

THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

Of The
INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

An Association of Past Commodores

Volume 41 No. 2

July 2020

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.

“Zooming” Along at the Spring Regional Meeting - June 4, 2020



Summer Regional Meeting
In Ireland on August 13 - 16,
2020 Has Been Cancelled.

Instead we will be having a ZOOM Video Conference Summer Regional Meeting on Thursday, August 13, 2020



2020
Annual Meeting & Change of Watch
(October 15 - 18, 2020)
On-Site Meeting Has Been Cancelled

An Alternative Means of Conducting the 2020 Annual Meeting Is Awaiting Approval.

Watch Your Emails & the IOBG Web Site for more Details As They Develop.

2020 IOBG DIRECTORY

APPOINTED OFFICERS

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Marshall Nemoy 858-384-7116

Boat U.S. Membership

Discount Code: IOBG #GA 83629B

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Vern Bendsen 707-422-3510

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Marlene Barrington 928-759-7158

US SAILING

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U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Open

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(Formally U.S. Power Squadron)
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ANNUAL MEETING 2020

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ELECTIONS

Robert "Buzz" Bisanz 770-337-8701

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Reflects Updates Received
as of July 17, 2020

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District 70

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2020 Executive Committee



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**PRESIDENT
ELECT**

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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.

The time has flown since my 2019 Annual Meeting in Marina Del Rey, California. On February 8, 2020 while planning for the now cancelled August 13-16, 2020 Summer Regional Meeting **in Dublin, Ireland** I visited Howth Yacht Club and Malahide Yacht Club to set up the dinners, events and plans to attend the Fireball World Regatta.

Then came the pandemic that has thrown all of us in to 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 Summer regional meeting in Ireland and also the Spring regional in Portland, Oregon.

Alternative means of conducting the meetings were considered and this year's 2020 Spring regional was held via Zoom Video Conferencing from the comfort and safety of our own homes. We started on Wednesday June 3rd with a Cocktail Hour and Meet & Greet evening. The Spring Meeting was held on Thursday, June 4, 2020 in our summer whites.



Our **“Bring Ireland Home to IOBG”** Summer regional meeting will also be conducted via Zoom on Wednesday, August 12th and Thursday, August 13th. On Wednesday we will be having live Irish music during our happy hour featuring your favorite Irish drink. Join us for our informal meet & greet and catch up with all that is going on with your IOBG friends.

The Summer regional meeting will be held on Thursday, August 13th.

Meeting Schedule: All Times are Pacific Daylight Time

Executive Committee Meeting:	9:30 - 10:30 AM
Board of Directors Meeting:	10:30 - 12:30 PM
Guest Speaker:	12:00 - 12:30 PM
Zoom Break:	12:30 - 1:00 PM
Meeting Continues:	1:00 - 3:00 PM
Breakout Sessions with AVPs:	3:00 - 4:00 PM

I had attended the District 11 Wine Tasting event to benefit youth sailing prior to the Covid-19 shutdown. Since then Opening Days were cancelled as well as many other events. We discussed locally having virtual installations via Zoom and welcoming IOBG Jr Staff and Staff Commodores into the IOBG family.

On April 18, 2020 I hosted a round table discussion with the Executive Committee, Area Vice Presidents and two representatives from each IOBG area. Participants had the opportunity to get together via Zoom for round table discussions regarding IOBG membership, how to increase participation and discuss the growth & needs of members. The Area Vice Presidents hosted their area roundtable meetings via Zoom and reported at the Spring meeting.

Continued...

The Audit Committee met via conference call on April 30, 2020 and approved the financials. All documents prepared by the IOBG Treasurer were reviewed. The very detailed journal entries supported the payments made. It's clear the IOBG revenues were spent on the usual and customary expenses of the organization. The audit committee agreed that financially everything is in good order.

The Nominating Committee met on May 19, 2020 and have unanimously selected the slate that was presented at the June 4, 2020 Spring regional meeting. The Nominating Committee consisted of Sherry Barone, Joel Kay, Tony Durieux, Matthew Schmidt and Jeanne Irwin.

We have lost International IOBGA 2007 President Patricia 'Trish' Graven to Covid-19. She will be missed and our condolences to her family and friends.

We will continue to track COVID-19 updates and directives from federal and local officials and medical experts and will continue to follow their guidance in the days and weeks ahead. Let's keep active with physically distancing until we can all meet safely.



Stay healthy and safe, looking forward to boating & sailing as we venture forward.

Stipends for Districts During this Pandemic

A number of our Districts are unable to have fundraising events, support their regattas or host their annual cruises or rendezvous. Some areas have not experienced a severe impact with this pandemic but a majority of them have suffered restrictions or closures of their yacht clubs. As an example, my yacht club, Del Rey Yacht Club, has the Junior Sailing Single- Handed Regatta but our club is closed in Marina Del Rey, California.

Districts will be given a stipend during this pandemic to help with activities and events. We would like to help with membership appreciation and to give back to our members.

We will also be awarding stipends to the other two branches of the International Order of the Blue Gavel - the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation and the IOBGA (Auxiliary).

Sherry Barone
IOBG President 2020



President - Elect
Robert P. "Buzz" Bisanz



The IOBG Annual Meeting is fast approaching with a starting date of October 15, 2020.

Because of the increasing concerns for our IOBG members' health and safety during the Covid-19 pandemic it was decided to cancel the "on-site/in person" Annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia in favor of an alternative meeting method. We are awaiting approval of a meeting option and will let everyone know as soon as plans are solidified.



The Annual Meeting Registration Form and the Meeting Schedule will be adjusted to reflect the new meeting format so please be on the lookout for the revised forms on the IOBG.org web site and in your email via our Lighthouse eBulletin.

***Reminder, If you made a room reservation in Atlanta, please contact the hotel and cancel that reservation**

Our Annual meeting registration deadline remains as September 27, 2020. We need to know who will be attending our meeting specifically to allow us to calculate the votes present at the meeting. Our officer election requires 55% of our total membership votes so for our planning purposes we need to know if you are attending.

Meetings will begin with the Executive Committee and the Humanitarian Foundation meeting scheduled for Friday, October 16, 2020. Our IOBG Board of Directors meeting will also be held on Friday, October 16, 2020 with the General Meeting and Elections scheduled on Saturday October 17, 2020. Officer Installation will take place on Saturday afternoon.

I thank you for your support thus far in our fiscal year and ask for your continued support for the rest of the year.

If your District has a website please consider including a link to other IOBG sites including IOBG.org, IOBGA.org, IOBG-HF.org and other District web sites like D8IOBG.org.



District Achievement Award: Beginning with the official District membership numbers posted last year in August 2019, the Executive Committee will be awarding a District Achievement Award pin based on retention and growth. This distinctive pin will be awarded to five District executive boards in 2020. Your Area Vice President has detailed information for you. Thank you for your efforts in 2020.



Please continue your support of the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation.
Website: IOBG-HF.org.

To apply for Humanitarian Foundation funding of a local project access the website and complete the LAP (Local Area Project) application form.





First Vice President
Mark Vadaj

From my family to yours, wishing everyone much health and safety during these troubling times our nation is experiencing with the Covid 19 restrictions. Changing times, situations and events require adjustments by all of us. Many of you are severely impacted not just in boating life but also in health, economic and personal matters. Although the IOBG has been impacted greatly by the recent health events of Covid 19, such as canceling our in-person June meeting in Portland, Oregon, we are committed to fulfill our necessary responsibilities and duties to ensure IOBG is functioning with operations as usual.

I strongly suggest that each chapter engage and insert themselves into as many club and community events as possible. Many chapters supplement their membership dues by sponsoring club events such as steak roasts, raffles, cocktail parties, comedy nights and more. I am happy to help you with ideas to support your club and its IOBG chapter. It is a win, win for all.

Using online computer video communications, we can meet live, every month to serve the order of our organization. In fact, the entire network of officers from the district level to the area level on to the executive level is committed to serve our membership more thoroughly, and intensely than ever before.

Our nations recent health situation has led us to increase our communications to a level never experienced before in the history of IOBG. This is not just a top down information sharing effort but rather a grass roots information gathering opportunity. However, this is only effective if you the member participates by providing the valued feedback the organization needs. If you wish to contribute and be heard, we welcome your contributions. I encourage you to reach out to your district president. A complete directory of district and area officers is identified in each LOG newsletter.

Speaking of our published newsletter "the LOG" I encourage every chapter or club to subscribe to a printed hard copy for all to read, enjoy and learn what IOBG is all about. Please see the subscription form in this edition. Through our other online publication "the Lighthouse" we welcome you to share what is going on with IOBG in your club chapter or district. Please contact me to learn more about sharing your events.

My hope is to continue with my journey to serve IOBG and its members through the role of President-Elect. My goal however is to speak directly to every single member in person or at least via telephone. You, the member is our greatest asset and necessary element for continued success. I welcome every opportunity to hear from you. My effort to add value to your membership is my priority. I encourage each member to proudly display their flag and IOBG insignia whenever and wherever possible. Please consider contacting me to hear how IOBG can support you and your chapter greater today.

Thank you once again for your continued commitment in "yachting's most prestigious fraternity"



Second Vice President

Kathleen Jo Smith

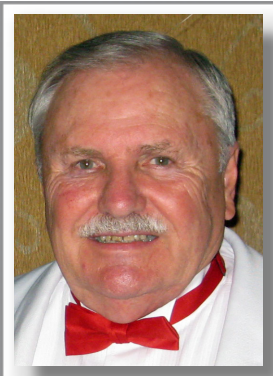
So much has changed in the few months since we were last together in Marina Del Rey, California in October! Opening Days mostly didn't happen. Dinner meetings? Cancelled. Yacht clubs providing "Take Out" only but you can get your cocktail kit to go! Remember the olden days when you were asked to remove your hat and sunglasses when you entered the bank? Now they require you to wear a mask. A mask! In the bank!

And then there is Zoom Video Conferencing. I'd never heard of Zoom last year, let alone used it. Now we are all holding meetings on Zoom; District Board Of Directors, International Round Table, Staff Commodore's and yacht club BODs, even my MahJong group is meeting virtually! Amazing how we have been able to adapt.

But some things remain the same. The issues facing IOBG haven't changed much. We still want to be relevant & keep in contact with our friends and colleagues. Membership retention and growth are still our goals.

Districts have taken on the challenges due to Social Distancing and persevered. There are Zoom meetings, Cocktail Hours, Concerts, Trivia Games, and even Virtual Regattas. We have learned a lot.

Thank you to all of you who have gone out of your comfort zone and used your creativity to continue to work for and support IOBG. You are amazing!



Acting Past President Tony Durieux

Past President - 2018

Acting Past President - 2020

You have seen me before. I am the "stand-in" for Immediate Past President Bud Higginson. I'll be the Past-Past-President. Bud needed a little help this year and I was honored to be selected to assist him.

This has been a very trying year for your IOBG Bridge. Everything that was talked about as being part of the 2020 program had to be adjusted, changed or cancelled. However, we did what was necessary to work through the problems while adjusting to a changing world.

As most people know we are not a group that adjusts to change easily. Fortunately, we had excellent leadership and we worked our way through the year. I was proud that this year's Executive Committee found common ground and did what was necessary to move the International Order of the Blue Gavel forward.

We continue looking to the future while remembering our past for guidance. We talked a lot about working outside the box. That's okay but we must always remember who we are and how we got here! All Blue Gavel members have a responsibility to work for our continued success. We are a proud organization with history and meaning. Remember, we need to grow our membership for you and me. Talk to your sitting Commodore. Get him ready to be part of our organization.

With that, I wish you well. It's been an honor to serve you and IOBG.



Nominations Chairperson

Sherry Barone

2021

State of Officers

The 2020 nominating committee consisted of President Sherry Barone, Past President Tony Durieux, Past President Joel Kay and two IOBG members, Jeanne Irwin from West of the Mississippi River and Matthew Schmidt from East of the Mississippi River.

The IOBG nominating committee met by conference call on May 19, 2020 and reviewed all requests for nomination submitted by interested members. The committee thoroughly discussed each request. Our decision reflects the consensus of the committee.

The IOBG Executive Committee approved these nominees at the Spring Regional Meeting on June 4, 2020. They will be placed on the ballot to be voted upon by the IOBG Board of Directors at the IOBG Annual Meeting on October 17, 2020.

President	Robert "Buzz" Bisanz (Automatic)	District 18
President-Elect	Mark Vadaj	District 7
1 st Vice President	Kathleen Jo Smith	District 15
2 nd Vice President	Marsha Landreth	District 16
Immediate Past President	Sherry Barone (Automatic)	District 11
Treasurer	Marshall Nemoy	District 15
Executive Secretary	Mary Nye Meyers	District 1
Northeast Area Vice President	Stephen Tisack	District 3
Southeast Area Vice President	Karen E. Shea	District 8
North Central Area Vice President	Steven Hyder	District 9
Northwest Area Vice President	Jim Martinson	District 1
Southwest Area Vice President	Shelia Anderson	District 11



N.B.F. Representative Marlene Barrington

The National Boating Federation has several items to bring to your attention in this issue of the LOG...such as...

This Summer, EPA Isn't Making It Any Easier for Boaters To Choose the Right Fuel for Their Boats –

With summer boating season in full swing, it's now common to see recreational boats being filled up at gas stations across the country. However, making sure the right fuel gets in the boat's tank isn't always assured: 54% of consumers in a recent Harris Poll believed that the small orange E15 fuel warning label on a gas station pump isn't good enough to protect consumers. Poll respondents believe the label, about the size of a pack of gum, needs to be larger, clearer and mandatory on all gas station fuel-dispensing pumps. E15 (fuel containing 15% ethanol) is prohibited by federal law for use in recreational boat engines and voids many marine engine warranties. Read more at www.boatus.com/news-room

Be safe while having fun this summer!

M. D. Barrington
NBF Past President - IOBG Delegate & District 1 Member

Earl Waesche, NBF Legislative Director
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Shipping Safety Fairways Along The Atlantic Coast: The U.S. Coast Guard seeks comments regarding the possible establishment of shipping safety Fairways along the Atlantic Coast of the United States in the Atlantic Coast Port Access Route Study. This potential system of Fairways is intended to ensure that traditional navigation routes are kept free from obstructions that could impact navigation safety. Comments and related material must be received by the Coast Guard on or before August 18, 2020. You may submit comments identified by docket number USCG-2019-0279.

H.R. 4828 Sport Fish Restoration and Recreational Boating Safety Act of 2019: This bill reauthorizes through FY2024 the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund which provides funding for several things, including fisheries conservation and management, water and boating infrastructure, and recreational boating safety. The bill also requires the Government Accountability Office to report on (1) the increasing use of non-motorized vessels and their impacts on motorized and non-motorized vessel access, (2) user conflicts at waterway access points, (3) the use of Sport Fish Restoration Program funds to improve non-motorized vessel access and the reasons for providing such access, and (4) the use of Recreational Boating Safety Program funds for non-motorized boating safety programs.

The U.S. Coast Guard Switched Off The Last Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS): On June 30, 2020 the Coast Guard switched off the last signals after more than 25 years of service. With the improved accuracy and integrity of un-augmented GPS over the last several years, and with the introduction of the U.S. operated satellite-based augmentation system known as Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS), the maritime community no longer has a mission requirement for DGPS. GPS now provides sufficient positional accuracy to meet international navigation requirements for harbor approaches and to position Federal Aids to Navigation (ATON). (Article Continued...)

DOT and USACE have already discontinued the inland DGPS component. The Coast Guard has operated the remaining Nationwide DGPS service, consisting of one control center and 38 remote broadcast sites, through its Navigation Center in Alexandria, Virginia. The phased shutdown of those 38 sites began in 2015 and concluded on June 30, 2020 by turning off the signal from the final four sites located in the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence Seaway. This was an incredible system that has served the Coast Guard and the public well for more than 25 years.

The U.S. Senate and House Have Acted on Legislation to Reauthorize the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund: The SFRBTF, which is funded in part by the federal excise tax on fishing equipment paid by the sport fishing industry, funds state-based programs for sportfish conservation and habitat restoration, infrastructure for boating access and education for anglers and boaters.

The Sport Fish Restoration Program is one of the nation's most important conservation programs. The SFRBTF is funded through multiple sources of revenue including the federal excise tax on recreational fishing equipment, the boat fuel tax, and import duties. Each year about \$650 million is provided from the SFRBTF to state wildlife agencies for fisheries management and restoration projects as well as boating infrastructure and other purposes.

Keep GPS Working Coalition Launched Following FCC's Controversial Ligado Order: The FCC also failed to conduct an open and comprehensive rulemaking process before issuing the Ligado order. The FCC ignored established technical standards determining whether GPS devices would suffer harmful interference, instead relying on limited studies using vague and impractical criteria to assess interference with the GPS signal, while disregarding mountains of evidence on the topic under the established methodology. DOD has even argued before Congress that the interference from Ligado's network would put missions and troops at risk. It is a highly questionable decision that benefits a single company and its Wall Street investors at the expense of national and economic security. The Keep GPS Working Coalition will ensure that the concerns of end users are represented in this critical public policy debate, joining the chorus of experts sounding the alarm over the Ligado order's existential threat to GPS technology and urging the FCC to reverse its decision.

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.

Northwestern V.P. Jim Martinson

Districts 1 & 5



2020 in the Northwest Area... As we all know, 2020 is the year our country and the world pretty much stopped. As in other geographic areas of IOBG the events that the Districts and Chapters either attend or sponsor have been cancelled and the peripheral effect has been felt by us all. This includes Opening Day ceremonies, Festivals, Cruises, and Commodore Balls. We also lost one of our beloved Past Commodores, **Bill Byrn** from Viking Yacht Club to the Covid-19 virus.

Technology has helped us to at least be able to communicate and take care of some of our needs for the Order. In District 1 we have continued a long time monthly Board meeting via conference call and recently Go-to-Meeting video meetings. The video meeting has been underwritten by our District Director **Butch Brown**. We all thank the District Director for his contribution. We hope to relieve his contribution and plan to migrate to Zoom Video Conferencing to coincide with the International's subscription.

My report includes news and information on District 1 almost exclusively as District 5 continues with only eight members as of now. We still have hope that it will start growing in the future.

In District 1 we have leadership starting with President **Neil Kelly** and District Director **Butch Brown**. Because 2020 has been what it is with membership problems and getting new leaders to come forward, **Neil** and **Butch** have graciously volunteered to continue in their respective positions for 2021 for the Good of the Order.

Our other positions Second Vice President **Chris Heide**, Recording Secretary **Jeanne Gordon**, Treasurer **Ullie Marquardt**, Executive Secretary **Mary Nye Meyers**, and our East & West Side Trustees will probably serve in 2021 also. On behalf of the Order I thank, appreciate and value all of their leadership as we navigate towards calmer waters.

District 1 and its Chapters have slowly and attentively scheduled meeting and Commodore Balls for later this year.

Butch Brown and I attended a Zoom Roundtable by the International to continue to focus on membership in the Blue Gavel. There was very good attendance from all over the country. We both came away with ideas and hopefully shared some too. We all continue efforts in the membership arena. Given the weird situation we have found ourselves in this year, at least we all have already been working to improve membership in our organization. Many other organizations were not ready it seems as Blue Gavel is.

In closing I wish all of the Blue Gavel members and their partners the best as we keep the flame burning and hope to come out stronger in the future.

Southwestern V.P. Shelia Anderson

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



As we all know this has been a very challenging year for all of us, especially organizations that are socially driven. It can be difficult to keep our members engaged but with the help of computers, we are staying connected. I attended the PICYA virtual Opening Day – “Opening Day of the Bay” which included the members of the Northern California Yacht Clubs. I have also attended virtual cocktail hour and Trivia Games Night with PRYC in Southern California.

We are focusing on increasing and retaining the IOBG membership. After participating in the Executive Membership Roundtable, I conducted a Southwest Area Zoom meeting on June 22. This meeting started great conversations. I am currently working with Liz Allison of District 14 to develop plans to help boost interest IOBG in the Southwestern area.

I planning to attend the SCYA Annual Old Timers in September. This meeting encourages all past commodores of yacht clubs in Southern California to attend. The club with the most past commodores in attendance will be announced. I know this will be a great way to connect with potential members of IOBG. (note: If the meeting happens)

I would like to encourage members to stay connected with your friends and family.

District 6
Tom Youngblood, District Director

As reported earlier, we had a Christmas Party at Kaneohe Yacht Club with record attendance. In February we had a wine tasting party at Oeno Winemaking in Kailua. Members provided pupu (appetizers), and we sampled various products. This also was well attended, and at the time, we planned on making this a quarterly event.

Currently all plans are on hold due to COVID-19.

District 10
Joyce Jackson-Coomber, District Director

In January, District 10 met at Huntington Harbour Yacht Club for our 2020 Installation of Officers. We had 26 members and guests present. Our new slate of officers was installed and we proceeded with our regular board meeting. We discussed many future activities for the coming year which have all been placed on hold because of the Corona Virus.

We did not have a February meeting because Rodney and I went to Australia for three weeks to see his family. Our next board meeting was held by telephone conference and unfortunately due to the virus we were not able to discuss any future plans for this year. We still have at least four new member inductions who we will contact to find out if they want to proceed with the ceremony later this year or wait until next year.

We hope to move forward with a few activities later this summer which would include a wine tasting and Charity Brunch at Navy Yacht Club.

Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone to be happy and remain safe.

District 11
Gisele Ozeri, District Director

District 11 goals for this year are to have more events for members to participate and increase membership. We are trying to create a virtual communication network via Zoom with our Membership Appreciation event being the first. Once the racing season has opened we will continue to sponsor the Home Port Regatta. We will follow all guidelines from federal and local officials regarding updates received regarding the pandemic crisis.

A few members of IOBG were onboard MYC's winning Boat Parade Float in the Marina Del Rey Holiday Boat Parade December 12, 2019.

This years wine tasting prior to the lockdown was held at SCCYC and was very successful. IOBG President Sherry Barone won the big raffle of winning "29 wines" (which she shared with all attendees) and we were able to donate \$180 to the Boys and Girls Club Sailing program.

With the postponement of District 11 Opening Days we have scheduled the inductions for Jr. Staff Commodores to be held via Zoom at the 2020 Spring Meeting.

Stay safe! See you on the water soon

District 14
Charlie Thome, District Director

District 14's membership stands at 54 current past commodores with more renewals anticipated during this billing cycle.

Cash on-hand is \$ 7,047.00

Less restricted of \$ 565.00

Net cash on-hand \$ 6,482.00

District 14's restricted accounts were reduced in favor of providing youth opportunities on the water.

In conjunction with the "Call of the Sea" organization and through the use of the Mathew Turner Tall Ship, District 14 awarded scholarships for 11 youths to be on the water. At the end of 2018 and through 2019 one youth experienced a week at sea while 10 others enjoyed day sails on the Tall Ship Mathew Turner.

2020 will be a year of fundraising at District 14.

District 15
Jim Murtland, District Director

We had a Zoom meeting on May 4th. We have cancelled numerous future events including a Member Appreciation BBQ. We appointed Michael Kirchgestner as District Secretary. Other wise it has been quiet as we are obeying the Governor's direction on meetings.

District 16
Tom Shideler, District Director

The pandemic arrived just in time to shut down all yacht clubs and most boating activity just before our Opening Days. We now see "soft openings" of clubs in the near future but this will take some time to get back to any resemblance of normal activity.

At this point, all races are on hold but some cruising activity is proceeding with social distancing being observed.

The Virtual Roundtable held on April 18 was very beneficial. This method of communication certainly will work until some degree of normalcy is achieved.

District 19
Submitted By:
George Iaconis, District President

The Board of Directors for IOBG Delta District 19 held a virtual meeting May 26, 2020.

Present at the meeting were:

President – George Iaconis
Vice President – Jan Cutaia-Iaconis
Treasurer – Ben Blair
District Director – Paul Clausen
Past District Director – Roger Beebe

President George Iaconis reported that due to the shelter-in-place order our calendar for social events has been placed on hold until further notice. We, like all social organizations, are waiting for state and county regulations to become clear regarding social gatherings.

Vice President Jan Cutaia-Iaconis reported we did hold our Induction of new members on May 1st. We inducted 12 new members for 2020. District 19 membership renewals for 2020 so far have totaled 131 bringing our membership total to 143 at present. There are still 19 memberships from 2019 that have not renewed. Phone calls will be made to those 2019 members who have not sent in their dues.

Treasurer Ben Blair reported we moved the bank account with Wells Fargo from Modesto to Pittsburg as that is where most of the board of directors are. All is good, without events we have nothing to spend money on. All monies due International for membership have been sent in.

Director Paul Clausen had no report.

Past Director Roger Beebe had no report

A short discussion was held regarding nominations for 2021. The board did consider holding in place however this will need further discussion and was not decided at this time.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

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.

North Central V.P. Steven Hyder



Districts 7, 9, 23 & 25

With the crazy start to 2020 there aren't many activities that went on in Districts 7, 9 and 25. All of the districts had plenty of activities planned however all the activities had to be cancelled and/or rescheduled for Fall of 2020.

Not one of the districts could have an in-person Spring meeting, however we did hold a round table discussion with the districts via Zoom. At the round table discussion we discussed membership and recruitment. Ideas were brought up to recruit members. The Districts discuss what has worked in the past and what they can do in the future to bolster membership.

The Districts are planning on having another Blue Blazer event in October. District 9 and District 25 will hold another joint Blue Blazer. At this event they will invite Vice Commodores and Commodores to introduce them to the Blue Gavel. As part of the programming, all the districts will be having a joint wine tasting tour in September. The districts hope that these events will bring in new members and retain our current members.

Further at the Round Table the discussion was held, and it was a consensus that the International should curtail their travel and lower International dues back to \$40.00 vs the current rate of \$50.00. The representatives thought that our International Officers travel too much and the cost is way to high.

The Round Table lasted about an hour. All in attendances are optimistic that we will get back to some type of normal soon.

Northeastern V.P. Steve Tisack



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

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the Northeast is just starting to enter Phase 2 of reopening.

Yacht clubs are following the current social distancing guide lines. Marinas were allowed to open a few weeks ago. All social gathering and activities are still limited .

District 3 has been keeping the status of each chapter and the rule of their respective marines via email. With the slow reopening of the Northeast, there are no reports from the other districts

Southeastern V.P. Karen Shea

Districts 8 & 18



District 8
Karen Shea, District Director

As of May, 2020, we have 202 paid members plus 3 Past Presidents (P/P's Janiszewski, Dowdell and Higginson) 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. Due to the cancelation of our May regional meeting we have changed to teleconferences .



Thanks to Secretary/Treasurer Kathy Hockenberry who coordinated with our International Communications Director Mary Nye Meyers who again sent out our 2020 Membership Directory. Our District works very hard at keeping our members informed via our website, newsletters and emails. We are one of only 2 Districts with a published 24-page Membership Roster/Directory.

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. Also add a link to both our D8 and International website. We have 5 out of 20 yacht clubs who have IOBG info/tabs on their website. (Dunedin Boat Club, Gulf Harbors YC, Isles YC, Pelican Isle YC & Venice YC)
2. Have their yacht clubs add IOBG members to their Hospitality Guidelines rules. International has a letter posted on their website under Hospitality Guidelines.
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.

The District 8 Winter Meeting was held February 21-22, 2020 at Palm Beach Sailing Club hosted by District 8 Legal Officer P/C Joe and Mary Lou Tringali, Esq "One Particular Island". There was food, fun and entertainment all weekend. After Saturdays meeting, Joe along with P/C Joe Fields, Esq were generous enough to donate their time to present two classes: 1. "Private Clubs vs. Public Accommodations; the Rules You Need to Know and "Leadership for your Club" 2. "Americans with Disabilities Act; Uses and Abuses, How to Protect Your Club". Both were very educational and from the Academy of Yachting.

We approved presenting our IOBG Chapters with an outdoor IOBG flag (24" X 40") with the number of years as chapter for hosting a meeting. At our February 2020 Regional meeting which was at Palm Beach Sailing Club we presented them with the IOBG flag with 18 years on it. It always looks good on the outdoor flag poles at yacht clubs.

District 18
 Dave Kowert, District Director

Increased membership from 5 in 2018 to 7 in 2019 from three yacht clubs in two states and one Past President, Chuck Browning, who resides in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and back down to 5 in May 2020. I'm sure that is due to temporary closing of all clubs.

Sadly, almost everything has ground to a halt but as of the end of May they are starting to re-open on a very limited scale with lots of social distancing rules. I think it's going to be a good test to see if people can manage this new world.

Unfortunately, that has also negatively impacted all our plans to push IOBG forward. Two social functions were canceled and at this point, we have been unable to reschedule. The main focus of everyone at all the clubs seems to be determining if the annual regatta schedule will move forward and if so, how they are going to make it work.

Assuming the upcoming weeks provide a solution to that issue, I will engage with the Past Commodores of the various clubs around getting together during the regatta parties to discuss IOBG membership and possible "giving back" opportunities we will have throughout the summer.

1380 Centerville Lane #32
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 Email: Comsignia@aol.com
 www.commodoreinsignia.com



775-782-3380
 800-315-7485
 Fax: 775-782-3380

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: _____

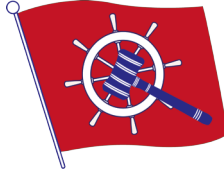
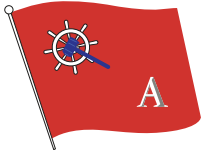
The above will be verified. Member will be billed for emblems when shipped. _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Email Addresses: _____

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 **\$10.00 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: _____

**2020
Executive
Board**



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815 Ethel Pl
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President- Elect

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1st Vice President



2nd Vice President Open



Secretary

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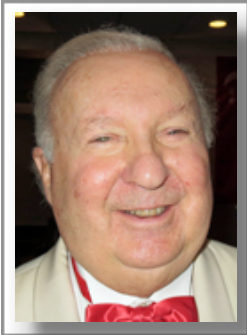


Treasurer

Mary Kay Inguagiato
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International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary



President Gary Smith

In this uncertain world where as the song goes" the Rockies may crumble, Gibraltar may tumble"... there's little that can seem permanent and everything is changing. The ability of Americans to rally, to work together, to fight what some have called " a silent killer" is now part of history.

I'm sure as the quarantine ends and some semblance of normalcy returns we'll try to return to our lives, as we knew them. But, in a larger sense we need to learn from this experience and thank those who went to work even while threatened to help save the sick.

With that in mind let's challenge each other as a charitable organization and in each of our communities to help raise funds for organizations that stepped up to give at a time when giving was a matter of life and death. Giving doesn't just mean dollars, a cavalcade of thank you notes and letters can warm the heart of those indispensable caregivers.

Let your district representatives know of your efforts so others may follow your examples.

In Loving Memory



Leona Marie Nies - Age 93
November 6, 1926 - March 26, 2020
International 1996 IOBGA President



Patricia Ann "Trish" Graven - Age 63
June 25, 1956 - March 29, 2020
International 2007 IOBGA President



IOBG Humanitarian Foundation



Catch Our Spirit

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.

Lee Homyock, a Director of the Foundation, recently explained why he chooses to contribute to the Humanitarian Foundation. “As many Past Commodores, I was afforded opportunities that created a difference in my life throughout my youth. These opportunities enabled me to be successful through my adulthood whether in school, at work, on the water, or in my daily life pursuits. The Foundation wishes to provide these types of opportunities for today’s less fortunate youth. In life I believe you learn, you do, and you pass your experiences on to others to continue. Donating to the Humanitarian Foundation is one of my ways to “pass it on”.

Some Projects the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation has helped fund include:

- District 1 - Sail Kingston Cove a grant that helped provide scholarships to youth unable to pay for classes.
- District 3 - Excalibur Leisure Skills Center Inc. for replacement of Life Preservers.
- District 7 - Edgewater Yacht Club and its Blue Gavel chapter, for Sail Camp Scholarships
- District 7 - Lake County Yacht Club - The Len Anderson/Dean Palmer Day provides a fun filled day for the mentally and physically challenged citizens of Lake County, Ohio.
- District 8 - Gulf Harbors Yacht Club for Sail Camp Scholarships
- District 9 - North Cape Sailing School Inc. for repairs to Jr. Sailing Sailboats
- District 9 – Jolly Roger Sailing Club – International Youth Sailing Regatta
- District 10 - Huntington Beach Sailing Foundation for Sail Camp Scholarships
- District 11 - Life Sail, Inc. for Sailing Lesson Scholarships
- District 15 - Oceanside Yacht Club’s Sail Program for Sail Camp scholarships
- District 15 - Santa Margarita Yacht Club - For young people to participate in sailing classes.

Continued...

Humanitarian Foundation



Larry Inguagiato, President

Email: larry.inguagiato@mac.com



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
756 Richfield St.
The Villages, Florida 32163-2343



Make a donation of \$100 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 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 matching gifts program, which may provide additional contributions to the HF.

The IOBGHF is committed to provide opportunities for participation for people to conveniently select a cause, which means something special to them. We invite you to make a world of difference, catch our spirit and make hope a reality.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the Foundations Directors.

2020 DISTRICT OFFICERS & AREAS SERVED

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
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SECRETARY
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Open

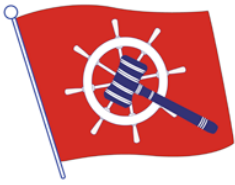
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SECRETARY
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kathyswyc@aol.com</p> | <p>#23 PRESIDENT- North Central
Open

SECRETARY
Open</p> | |



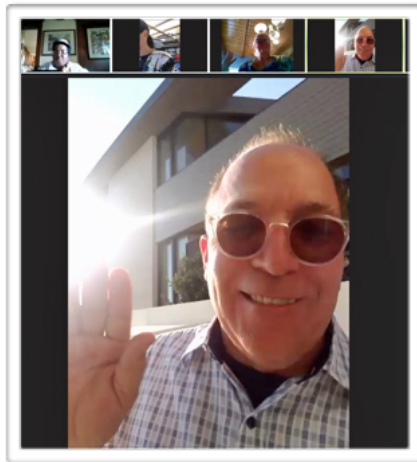
International Order of the Blue Gavel
P.O. Box 420955
San Diego, CA 92145-0955

Return Service Requested



Welcome New IOBG Members Inducted at our Spring Regional Meeting Via "Zoom" Video Conference on June 4, 2020.

Antoinette Delgato
Marina Yacht Club



Robert Probst
Port Royal Yacht Club

Jennifer Kitchen
South Coast Corinthian YC

