



THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

OF THE
INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL
PAST COMMODORE'S CLUB

Volume XXVI No. 3

October 2006

Mary R. Nye, Editor

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



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From the President

by Harvey Sussel

Welcome, welcome, welcome to our newest International Order of the Blue Gavel District #27, representing the Chesapeake Bay area. IOBG is proud and happy to welcome District 27 to our growing International Family. This is a strong area for future growth and expansion of IOBG that possesses quality leadership for success.

The new District was officially welcomed into the IOBG at the Regional Meeting held at the Bush River Yacht Club in the Chesapeake Bay area on Friday, August 25, 2006 with the presentation of the District Charter by President Harvey Sussel to (probable District Director) Chuck Browning. I say probable because the new District has not yet had their official election of officers. Chuck Browning has been the lead person in the area for the establishing of this newest District and we suspect he will be nominated for District 27 Director.

We were welcomed by Bush River Yacht Club Commodore Debbie Noon, who was presented an IOBG plaque to commemorate this visit by the International to their Yacht Club. Also very instrumental in planning this weekend was Karen Anderson, who saw that every function went off as planned. Auxiliary President Donna Schwandtner was well assisted by their Auxiliary members in arranging for lunch and set up for the International and Auxiliary meetings.

With a good and educational meeting and forum following, the Regional Meeting was well attended and had good member participation. The afternoon forum on membership retention, expansion and activities saw a great deal of input from those interested members. This is one forum that should have been tape recorded so the ideas and thoughts could be related to the entire IOBG membership.

This was a wonderful introduction and showcasing of IOBG to the Chesapeake area and also gave the Past Commodores a good look at our International in action. It was a win-win situation for everyone.

We followed the afternoon session with a bus ride to the Otter Point Yacht Club for a short but interesting visit and then bussed to the Baltimore Harbor area for dinner at various restaurants.

On Saturday, we were bussed to the Baltimore Yacht Club for a short lunch and then to the Belvedere Yacht Club for afternoon of relaxation and snacks. We boarded the busses once again for dinner at the Blue Lagoon Restaurant and a late return to the Ramada Inn. Then the Sunday farewells at the Hotel Continental Breakfast and many people planned for a return trip home.

However, not everyone returned home immediately. Some stayed on and visited the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, some visited Fort McHenry, which was instrumental in a major victory in the war of 1812 and the writing of the Star Spangled Banner.

The International Nominating Committee, chaired by P/P Art Theobald announced their slate of officers for 2007, to be voted on at the October Annual Meeting. The Budget for 2007 is being prepared for presentation at the Annual Meeting.

The Annual meeting in October, aboard the Queen Mary docked in Long Beach, CA., promises to be exciting and well planned but I'll leave the details to President Elect Carol Promessi.

It has been a wonderful honor and a deep feeling experience being your President for the past year. Our officers gave of their time and efforts willingly. My thanks to you all!! It is my hope that we have kept the International running smoothly and solved the issues and situations that arose.

Thank you Blue Gavel for the Honor and Privilege to serve.



From the President Elect

by Carol Promessi

The Chesapeake area is absolutely wonderful and we saw a lot of history and where it took place!

I want to thank our new District Director Chuck Browning, President, Karen Anderson and their crew of District #27 and the Bush River Yacht Club, for hosting such an outstanding Summer Regional Meeting. We were able to visit Otter Point YC, Belvedere YC and Baltimore YC. See Presidents article for more details. The camaraderie was overflowing!!!

I feel that we made accomplishments in membership retention by reactivating the Charters for Navy Yacht club Pensacola, Syria Shrine Mariners' Yacht Club, transferring Fort Walton Yacht Club from District #50 to District #8 and approving a new Charter for Alum Creek Sailing Club and establishing a new District #27. We still have a couple of prospective Chapters pending.

This is the time of year when all the Districts are in the process of finding qualified members to fill the District offices and find the right individuals who want to be trained to do the job they accept and to handle the responsibilities of that office.

Remember the responsibility begins with the Area Vice Presidents, but primarily falls on the District and its officers, the organization is definitely built from the Chapters to the Districts to the Region to the International, from the bottom up, not the top down!!! Members need to be committed.

The District Directors should attend and promote their members to attend the Annual Meeting. The Director votes on behalf of their District and presents a written report to the meeting summarizing the year of their District's activities, new Chapters, and communicates their District's position of matters before the Board, including the election of officers and approving the annual budget.

If a Director or Alternate Director does not attend the Annual meeting it results in the issues not being communicated back to the District. The District is then not aware of the decisions that are made by the International. This significantly diminishes the ties between the District and International. It is imperative that if you accept the duties of a District Director it is to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of that office and to promote the best interest of the organization.

"Attendance at the Annual meeting is a requirement for all International Officers and District Directors. The membership is encouraged to attend the Annual meeting to participate in the affairs of the International."

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Annual meeting on the Queen Mary and participating in the functions at Shoreline YC, Seal Beach YC and Huntington Harbour YC. Please don't forget to sign up for transportation, if you're not signed up I will assume you will not be riding the bus. If you would like to join in the fun and ride the bus, advise me by e-mail and send me a check.

"Participation in Blue Gavel affairs at all levels is the name of the game, whether through attendance at Chapter, District, and International functions or through holding offices at these various levels. Remember, it's up to you. What Blue Gavel does for you is a direct result of what you put in."

***Carol Promessi
President Elect***



From the First Vice President

by Richard Janiszewski

Summer has almost gone; however, during this outstanding time our northeastern and north central Districts entertained a full schedule of Blue Gavel and Auxiliary activities. Detailed reports were presented by Area Vice Presidents at our Portland Regional Meeting and our Summer Regional meeting at Bush River Yacht Club. Overall, within those geographic areas for which I am responsible, I can advise you that our Districts and Chapters are generally strong and implementing activities and programs consistent with our Mission Statement. Some events which, I believe, are noteworthy are the 100th Anniversary of the Raritan Yacht Club of District 20 and their gala celebration planned for the fall. At our summer regional meeting, hosted by the Bush River Yacht Club, we welcomed a brand new district consisting of five area yacht clubs. While many of our districts continue to grow, others have maintained their membership levels consistent with previous years and some have experienced membership declines. Whatever the membership situation, membership is important to our organization and requires attention.

Much of what I have reported to you above also can be said for our south-eastern chapters and districts without any need to “come alive” since they enjoy year-round warm weather.

To return to the matter of regional meetings (the most recent held at Bush River Yacht Club) these meetings are one of the most effective channels of communication imaginable. Sites are selected for the convenience of member participants in many different geographic locations. The meetings, themselves, are generally of a two-day duration and include a range of interesting social activities. They are structured to be as cost effective as possible. Meeting attendance provides an opportunity to gain a personal insight into the workings of your organization as well as a learning experience and an opportunity to express your thoughts and suggestions to the President and Executive Committee. These meetings also result in new friendships with others who share many common interests.

In closing, I wish you a wonderful, enjoyable, and safe balance of 2006. I hope that you will plan to attend the annual meeting in Long Beach, California and that you will stop by and say hello, or do not hesitate to contact me at richardjaniszewski@msn.com.



From the Second Vice President

by Jerry Rudd

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Karen Anderson and Chuck Browning for a fantastic job they and their Committee did for the August Regional Meeting.

Commodore Deb Noon of Bush River Yacht Club hosted the Friday morning meeting and the great lunch by their members. The IOBGA met upstairs at Bush River Yacht Club. Having had a good agenda that took us through lunch with open discussion led by Phil Arms. There were good ideas that came out of that and I think Carol Promessi will use next year. In late afternoon we were bussed to Otter Point Yacht Club where we were met by Commodore Mary Lyn Hickey and all of her Flag Officers, after a couple of hours we were bussed to the Inner Harbor area of Baltimore where we all went in different directions for dinner and the sites.

On Saturday IOBG & IOBGA Executive Board had meetings in the morning. We were then bussed to the Baltimore Yacht Club for lunch on its historic grass knoll atop Sue Island. They have a glorious view approximately a 220 degree of upper Chesapeake Bay area. Next stop was the Belvedere Yacht Club; meet by Commodore Gary Bargar and his Jr Past Commodore plus members. I would like to extend a Special thanks to the Bell Ladies of Belvedere Yacht Club for the great hors d'ouvres and homemade cake. Then to the Blue Lagoon for dinner (just what we needed) and back to the Hotel to collapse, some went to Bush YC for dancing and more entertainment. Thanks again Karen & Chuck for an outstanding weekend.

See you at the October Annual Meeting with the Change of Watch in Long Beach CA on the Queen Mary.

LOG Minutes

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

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

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IOBG NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The IOBG Nominating Committee has made the following nominations for officers for the year 2007.

The election shall take place at the Annual Meeting to be held in Long Beach, California on Saturday, October 28, 2006.

The Nominations are:

President	Carol Promessi, Dist.19 (automatic as per bylaws)
President Elect	Richard Janiszewski, Dist.22
First Vice President	Jerry Rudd, Dist.1
Second Vice President	Ray Thompson, Dist.8
Immediate Past President	Harvey Sussel, Dist.8
Financial Officer	Marshall Nemoy, Dist.15
Executive Secretary	Mary Eiffert, Dist.1
Northeastern Vice President	Marc Connelly, Dist.3
Northwestern Vice President	Mike Parish, Dist.1
North Central Vice President	Debbie Banks-Skellenger, Dist.7
Southwestern Vice President	George C. Knies, Dist.14
Southeastern Vice President	Tom Sullivan, Dist.8
District 50 Director (East of Mississippi River)	Damian Phleghaar, Dist.9
District 51 Director (West of Mississippi River)	Vern Bendsen, Dist.19

Respectfully Submitted:

Art Theobald, Past President & Chairman
Harvey Sussel, President
Carol Promessi, President Elect

2006 Annual Meeting October 25th – 28th

The Queen Mary is more than a hotel; she is a legend. She is the grandest ocean liner ever built. During her illustrious career, she has played many roles, from elegant ocean liner to World War II troopship. In her heyday, the rich and famous considered a trans-Atlantic crossing aboard the Queen Mary the only civilized way to travel.

Now, more than 65 years after embarking on her Maiden Voyage, the allure of this Art Deco masterpiece remains timeless.

Stay in an original Art Deco stateroom and transport yourself back in time. Explore the engine room, wheelhouse and many exciting attractions and exhibits. Stroll along the decks overlooking the Long Beach skyline; dine in one of the award-winning, harborview restaurants; and purchase treasures in the unique shops aboard as well as ashore.

Considered the crown jewel of Southern California, the Queen Mary has emerged a favorite attraction, hotel, meeting facility and world-class destination.

The Queen Mary is centrally located in Long Beach, between Orange County and downtown Los Angeles. The convenient Passport Shuttle is available to the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific, the Long Beach Convention Center, Pine Avenue, Shoreline Village and Belmont Shore.

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend the Annual Meeting,



2006 Annual Meeting

October 25-28, 2006

Winter Uniform



The Queen Mary
1126 Queens Highway
Long Beach, CA 90802
(562) 435-3511



Wednesday, October 25, 2006: Guests arrive & register. Welcome to Long Beach!
Dinner will be served at the Seal Beach Yacht Club, nautical dress.

Thursday, October 26, 2006: IOBG Workshop and discussion will be held at the Shoreline Yacht Club and lunch will also be served. IOBGA will visit The Aquarium of the Pacific. Off to Huntington Harbour Yacht Club where you will enjoy a cocktail cruise of the area, dinner and dancing at the Yacht Club, nautical dress.

Friday, October 27, 2006: IOBG Pre Meeting discussion and lunch at the Shoreline Yacht Club. IOBGA and IOBGHF will also meet at the Yacht Club. Hospitality and dinner will be served at Shoreline Yacht Club, nautical dress.

Saturday, October 28, 2006: IOBG Annual Meeting and Election will be held in The Royal Salon, which is located on the Promenade Deck. The IOBGA Annual Meeting and Election will be held in Mauretania Room located on the Main Deck. The joint luncheon will be held in The Windsor Salon on "R" Deck. The Grand Ball and Installation of Officers will be located in the Queen's Salon on the Promenade Deck, formal attire.

Sunday, October 29, 2006: The Fall Regional Meeting will be held at 9:00 AM in The Board Room, which is located on the Promenade Deck, casual dress.

The Queen Mary is located at the south end of the 710 Freeway, on the water in Long Beach. Below you will find airports serving this area and also Super Shuttle service to the Queen Mary.

From Los Angeles International Airport (LAX)

Take the 405 Freeway south to the 710 Freeway south (23 miles).
Super Shuttle - \$17.00

From John Wayne International Airport (SNA)

Take the 405 Freeway north to the 710 Freeway south (25 miles).
Super Shuttle - \$35.00

From Long Beach Airport (LGB)

Take the 405 Freeway north to the 710 Freeway south (8 miles).
Super Shuttle - \$17.00

For each additional passenger is \$9.00 per person from any of the above airports. Please call and schedule your reservations before arriving at the airport, (800) 258-3826.

Annual Meeting Order Form

The Queen Mary

1126 Queens Highway

Long Beach, CA 90802

(562) 435-3511

	<u>TIME</u>	<u>NO. PERSONS</u>	<u>EVENT COST</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>Wednesday, October 25th</u>				
Registration	2:00 – 5:00			
Dinner – Seal Beach Yacht Club	6:00 – 10:00	___@	\$26.00	\$ _____
<u>Thursday, October 26th.</u>				
Registration	8:00 – 5:00			
Continental Breakfast Shoreline YC	8:00		N/C	
District Directors & Area VPs Round Table Discussion	9:00 – 11:30			
IOBGA – Aquarium of The Pacific Admission, Lunch & Tour	TBA	___ @	\$35.00	\$ _____
Lunch	12:00 – 1:00	___ @	\$14.00	\$ _____
District Directors Area VPs Round Table (continued)	1:00 – 3:00			
Huntington Harbour Yacht Club Cocktail Cruise, Dinner & Dancing -Nautical dress	5:00 – 10:00	___@	\$23.00	\$ _____
<u>Friday, October 27h.</u>				
Registration	8:00 – 12:00			
Continental Breakfast Shoreline YC	8:00		N/C	
IOBG Pre Meeting Discussion	9:00 – 11:30			
IOBGA Pre Meeting Discussion	9:00 – 11:30			
Joint Lunch -Speaker	12:00 – 1:30	___@	\$14.00	\$ _____
IOBGHF Meeting	1:30 – 2:30			
Shoreline Yacht Club Cocktails	6:00			
Dinner/Dancing Dress- Nautical dress	7:00 – 10:00	___@	\$15.00	\$ _____
<u>Saturday, October 28h.</u>				
Registration	8:00 – 9:00			
IOBG Annual Meeting	9:00 – 11:30			
IOBGA Annual Meeting	9:00 – 11:30			
Joint Lunch Speaker	12:00 – 1:30	___@	\$27.00	\$ _____
IOBG Annual Meeting	1:30 – 2:30			
Grand Ball (Formal Dress) No Host Cocktails	6:00 – 7:00			
Dinner and Dancing Installation of Officers	7:00 – 12:00	___@	\$65.00	\$ _____
<u>Sunday, October 29h.</u>				
IOBG Fall Regional Meeting	9:00 – 9:30			

Annual Meeting Order Form

The Queen Mary

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(562)435-3511

	<u>No. of Persons</u>	<u>Event Cost</u>	<u>Total</u>
Wednesday, October 25th			
Dinner & Music, Seal Beach Yacht Club (Prime Rib)	_____@	\$26.00	\$ _____
Vegetarian	_____@	\$26.00	\$ _____
Thursday, October 26th			
IOBGA, Aquarium of The Pacific	_____@	\$35.00	\$ _____
Lunch, Shoreline Yacht club	_____@	\$14.00	\$ _____
Cocktail Cruise and Dinner & Music			
Huntington Harbour Yacht club (Baby Back Ribs/chicken)	_____@	\$23.00	\$ _____
Vegetarian	_____@	\$23.00	\$ _____
Friday, October 27th			
Joint Lunch, Shoreline Yacht Club	_____@	\$14.00	\$ _____
Dinner, Shoreline Yacht club (choice of)			
Vegetarian	_____@	\$15.00	\$ _____
Prime Rib	_____@	\$15.00	\$ _____
Salmon	_____@	\$15.00	\$ _____
Pork Medallions	_____@	\$15.00	\$ _____
Saturday, October 28th			
Joint Lunch, Queen Mary, Windsor Salon	_____@	\$27.00	\$ _____
Dinner and Dancing, Queen's Salon			
Vegetarian – Black Pepper Linguine	_____@	\$65.00	\$ _____
New York Steak Mushrooms, Onions & Green Peppercorn Cream Sauce	_____@	\$65.00	\$ _____
Grilled Boneless Breast of Chicken with Alaskan Crab & Asparagus Tips	_____@	\$65.00	\$ _____

IOBG CONVENTION 2006
Welcome To Long Beach, California

For air travel, use either Long Beach International Airport, John Wayne International Airport or Los Angeles International Airport. The Queen Mary Hotel will be offering a special rate of **\$139.00** single and double occupancy. Please call the Hotel direct for stateroom reservations at (562) 435-3511, before September 15, 2006. When making reservations please mention that you are part of the International Order of the Blue Gavel. Further information will be available at www.iobg.org

It is very pleasant this time of year and normally we have our Indian summer.
 Casual nautical attire will be appropriate in the evening.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "IOBG 2006" AND SEND THIS ENTIRE FORM TO:

P/C Phil Promessi
128 Pelican Loop
Pittsburg, CA 94565

District Number _____ Office Held _____

NAME _____ SPOUSE/GUEST _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ PHONE: () _____

Spouse/Guest is a member of IOBG _____ IOBGA _____

Function Amount Submitted: \$ _____

Add \$15.00 for transportation per person \$ _____

Add \$30.00 for transportation per couple \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED: \$ _____

Your Reservation must be received No Later Than October 15, 2006



International Order of the Blue Gavel

Cruise to Mexico with fellow boaters immediately following the '06 Annual Convention and Meeting!



7 Day Cruise Aboard

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October 29, 2006

7 Day Mexican Riviera



\$75.00 Shipboard Credit per cabin, Champagne and Chocolates in each cabin, & Cocktail Party Included!



PORTS OF CALL:

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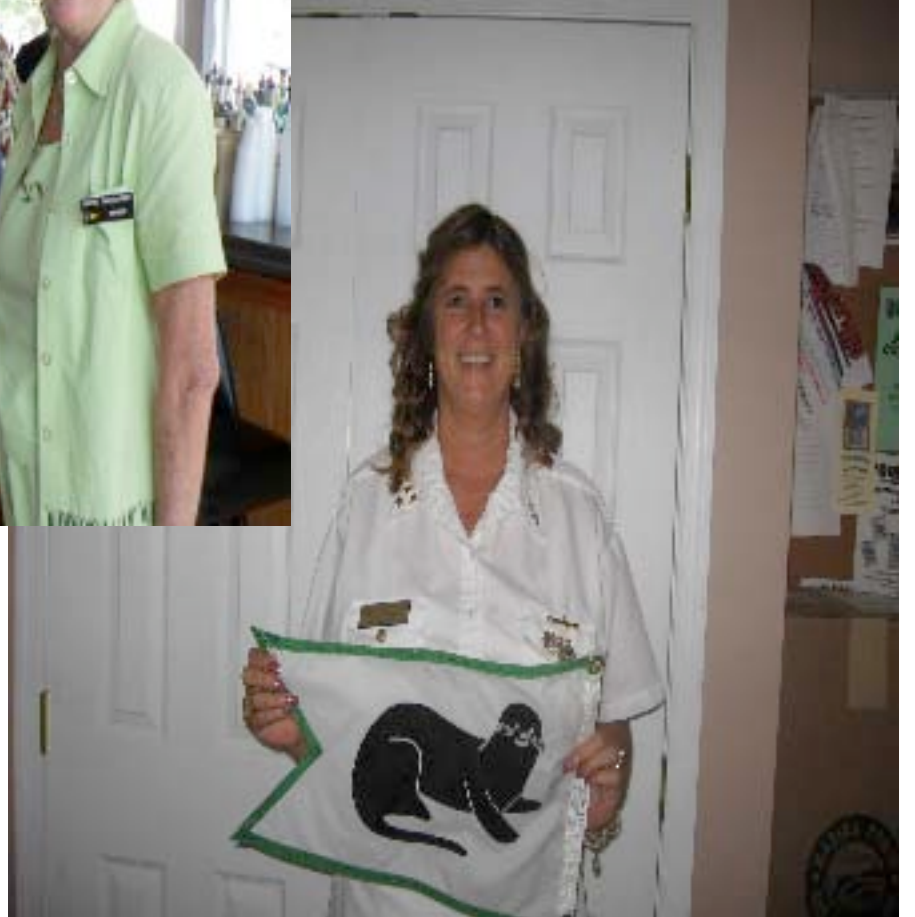
- ROUND TRIP LONG BEACH, CA
- PUERTO VALLARTA, MEXICO
- CABO SAN LUCAS, MEXICO

**For Reservations or Information
Please Contact:**

**Rose Madden, Jeanne Schaefer
(239) 542-0111 or (800) 741-0112
4307 Del Prado Blvd
Cape Coral, FL 33904**



*Photos Courtesy of:
Art Theobald, the Garsides, the Thayers*











SUPPLY OFFICER

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Gardnerville, NV 89410-9715
(800) 315-7485
www.commodoreinsignia.com

The Executive Committee voted to accept the proposal from Commodore Insignia to take over the Supply Officer function for IOBG. The details have been worked out and a contract prepared by our Legal Officer.

Commodore Insignia is owned by Blue Gavel member, Earl Hohlmayer. He has a very established business, deals with many yacht clubs, the U.S. Power Squadron and has been the supplier of our crossed burgee pocket patch for many years. The company maintains a web site, www.commodoreinsignia.com, where orders may be placed.

Commodore Insignia will sell to district supply officers at discounted prices only to those districts that have supply officers. The IOBG Treasurer will provide a list of district supply officers to Commodore Insignia. Members of districts that do not have a supply officer such as Districts 50 and 51, will be able to order directly from Commodore Insignia but will pay a retail price for the merchandise. Membership lists for districts without supply officers will be supplied to Commodore Insignia by the IOBG Treasurer.

Commodore Insignia is the only company authorized to sell merchandise with the IOBG trademarked logo. You are urged to support this venture and have some patience during the transition. In the long run it will be good for all of us.

COMMODORE INSIGNIA

1380 Centerville Lane, #32
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Telephone: (775) 782-3380 – (800) 315-7485
Fax: (775) 782-4003
Email: Comsignia@aol.com
Web: www.commodoreinsignia.com

IOBG Blazer emblems are authorized for sale by Commodore Insignia. These emblems have the Blue Gavel Burgee on the left staff and the Commodore's club on the right staff. They are available in a white or black background and the price is \$30.00 each, 2-4 \$24.00 each, and 5 and up \$21.00 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		Navy Blue	Black	White	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. _____



District News

Northwestern

Districts 1-2-4-5-24

Mike Parish

Northwestern Vice President

Greetings from the great Northwest...

District #1 held their annual picnic in Kingston in July with about 21 members attending. The Change of Watch was held in the Tri-Cities area September 15-17. Clover Island Yacht Club had boat trips and a luau planned for the weekend.

District #2 will be held their annual meeting in September on the same weekend, September 16.

District #4 - Unfortunately the "Hands across the Border" had to be canceled and nothing much has happen over the summer. We look forward to seeing everyone in September at the Okanagan Invasion.

District #5 held a dinner at the St. Helens Yacht Club for all past commodores and had a good turnout. This should help to get the district moving forward again.

District #24 held the annual Okanagan Invasion September 8-10. This year it was held in Penticton, British Columbia, Canada. There is a dinner cruise, a chance to visit an old steamboat, lunch at Summerland Yacht Club and the Jazz Festival. All activities will took place around the lake and with the wonderful weather in this area and the great wine tasting opportunities it was a wonderful weekend.

Roxanne and I spent most of June and all of July in British Columbia, the Yukon and Alaska so we did not get much of a chance to attend functions in the lower 48 but we did meet with some of the officers of District #24 and found the Stewart Yacht Club in Stewart B.C. Stewart is situated on the Portland Canal about 75 miles northeast of Ketchikan, Alaska. It has no building, just docks.

While in Home, Alaska we found advertisements for the Homer Yacht Club but upon investigation discovered it is a club in name only. No building, no officers but they do hold about a half a dozen sailing races and regattas each year.

District 51
Mike Parish, District Director

Since we traveled in the other direction this year I did not get a chance to meet with the members in District #51. You are a terrific group of members and to those members that I do not have an e-mail address for I want to let you know that I am turning over the position of Director to Vern Bendsen, who has requested the job.

Vern travels a lot and is looking forward to meeting you and helping to work towards common goals. I have known Vern for many years and he will definitely be an asset to District #51. He is a hard worker, who prides himself on getting things done. Hopefully he will be able to better motivate the powers that be into getting you the information on the Humanitarian Foundation and helping the members in Texas to become a district.

I really enjoyed the hospitality of the Austin and Houston groups last year and when I am your way again in the future I will definitely stop by.



District News

North Central

Districts 7-9-23-25

Don Krale

North Central Vice President

District 7

Submitted by Debbie Banks-Skellenger

District 7 has been very active this year under the watch of President, Bob Graven. We began our summer with an Annual Ceremony on Memorial Day for our "Fallen Shipmates".

We donated to various organizations such as "The Art Studio", providing art therapy to brain injured people; The Sea Scouts and The Blind Sailing Association only to mention a few.

President Graven is currently setting up a Scholarship Fund patterned after District 9 to help youth learn about water safety. Another event we participated & hosted was Inter-Lake Yachting Association with D-9 & D-25...The Commodores Cocktail Party. All of this has been to heighten our awareness of IOBG in the community.

Our future plans include a flag ceremony at Edgewater Yacht Club in September for the Women's International Adams Cup Race. Additionally, in June we approved a new Chapter, Alum Creek Sailing Club.

We are now Approximately 295 members strong.

District 50

Debbie Banks-Skellenger, District Director

I have been in the process for the past year of contacting members in my various Chapters. My selection is random, but my point is to make human contact with someone in each Chapter. I ask that the member contacted let their respective Chapter know who I am and distribute my contact information. I believe this personal contact is important for membership retention and to answer the age old question: "What does the Blue Gavel do for me?" Without communication no one will know.

As a result, I have had a number of inquiries. Navy Yacht Club Pensacola and Lynn Yacht Club are two examples.

Additionally, I have had numerous correspondences with P/C Claude Mullen, President of Navy Yacht Club Pensacola. NYCP has reactivated their Chapter with new members and have been sent their Charter reissue.

As you all know, District 27 is an "offshoot" of District 50. We are thrilled to have a new District and the Regional Meeting they hosted was fabulous. Thank you to P/C's Karen Anderson and Chuck Browning and all those who helped make the August regional meeting VERY successful.



District News

Northeastern

Districts 3-12-20-22-26

Marc Connelly

Northeastern Vice President

District 3



In Passing...

Again our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Dr. Eugene V. Leslie, who died this last winter. He was not only a Past Commodore of The Buffalo Yacht Club, he was also a Past Commodore of the Buffalo Canoe Club in 1991. Shortly after he became Commodore in 1990, the Canoe Club's famous outer boathouse was totally destroyed on Christmas Eve by a fire set by an arsonist. Fortunately for the Canoe Club, Gene had the ability and dedication to handle this gigantic and costly situation, and he set the wheels in motion, with the help of a special boathouse rebuilding committee, to rebuild an exact replica of the former boathouse.

It was not completed in his watch, but he was the person responsible for the wonderful boathouse we have today. Many of you have been entertained in that boathouse when you were here for a summer regional meeting several years ago.

District 20
William A. Plyer, District Director



In Passing...

PC Edgar V. Krutzberg recently passed away in Long Branch, NJ. He served the IOBG as Northeast Regional Vice President and is regarded as the "founding father" of District 20.

Edgar served for many years as District Director, a position in which he served the district very well.

In recognition of his years of Blue Gavel service, RC Krutzberg was elected to the position of Director Emeritus. A memorial service was held at the Staten Island Yacht Club, with burial of his ashes at sea. His wife of 25 years, Nellie, passed away in 1996.



District News

Southwestern

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

Bill Thayer

Southwestern Vice President

As the Spring Regional Meeting/Rose Festival in Portland, Oregon wound down and Lady Carol Promessi was properly Knighted with her Rose Medallion and a Rose so aptly named "A Touch of Class" it was time to break out the activities schedule for the Southwestern Area and get back to work (fun).

Marybeth and I attended District 15's Appreciation BBQ at Mission Bay Yacht Club in San Diego on June 24th. We were all seated on the outside deck facing the bay where sailboat races were taking place. Dennis Loftis had chicken and beef on the barby and we all received a "free" raffle ticket for wrapped gifts on the tables in a Chinese give away.

Next we headed north to Discovery Bay Yacht Club to attend District 19's Appreciation BBQ on July 22nd. As we turned left of I-5 at Stockton, the big sign on the road read 118 degrees. It was a very organized event with a General Meeting, an Auxiliary Meeting and then to the party. President Bob Knoblock and Dee did a wonderful job on the event and Marybeth and I were treated as members for the day and received a free dinner of marinated tri-tip and fillet of sole with all the trimmings.

Marybeth managed to spend the money I won on the 50/50 and the silent auction. A Dragon Kite!!! The 50/50 and silent auction benefits the Girl Sea Scouts. We missed District 16's 50's dinner dance at Anacapa Yacht Club on 31 July but we were ready. On our way home from Discovery Bay we stopped in Pasadena to see Marybeth's brother. While there Jim gave me a narrow signal flag tie. With my old white bucks, cuffed jeans and tie, I would have fit right in.

Enough fun, back to work. On August 5th I held the Southwestern Area roundtable discussion at Shoreline Yacht Club of Long Beach. We had fair attendance with President Elect Carol Promessi and Annual Meeting Co-chair Phil Promessi attending. They gave us a good rundown on the Annual Meeting aboard the Queen Mary, with point papers and points of contact on matters concerning the southern area districts. Anne Fox, Co-chair and David Phelps, District 11, are designated as go to persons for the southern area.. We had a full agenda and were able to get through it all with only two problem areas jumping out at us.

Nomination of officers is becoming a big problem with one district being especially vulnerable to the lack of members that are willing to run for office. Everyone had ideas but there were few solutions. The old guard is tired and the new guard does not seem to exist. Social events are not being attended. Some excuses is the there are too many charity calls at to many social activities. We had good discussion on this and decided that to try to limit charity events and to keep holding social events that bring in the membership and stop holding events that do not succeed. This suggestion seemed to bring up a lot of discussion and I felt that we may have started something that could be a big factor at the Annual Meeting Workshops.

Enough work now back to fun. We attended the PICYA CHISPA/Youth Regatta on Clipper Cove on San Francisco Bay Hosted by District 14 and Treasure Island Yacht Club on August 19th. At the skipper's meeting, Primary Race Officer George Knies promised wind by 1330 and they got it and then some. Marybeth and I were honored to assist with race committee. 28 boats in three Divisions: **CHISPA 'Lasers'**, **Youth Division "A", "B", "C"** **"Optimists" and "Flying Js"**. Three minute starts with the Start flag being the warning flag for the next division. It went like clock work and we were able to get all 6 races in. Director Rich Ahlf took pictures and at the awards ceremony he put them on the big screen in the club house for all to watch. The participants got a kick out of watching themselves do some good things, some not so good things and a couple of big mistakes.

Bill Thayer, SWVP Cont...

Our last event before attending the Summer Regional Meeting in Baltimore was District 11's second Windy-Cue on August 22nd held at Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club in Marina del Rey. The Windy-Cue is get together for the district with everyone bringing their own entrée and the district provides cocktails, wine and all the trimmings, and I mean trimmings. They cap off the evening with a guest speaker of which was very informative and interesting. We will be attending the District 15 Raft-Up in Mariners Cove on Mission Bay on September 9 and 10 and District 21's dinner at American Legion Yacht Club on September 16th. This is the start of our Yacht Club's Catalina Cruise so we will try to get a guest slip at ALYC for the night. It is fun to work these events in with our cruising as we have been able to do it a few times.

District 6
Sue Roach, President

The big event this summer for District 6 was the West Marine Pacific Cup. Many IOBG members put in long hours in support of the finish line activities at Kaneohe Yacht Club.

Forty-three yachts started the race on July 3rd from the St. Francis yacht Club in San Francisco Bay and 43 finished safely at Kaneohe Bay, Oahu. Everyone had a great time during "Pacific Cup Week" at KYC.

Unfortunately, some yachts did not do so well on the return trip back to San Francisco. One lost their rudder and one was rammed by a whale and sunk. The crew was picked up by a container ship and later transferred to a fishing boat that returned them to Oahu. All fared well, but will certainly have a story to tell!

Coming events include a celestial and Polynesian navigation program at the local planetarium and the Iroquois Lagoon Yacht Club annual chili cookoff in September. Kaneohe Yacht Club will be the host this year for the annual "Seafest" in support of junior sailing.

Although not a current member of IOBG, Past Commodore of Kaneohe Yacht Club and outstanding sailor and gentleman, Cy Gilette has passed away. Services will be in November.

He was commodore of KYC in 1948, 1950 and 1955; Recipient of the Nathanael G. Herreshoff Trophy. This trophy is awarded annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the sport of sailing in this country in any associated activity. It is the United States Sailing Association's most prestigious award.

A member of the Intercollegiate Yacht Racing Hall of Fame; member of the Trans Pacific Yacht Club Board of Directors; Secretary for HYRA from 1969-1985; Commodore of the Royal Hawaiian Ocean Racing Club; member of the US Sailing judges committee and regional administrative judge for Area H-W.

Cy Gilette assisted in establishing the International Yacht Racing Union's umpiring program and was a judge and umpire of the IYRU program. He assisted and was involved in many America's Cup programs.

He was a Pearl Harbor survivor and was 93 years old.

District 11
Wilma Rosenberg, District Director

We have had our first Windy Cue on June 13th at Del Rey Yacht Club. We had 40 members attending. There was lots of fun and friendship. Our Speakers, the Marina del Rey firemen had a call and came very late. That was sad because the members did not get to see the new fireboat.

The Westlake Village YC Chapter has held two events. The first was presenting a \$500.00 scholarship check to a well deserving boy who will be entering Lehigh University in the fall. On July 9th The Westlake Village YC Chapter had a BBQ lunch and boat rides for about 20 children and their counselors from the Casa Pacifica Home (for adolescent children) in Camarillo. Each child received a gift before they left. It was a wonderful afternoon and a very worthwhile event.

The August 22nd Windy Cue will be held at the Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club. We are still asking members to bring toiletries, lotions etc to donate to the homeless shelter that we support.

District 14

Rich Ahlf, District Director

On August 19th of this year District 14 hosted the PICYA Youth/Chispa Regatta. We've done this for the past couple of years and it's been a huge success. It is held in Clipper Cove (right next to the Oakland Bay Bridge). Treasure Island Yacht Club and IOBGD-14 will host this event. We provide lunch, set up the course and race committee. We invite any members of Blue Gavel to come down and help. We usually have up to fifty young sailors ages 8 – 18 years old.

On September 23rd our District helped with the Wheelchair Regatta at Encinal Yacht Club. Powerboats are provided for wheelchair bound people to go out on the Bay for a day. This is a very popular event and they literally come by the busloads. We'll help to get them on and off the boats. When they come back lunch is provided. Last year live music was also provided.

Our last event of the year is Fleet Week on October 7. District 14 will have a cruise-in to Treasure Island Yacht Club to watch the Blue Angeles. The club will have BBQ Ribs for dinner at 18:00.



PICYA 2006 CHISPA/Youth Regattas

George C. Knies, Principal Race Officer

Treasure Island Yacht Club provided the venue for the Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association CHISPA/Youth Regattas that were held on Saturday August 19, 2006. The impressive turnout of volunteers from the International Order of the Blue Gavel included; P/C Bill Thayer, Southwest Vice President and his wife Marybeth, P/C George Knies, Legal Officer, P/C Rich Ahlf, Director, District-14, P/C Lynette Breed, President District-14, and her husband Russ.

The Race Committee was comprised of George Knies, Principal Race Officer; Russ and Lynette Breed, TIYC & Sequoia YC; Ray Zahnd, TIYC (provided committee boat); Rich Ahlf, Island YC (photographer), Bill and Marybeth Thayer; Fred Gibson, Commodore TIYC and Reg. Smith, Vice Commodore TIYC manned *safety boat 1*, while Larry Mayne, PICYA Race Officer manned *safety boat # 2*. Several other clubs and TISC provided additional safety boats.

I conducted the skippers brief at 1040 hours, followed by a complimentary lunch that was provided by Blue Gavel District 14, and was served by members of TIYC to all participants and other attendees. At noon the competitors launched their boats at the Treasure Island Sailing Center. The following Divisions participated in the Regatta: **CHISPA "Lasers", Youth Divisions "A", "B", "C" "Optimists" and "Flying Js"**.

Thanks to the brisk winds in Clipper Cove, and a well-coordinated Race Committee we were able to complete six races. There were no casualties thanks to the diligent supervision and immediate attention to capsizing boats by our safety boat crews.

Following the races all participants gathered at TIYC for a recap of the days events, refreshments and a slide show presentation of photos taken during the races. Russ Breed and I addressed the one protest involving a right-of-way collision prior to announcing the winners. West Marine provided enhanced "goodie bags" to the winners, while all competitors received West Marine bags and other goodies. The perpetual Trophies will be awarded at the annual PICYA awards dinner later this year. The final results of the regattas are posted on the PICYA, TIYC, IOBGD-14 and other web sites as well as appearing in Latitude 38 and the PICYA Log.

I have served on Race Committees for more than 30 years on both coasts of the U.S. in the Caribbean and Asia. Clipper Cove presents an excellent venue for Small Boat Regattas. In the past we have conducted many Regional and National Regattas including the U.S. Pacific Fleet "Nimitz" Matches. The participants in the 2005 and 2006 CHISPA/Youth Regattas have impressed me for their good sportsmanship and moral character. Youth Sailing Programs have to be proud of their accomplishments in instilling not only competitive spirit but, honesty and fairness in their charges. It was a gratifying experience to have two of these competitors come up to the committee boat and say, " I touched the windward mark and did not do my penalty, please disqualify me", "I did not sail the proper course, please disqualify me". Lets continue to go in the right direction and expand youth sailing programs, needless to say in this time of international crisis we need all the positive character building programs we can muster.

District 15
Linda Loftis, President

District 15 is alive and well and enjoying the true southern California weather. Our Appreciation BBQ in June at Mission Bay Yacht Club was a great success and I hope everyone enjoyed the extra prizes that were raffled off, sorry some of you had yours taken by others!

I attended the IOBG meeting at Shoreline Yacht Club recently and was truly impressed by the club. It has a panoramic view of the Queen Mary, which we will be staying on for the October meeting. The members present gave me some great insights into future IOBG programs, and ways to add and renew membership.

The raft-up in Mariner's Cove is next in September, and then in October our Change of Watch at Silvergate Yacht Club. Questionnaires have been sent out to all paid up members. I am trying to find projects that will bring more member participation, and promote the mission of IOBG to recognize and unite. I feel we should also try to keep alive our educational and humanitarian efforts. So please make sure you brainstorm with your other members and return the flyers to me.

District #16 held a nicely-attended 50s dinner/dance July 31 at Anacapa Yacht Club with Pete Casamassima tending bar and playing host. Past Director Tom Naylor and President Dave Gable barbecued chicken and all the fixings, and charged \$1.25 for the Blue Plate Special. Dr. and Mrs. Paul Swanson won the Best '50s Costume contest. A great time was had by all, even by those members winning the raffle for the rot-gut wine.

A formal dinner/dance to be held at Channel Islands Yacht Club is in the planning stage.

District 16
Marsha Landreth, District Director



District 19
Phil Promessi, Alternate Dist. Director

This year it looks like District 19 does not have the membership it has had in the past. We have lost members so that we lost one vote. It looks like we have a problem with retention like several other Districts. It means that I as Director and the officers of the District will have to work harder to find a

solution to this problem. One of the problems that I see is providing functions that the membership is interested in. District 19 used to be the largest group that attended the Portland meeting. This year there were only two couples that attended that were not required to attend. This shows a lack of interest. We have to provide more interesting motivation to attract more participation. There is some changes on the horizon regarding the Regional Meeting in Portland. Hopefully it will generate more interest.

As of August 1, District 19 has a total of 164 paid members. A meeting was held on August 20 and nominations for the new board members for 2007 was presented, to be voted on at the September meeting. Carol and I could not attend the meeting because we were in Maryland for the Regional Meeting.

The Membership Appreciation BBQ was held on July 22nd. Not many boats cruised to Discovery Bay Yacht Club. We were experiencing a heat wave that brought the temperature up to 115 degrees with humidity at about 40% that day, not many members had air conditioning on their boats so most of them drove by land cruiser. We spent the day in the air conditioned Yacht Club. A fifty/ fifty raffle and a silent auction was held. Half the proceeds went to fund the convention on the Queen Mary. Another fifty/fifty raffle is going to held at the next meeting on September 10th.

The Change of Watch dinner/dance is going to be held on October 14, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Old Town Sacramento.

This summer has been an unusually hot one and some members can't wait for fall and winter to arrive. I prefer the summer. That is when most of the cruising is done in the Delta, although the best time to cruise in the Delta is from October through December. That is when it is the calmest and less crowded. Hopefully we will be in our Indian summer mode when we have the Annual Meeting and Convention in October on the Queen Mary. District 10, 11, and 19 are working hard to make this Annual Meeting a success. Don't forget to make your reservations as soon as possible. Time is running out.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you on the Queen.

1955 - 2005 I.O.B.G. Past Presidents

2005	Art Theobald Sandy Beach Yacht Club	1988*	George Cooper Lighthouse Point Yacht Club	1967*	Ken Wise Edmonds Yacht Club
2004	Larry Foote San Joaquin Yacht Club	1987	Dr. Burton Jay Southwestern Yacht Club	1966	Randy Rockhill Rainier Yacht Club
2003	Art Garside Elba Mar Boat Club	1986*	Ernie R. Villaire Wyandotte Yacht Club	1965*	Sam Crawford Olympic Yacht Club
2002	Marion Hughes Clover Island Yacht Club	1985*	Walter Bertram Hayden Island Yacht Club	1964*	Story Birdseye Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club
2001*	Robert Miller San Joaquin Yacht Club	1984*	James Topping Naples Sailing Yacht Club	1963*	Dr. Ed Chase Everett Yacht Club
2000	Louis A. Key, Jr. Chagrin River Yacht Club	1983*	E. Carl Schiewe Columbia River Yacht Club	1962*	Leroy Strasser Totem Yacht Club
1999*	Frank Valdes Pass-A-Grille Yacht Club	1982	Belding H. McCurdy Pass-A-Grille Yacht Club	1961*	Frank Metz Queen City Yacht Club
1998	Ted Kendrick San Joaquin Yacht Club	1981*	Everett E. Weil Portland Yacht Club	1960*	H.E. Richmond Seattle Yacht Club
1997	Phil Arms Navy Yacht Club San Diego	1980*	Fred Roth Cleveland Yacht Club	1959*	Harold Fowler Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club
1996	Ira Nies Columbia River Yacht Club	1979*	Willis Angel Bremerton Yacht Club	1958*	Richard McCann Queen City Yacht Club
1995	Rolf R. Tinge The Captains Yacht Club	1978*	Leonard St. Lewis Pass-A-Grille Yacht Club	1957	Harry Gundlach Bremerton Yacht Club
1994	The Point Yacht Club Dr. Richard Disraeli Southwestern Yacht Club	1975-77*	Wesley W. Ortnor Portland Yacht Club	1956*	Art Russel Seattle Yacht Club
1993*	Norman Gallagher Chagrin Yacht Club	1974*	G. Dudley Henderson Salem Yacht Club	1955*	Ev G. Henry – Founder of IOBG Rainier Yacht Club
1992*	Wesley Holtzhauser Pass-A-Grille Yacht Club	1972-73*	Raymond Hash		
1991	Evertt Roberts Columbia River Yacht Club	1971*	Ed Haecker Hayden Island Yacht Club		*Deceased
1990*	Thomas R. Elmer Tonawanda Island Launch Club	1970*	Bruce Calhoun Elks Yacht Club		
1989*	Norval "Cav" Cavett Hawaii Yacht Club	1969*	Robert McDermaid West Vancouver Yacht Club		
		1968*	Charles McCurdy Des Moines Yacht Club		



District News

Southeastern

Districts 8 & 18

Ray Thompson
Southeastern Vice President

IOBG District 8 held its summer Executive meeting August 4-6, at Old Port Yacht Club, North Palm Beach Florida.

This well attended meeting heard reports from all the flag officers with additional reports from District Director, Southeastern Vice President, and the National President.

As reported, the District 8 roster indicates 41 chapters with a total membership of 542, including the addition of forty Past Commodores.

Much discussion followed a report on the initiation of an Ambassador concept. In this format an Ambassador is appointed and assigned a number of Chapters in his vicinity to monitor. Hopefully an Ambassador's presence and input will foster more enthusiasm, and promote more participation.

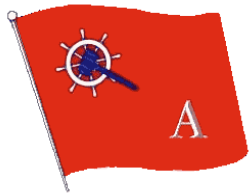
Currently two Ambassadors been selected and will report on progress at subsequent meetings.

Palm Coast Yacht Club is putting together its IOBG schedule of events, decided to include an in-force attendance to a district 8 meeting.

Eight past PCYC Commodores attended this pre selected meeting, they along with their spouses, had a great time and opened an avenue of participation other Chapters might find enjoyable.

The District 8 Executive Committee at this meeting rejected an application requesting membership into District 8 by the Navy Yacht Club Pensacola.

District 18 continues without the benefit of any elected officers. A plan is underway to hopefully correct this situation.



International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary

From the President

by Jackie Evans Rudd



We had a great meeting in the humid warm weather of Baltimore. Some of the outcome was:

Supplies: Are through your local District's Supplier Officer. Commodore Insignia is now the Supply Officer for IOBG and is producing articles of clothing for IOBGA, your supply officer can call or go on line to order a catalog or merchandise: www.commodoreinsignia.com

Solo Club: I know we have mention this on an international level, but due to the privacy laws etc, the Board and members at a regional meeting have elected to keep it on a District level. Who better to know who would like to fly with someone or share a room better than your own District? You always have the option to call another District to see if someone there would like to meet and share.

The Executive Board looked over the suggestions presented regarding a sample for a memorial service, scripture readings etc, one might use in the loss of a fellow IOBGA member. They were all accepted and will be forward to our Web Master to post, so you will have access to them in need. I would like to thank Past President Carol Foote and President Elect Pat Graven for their efforts in providing these materials.

Regional Directors are back in force: this will help us greatly in our communication efforts. Regional Directors are the Board's link to the different Districts in their areas. A form has been design to assist the Regional Directors which will be available at the annual meeting in October.

The Annual meeting is just around the corner, and with it will bring a new slate of officers and a possible By Law change. Past President Hope McLeod is the chairperson and will present the slate in California at the annual meeting, if you or you know someone who would like to be more involved contract any one of the Officers and we will be happy to talk to you about the responsibility and fun that you will have as an Officer for the IOBGA.

There is a By Law Change proposal; which will be voted on at the October meeting. This change would be better for communication and duties. It also gives the option of two people that would qualify to go forward to President Elect if for some reason the Vice President was unable to go on through the chairs.

From the President Cont'

There is a By Law Change proposal; which will be voted on at the October meeting. This change would be better for communication and duties. It also gives the option of two people that would qualify to go forward to President Elect if for some reason the Vice President was unable to go on through the chairs.

Current By Law reads:

Article VI Officers:

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of a President, a President Elect, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, the Immediate Past President and the Senior Past President.

6. The duties of the Vice President shall be: To assist the President or President Elect in their duties; and to preside over the meetings in their absence. The Vice President shall act as a liaison to the Regional Directors and the IOBG Supply Officer.

Suggested By Law change to read:

Article VI Officers:

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of a President, a President Elect, a First Vice President, a Second Vice President (optional), a Secretary, a Treasurer, the Immediate Past President and the Senior Past President.

6. The duties of the Vice Presidents shall be: To assist the President or President Elect in their duties; and to preside over the meetings in their absence.

a. First Vice President shall act as a liaison to the Regional Directors East of the Mississippi (if only one Vice President then both East & West).

b. Second Vice President shall act as a liaison to the Regional Directors West of the Mississippi.

c. One or both Vice President(s) shall act as a liaison to the IOBG Supply Officer.

I'd like to see a good turnout for the Annual Meeting in California. This is your organization and you are the ones that can make the IOBGA bigger and a better organization for everyone.

I would like to thank Karen Anderson and Chuck Browning and their committee for all their hard work in organizing the "Summer Food Fest" otherwise known as the Summer Regional meeting. They did an outstanding job of showing us the Inner Harbor area of Baltimore and the several yacht clubs in the area, Bush River, Otter Point, Baltimore and Belvedere Yacht Clubs. All had food and drinks, made us feel welcome, and I know personally I gain a few pounds here and there. We had a great time and our hats off to you.



PAST PRESIDENTS	
1991	Rose Prell
1992-93	Mary Gallagher
1994-95	Pat Cleland
1996	Leona Nies
1997	Jerry Key
1998	Judy Miller
1999*	Wila Wade
2000	Gerva Hughes
2001	Carol Foote
2002	Shirley Willing
2003-04	Carol Garside
2005	Hope McLeod

From the Immediate Past President

by Hope McLeod

A big thank-you to Karen Anderson and Chuck Browning for all the time and effort they put into the regional meeting in Baltimore. It is rare that you go to an area and hate to leave each yacht club, to go on to the next! But that is what happened at Bush River, Otter Point, and Belvedere Y/C's. They have to be placed right at the top of the list for "most congenial clubs".
I can't wait to return to the area in the future.

The meeting was very informative and much was accomplished. The Board has come up with a slate of officers for next year. We have only one vacancy and that is good. Hopefully someone will come forward and get involved.

We also have decided to reinstate the position of Regional Director. These members stay in contact with their Districts and return information to the Board. It helps us to stay on top of problems and pass on successes. There are still some regions where we need volunteers to fill the position and once again we hope a member will step up to the plate. (Thanks Betsy, we need you back!)

Two other positions are also in need of someone to step up. P/P Shirley Willing has done an excellent job of setting up and maintaining our web site. She now would like to help someone learn the process and take some much needed R&R herself. The LOG has been handled for the past few years by our treasurer, Pat Janiszewski. With her going on to a new position, we would love for someone to fill the job of collecting the articles and getting them to Mary Nye, LOG Editor. Take time to consider one of these positions. Be involved!

Plans for the annual meeting are well underway. As we did last year, we plan to have a meet and greet on Friday morning. This year it will have a different theme, and I can tell you it will be enjoyable. I do hope many of you are going to make the trip. How often do we get the chance to stay aboard the Queen Mary? I know that I, for one, wouldn't miss honoring P/C Carol Promessi, as the first female to become President of the IOBG.

Here in Ohio, our season is rapidly nearing its close. Labor Day is only 6 days away as I write this. But I can say that it has been another season of new Auxiliary friendships, and I look forward to adding to that list again next season. Hope some of you reading this will be on it.

SEE YOU IN LONG BEACH!





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IOBG HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION

IOBG Humanitarian Foundations, Inc.

PATRON OF THE FOUNDATION PROGRAM

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

For many readers who are new to IOBG and IOBGA, let me introduce the Humanitarian Foundation. The mission of the Foundation states that it provides the boating community the ability to create real differences in others' lives. It provides resources to existing charities and benefits the communities through new initiatives involving boating activities. So what does that really mean to you? It means that there is, within the Blue Gavel organization, a 015c3 Charitable and Educational entity that can help you in your community service efforts.

A community project that your district, chapter or yacht club is interested in helping can apply to the Foundation for funds to implement their program. The individual contributions by members that are not tax deductible when the club collects them will be deductible when they are donated directly to the Foundation. We hope this sound interesting to you and that you will want additional information.

A specific community service program is not a prerequisite -- your contributions to the Foundation are already helping others. This year the Foundation has provided matching funds to the Gulf Yachting Association to rebuild junior sailing programs at yacht clubs along the hurricane devastated gulf coast. (See related story below.) We have also funded a community scholarship program for young people learning water safety and sailing at Huntington Harbor Yacht Club in California. The most recent grant was approved at the summer regional meeting at Bush River to assist Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association's annual Wheelchair Regatta which provides a day of boat rides, picnic lunches and entertainment to over 250 U.S. veterans from area veterans' homes. There are two new projects being drafted for consideration at the next meeting. Your contributions make these things possible.

Gulf Yachting Association continues to raise money to distribute to area clubs whose junior programs – boats, materials, supplies, etc. – were destroyed by hurricane Katrina and others last year. They have raised money to provide assistance to fourteen yacht clubs as of the last report from Ron Richards of District 8. Along with scores of volunteers he has spearheaded this drive to keep these programs alive. In his words:

"We have received cash plus donations of prams, sails and some miscellaneous equipment. This has been greatly appreciated and has served as motivation for the clubs to renew their junior sailing education programs when everywhere they look there is total destruction. When they have suffered so much personally with their homes, automobiles, and boats,, it is sometimes difficult to bring that focus back to yachting and its rebuilding needs.

'Amazingly, the sailing spirit has prevailed and every club has launched varying degrees of junior sailing education in spite of a major lack of club infrastructure.... To put a number on the kids who are benefiting from this summers' junior sailing programs is difficult because communications are still a problem, but I would conservatively estimate a number in excess of 150 future sailors are being developed.

"Thank you and the members of your organization for all they have done to assist us in this task."

And our thanks and a salute to Ron and to all of the volunteers who have made this program a reality. There are still challenges ahead and the need for donations continues. Please consider sending a contribution directly to the Gulf Yachting Association or to the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation and specify that you would like it to be used for rebuilding these junior sailing programs.

ANNOUNCEMENT: The annual meeting of the International Order of the Blue Gavel Humanitarian Foundation will be held on Friday, October 27th in conjunction with the 2006 Annual Meeting. Meeting time and location will be in the Annual Meeting Program.

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

This is the Mission Statement of the Humanitarian Foundation.



International Order of the Blue Gavel

AREAS & DISTRICTS

NORTHWESTERN AREA

- District #1 - Alaska & Washington
- District #2 - Vancouver Island, Canada
- District #4 - Province of Vancouver, Canada
- District #5 - Oregon & Southwest Washington
- District #24 - Okanagan, British Columbia, Canada

SOUTHWESTERN AREA

- District #6 - Hawaii & Guam
- District #10 - Los Angeles & Long Beach, California
- District #11 - Santa Monica, California
- District #14 - San Francisco Bay, California
- District #15 - San Diego, California
- District #16 - Channel Islands, California
- District #19 - Delta Area, California
- District #21 - Orange Coast, California

NORTH CENTRAL AREA

- District #7 - Ohio, East of Sandusky & Western Pennsylvania
- District #9 - Southeast Michigan & Western Ohio
- District #23 - Upper & Western Michigan
- District #25 - Northeast Michigan

NORTHEASTERN AREA

- District #3 - Southeast Ontario, Canada & Western New York
- District #12 - New Jersey
- District #20 - Eastern New York & Delaware
- District #22 - Southern New Jersey
- District #26 - Long Island Sound, New York
- District #27 - Maryland, Chesapeake Bay

SOUTHEASTERN AREA

- District #8 - Florida & Mobile Bay
- District #18 - North & South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee & Alabama

EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI

- District #50 - (Unless assigned to an established District above)

WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI

- District #51 - (Unless assigned to an established District above)

ENGLAND

- District #70

NEW ZEALAND

- District #75

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