the District Achievement Award for 2020. They were able to boast a 97% Retention along with 6% Growth. Good Job D9!!! The other districts 7 and 25 actually did pretty well also. All three districts had positive growth percentages. Congratulations and good job!

Hope everyone enjoys the upcoming Holiday Season. Please be safe.

Northeastern V.P. Steve Tisack



Districts 3, 12, 20, 22, 26 & 27

No Reports Submitted...

Southeastern V.P. Karen Shea

Districts 8 & 18



District 8
Karen Shea, District Director

District 8 membership count as of August 1, 2020 is 207 paid members plus 3 Past Presidents (P/P's Richard Janiszewski (2008), Joe Dowdell (2016) and Bud Higginson (2019) compared to 218 in 2019. We now have 20 Chapters. We will continue to try to activate our inactive Chapters especially those who are Florida Council of Yacht Club members. Our last active physical meeting was in February 2020 at Palm Beach Sailing Club. Due to the cancelation of our May regional meeting we have changed to ZOOM conferences and D8 has purchased an annual account. The D8 Change of Watch will be moved to some time in December.

Thanks to Secretary/Treasurer Kathy Hockenberry who coordinated with our IOBG Communications Director Mary Nye Meyers who again sent out our 2020 Membership Directory which replicates the International Directory for many years. Our District works very hard at keeping our members informed via our website, newsletters and emails.

All our chapters are working hard during this pandemic. All Florida clubs were ordered closed in March and we are now partially opened as of September 25, 2020 at 50%. Florida has the #3 highest Covid cases in the US. However, all clubs are now open with social distancing.

There are two IOBG Chapters I would like to recognize during this pandemic that have gone way beyond what was expected they are St Augustine Yacht Club and Venice Yacht Club.

The St Augustine IOBG Chapter President Anthony Palazzo has continued to support the St Augustine YC on Memorial Day and Fourth of July Celebrations. Commodore Barbara Dolan has served for 2 consecutive years as Commodore and she was inducted last year into the IOBG. In addition, the IOBG was able to help support 10 weeks of the Youth Sail Camp so kudo's for taking on that challenge during this pandemic also.

Venice Yacht Club Chapter President Melinda Short (IOBG Sep 2020 LOG Newsletter) gave back to the community with the first Underwater Clean-Up of the Venice YC Club Marina sponsored by the District 8 IOBG Venice Yacht Club on August 15, 2020. Suncoast Reef Rovers (Venice Dive Club) conducted an underwater cleanup using 13 Divers, 5 topside helpers, Venice Sea Tow, Sarasota County Sheriff Marine Patrol, City of Venice Marine Patrol along with several volunteers to bring up 1,250 pounds of debris. Items included anchors, crab traps, numerous ropes, boat ladders, brooms, dock pylons, etc. Total donations raised by the IOBG were over \$1500. Thank you Venice YC IOBG President Melinda Short!

Continued...

District 8 Report Continued...

I continue to ask our D8 Chapter Presidents to work on several areas within their yacht clubs.

1. Add an IOBG tab on their yacht club website. Just start off with the IOBG mission statement and who your current Chapter Board is and maybe a few pictures.
2. Add a link to both our D8 and International web sites. We have 5 out of 20 yacht clubs who have IOBG info/tabs on their web sites. (Dunedin Boat Club, Gulf Harbors YC, Isles YC, Pelican Isle YC & Venice YC)
3. Be an ambassador for the IOBG when you have Regattas and other events involving other yachts clubs and set up an IOBG card table with brochures, etc. I've made up an IOBG Display table which can be used. Call me to see if I'm available to join you.

We approved presenting our IOBG Chapters with an outdoor IOBG flag (24" X 40") with the year the chapter was chartered. It always looks good on the outdoor flag poles at yacht clubs. If anyone wants the information please see me. It's a great idea instead of a plaque.

District 18 Dave Kowert, District Director

Membership remains relatively consistent from 2019 to 2020 which includes members from 3 yacht clubs in two states and one Past President Chuck Browning (2013) in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Unfortunately, District 18 yacht clubs have been hit pretty hard by Covid 19. Most went through a "closed" period and are now open for limited hours and a restricted number of people. We have tried several times to organize an informal gathering or a "dock party" with social distancing, but quite frankly, nobody has been willing to come and meet. Offers to share ideas through ZOOM have also gone out but the area PCs appear to be hunkered down and not responsive to joining a virtual organization. (By virtual...I mean only short term through COVID)

I think things will pick up again once we can move about freely and club life gets back to normal. I'm expecting that to happen in January (based on what we are hearing from current club leadership and our local medical community).

In the meantime, all the local clubs have membership information in the form of IOBG brochures which were handed out recently and my phone number to give to anyone who expresses an interest. I plan to start trying to coordinate face to face meetings with 2019 past commodores as soon as the positivity rate in South Carolina (Charleston specifically) drops to 5% or less. Until then, I think it's prudent to lay low.

If you hear of things that are working well in other districts, I would be very interested in hearing about them and trying to implement something similar here in District 18.

To all my fellow District Directors, please stay safe and remain careful.

IOBG Auxiliary

2021 OFFICERS



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1st Vice President Open

2nd Vice President Open



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International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary



President Robin Vadaj

“There are tall ships and small ships and ships that sail the sea, but the best ships are friendships like the one with you and me.”

While we first and foremost carry out our duties to not only keep this organization afloat, but successfully sail through new horizons, the rough waters of this year has served as a constant reminder that our loyalty to each other as a crew is as important as our individual roles on this ship.

I am truly honored. My role is to serve you as your President of the International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary.

Like any captain of a ship as large as ours, I could not have gotten here alone. I humbly thank the Presidents that served before me for their leadership and guidance.

As for my bridge, it would surely not be smooth sailing without your initiative and experience.

Reflecting on my own voyages through each chair in this auxiliary, I fully understand the importance of each role that must be carried out entirely and harmoniously for the organization to be successful as a whole.

That wealth knowledge, in addition to my experience as the Auxiliary President of two yacht clubs and as District 7 President, will also serve as my guide at the helm.

As your steadfast leader, I will ensure the communication between us remains constant and constructive despite the miles that keep our crew apart. Together, we will stay on the charted course.

Smooth Sailing...



*In
Loving
Memory*

June Thacker

November 9, 1939 - October 24, 2020



We bid farewell to our own International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary Past President June Thacker, who has embarked on her final voyage. Her life was abundant with accomplishments from being a nurse, to changing her career to a radio broadcaster and owner of WFFG-AM and WMUM-FM in Marathon, Florida, to serving as our leader from 2014-2015.

June was an outstanding member of her community and volunteered for countless events throughout her beautiful life. She will be truly missed by all, especially her partner of 30 years, IOBG Past President Joe Dowdell.

We bid you “hail and farewell” shipmate, until we drop anchor beside you at the last Great Rendezvous.

Humanitarian Foundation



Larry Inguagiato, President

Email: larry.inguagiato@mac.com



An opportunity to make a difference in another's life

“The International Order of the Blue Gavel Humanitarian Foundation (HF) provides the boating community the ability to create real differences in others’ lives. The foundation provides resources to existing charities and benefits communities through initiatives involving boating activities and supports worldwide humanitarian causes. The IOBG Humanitarian Foundation is a volunteer non-profit 501(c)(3) federal tax-exempt organization.

2020 IOBG Humanitarian Foundation TeleConference Meeting Atlanta, GA October 17, 2020

I would like to introduce our Board of Directors for the 2020/2021 year.

I am Larry Inguagiato from District 9 and am the Foundation’s President.

Continuing as Directors for another year:

Audrey Hall - Vice President

Karen Shea – Director

Lani Lightle – Director

Lee Homyock – Director

Jack White – Director

Nancy Bisanz – Director

Linda Leff – Director

Susan Rodriguez – Director

Tony Durieux – Newly Appointed Director

As you may know, I have been a director for many years and have been President for two years. I will be retiring as President due to health issues at the end of this year. I will continue as Director for the upcoming year. For his leadership and support, I would like to thank Jack White, Treasurer and Director who will stay on as Director but has chosen to resign as Treasurer.

We are in need of volunteers to fill these two important positions. The Treasurer position does not require much of a person’s time and Jack has agreed to get the next Treasurer up to speed on the jobs requirements.

An explanation of the HF and how it works and how it is funded can be found on our website at www.iobg-hf.org . Additional information on how to request a grant for boating related projects can also be found on the IOBG web site by clicking a link on the left side of the site. If anyone has any questions, feel free to contact any of our Board of Directors.

Continued...

During this past year in which boating activities were largely cancelled, the HF has approved a grant to the St Augustine Yacht Club (Florida) in the amount of \$1,250.

Since our source of funds come from Individuals in the form of direct personal contributions or via IOBG Districts via fundraisers or member contributions, the amount of funds we have able for grants depends on the contributions received. I would encourage each of you to talk up the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation back in your home district so that we can support more projects that make a difference to lives in our boating communities.



As of this this time, I would like to thank the following for contributions made this year.

\$500 from the District 7 Auxiliary

\$1,025 from the District 7 IOBG,

\$1,795 in memory of P/C Gary Hall and Past IOBGA President Pat Graven.

Also, for those individuals who contribute \$100 or more, the HF has a very nice pin you receive in recognition of your contributions.

This concludes a summary of activities, the HF thanks each of you for your efforts to help make boating a part of our youth who will become the future generation of boaters.

How You Can Help?

If you do want to make a world of difference, catch our spirit and make hope a reality, you can make a tax-deductible contribution to the Humanitarian Foundation by:

Make An Online Contribution:

You can go online to <http://www.iobg-hf.org/Donations.html> and complete an online contribution.

Or

To Make A Postal Mail Contribution:

Send your check to the following address:

P/C John B White, IOBGHF Treasurer & CFO

548 E Lakeshore Dr

Holland, OH 43528-9139



I.O.B.G. Humanitarian Foundation

**Cordially invites you to spend an evening
in your own home or on your boat for the**

**IOBG Humanitarian Foundation
No-Show Gala**

Any convenient evening before April 30, 2021

No black ties or cocktail dresses, no speeches, no 50/50 raffle,
no babysitters needed and no travel expenses!

R.S.V.P. by donating to the I.O.B.G. Humanitarian Fund
by April 30, 2021

Proceeds will provide funds to support scholarships and boating
experience for world youth.

Use the online form at <http://www.iobg-hf.org/Donations.html>
or if you would like to send a check please use the address below:

IOBG Humanitarian Foundation, Inc.
c/o John White, Treasurer
548 E Lakeshore Dr
Holland, OH 43528-9139

Make a \$100 minimum donation to the Humanitarian Foundation and receive an "Action For Life" pin that you can wear proudly.

Remember, the IOBGHF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation so all your contributions are tax deductible. In addition, if you work for a Company that has a matching gifts program, contact your Human Resources Department to get a form to take advantage of their program, which may provide additional contributions to the HF.

2021 DISTRICT OFFICERS & AREAS SERVED

<p>#1 PRESIDENT-Northwest Neil Kelly (Patti Dahl) 35030 8th PL SW Federal Way, WA 98023 Cell: 253-951-6940 neild101@msn.com SECRETARY Jeanne Gordon (John) 10906 SE 179th PL Renton, WA 98055-6561 Tel: 425-226-8872 Cell: 206-790-5421 gordon5050@comcast.net</p>	<p>#8 PRESIDENT - Southeast Frank 'Hoyt' Nichols (Marcia) 14880 Shipwatch Trace #1913 Largo, FL 33774-5722 Tel: 727-595-5899 hoytnichols.cpa@gmail.com SECRETARY Kathy Hockenberry (Doug) 1863 W Caroline Path Lecanto, FL 34461 Tel: 813-716-5699 Carrk98@gmail.com</p>	<p>#16 PRESIDENT- Southwest Keith Moore (Mary Ann) 277 Sunset Drive Oxnard, CA 93035 Home: 805-985-5560 Cell: 805-551-0983 keith@castle-light.com SECRETARY Karen Lorenzan (Al) 2560 Jamestown Ct Oxnard, CA 83035 Cell: 805-984-8448 herway2560@yahoo.com</p>	<p>#24 PRESIDENT- Northwest Open</p>
<p>#2 PRESIDENT - Canada Open</p>	<p>#9 PRESIDENT- North Central Jimmy Greenwood (Stacy) 1227 Arbor Ave Monroe, MI 48162 Cell: 734-755-1547 jgreenwood1219@gmail.com SECRETARY Diane Gonzales-Wright (Chris) 1037 Cole Rd Monroe, MI 48162 dlwright328@aol.com</p>	<p>#18 PRESIDENT- Southeast Open SECRETARY/TREASURER Open</p>	<p>#25 PRESIDENT- North Central Jeff Upholder (Teri) 30620 Pointe Dr Gibraltar, MI 48173 Cell: 734-775-75986 Jeff@upholzer.com SECRETARY John Rose (Fran) 21667 Meridian Grosse Ile, MI 48183 Tel: 734-904-9801 glycrose06@hotmail.com</p>
<p>#3 PRESIDENT- Northeast Don Peacock (Carol) 69 Carpenter Ave Buffalo, NY 14223 Tel: 716-432-9327 donaldapeacock@gmail.com SECRETARY Gerald Hathaway (Arlene) 28 Niagara Shore Dr Tonawanda, NY 14150 Tel: 716-693-1739 reanjer@aol.com</p>	<p>#10 PRESIDENT- Southwest Jay Zaidenberg (Rosemary) 1111 Pacific Cove Lane Huntington Beach, CA 92648 Tel: 714-960-2120 Cell: 714-272-2222 commodore2017@socal.rr.com SECRETARY Cindy Allenbroz 16222 Monterey Lane #126 Huntington Beach, CA 92649 Tel: 310-245-8702</p>	<p>#19 PRESIDENT- Southwest George Iaconis (Jan Cutaia) 1753 Sycamore Dr Pittsburg, CA 94565 Cell: 925-260-6070 g.iaconis@yahoo.com SECRETARY Patricia Atkins P.O. Box 1211 Bethel Island, CA 94511 Cell: 510-396-9637 victorianldy@gmail.com</p>	<p>#26 PRESIDENT- Northeast Open SECRETARY Open</p>
<p>#4 PRESIDENT- Canada Open</p>	<p>#11 PRESIDENT- Southwest Brian Keown (Stacy) P.O. Box 11833 Marina Del Rey, CA 90292 Cell: 310-625-2299 brian@keown.net SECRETARY Wally Hammons (Heidi) Tel: 310-625-1053 whammons@hblegal.com Craig Funabashi Tel: 310-387-0928 craigfun@verizon.net</p>	<p>#20 PRESIDENT- Northeast Open SECRETARY Open</p>	<p>#27 PRESIDENT- Northeast Bill Fischbein 1209 Gillia Court Pasadena, MD 21122 Tel: 410-255-8650 Bill@litehouserealty.com SECRETARY Frank Abbott (Peggy Adams) 116 Jupiter Road Neward, DE 19711 Tel: 302-593-8095 fabbott102@aol.com</p>
<p>#5 PRESIDENT-Northwest Open SECRETARY Open</p>	<p>#12 PRESIDENT- Northeast Open SECRETARY Open</p>	<p>#21 PRESIDENT- Southwest Stephen Sawdon 25422 Trabuco Rd Lake Forest, CA 92630 Tel: 949-279-6262 sailing7777@gmail.com SECRETARY Open</p>	<p>#70 PRESIDENT- England Open</p>
<p>#6 PRESIDENT - Southwest Tom Wood (Sandy Ragley) 44-101 B Kalenakai Place Kaneohe, HI 96744 Tel: 808-234-7934 Cell: 808-561-8350 tomwoodkyc@gmail.com SECRETARY Donna B. Salisbury (Ed) 98-988 Palula Way Aiea, HI 96701 Cell: 808-256-3731 Tel: 808-485-0002 donnaed@earthlink.net</p>	<p>#14 PRESIDENT- Southwest Open SECRETARY Brad Snyder (Tim Eaker) 909 Marina Village Pkwy #471 Alameda, CA 94501 brad.snyder@gmail.com</p>	<p>#22 PRESIDENT- Northeast Open SECRETARY Open</p>	<p>#75 PRESIDENT- New Zealand John Budden (Sydney) 253 Old Highway RD8 Tauranga, New Zealand 3180 Tel: 0064-07-548-1180 budding@gmail.com SECRETARY Sydney Budden (John) 253 Old Highway RD8 Tauranga, New Zealand 3180 Tel: 0064-07-548-1180 bluegavel@gmail.com</p>
<p>#7 PRESIDENT - North Central Kathy McCarthy (Edward) 8577 Hilltop Dr. Mentor, OH 44060 Tel: 440-257-3617 Cell: 216-470-2857 kmccarthy725@yahoo.com SECRETARY Warren Dempster (Marianne) 12045 Concord Hambdon Rd Concord Twp, OH 44077 Tel: 440-725-7731 wcyc40@yahoo.com</p>	<p>#15 PRESIDENT- Southwest Roger Robinson (Marge) 13526 Calle Colina Poway, CA 92064 Tel: 858-485-0736 Cell: 2858-518-8262 nycsd@att.net SECRETARY Kathleen Jo Smith (Gary) 815 Ethel Place National City, CA 91950 Tel: 619-479-6292 kathyswyc@aol.com</p>	<p>#23 PRESIDENT- North Central Open SECRETARY Open</p>	



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Return Service Requested



happy new year