



THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

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

Volume 28 No. 1

December 2007

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.



Annual Meeting
Long Beach Island, NJ



2008 IOBG CONTACT LISTING

COMMITTEES

APPOINTED OFFICERS

EDUC. & DEVELOPMENT

Phil Arms (Ann)
352 Seawind Drive
Vallejo, CA 94590
Tel: 707-644-9016
pbarms@aol.com

LEGAL OFFICER

George Knies (Ann)
2333 Lariat Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Tel: 925-939-0230
Cell: 925-330-5676
Fax: 925-944-0474
machbuster1@earthlink.net

LOG EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Mary Nye Meyers
P.O. Box 44130
Tacoma, WA 98448
Tel: 253-224-8592
fire_n_ice104@hotmail.com

SUPPLY OFFICER

P/C Earl Hohlmayer
Commodore Insignia
1380 Centerville LN #32
Gardnerville, NV 89410
Tel: 775-782-3380
Tel: 800-315-7485
Fax: 775-782-4003
Comsignia@aol.com
www.commodoreinsignia.com

PROTOCOL OFFICER

Phil Arms (Ann)
352 Seawind Drive
Vallejo, CA 94590
Tel: 707-644-9016
pbarms@aol.com

RECORDING SECRETARY

Marybeth Thayer (Bill)
444 N. El Camino Real Sp.#80
Encinitas, CA 92024
Tel: 760-632-9058
beththbill@sbcglobal.net

WEBMASTERS

Marshall Nemo (Dawn)
bgtreas@iobg.org

Mary Nye Meyers
fire_n_ice104@hotmail.com

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Phil Promessi (Carol)
128 Pelican Loop
Pittsburg, CA 94565
Tel/Fax: 925-427-6250
promessi@aol.com

REPRESENTATIVES

BOAT U.S.

James Hinckley 509-582-7590

Boat U.S. Membership
Discount Code
IOBG #GA 83629B

AUXILIARY LIAISON

Vern Bendsen 707-422-3510

HUMANITARIAN FND. LIAISON

Phil Arms 707-644-9016

NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION

Phil Arms 707-644-9016
Tom Sullivan 772-223-8789

U.S. SAILING

Bill Thayer 760-632-9058

U.S. POWER SQUADRON

B J Ursin 360-671-1700
iobg898usps@aol.com

U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Larry Draper 650-871-0802
draperl@jps.net

MEMBER LEADERSHIP

Art Garside 734-671-6997
Debbie Banks-Skellenger 440-933-3031

PUBLIC RELATIONS

AUDIT

Carol Promessi 925-427-6250
Richard Janiszewski 609-294-2393
Jerry Rudd 253-838-9027

BY-LAWS & POLICY MANUAL

Phil Arms (Chairman) 707-644-9016
George Knies 925-939-0230
Jerry Rudd 253-838-9027
Damian Pfliegaar 419-893-3004

ANNUAL MEETING 2007

Jerry Rudd 253-838-9027

ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW

Carol Promessi (Chairman) 925-427-6250
Richard Janiszewski 609-294-2393
Ray Thompson 386-445-5530
Marshall Nemo 888-378-2211
Jerry Rudd 253-838-9027

ELECTIONS

Ray Thompson 386-445-5530

NOMINATING

Carol Promessi (Chairman) 925-427-6250
Richard Janiszewski 609-294-2393
Jerry Rudd 253-838-9027

MEMBERSHIP

Richard Janiszewski 609-294-2393
Vern Bendsen 707-422-3510
Tom Sullivan 772-223-8789

RECEIVE NOMINATIONS FROM IOBG/HF

Phil Arms 707-644-9016
Jerry Rudd 253-838-9027
Vern Bendsen 707-422-3510

ELECTED OFFICERS

Executive Secretary

Mary Eiffert (Alan)
39906 Black Mesa Lane
Palm Desert, CA 92260
Tel/Cell: 206-819-5809
760-567-8824
meiffert@earthlink.net

Northwestern VP

Art Kovarnik (Carol)
P.O. Box 3786
Silverdale, WA 98383
Tel: 360-692-5544
Cell: 360-981-4595
akovarnik@msn.com

North Central VP

De Ramsey (Maude)
145 Harkness Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91106
Tel: 626-356-4645
francisramsey@att.net

Northeastern VP

Marc D. Connelly (Kathy)
74 Welwyn Circle
Buffalo, NY 14223
Tel: 716-838-2016
Bus: 716-893-4774
mdc@choiceonemail.com

Southwestern VP

Larry Draper (Deanna)
753 Chestnut Ave.
San Bruno, CA 94066
Tel: 650-871-0802
Cell: 925-325-2623
draperl@jps.net

Southeastern VP

Tom Sullivan (Susan)
1213 SW Eagleleglen Pl.
Stuart, FL 34997
Tel: 772-223-8789
Susanb2646@CS.com

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>#1 Ken Rollins (Rita)
8202 SR 104 Suite 102 PMB147
Kingston, WA 98346
Tel: 206-819-3295
Rollin_Rollins@hotmail.com</p> | <p>#7 R. Scott Croxford (Laurel)
5310 Middlebury Ct.
Sheffield Village, OH 44054
Tel: 440-934-0950
Bus: 417-850-3288
Fax: 440-934-0940
scott_croxford@tamko.com</p> | <p>#14 Rich Ahlf (Shirley)
63 El Molino Dr.
Clayton, CA 94517
Tel/Fax: 925-672-2514
rahlf@sbcglobal.net</p> | <p>#22 David Loughran
1203 Bay Ave.
P.O. Box 746
Mantoloking, NJ 08738-0746
Tel: 732-892-8388
dploughran@comcast.net</p> | <p>#50 Damian Pfliegaar (Barb)
800 Farrer Street
Maumee, OH 43537
Tel: 419-893-3004
Fax: 419-897-7277
dpfliegaar@buckeye-express.com</p> |
| <p>#2 Ed Ackerman (Marilyn)
308-10461 Resthaven Dr.
Sidney, BC V8L 3H6
Canada
Tel: 250-656-7799
Fax: 250-656-1242
eimut88@shaw.ca</p> | <p>#8 Louis J. Daniello
126 Lakeshore Dr. PH #27
North Palm Beach, FL 33408
Tel: 561-627-3748
Cell: 561-722-1994
Fax: 561-833-3573
loudaniello@aol.com</p> | <p>#15 Linda Loftis (Dennis)
3024 Quebrada Circle
Carlsbad, CA 92009
Tel: 760-632-2547
L8039325@earthlink.net</p> | <p>#23 Francis D. Ramsey (Maude)
7300 Tuscarora Cir.
Indian River, MI 49749
Tel: 231-238-9965
Cell: 219-718-1555
francisramsey@att.net
Winter: November - May
145 Harkness Ave. Apt. C
Pasadena, CA 91106
Tel: 626-356-4645
deramse@sbcglobal.net</p> | <p>#51 Anne Fox (Terry)
1161 N. Ogden Dr. #202
Los Angeles, CA 90046
Tel/Fax: 323-654-4923
Cellular: 323-819-4402
sycbl95@aol.com</p> |
| <p>#3 Lewis Smith (Margot)
135 Paul Drive
Amherst, NY 14228
Tel: 716-691-7626
margots@localnet.com</p> | <p>#9 Gary A. Ryan
P.O. Box 423
Holland, OH 43528-0423
Tel: 419-867-1187
Bus: 419-280-0577
gryan2161@cs.com</p> | <p>#16 Marsha Landreth
3600 Harbor Blvd. #173
Oxnard, CA 93035
Tel: 805-201-3027
Bus: 805-389-1909
marshal@ouhdsd.k12.ca.us</p> | <p>#24 Ken Bruce
#16-950 Lanfranco
Kelowna, BC V1W 3W8
Canada
Tel: 250-860-5673
kdbruce@shaw.ca</p> | <p>#70 Bill Young (Sue)
5 Grasmere Grove
Rochester, Kent
England ME2 4PN
Tel: (44)(0)1634 713478
bluesil@hotmail.com</p> |
| <p>#4 Ron Defieux* (Linda)
641 Blueridge Ave.
N. Vancouver, BC V7R 234
Canada
Tel: 604-987-7425
Fax: 604-985-7263
rdefieux@shaw.ca</p> | <p>#10 Anne Fox (Terry)
1161 N. Ogden Dr. #202
Los Angeles, CA 90046
Tel/Fax: 323-654-4923
Cellular: 323-819-4402
sycbl95@aol.com</p> | <p>#19 Gary McGrath (Estella)
1567 Dianda Dr.
Concord, CA 94521
Tel: 925-682-5939
Fax: 925-687-5443
gmac6262@aol.com</p> | <p>#25 Thomas Lyon (Luann)
9322 Eastwind Drive
Livonia, MI 48150
Tel: 734-953-1634
tlyon341@msn.com</p> | <p>#75 Keith Wardell (Patsy)
4 Glandovey Road
P.O. Box 25-025
Christchurch, 8005
New Zealand
Tel: 0064-3-3516046
Fax: 0064-3-3516672
homehostingltd@inet.net.nz</p> |
| <p>#5 Ed Blatter (Diana)
10109 SE 38th Ave
Milwaukie, OR 97222
Tel: 503-367-4403
Bus: 503-991-6486
edschris2@yahoo.com</p> | <p>#11 Wilma Rosenberg
32145 Beachfront Ln.
Westlake Village, CA 91361
Tel/Fax: 818-889-3204
wilmawlyc@sbcglobal.net</p> | <p>#20 David J. Meshulam (Gail)
66 Darby Ct.
Madison, NJ 07940
Tel: 973-377-8807
Cell: 973-727-9892
Fax: 973-301-2320
DJMGE@aol.com</p> | <p>#26 John W. Thompson (Penny)
P.O. Box 390
Mt. Sinai, NY 11766
Tel: 631-476-1763
ppandjt@optonline.net</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">JAPAN</p> <p>Kuniteru Matsumoto (Kiyoko)
3-3-22 Matsumoto Building
Dajima, Kitaku
Osaka, Japan 530-003
Tel: 06-458-7020
Fax: 06-441-3765</p> |
| <p>#6 Stanley W. Radlo
99-1440 Aiea Heights Dr. #56
Aiea, HI 96701
Tel: 808-488-6056
radios@hawaii.rr.com</p> | <p>#12 Vincent J. Core (Eileen)
739 Fairmount Drive
Chatham, NJ 07928
Tel: 973-635-7415
sailcore@worldnet.att.net (S)
sailcorebsm@att.net (W)</p> | <p>#21 Leo Vortuni
4308 Patrice Rd.
Newport Beach, CA 92663
Tel: 949-722-1153
lvortuni@aol.com</p> | <p>#27 Chuck Browning (Barbara)
247 Temple Drive
Bel Air, MD 21015
Tel: 410-569-6338
Bus: 443-460-1000
Cell: 443-309-6674
Fax: 443-460-1001
cbrowning@jwson.com</p> | |

* President

2008 IOBG Officers



PRESIDENT

Richard Janiszewski (Patricia)
9 Deer Run Road
Parkerton, NJ 08087
Tel: 609-294-2393
Fax: 609-296-3933
Email: richardjaniszewski@msn.com



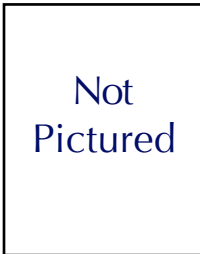
PRESIDENT ELECT

Jerry Rudd (Jackie)
37834 43rd Ave. South
Auburn, WA 98001
Tel: 253-838-9027
Fax: 253-661-8683
jrjackie1@comcast.net



FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Ray Thompson (Dorothy)
71 Weymouth Lane
Palm Coast, FL 32164
Tel: 386-445-5530
rthompson015@cfl.rr.com



SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Vern Bendsen (Linda)
P.O. Box 984
Suisun City, CA 94585
Tel: 707-422-3510
Fax: 707-422-3510
vbendsen@pacbell.net



PAST PRESIDENT

Carol Promessi (Phil)
128 Pelican Loop
Pittsburg, CA 94565
Tel: 925-427-6250
Fax: 925-427-6250
Email: cpromessi@aol.com



TREASURER

Marshall Nemoy (Dawn)
3517 Camino del Rio South
Suite.208
San Diego, CA 92108-4028
Tel: 619-282-5050 / 888-378-2211
Res: 858-565-1093
Fax: 619-282-5252
Email: bgtreas@iobg.org



From the President

by Richard Janiszewski

If the wonderful experience of the 2007 Annual Meeting on Long Beach Island is a precursor of things to come, then the 2008 year should be one of accomplishments made possible by an organization-wide attitude that proclaims, "yes we can—we are one."

My personal thanks and full appreciation cannot be repeated often enough to all who attended the Annual Meeting. Your presence clearly signifies your support and love for the Blue Gavel and its mission, and is acknowledged and appreciated. The same will be said to the many that for various reasons could not be present, but support the Blue Gavel and encourage its continued progress. We thank you all.

I also wish to make special note of District 12 and all its Chapters who stepped forward and without being asked showed their support and hospitality by hosting luncheons and dinners every day of the Annual Meeting. You provided our Blue Gavel guests with a wonderful insight of the camaraderie and commitment of District 12—to me, a unique District made up of Chapters that are indeed the essence of what the Blue Gavel is all about. To every District 12 meeting coordinator, to every meeting volunteer—Thanks for a job well done.

For over a year, one special person has spent much of her waking moments planning each activity and each detail of every meeting, day and evening. The pace became more and more frantic as the meeting drew closer. Through it all, her patience, attention to detail, counsel and support served as a source of strength, optimism, and inspiration to me. To my wife, Pat, I can not thank you enough and look forward to you being at my side always.

This was a productive year during which decisions were made in the best interest of the Blue Gavel. Through full and frank discussions at Regional Meetings and otherwise, the voices of members were heard and proved extremely helpful. I thank you all.

Past President Carol Promessi provided leadership characterized by patience, compassion, and a clear vision of the needs of our organization. We one and all say "thank you" for a job well done.

We now look forward to 2008 with enthusiasm and a spirit of confidence. We will build on the labors and successes of our predecessors. Regression and/or stagnation are not options. I am personally convinced that the spirit of positive thinking keeps an organization moving forward. Share this conviction with me and your fellow Blue Gavel Past Commodores. Together we can enrich and better serve our organization and its members.

My theme for 2008 will be "Yes, we can—we are one."

Thank you for your confidence and support, and enjoy fully a wonderful holiday season and a healthy, happy 2008.



From the President Elect by Jerry Rudd

I would like to take this opportunity to **Thank You** for your cards, prayers, love and support that you have shown over this last little crisis in my life. As you have probably heard I'm doing much better and getting stronger with each day.

I am looking forward to my new responsibilities for the upcoming year and will do my best to see that all inquiries are answered quickly and to your satisfaction.

Thank you Marc Connelly for a great presentation on the Marketing Plan, with everyone's help and effort I am sure we will see positive results.

Make plans to attend the Annual Meeting in 2008. Mark your calendars now and make some travel plans for your visit to the great Pacific Northwest. My committee is looking forward to welcoming you with our Northwestern hospitality. On **October 23-26, 2008** you will have a chance to experience "a taste of the west", an IOBG-HF auction, The Grand Ball and oh yes, the workshops and the general meeting – come and get involved.

Registrations and more information will be in the next LOG.



Welcome to Seattle



International Order of the Blue Gavel

PRE - 2008 Annual Meeting EXCURSION

Vancouver-Victoria, Canada

October 18-21, 2008



\$503.00 per person, Double Occupancy

\$756.75 per person, Single Occupancy

Day 1 6:45 am at King Street Station Amtrack Cascades
Arrive Vancouver approx. 11:40 am – dining car available for cash purchase of breakfast
Motorcoach transfer to hotel
Afternoon on own
(Working on dinner at a yacht club)

Day 2 9:00 am motorcoach transfer to Victoria via BC ferries
(includes Vancouver City tour, ferry tolls, admission to Butchart Gardens)
Transfer to hotel

Day 3 Sightseeing on own (book a tour, i.e. Tea at Empress Hotel, BC Museum—recommended, etc.
(Working on dinner at a yacht club – either Day 2 or 3)

Day 4 Sightseeing on own
5:00 pm checkin and immigrations processing at Victoria Clipper Terminal
Depart at 6:00, arriving Seattle approx. 8:45 pm
Light dinner basket included on board

All tolls, transportation, hotels, and taxes are included. **More info and name of hotels will follow.**
Deposit of 10% due on registration, full payment due prior to September 1, 2008. All confirmed hotel packages are subject to a 10% cancellation fee. Cancellations received and acknowledged within 45-31 days prior to travel will result in a penalty of 50%. I strongly recommend cancellation insurance, call 1-800-729-6021 for details.

Each passenger must carry proper identification for clearing Customs!!

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Nationality: _____

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Nationality: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Deposit Amount: \$_____

SEND TO: **Mary Eiffert**
P.O. Box 464
LaConner, WA 98257



From the First Vice President by Ray Thompson

Mackinac Summer Meeting was both pleasant and nostalgic for me. Prior to universal air conditioning, Mackinac was a mecca for Hay Fever sufferers. Never had Hay Fever myself, but family members did, so I enjoyed several stays on the island.

At the meeting, much discussion centered around the developing Marketing Plan. The need for such a program is becoming obvious. Even with new Chapters being accepted, membership has continued to decline.

If IOBG adopts an aggressive Marketing Plan, it would significantly alter our Modus-Operandi, from passive to dynamic. The implementation and successful operation of any Marketing Plan will require significant 'rolled-up sleeves' hard work, effort and hands-on involvement of all Officers. Without adopting that personal kind of interest, such a plan would suffer and likely fail.

COMMODORE INSIGNIA

1380 Centerville Lane #32
 Gardnerville, NV 89410-9715
 (775) 782-3380 (800) 315-7485
 Fax: (775) 782-4003
 Email: Comsignia@aol.com
 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. _____



From the Past President by Carol Promessi

Before I took the helm this year, I reviewed the last 6 years of minutes and wrote down suggestions and concerns of the members, and the major concerns are still:

- 1. Communication**
2. Assist Floundering Districts
3. Loss of membership in the District & Chapter
4. Duties of District Officers – no meetings
5. Help from International
6. Negativity

This has been a working year to formulate new ideas in creating interest by having these workshops. I have heard why do we have this workshop? You're preaching to the choir, that's how we learned!! At every meeting there is someone new and if that one person learns something new to take back to his or her District, then it's worth it!!! We learn from one another! This is why we are here to carry our knowledge forward!

The workshops have worked well and there has been a lot of information exchanged and many of us have taken suggestions back to our Districts and implemented new functions to create new interests in our Districts.

The end result of the workshops was that the International Officers should make themselves visible to the members/Districts – You ask for the members support – you need to get out there and also support your members and the Districts in what they are supporting and promoting and give guidance, and be supportive of what they are doing.

We need to give:

1. Education - Direction/Support –to emphasize the importance and obligation of District officers
2. Area VP to give Round Table Discussion to District Officers/members on guidance and direction
3. Communication: Upward & downward – newsletter – flyers – e-mails – Boating Magazines
4. Member Retention – growth
5. Motivate meeting attendance and facilitate more participation – Ambassador program involvement – Organize an Auxiliary –Fund Raising – Social function

My goal was to give assistance, guidance, encouragement and support to those Districts that have been struggling. It was recommended that the Area Vice Presidents contact District officers in those Districts to ascertain what assistance they might need.

We were able to make an impact on some namely Portland, where we were able to clarify the correct information. Traveled to Mackinac Island to give guidance and coordination to form their new District officers. Some members said, "why go there?" well they are members too, why not! That is your prerogative but it is very important to go to the places that reflect lack of knowledge.

This year we have implemented:

- * Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S Power Squadron and still to be signed but at National is the U.S.Coast Guard Aux.
- * Shoulder Boards for International and District Officers and IOBG Members
- * Membership Marketing Plan
- * Obtaining your Log online
- * District Link on web site
- * Completed all the Chapters by Districts on web site

If you would like to join in the opting out of receiving The LOG in the mail just e-mail Marshall at www.iobg.org and request that you would like to opt-out of receiving The Log by U.S. Mail. When you are notified by e-mail that The LOG is uploaded on the web site, click on the link and you can print the issue, save it. We have tried to make the web site user friendly and we are gradually putting more on the web site as we get your suggestions.

Remember, if you have any updates please be sure to e-mail me so that I can get everything updated and please send me all your new Officer forms so that I can get The LOG and web site updated for 2008.

It has been a pleasure working with all of you and I look forward to continue in 2008.

I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a fantastic New Year!

From the Office of the Treasurer

by Marshall Nemoy



The Treasurer's report presented at the Annual Meeting on Long Beach Island, New Jersey was as of September 30, 2007. At that time our net income was \$16,433 which was \$5,647 lower than the previous year at the same date. During the month of October and November the costs of the Annual Meeting and other normal expenses resulted in a net loss of \$19,017. This would mean our year-to-date net income at November 30, 2007 is a loss of \$2,739 which is greater than the loss for the entire year of 2006 and we still have the month of December to go.

This result was forecasted as far back as February of this year at the Regional Meeting in Charleston, South Carolina. It was pointed out that we had experienced losses in 2005 and 2006 and could not continue on this path without a dues increase. In fact, we had not had a dues increase since 2001. At the meeting the recommendation was made by the leadership of District 8 to increase the dues to \$50 or \$100. Further examination throughout the year indicated a \$10 increase would be sufficient to maintain our current level of operations without sacrificing any of our communication abilities.

Our paid membership for 2007 dropped by 32 members. More effort has to be made to encourage people to join IOBG and remain members. Some Districts have asked, what is the value of membership in IOBG? In addition, they want the International to provide the answer. History has proven that there is no single concept in IOBG that will be universally accepted as value. When the Humanitarian Foundation was begun in 1994 it was soundly attacked by Districts 7, 8 and 9 as having no connection to their membership in IOBG. For this reason it is apparent that anything that will add value to our membership must be conceived on the local level to be acceptable. This would mean the District has some responsibility in the matter and, therefore, the retention of membership.

The 2008 Budget that was presented by President Richard Janiszewski incorporated a \$10 dues increase. The budget was compiled after careful scrutiny and lively discussions among members of the Executive Committee. On one side there were those who wanted to reduce the number of meetings and issues of the Blue Gavel LOG. On the other side were those who recognized that the two items both involved communications with the members. Since it has been clearly proven by the 2006 membership survey that the membership approved of the policies surrounding the largest item in the budget - travel - some people advocating reduction in communication by the International with the membership, had not seen the survey results or were acting in their own self interest. The 2006 membership survey results were distributed to all the Officers and Directors in attendance at the 2006 Annual Meeting held in Long Beach, California. Have you seen the results yet?

At the 2007 Annual Meeting there were 23 Districts and 16 elected Officers and Past International Presidents with a combined total of 69 votes. The increase of \$10 was approved by a vote of 41 in favor and 28 against.

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

Approved Budget for I.O.B.G. Operations

(For the Year Ending December 31, 2008)

\$ U.S. Dollars

REVENUES:

Dues (\$40 per member)	105,400
Interest	1,200
Other	500
	<hr/>
Total Revenue	107,100

EXPENSES

Annual Meeting:	
Meeting Expenses	3,000
Gifts, Awards and Supplies	2,000
Delegate Travel Allowances	11,500
	<hr/>
Total Annual Meeting	16,500

Executive Committee:	
Office Expenses	300
Travel	29,700
	<hr/>
Total Executive Committee	30,000

Area Vice Presidents:	
Office Expenses	800
Travel	6,700
	<hr/>
Total Area Vice Presidents	7,500

Blue Gavel LOG:	
Printing	18,325
U.S. Postage	5,500
Supplies	400
	<hr/>
Total Blue Gavel Log	24,225

International Operations Center	
Accounting	600
Bank Charges	75
Clerical Services	7,500
Conferences & Meetings	0
Dues (USSA-\$250 & NBF-\$200)	450
Equipment Rental	3,600
Legal Service	0
Meeting Expenses	350
Miscellaneous	100
Office Expense	1,000
Postage	3,000
Printing	500
Supplies	300
Telephone	900
Web Site Maintenance	180
Taxes	100
	<hr/>
Total International Operations Center	18,655

TOTAL EXPENSES 96,880

EXCESS REVENUE (EXPENSES) 10,220

Legal Officer Report

by George C. Knies



October 2007

Annual Meeting
Long Beach Island, New Jersey

Unfortunately there are former members of IOBG that have continued using our name, burgee, etc. for events at their clubs and elsewhere unlawfully. Such unauthorized activity may adversely affect IOBG's good name and financial standing.

Former members of IOBG who have let their membership lapse have lost all rights of membership and no longer are authorized to fly our burgee, vote, nor utilize our Marks® for their own benefit. According to the IOBG Policy and Procedures Manual; the bylaws state that the non-payment of dues shall be grounds for suspension of benefits and privileges of membership in IOBG, including participation in Blue Gavel functions, representation at the different levels of governance, and the wearing/displaying of Blue Gavel insignia.

The IOBG name and logo, hereafter referred to as Marks®, are copyrighted. Such unauthorized use of our Marks® by former IOBG members has caused dissention and embarrassment among many IOBG members-in-good-standing. There is no excuse for this illegal usage that borders on copyright infringement and will no longer be tolerated.

If your yacht club has Past Commodores who are not members-in-good-standing (paid up members of IOBG), and are wearing/displaying the Blue Gavel insignia or flying the Blue Gavel burgee they are not authorized to do so. If there is a question concerning their current membership in the Blue Gavel, request them to show their current Blue Gavel membership card, or verify their membership by contacting International.

Yacht Clubs with IOBG Chapters are authorized to use the IOBG name and burgee when conducting IOBG events in concert with Club events. Needless to say these Blue Gavel events will require current IOBG members as organizers and as attendees.

CHAIN-of-LEADERSHIP

In the military we have "the chain-of-command", in the civilian world it is most commonly called "the chain-of-management" or "the chain-of-leadership". This process usually provides a semblance of order, bylaws conformity and discipline, which is necessary for the successful operation of any organization. Blue Gavel's 'chain' goes through many levels before reaching the ultimate authority "ExCom". In the best interests of our organization, issues requiring policy change, financial commitments, contracts, public affairs and other matters of general importance must be launched through the 'chain' for proper examination and approval. In the past we had issues of local Chapters and areas engaging in activities that undermined existing policies with adverse and in some instances embarrassing results. Mutual respect and cooperation is paramount in order to maintain our fine reputation thereby guarantying our continued success and outlook for a bright and friendly future.

Should you have any questions in this regard please contact me @ machbuster1@earthlink.net Tel (925)-939-0230 Fax (925) 944-0474



George Knies received the Robert S. Olson Memorial Poseidon Award on November 5th at the Pacific Inter Club Yacht Association (over 100 member clubs) annual awards dinner. The recipient is selected by the Board from a list of eligible persons. "It recognizes that person who has performed outstanding and distinguished service to the boating community."

U.S. Sailing/IOBG Representative

by Bill Thayer

Last Sunday, US SAILING wrapped up the U.S. Olympic and Paralympics team trials in sailing held concurrently on both coasts. Sailing in 11 classes, the teams battled for berths in the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing. The results must be approved by USOC before they are announced.

US SAILING has partnered with the Active Network and Regatta Network to deliver a comprehensive regatta registration and Management solution for yacht clubs, racing associations, one design classes and independent event organizers. This program is very simple and exceedingly flexible allowing uses in a variety of events from 12 meters to Optis.

For additional Information about US SAILING Regatta Network, contact: Ken Taylor at 866-987-2638 or by e-mail at taylor@regattanetwork.com

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:

P/C Marybeth Thayer
IOBG Recording Secretary
444 N. El Camino Real, Sp. 80
Encinitas, CA 92024-1312
760-632-9058
Email: bethtnbill@sbcglobal.net

Past President's Award for Outstanding Service

Harvey Sussel, Past President

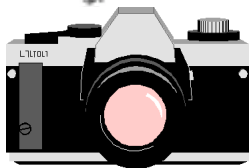
We who have had the privilege of serving the International Order of the Blue Gavel over the years have all seen the outstanding service of a few particularly noteworthy individuals. It has been our deep pleasure to have served with them, and our concern that there was no vehicle for recognizing their significant contribution to the furthering of the goals of the organization and, indeed, to the Blue Gavel itself.

Therefore, on behalf of all the Past Presidents of the International Order of the Blue Gavel, the Past President sitting on the Executive Committee, presents to the International Order of the Blue Gavel this "Deed of Gift" for an award to be known as the "Past President's Award for Outstanding Service".



Awarded to Mike Parish

*Thank You to Our Contributing
LOJ Photographers:*



Carol Garside

Larry Draper

Michael & Mary Nye Meyers

Phil & Carol Promessi

International Order of the Blue Gavel

Winter Regional Meeting Oakland, California

February 7 - 10, 2008

Hosted by NorCal Districts 14 & 19

Meeting and Room Reservations should be made by January 17, 2008

Executive Inn and Suites
1755 Embarcadero
Oakland CA 94606

1.510.536.6633
1.800.346.6331
www.executiveinnoakland.com

Thursday, February 7

Check-in at Hotel 4:00 pm - till
Hospitality Suite mixer (Hotel) 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Dinner on-own (see Oakland attractions section)

Friday, February 8

Meeting Registration (Hotel) 8:00 am - 10:00 am
IOBG ExCom. Meet (Hotel) 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Lunch Cruise (Dress Casual) Noon
Crab Feed - Island YC (Casual) 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Hospitality Suite Flex Time

Saturday, February 9

IOBG/IOBGA Gen. Mtg/Workshops - Encinal YC
Lunch Buffet - Encinal Yacht Club
IOBG Meeting Cont'/IOBGA Meeting (Time TBA)
Dinner - Encinal Yacht Club

9:00 am - Noon }
Noon - 1:30 pm } Winter Uniform
1:30 pm - 4:00 pm } or Coat and Tie
6:00 pm - 10:30 pm }

*****WINTER UNIFORM UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED*****

ACCOMMODATIONS: Please call Executive Inn & Suites directly to make reservations mentioning IOBG function. Room Rates (*plus tax*) main building Double Queen/Single Queen Sold Out * Suites Building Double Queen \$124.00 City Side * Single King \$130.00 Water View * King – Executive \$145.00 Water View.

Code # GR248EG

Complimentary California Breakfast daily * Free Shuttle service to Oakland International Airport, B.A.R.T. and Jack London's waterfront from 6:00 am to 10:30 pm * Complimentary selection of local and national newspapers * Refrigerators in all rooms and microwaves in Executive Suites * Free Parking * Full service cocktail lounge Monday thru Friday from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Main building guest room amenities include:

300-550 square feet of comfortable living
Granite vanity with combination tub/shower
Free local phone calls
Refrigerator and microwave
Writing desk
Hairdryer, iron/ironing board

Cable TV w/pay per view movies and video games
Waterside rooms have a balcony or deck
Complimentary high-speed Internet access
Two 2-line phones and voicemail
Coffee maker with coffee and tea
Radio/alarm clock

Suite guest room amenities include:

480-650 square feet of stylish living space
Luxurious furnishings including sitting area with sofa, chair and ottoman
Armoire with 32-inch cable TV
Lighted magnified makeup mirror
Waterside Suites have a balcony or deck
Complimentary high-speed Internet access
Coffee maker with gourmet coffee and tea
Radio/alarm clock

Elegant tiled bath with separate bathtub and shower
Large safe, refrigerator and microwave
Oversize executive desk
Free local calls and 30 minutes of free long distance calls
Jacuzzi bathtub Suites upon request
Pay per view movies and video games
Three 2-line phones and voicemail
Hairdryer, iron/ironing board
Enhanced bath amenities by Rusk

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL



WINTER MEETING REGISTRATION

District #: _____ Office Held: _____ Other Info: _____

Name: _____ Spouse/Guest: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ E-mail _____

Spouse/ Guest is a member of _____ IOBG IOBGA

Event and Meal Selections

Date	Location	Time	# Pers.	Cost pp	Total
<u>Friday February 8</u>					
Lunch Cruise	Oakland Estuary/SF Bay	NOON	_____	Complimentary	
Crab Feed Dinner	Island Yacht Club	6:00 pm	_____	\$35.00	\$ _____
<u>Saturday February 9</u>					
Lunch buffet	Encinal Yacht Club	Noon	_____	\$17.00	\$ _____
Dinner	Encinal Yacht Club	6:00 pm	_____	\$37.50	\$ _____
Dinner Selection	[] Prime Rib [] Fish [] Chicken				

Optional events

IOBGA Shopping Jack London Waterfront/ San Francisco Pier 39 (via ferry Jack London Square)

IOBG/IOBGA tour USS Hornet

FUNCTION/EVENT TOTAL \$ _____

Complimentary California Breakfast at hotel daily

Checks payable to:

IOBGD-14 c/o George Knies
2333 Lariat Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94596-6518

Oakland California Attractions

The Executive Inn & Suites offers a central waterfront location ideally situated close to Oakland's corporate and government centers, Alameda's technology parks, the Port of Oakland, [Oakland International Airport](#) and the area's convention centers. Oakland's proximity to San Francisco, Wine Country and Silicon Valley make it an ideal location for business and leisure travelers. Military guests will also appreciate our convenience to US Coast Guard Island in Alameda. **Our courtesy shuttle** is available from 6:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. and takes guests to all Downtown and Jack London Square attractions, including the Oakland Museum, Lake Merritt and the Paramount Theatre. The shuttle also takes guests to the Lake Merritt BART Station or Jack London Ferry Terminal with regular service to San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf or Union Square.

Fine Dining Venues

Guests of the hotel can walk to [Quinn's Lighthouse Restaurant](#) situated on the marina at Embarcadero Cove, or grab a sandwich from the Port Deli. For those who wish to venture out, take our complimentary shuttle to Jack London Square which boasts some of the area's finest cuisine including, [Scott's Seafood Restaurant](#), [Kincaid's Bayhouse](#), Jack's Bistro and the famous [Yoshi's Restaurant and Jazz Club](#). For a casual evening out, try Everett & Jones BBQ, [The Fat Lady](#) or SFO Pizzeria. Enjoy a movie at [Jack London's 9-Plex Cinema](#), then grab a treat at Ben' & Jerry's or enjoy a latte at Barnes and Noble's coffee house.

Shopping

From popular brands to unique finds, shopping in Oakland and San Francisco offers something for everyone. Don't miss [Jack London Square](#) in Downtown Oakland, California — a historic waterfront with dozens of stores and a weekly farmer's market. College Avenue/Rockridge District is the area's most unique specialty shopping area. Swans Marketplace is a culinary delight, featuring international foods and meat/fish markets. You can also take the BART to Union Square in San Francisco for a world-class shopping adventure, or discover [San Francisco shopping](#) in other nearby neighborhoods.

Museums and galleries are plentiful in Oakland

- *The [Oakland Museum](#) is home to a world-class collection of California memorabilia.
- *Nearby Lake Merritt offers an important Bonsai garden, open to the public.
- *Visit the Megadome and the Ask Jeeves Planetarium at the just completed \$70 million [Chabot Observatory and Science Center](#).
- *Oakland's [USS Potomac](#), FDR's floating White House, is a National Historic Landmark with year-round tours on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.
- *Of special interest to young people is the renowned Lawrence Hall of Science, a hands-on museum focusing on physics, biology and almost everything related to basic science.
- *The [African American Museum and Library of Oakland](#) offers a glimpse of the African-American experience in California.
- *Aircraft displays, artifacts and more can be found at the [Western Aerospace Museum](#).

San Francisco

Take a [beautiful ferry boat ride](#) from Jack London Square beneath the Bay Bridge to Fisherman's Wharf. Ride the famed cable cars to Union Square and take the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) back to Oakland for an exciting, fun-filled day! Find more about [San Francisco](#) and plan your own adventure.

Sports/Recreation

If it's the outdoors or sports action that you love, you'll find it in Oakland! From golf and boating to baseball and football, Oakland has plenty of fun family activities and major league sports to keep you in the game. As the saying goes, you'll "have a ball" in Oakland, with Oakland A's MLB baseball, Raiders NFL football, and basketball from the NBA Golden State Warriors.

Sports Arenas

The indoor Oakland-Alameda County Arena features professional basketball by the [Oakland Warriors](#). For baseball and football fans, the main attractions are the [Oakland A's](#) and [Raiders](#), who play nearby at the outdoor [McAfee Coliseum](#) in Oakland. You can also check out the action at [UC Berkeley](#), [Stanford University](#).

**Transportation to all Scheduled events will be via
Vans/Autos/Foot and Watercraft**



IOBG Annual Meeting

Long Beach Island, New Jersey

October 17-21, 2007







District News

Northwestern
Districts 1, 2, 4, 5, 24

Arthur Kovarnik

N.W. Vice President

Submitted by
Mike Parish, Past NWVP

The last 14 years have been a blast. I went through the chairs of District #19, then retired and moved to Washington State. Here I became Northwestern Vice President.



Throughout the years I have not only served as Northwestern VP for 4 terms but also as Director of District #51 for two terms. I was also "Pack Mule" while Roxanne was International Supply Officer.

I had given myself an allotted time to move up through the Chairs and as that did not happen and personnel life style changes I will be moving on to new pursuits.

I will still be a member and I will stay involved with the Districts in Canada, as I have made many personal friends there.

If anyone has any questions on what IOBG does, I will give you my ideas from my own personal time in IOBG.

Take some time and attend some of the International, Regional and Annual meetings. Here you will learn how the organization works. You will have a chance to see new places, meet new people and make new friends.

I feel that I have been privileged to go to places I would not have gone to without IOBG. I have been to real "blue collar" clubs and also clubs that have the upper class for members. I have been in clubs where the members do all the work and serve around 100 dinners at a "big" event and others where 1000 meals served is the norm. The only requirement for entrance was being an IOBG member and you are treated like family.

I would like to thank IOBG for the ride. Good luck to all future ventures and you will always have my support.

District 5
Submitted by P/P Evertt Robert

In July District 5 held a Marina River Parkway clean up in cooperation with the Oregon State Marine Parks Association. We deemed it a success.

In mid-September District 5 officers and members held a successful wine tour in NW Oregon.

On October 25th, we will held our Annual meeting and dinner at Tyee Yacht Club.

The officers of District 5 are working hard to revitalize this District.

Submitted by
Carol Zumpano, Dist. 24 President

District #24 held another very successful Okanagan Invasion that was well attended. Everything that Janice Ching planned was wonderful. Activities included two social evenings with games and entertainment, a boat ride and a train ride. We were again pleased to have guests from around this area, and some of our American neighbors returned.

The District Annual General Meeting was in November and we are looking for more member involvement. Since I am not intending to continue on the Executive Board, we will need to fill at least one position.

Our Christmas party will be held in early December, this event is always well attended.



District #1
comes to
Long Beach
Island,
New Jersey





District News

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

Larry Draper
S.W. Vice President

Submitted by
George Knies, Past SWVP

I have been conducting monthly lunch meetings with the Directors and Presidents of District 14 and 19 coordinating joint activities and preparations for the February 2008 Regional meeting in Oakland, California, which will be held at the Encinal Yacht Club on February 9th.

Our base of operations will be the Executive Inn and Suites in Oakland. Festivities will be starting Thursday, February 7th when our hospitality suite opens. Friday will have many event options including cruising the San Francisco Bay area and crab feed at the Island Yacht Club that evening.... *Winter Meeting Flyer available in the hospitality suite.*

I presided as Principal Race Officer when District 14 provided the Race Committee and Race Committee Boat for the PICYA CHISPA/Youth Regattas at Clipper Cove on August 18th.



District 14 and District 19 participated in the annual "Wheelchair Regatta" at the Encinal Yacht Club on September 29th. I was again impressed with the number of IOBG burgees flying from participating yachts, which afforded me the opportunity to use my new camera.

District 6 in Hawaii welcomed a new Chapter following our Portland meeting.

District 14 had a multi-Chapter cruise-in for the annual Fleet Week "Blue Angel" air show and lobster/steak dinner at the Treasure Island Yacht Club on October 6th.

I am pleased to report that in accordance with our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the USCGAUX (tbs) and the USPS, some of our Chapters have been conducting Vessel Safety Checks (VSC's) and Boating Safety Classes (BS&S) at their Clubs. As a 25 year member of the USCGAUX and a new member of the USPS, I am optimistic about this opportunity to take part in disseminating boating safety programs for the general boating public.

It has been my honor to represent the Southwest Area as their Vice President this year. Long time friend and fellow Coast Guard Auxiliary Past Captain Larry Draper will succeed me in 2008. We look forward to working together with on-going IOBG and Coast Guard Auxiliary projects.

District 11
Wilma Rosenberg, Dist. Director

Our District is Southern California. It starts in Westlake Village and goes south to the Santa Monica Bay area and continues further south to King Harbor.

This past year we maintained 100 plus members, with most commodores being invited to join our district.

VP Gary Green and his wife Rosalie Davis-Green attended the Spring Regional Meeting in June in Portland, Oregon. They had a very good time, and were glad they went.

At each Windy Cue BBQ, we have had good participation, a speaker or film (Catalina Id.) and lots of fun and friendship. Our wine tasting was wonderful and any profit was put towards our Jr. Scholarships. (needy child can attend DRYC's Summer Sailing Program.)

President Jon Robbins was the Master Chef at the breakfast prior to the start of the Marina del Rey to San Diego Race.

This past year, we again collected toiletries and donated them to an organization that helps Homeless and Battered Women and their children.

Our Westlake Yacht Club Chapter continues to have meetings, hold annual Blue Gavel Regatta, and hosted lunch and boat rides for children of drug addicted parents.

District 11 members in 2008 make an effort to participate in our events and help to make our District a great success.

District 15
Linda Loftis, District Director

This has been a good year for District 15 and I am sure we will continue to grow and enjoy many more social and educational events. We currently have 115 paid members and have a wide range of interest by all.

We are happy to announce that so far this past year our District has made over \$500.00 for the Humanitarian Fund. We did this by BBQ's, Wine and Cheese party and sales of IOBGA Cookbooks. The raft-up was a good night out and thanks to Jim Coburn for making all the arrangements with SWYC. We had about 30 people for drinks and dinner. Our 'Change of Watch' at Silver Gate Yacht Club was an Oktoberfest Dinner and silent auction, making \$513.00 with all proceeds from this going to our District Humanitarian Foundation youth sailing program.

I had a very relaxing and enjoyable trip to the Summer Regional Meeting at Mackinac Island, Michigan (my home state). The meetings were enlightening, with the big discussion of raising dues.

Again thanks for a wonderful year. I look forward to being IOBG District 15 Director. President will be Linda Whipple from Chula Vista Yacht Club, Vice President Jim Coburn from Southwestern Yacht Club, Secretary Eileen VanWinkle and Treasurer Marshall Nemoy from Mission Bay Yacht Club.

District 19

Phil Promessi, District Director

Delta District 19 had an eventful year. It started with the annual Change of Watch on January 6th at the Pittsburg YC. The turnout was small but it was a very successful event. On Feb. 18 a General Meeting was held at the San Joaquin YC and induction of the new Commodores was conducted. Twelve Past Commodores were inducted at this meeting. Seven Past Commodores rejoined during the year for a total of 19 new members. The District now has a total of 182 paid members and three Past Presidents. Thirty-five members did not pay their dues. Hopefully we will regain some of those members in the future.

On May 19th we held our annual Board/Delegates meeting and cruise out to Delta Marina. This area has a great picnic area and barbecue pits. Several members cruised by boat and Chef Herman Meyer did an excellent job. Members of the Girls Sea Scout troop were there and explained some of their functions and duties.

The next general meeting was held on July 28th during the membership appreciation barbecue at Stockton YC. A silent auction and raffle was held and a check was sent to the Girls Sea Scout Troop in Sacramento.

August 26 was the Board and Delegates meeting and nominations for the officers for 2008 were presented. The Board and Delegates meeting in September was cancelled.

On October 13 the Change of Watch dinner dance was held at Benicia YC and PP Phil Arms inducted all the new officers for 2008.

District 19 now has a Website. It is IOBGdelta19.org. You can log on to find out what is happening in our District.

The Board of Directors of District 19 has been discussing different ways to promote more interest and has determined that next year we are going to schedule functions such as a wine tasting trip to some wineries in the Livermore Valley and maybe a trip on the fun train to Reno or some other destination and, of course, a cruise out to a private island on the Delta. These are the kind of functions that we hope will generate more interest in our District.

After serving three years as Director of Dist. 19, I am looking forward to becoming a permanent Past Director. It has been fun and a lot of work and traveling. Especially since Carol went through the Chairs of International. She is also looking forward to becoming Past President. We will always be involved with IOBG and plan to play a major part in our District and the International.





District News

North Central

Districts 7, 9, 23, 25

Francis D. Ramsey
N.C. Vice President

I would like to thank President Richard Janiszewski for giving me the opportunity to serve as North Central Vice President.

I would like to share a little bit about myself. I was Commodore of the Marquette Yacht Club in Burns Harbor, Indiana in 1969. I was a member of the Wyandotte Yacht Club when I joined IOBG District 9 in 1984.

While serving the State of Michigan as Harbormaster at the marina in Mackinac Island, I hosted a summer meeting of the IOBG at the Mackinac Island Yacht Club. Past President Rolfe, the Board and myself formed District 23. After leaving the Island, District 23 did not do too well, but this year with much assistance from Past President Carol Promessi and North Central VP Debbie Banks-Skellenger, we were able to host a summer meeting on the Island and revitalize District 23. There have been several new members added and some of the Chapters that dropped out have been contacted to see if they would like to become active again.

As your new North Central Vice President, I hope I will be able to keep up all the good work that Debbie has done in the past year.



IN MEMORIAM TO ROBERT (BOB) GRAVEN

Robert (Bob) Graven (D-7) from Cleveland, Ohio lost his battle with all his many ills that life brought forth on July 16, 2007. He was a member of Edgewater Yacht Club and the District Director of D-7 at the time of his passing and had served his District with distinction and grace. Few people saw the power chair that Bob was sentenced to for almost 40 years. He was instrumental in getting curb cuts for the sidewalks of Cleveland in the 70's and worked for the acceptance of the Handicapped in the State of Ohio. He was a Pipefitter by trade and had over 50 years as a member of Local 120, and developed a few businesses designing and building sprinkler systems for commercial buildings.

His love for the water started early on and he even worked on the tugs as a young man. Yet even after his accident that put him in the "chair", Bob still wanted to go sailing and bought the "Michael J", our 42 ft. Morgan Out Islander. When he was behind the wheel, he was whole again, in control in as much as Mother Nature would let him. He didn't have the name of "Bad Weather Bob" for nothing. And even though we did not take the "Michael J" south, we cruised around Lake Erie and even ventured the Erie Canal one summer with our grandchildren.

Bob always had a quick smile and a kind word despite all his challenges in life. We have a lot to learn from him. I just considered him a short man.

He was survived by daughters, Kathleen, Maureen and Colleen who all live in the Cleveland area.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Graven
International IOBGA Past President



District News

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

Marc Connelly

N.E. Vice President

“**Thank You**” to the Long Beach Island convention committee. Wonderful convention!! Job very well done.

“**Congratulations**” to our new President Dick Janiszewski and Lady Pat. Best wishes for a terrific 2008

The new marketing program is in final implementation for 2008. Watch the IOBG web site for the new Area VP and District Director reports to be used beginning 1st quarter 2008.

Thanks to Districts 12, 22 and 27 for their contributions to the Northeast pages in this edition of the LOG

District 12

Vincent J. Core, District Director

On Sunday October 7, 2007 the Past Commodores of Long Beach Island, International Order of the Blue Gavel District 12, held its annual meeting and luncheon. District 12 consists of the 5 yacht clubs located on Long Beach Island, New Jersey. Namely, Barnegat Light YC, Surf City YC, Brant Beach YC, Spray Beach YC and Little Egg Harbor YC. As our season is relatively short we are fortunate to be able to squeeze our annual meeting into our busy social calendars.

Many thanks go out to the members of the Brant Beach YC for hosting this year's luncheon meeting. Special thanks to PC Bobbie Beck and her husband Paul and the many BBYC members for organizing the excellent luncheon. I also want to thank all those who took time out of their busy schedules to attend. It was a beautiful late summer's day, in a gorgeous setting, and a great time was had by all. Next year's luncheon will be hosted by Spray Beach YC on September 21st.

Aside from the excellent luncheon and an opportunity to renew acquaintances, the business portion of the meeting focused on renewing and maintaining our commitment to the success of the IOBG, and District 12. In addition, we reviewed our past commitment and our continuing support for activities associated with the Long Beach Island sailing and boating community. We renewed our commitment to continue our outreach to the Friends of Southern Regional Sailing and other like minded organizations.

PC Bub Kovacs (BBYC 1998) made an appeal on behalf of the Friends of Southern Regional Sailing Foundation (FoSRSF) which supports the sailing program at Southern Regional High School. Since the sailing program is an unfunded program at the high school, its only means of support is through the Foundation and other fundraising activities. Bub has proposed that each of the clubs in District 12, as well as District 12 itself, contribute \$500 annually to the FoSRSF. This total of \$3000 per year would represent 50% of the \$6000 needed to operate the sailing program each year. The balance would be raised in separate fundraising events

District 12 members attending the meeting voted unanimously in support of the program and committed to donate \$500 to the Foundation. In addition, District 12 agreed to sponsor a fundraising event in early August 2008 at the Surf City Yacht Club to benefit FoSRSF..

District 12 Continued
Vincent J. Core, District Director

District 12 also agreed that it would sponsor a request for a grant from the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation for the purchase of sails for FoSRSF so that the high school sailing program can host northeast regional regattas on LBI. Currently, the only venues for high school regattas in the northeast

seem to occur either in Rochester, NY or Annapolis, Maryland, which limits the participation because of the distance. Long Beach Island in New Jersey represents a unique opportunity for a third venue which would likely result in increased participation at the regattas. In order to accomplish this however, the high school needs to have 10 boats with exactly the same sails. The boats are already available, donated by the clubs in District 12; however the sails need to be purchased. A committee has been formed and a meeting has already been held to prepare the application for the IOBGH grant.

In other business, we discussed the pending vote of an IOBG dues increase of \$10. Since the District 12 notification had already been sent in advance of the proposed \$10 increase, it was agreed that District 12 would cover the additional expense in the event the increase was approved. (Post meeting note: The increase was approved at the IOBG Annual meeting.)

We concluded the District 12 Annual Meeting by inducting 5 new members into the IOBG and again recognized and congratulated Dick Janiszewski, Past Commodore of Spray Beach YC who will be inducted as president of IOBG, and Pat Janiszewski who will be inducted as president of the IOBG Auxiliary. Congratulations and best wishes to Dick and Pat.

International Order of the Blue Gavel Annual Meeting – Long Beach Island, New Jersey

From October 17 - 20, District 12 hosted the International Order of the Blue Gavel Annual Meeting. The primary host club was the Spray Beach Yacht Club. Over 100 members and guests attended the meeting and the various social functions. Each of the five yacht clubs in District 12 volunteered to host a social event, either a luncheon or dinner. This provided our guests the opportunity to visit each of the clubs on the island and to see first hand the differences and similarities of the various clubs. Thanks to all the members from each of the clubs who volunteered to host each of the events, especially since several of the clubs had already shut down for the winter season. It was a job well done and everyone had a great time, in spite of the unexpected warm weather and the occasional torrential downpour.

A special thanks goes to the members of Spray Beach YC who hosted the bulk of the events including all the business meetings. Special thanks to Dick and Pat Janiszewski who coordinated all the details. Everything worked out extraordinarily well because of all their planning efforts in advance.

The festivities concluded with a gala event at the Sea Oaks Country Club hosted by Dick and Pat Janiszewski and the members of Spray Beach YC.



District 12
Submitted by P/C Paul Wood

About the same time IOBG's Annual Meeting was being held at Long Beach Island (LBI), New Jersey, the team of Amanda Clark and Sarah Mergenthaler won the competition to represent the USA in the 2008 Beijing Olympics sailing the 470 Dinghy.

The Mergenthalers hailing from Red Bank, New Jersey are summer residents of Harvey Cedars, LBI and members of Surf City LBI Yacht Club. For several years, while she was in college, Sarah was an instructor for the summer youth program at Barnegat Light Yacht Club. During the summer of 2000, she was the head sailing instructor.

Amanda is no stranger to LBI either although she is a lifelong resident of Shelter Island New York. Both sailors have impressive sailing and athletic records and as might be expected learned how to sail at an early age. LBI District 12 is very proud of their local sailors' accomplishment.

As Past Commodores you probably know someone who has done an Olympic campaign or participated in an international championship and therefore know the awesome cost of such an undertaking. Members of District 12 are providing support and if you would like to assist Amanda and Sarah as well, their 501c(3) fund is the Team Go Sail Foundation, Attn. Amanda Clark, P.O. Box 373, Shelter Island, NY 11964. Make checks payable to: Team Go Sail.

Breaking News from District 22

"VICTORY"

Scott Whitman and Julia Dorsett take Miami Olympic Classes Regatta

Miami, FL - Jan 26, 2007 With a two point lead over Canadian David Cook going in to the last day of racing, Scott Whitman and Julia Dorsett finished strong by placing 3rd, 2nd and 2nd in the final day of racing to win the Miami Olympic Classes Regatta. Over the past five days Whitman/Dorsett fought a variety of weather conditions and tough competition to take their first international title.

"This is a great win for us," Whitman said. "We have been working hard for this and it's great to see our efforts pay off," Dorsett added. Whitman and Dorsett have been in Miami training for this event since the end of December.

With this win, Whitman/Dorsett secured a spot on the 2007 US Disabled Sailing Team. Qualifying for the 2007 USDST make Whitman and Dorsett serious contenders to represent the United States at the 2008 Paralympic Games, which are scheduled for September 6-17, 2008 in Beijing, China.

Next up for the Whitman/Dorsett team is the Skud 18 Mid-Winter Championship, which will be held in March in St. Petersburg, FL.



District 27
Chuck Browning, District Director

The annual IOBG Meeting was a big success, we had four (4) members that attended this year, P/C Chuck Browning, P/C Gary Barger, P/C Jim Wilson and P/C Russ Bowser.

This was our first annual meeting as District 27. Our members would like to congratulate President Richard Janiszewski and Pat, we wish them the best of luck this year. They have an open invitation to visit the Chesapeake Bay.

It was very exciting to add three new Chapters to our District. Welcome aboard **River Side Yacht Club of Maryland, Wellwood Yacht Club** and **Maryland Yacht Club**.

I attended **River Side of Maryland Yacht Club's Commodore's Ball** on November 3 and presented their new Chapter Charter and Burgee. I also presented **IOBG Lapel Pins** to the four new members.

I would like to congratulate **Maryland Yacht Club** for becoming part of The International Order of the Blue Gavel District 27. **Maryland Yacht Club** was founded in 1908 and is the home of the **Queen of the Chesapeake Paget**. District 27 is delighted to have one of the oldest Yacht Clubs on the Chesapeake Bay joining us as a new Chapter. Congratulations to **P/C Richard Lowry** for becoming the first member of the **Maryland Yacht Club Chapter of the IOBG**.

DISTRICT 27 WILL HAVE ITS OWN WEB SITE STARTING IN 2008 - www.iobgdistrict27.org

Bush River Yacht Club

BRYC hosted their annual BULL & OYSTER ROAST for the Business Community at the Bush River Yacht Club. All proceeds went back to the Yacht Club.

P/C Jack Fitzgerald has submitted his membership application to become the newest member of the Bush River Chapter of the IOBG. Welcome P/C Jack Fitzgerald.

Belvedere Yacht Club

P/C Gary Barger was elected **President of IOBG District 27** for the year 2008. Gary has several things that he wants to accomplish in the upcoming year. He wants to help increase membership and get more Chapters. Promoting Blue Gavel will be his main goal and getting more members from different Yacht Clubs around the Bay will increase participation and get the word out.



Kent Island Yacht Club

P/C Michael Grant has completed his term as **Commodore of Kent Island Yacht Club** and now he is in process of becoming a member of **The International Order of the Blue Gavel District 27**. **Welcome aboard Mike.**



District News

Southeastern Districts 8 & 18

Tom Sullivan *S.E. Vice President*

Susan & I attended the District 8 Annual Membership Meeting of the IOBG and Change of Watch at Charlotte Harbor YC, Port Charlotte, Fl. on October 12 & 13..

The Club was once again a pleasure to visit thanks to the efforts of Lynne & PC Rich Oakley (current Commodore) who made everyone comfortable with their planning. The District meeting focused on elections and appointments and the dues increase that International had proposed. Taking the first order of business the following were elected:

District Director	Jack Kennedy (Bay Point YC)	Treasurer	John Matthews (Pensacola YC)
President	Rich Oakley (Charlotte Harbor YC)	Secretary	Chari Leitch (Charlotte Harbor YC)
Pres.-elect	Phil Bouckaert (Sugar Sands YC)	Legal Officer	Jerry Gerde (St. Andrews Bay YC)
1st VP	Ron Richards (Pensacola YC)	Supply Officer	Bob Shogren (Treasure Isl
Tennis&YC)			
2nd VP	Dick Kelley (Palm Coast YC)		
Gulf Stream & Roster & Editor	John Stringer (Vero Beach YC)		

PC John Schultz (Venice YC) retired as Legal Officer after several years of service to Dist. 8. Thanks John!

PC Bob Shogren will also head up the International's Humanitarian Foundation. Congrats Bob !

District 8 voted not to support the dues increase and conveyed their wishes to D/D Lou Daniello for his conveyence to the International at the Annual meeting on Long Beach Island, NJ. The International is proposing this much needed increase (fee change of \$30 to \$40 - an increase of \$10) based in part on the vocal comments of two D-8 Officers who were in attendance at the International's and District 8's meeting in Charleston, SC last February. One member proposed an increase of membership dues to \$100 from \$30 and later changed this to \$50 from the current \$30. The other Officer suggested \$60 instead of \$30. With this in mind a \$10 increase was deemed workable and in order.

Charlotte Harbor's Sundowner's Ceremony was superb. Local IOBG Chapters met with the North Palm Beach YC, Old Port YC, and the Palm Beach Sailing Club extending an invitation for a Holiday Dinner to local area Chapters on Nov. 27. On Nov. 15 Halifax River YC had a dinner which included Blue Gavel Members from the five local Chapters in the area.

The following Wednesday (10/17) Susan and I flew to Philadelphia and then drove to Long Beach Island, NJ for the International's Annual meeting...and what a meeting it was. We visited and dined at FIVE Long Beach Island Yacht Clubs (Barnegat Light, Spray Beach, Brant Beach, Little Egg Harbor, and Surf City Yacht Clubs) who could not have been more cordial and friendly. Some of the Clubs opened up for us even though they were closed for the winter season.



SE Vice President Report Continued

The meeting focused on PC Carol Promessi turning the reigns over to PC Dick Janiszewski. Elections and installations were held and a new marketing plan for the IOBG was developed by NE VP Marc Connelly. All District Directors and Area VPs will be involved and reporting will be on a quarterly basis. This is to be an "all hands effort" to give members what they have been asking for.

I have been appointed to the standing committee of Membership (a new committee) and will serve for the Eastern U.S. with 2nd VP Vern Bendsen serving the Western U.S. International President Dick Janiszewski will be the Committee Chair.

I am also the National Boating Federation Representative (replacing P/P Art Garside) with P/P Phil Arms - a long time Boating Federation Member & Federation VP. For those not familiar with the National Boating Federation (NBF) it is an alliance of boating organizations nationwide, comprising over 2 million members. The NBF supports boating education, boating safety, and the well being of our waterways and their best use.

We had a long day Saturday with one hour to spare before we left for the International's Ball at Sea Oaks Country Club where the orchestra, service, food, and cocktails could not have been better.

On Sunday---we returned home after traveling and attending meetings for 8 of the last 10 days.



District 50
Damian Pflieger, District Director

District 50 is at 60 members from various areas east of the Mississippi. That is about the same number as a year ago, but significantly lower than three years ago. The reason for this decrease is because Chapters have opted to join Districts in their geographic areas and that is a good thing.

We welcome Cape Fear Yacht Club into IOBG. This is a new Chapter approved at the Regional meeting in August.

Chapters are encouraged to welcome their 2007 Commodore's into IOBG. Membership forms can be downloaded from the web site or mailed out to you for completion.

Members are encouraged to attend the Regional and/or the Annual meetings to learn more about IOBG.

As always my contact info is in the front of this publication.

District 51
Reported by Vern Bendsen

At this time last year we all knew District 51's area was West of the Mississippi River. What most of us didn't know was that there are Blue Gavel members out in the Marshall Islands, the Philippines Islands, Japan, as well as Canada and Mexico.

Communication is one of the most important ways that we can keep an organization together. E-mail is the fastest way to communicate to faraway places.

For District 51 'snail mail' is the way I communicated with most of its members. This year all District 51 members received a copy of our Blue Gavel brochure, a request for their e-mail address and information of what is happening in their area by snail mail.

By this time next year, we should have all of District 51 members' e-mail addresses. Then the Director will have a much quicker way to be in touch with the members.

To all the District 51 members whom I have made contact, thanks for your input and effort for our Blue Gavel. Remember, Boating is FUN, so have FUN Boating.



J. O. B. G. Past Presidents

1955 - 2007

2007	Carol Promessi Pittsburg Yacht Club	1989*	Norval "Cav" Cavett Hawaii Yacht Club	1967*	Ken Wise Edmonds Yacht Club
2006	Harvey Sussel The Captains Yacht Club North Palm Beach Yacht Club	1988*	George Cooper Lighthouse Point Yacht Club	1966	Randy Rockhill Rainier Yacht Club
2005	Art Theobald Sandy Beach Yacht Club	1987	Dr. Burton Jay Southwestern Yacht Club	1965*	Sam Crawford Olympic Yacht Club
2004	Larry Foote San Joaquin Yacht Club	1986*	Ernie R. Villaire Wyandotte Yacht Club	1964*	Story Birdseye Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club
2003	Art Garside Elba Mar Boat Club	1985*	Walter Bertram Hayden Island Yacht Club	1963*	Dr. Ed Chase Everett Yacht Club Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club
2002	Marion Hughes Clover Island Yacht Club	1984*	James Topping Naples Sailing Yacht Club	1962*	Leroy Strasser Totem Yacht Club
2001*	Robert Miller San Joaquin Yacht Club	1983*	E. Carl Schiewe Columbia River Yacht Club	1961*	Frank Metz Queen City Yacht Club
2000	Louis A. Key, Jr. Chagrin River Yacht Club	1982	Belding H. McCurdy Pass-A-Grille Yacht Club	1960*	H.E. Richmond Seattle Yacht Club
1999*	Frank Valdes Pass-A-Grille Yacht Club	1981*	Everett E. Weil Portland Yacht Club	1959*	Harold Fowler Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club
1998	Ted Kendrick San Joaquin Yacht Club	1980*	Fred Roth Cleveland Yacht Club	1958*	Richard McCann Queen City Yacht Club
1997	Phil Arms Navy Yacht Club San Diego	1979*	Willis Angel Bremerton Yacht Club	1957	Harry Gundlach Bremerton Yacht Club
1996	Ira Nies Columbia River Yacht Club	1978*	Leonard St. Lewi Pass-A-Grille Yacht Club	1956*	Art Russel Seattle Yacht Club
1995	Rolf R. Tinge The Captains Yacht Club The Point Yacht Club	1975-77*	Wesley W. Ortnier Portland Yacht Club	1955*	Ev G. Henry - Founder of IOBG Rainier Yacht Club
1994	Dr. Richard Disraeli Southwestern Yacht Club	1974*	G. Dudley Henderson Salem Yacht Club		
1993*	Norman Gallagher Chagrin Yacht Club	1972-73*	Raymond Hash Shelton Yacht Club		
1992*	Wesley Holtzhauser Pass-A-Grille Yacht Club	1971*	Ed Haecker Hayden Island Yacht Club		
1991	Evertt Roberts Columbia River Yacht Club	1970*	Bruce Calhoun Elks Yacht Club		*Deceased
1990*	Thomas R. Elmer Tonawanda Island Launch Club	1969*	Robert McDermaid West Vancouver Yacht Club		
		1968*	Charles McCurdy Des Moines Yacht Club		





International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary



From the President

by Pat Janiszewski

The first line of business is to express my enthusiasm and pleasure on being elected as the IOBGA President. The Annual Meeting on Long Beach Island, New Jersey was held in October. Since Richard and I were very "involved," I want to take this opportunity to thank the many individuals who helped us put on our "production." Thank you to each LBI yacht club for their participation—Brant Beach and Surf City Yacht Clubs for the luncheons; and Little Egg Harbor, Barnegat Light and Spray Beach Yacht Clubs for the dinners, and also an extension of our gratitude to the many individuals who worked as Chairpersons to these events and those who worked behind the scenes and supported us to make the weekend successful. Without your combined efforts, we could not have done it on our own. The individual enthusiasm and willingness to pitch in, when needed, by members of District 12 is certainly a reason that makes the Blue Gavel and the Auxiliary very special to both Richard and me.

With my husband as IOBG President, I know there will be a great working relationship between the IOBGA and the IOBG for the betterment of each group. He is an enthusiastic supporter of the IOBGA and is in our corner. Both of us feel that behind a successful District or Chapter there is also a successful IOBGA group. In conjunction with the IOBG's new marketing plan, I have asked the IOBG Executive Board to request Area Vice Presidents to contact their District Directors to make sure that our new brochure is always included when IOBG literature is distributed. When a District Director or Area Vice President approaches a new club, the fact that there is an Auxiliary is a selling point and the IOBGA brochure should be distributed.

The IOBG also sponsors workshops during the course of their Regional/Annual meetings. Since both organizations have a common goal, and that the IOBGA is a contributing asset, I have requested the courtesy of having an IOBGA representative attend these workshops, when appropriate. Fuller and timelier communications will be one of several benefits. Also, as part of a Regional/Annual meeting, I have requested that at the IOBG Auxiliary Liaison make a presentation to the IOBGA, as the IOBGA also makes a presentation to the IOBG. Again, open communications is an important aspect of our mutual groups.

Part of our mission statement of the IOBGA states the IOBGA "raises funds for the Humanitarian Foundation and other charities." I am happy to announce that as part of the 2007 Annual Meeting, \$825.00 was donated to the Humanitarian Foundation resulting from the IOBGA fundraiser where an individual makes a donation in lieu of sending a holiday greeting card to fellow members. The names of these individuals will be published in this edition of the LOG. In addition, the centerpieces of the 2007 Annual Ball were carved Egret and Curlew birds which were sold and the proceeds of \$640.00 were given to the Humanitarian Foundation. Thank you all donors for your marvelous support.

The IOBGA is proud to be working on another project (the last "big one" was our cookbook-- which is still available). At the annual convention in Seattle in October 2008, there will be numerous items from districts to be auctioned and the proceeds will be given to the Humanitarian Foundation. Past Auxiliary President Jackie Evans Rudd is accepting items from Districts to be auctioned at this event. Please contact Jackie regarding your District donation.

Also, the IOBGA is in the process of having a quilt produced for this auction. We are looking for burgees from clothing to be cut in 13 x 13 inch patches. Burgees from your club can be a part of the quilt. So don't miss out. Find an old shirt or item of clothing, cut out your burgee and send it to Pat Graven, IOBGA Immediate Past President. Pat is coordinating the making of the quilt and needs your burgee or there won't be enough squares for the quilt.

Again, I am proud to be your President and am here to help whenever needed. I would like to congratulate all new officers throughout the IOBGA and thank them for their involvement and encourage them to contact me, even just to say hello. You can contact me through richardjaniszewski@msn.com. Have a happy holiday and healthy New Year.



From the Past President

by Pat Graven

I would again thank all of you for your support and prayers the past year. It has been bittersweet. As someone once said "it was the best of times, it was the worst of times". My time as President would be categorized in the first part of the quote. We were able to move the organization along in small baby steps and hopefully Pat will continue.

One of the subjects brought up at the meeting was the quilt. This quilt will be put together and auctioned off at next years Annual Convention in Seattle at Jerry Rudd's Ball. The proceeds of the quilt will go to the Humanitarian Fund. After talking to Jackie Rudd about this, I will be coordinating the effort from my house. My neighbor, Janet Campbell, does beautiful work and has put a design together that will be pleasing to everyone. Janet has had her pieces in juried Art Shows. So with that said, if any of you have yacht club logos on old shirts – mail them to me. I will need them all by Dec 31, 2007 to get the process rolling. I am not a seamstress, so I will be the one to do the grunt work. It will be a learning experience. Send any logos (preferable the whole shirt) to my address at:

3927 W. 162 St.
Cleveland, OH 44111

The convention on the "Jersey Shore" was wonderful!!! I cannot say enough about how friendly everyone was. I never knew that New Jersey could be so beautiful.

Best of Luck to Pat and her Board.





I. O. B. G. A. Past Presidents

1991	<i>Rose Prell</i>	2000	<i>Gerva Hughes</i>
1992	<i>Mary Gallagher</i>	2001	<i>Carol Foote</i>
1993	<i>Mary Gallagher</i>	2002	<i>Shirley Willing</i>
1994	<i>Pat Cleland</i>	2003	<i>Carol Garside</i>
1995	<i>Pat Cleland</i>	2004	<i>Carol Garside</i>
1996	<i>Leona Nies</i>	2005	<i>Hope McLeod</i>
1997	<i>Jerry Key</i>	2006	<i>Jackie Evans-Rudd</i>
1998	<i>Judy Miller</i>	2007	<i>Patricia Graven</i>
1999*	<i>Wila Wade</i>		



Northwest Regional Report
Submitted by Pres. Betts Hinckley

“Keepers of the Flame...Lighting the Way” was the theme of District# 1 Fall Conference at Marysville, Washington on September 14-16, 2007. Seven new members of IOBGA were installed. Jackie Rudd, Senior Past President of IOBGA, installed the Officers of District 1 - President: Betts Hinckley, Vice President: Cindy Davidson, Secretary: Michael Meyers and Treasurer: Dixie Abernathy.

Hope McLeod
North Central Regional Director

The year is drawing to a close. The Annual Meeting was very informative and the officers covered a lot of useful information, which I will be passing on to the Districts in my region. Elections were held and the new Officers are sworn in and ready to go.

I feel that each of the Directors, including myself, have gotten an idea of what is expected of us and how we can better help our Districts to function and grow. I am really excited that I received reports from all of my Districts. Thank-you!

District 7:

137 members and 4 charter members
Donated \$500. to the Katrina relief fund.
Held several fundraisers this year, with their annual Chili cook-off coming up.
Ten members of the District attended the Annual Meeting.

District 9:

36 members
Holds fundraisers for the charities in their area.
Due to the existence of several other boating organizations in their area, it has become difficult for District 9 to obtain and retain membership.
New Chapter charter of Catawba Island Club was formed this year. Hopefully this will start off new growth and participation.

District 25:

District 25 is back and keep your eyes open for them to once again become an outstanding group! They held their Annual Meeting on October 14th to elect new Officers. I know with the leadership in that area of Past International IOBGA President Shirley Willing, they will soon be back in full force.

Betsy Sanders
Northeast Regional Director

Our President, Gen Dobmeier, has been trying to get someone to take her place for the last two years with no results. This year, I called an Executive Meeting of our officers to write up a list of members we thought might make good Presidents and/or Vice Presidents. We went over the names of each of our 56 members and wrote up a list of potentials which we divided up among us to call personally. (Asking at our Annual Meeting who would be willing to be President just doesn't cut it, as no one speaks up.) Our efforts were successful, and we ended up with a nominee for both President and one for Vice.

Our other good news is that the boat, Excalibur, has finally arrived, been inspected, and passed the inspection by the Coast Guard after final adjustments were made and equipment installed. Our Treasurer sent in our donation check of \$1,000 to Art Theobald, IOBG Treasurer of District #3, and we have our matching donation from the Humanitarian Foundation (\$1,000), making a total donation of \$2000 from IOBGA of District #3.

IOBG of District #3 also donated \$1,000 which again was matched by the Humanitarian Foundation making the total donation for Excalibur of \$4,000. The Excalibur is a 30 foot Island Hopper specially designed as a boat to accommodate the handicapped and disabled so they may enjoy the sailing experience in spite of their disabilities. It has been a long drawn-out process, but it has finally been accomplished!

Our Annual Meeting and Elections were held October 4, 2007 at LaSalle Yacht Club for both IOBG and IOBGA with a buffet dinner preceding the meetings with nineteen Auxiliary members present. Judy Middleton of Inner Harbor Yacht Club was elected for President and Geraldine Pilkington of Sandy Beach was elected Vice President. Treasurer, Kathy Schafer of Inner Harbor Yacht Club will remain as Treasurer, as will Secretary Gale Sander of Buffalo Launch Club as Secretary.

We have two new members making our total membership now 58 members.

It was announced that our Holiday Party will be held at Sandy Beach Yacht Club on November 30, 2007. It was discussed and approved that we will provide three gift baskets to be raffled off at the Holiday Party, the proceeds to benefit Excalibur. It was also approved that we will make Excalibur our Primary Charity for donations.

Northeast Region
District 26
Chris Swett, Secretary

At our September Meeting, the Mt. Sinai Yacht Club IOBGA members, began working on our two upcoming projects. We are busy putting together an "Evening for Two" basket to be raffled off at the Mt. Sinai Yacht Club's November 4th General Meeting. The basket will include theater tickets, a pizza gift certificate, wine and goblets, and bowling tickets. However, instead of money, the IOBGA ladies are requesting that yacht club members bring non-perishable food items to help fill the collection boxes. Members will receive a ticket for every food item donated. All food items collected will be brought to our local soup kitchens in time for Thanksgiving.

We are also busy planning our third annual Fashion Show and Luncheon. This event will be held in the spring and Dress Barn fashions will again be modeled by our IOBGA family.

Christine B. Snedaker
Southeast Regional Director

Our newest Chapter in District 8, Palm Coast YC, worked with their IOBG for a benefit for Habitat for Humanity this summer. This was the fifth such gala, with dinner, dancing and auction. It was as big a success this year as ever. The support of the Auxiliary contributed much to making this event such a wonderful experience for everyone.



Christine B. Snedaker
SE Regional Director Cont'.

Halifax YC hosted the Florida Council of Yacht Clubs (FCYC) July 14 & 15. Auxiliary members, Margaret Moynelo Yaeger and Rose Lauer headed up the registration. The IOBG & Auxiliary couples hosted tables from the guest clubs at the Saturday evening dinner/dance which was attended by 171 people. The Auxiliary managed the Ships Store and provided the table decorations. Auxiliary members participating in this successful event were: Marilyn Baker, VP/Carole Ford, Pres/Louise Redner, Audrey Ottenstein, Jackie Young, Jeanette Clarke, Esther Coley, Charlotte Heesaker, Ellen O'Shaughnessy, Frieda Coughlin and Beverly Wichmann. Halifax Auxiliary will be having their Change of Watch Dec 6th. They are planning a nice luncheon and have invited Smyrna YC and Palm Coast YC Auxiliaries to participate with them.

The last Friday in each month this summer, the Auxiliary has joined the IOBG chapter members from North Palm Beach YC in the Sundown Ceremony at the Sailing Club in West Palm Beach. After dinner and a short meeting with the Auxiliary members, we participated in the lowering of the flag ceremony conducted by the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Both the IOBG and the Auxiliary were dressed in their summer uniforms for these ceremonies.



The North Palm Beach IOBG & Auxiliary chapter had a S.O.B. Piloting Adventure (Students of Bowditch) in conjunction with their Labor Day Weekend Rendezvous to Hutchinson Island. Five boats participated in this contest on their way up the intracoastal. The contest was a combination of several legs where the captain & crew had to calculate their time of arrival in advance, and there were boating questions based on the chart and area knowledge. Each boat had a timekeeper, stop watches and hats provided by the IOBG. Many thanks to IOBG members Phil Bouckaert and Joe Tringali, for all their efforts in planning and implementing this successful contest. The winner of the S.O.B. piloting contest took custody of the antique brass binnacle donated by a local jeweler. It is engraved with the names of the winning club, boat, captain and crew. It will be kept by the winner until someone else wins it.

District 8 had their Change of Watch at Charlotte Harbor YC October 12 – 14. This was a wonderful weekend of



activities. Friday evening we gathered at the Charlotte Harbor YC for cocktails, dinner and dancing. On Saturday, spouses & guests cruised aboard "Great Lady" (60' Viking motor yacht) with Captain Tony & crew to Burnt Store Marina for lunch, while the IOBG held their meetings. Saturday evening we all met again for a cocktail reception, a beautiful Sundowners Ceremony overlooking the harbor, Change of Watch, dinner and dancing. SE Regional Director, Christine Snedaker presented our Auxiliary's newest Chapter, Palm Coast YC, with their Charter. She also presented a replacement Charter to Halifax YC so that they may now display it in their newly constructed yacht club trophy case. Many thanks to Commodore Rich and Lynne Oakley for all their hospitality and hard work in making this a successful weekend for our District 8 members and guests.



IOBG Auxiliary

2008 Officers

PRESIDENT District 12

Pat Janiszewski
 9 Deer Run Road
 Parkertown, NJ 08087
 Tel: 609-294-2393
 richardjaniszewski@msn.com

Treasurer

Richard Hardy District 19
 258 Heron Drive
 Pittsburg, CA 94565
 Tel: 925-427-6607
 Fax: 925-427-4272

President Elect

Audrey Hall District 15
 2063 Grandview St.
 Oceanside, CA 92054
 Tel: 760-757-6796
 hulakai2@cox.net

**First Vice President**

Ann Knies District 14
 2333 Lariat Lane
 Walnut Creek CA 94596
 Tel: 925-939-0230
 Fax: 925-944-0474
 BambiAnn@earthlink.net

Immediate Past President (2007)

Patricia (Pat) Graven District 7
 3927 W. 162nd St.
 Cleveland, OH 44111
 Tel: 216-252-1141
 Cell: 216-389-3020
 Fax: 216-390-3020
 pgraven1@yahoo.com

Second Vice President

Chris Snedaker District 8
 14032 Harborlane
 Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
 Tel: 861-627-6002
 fcsassoc@comcast.net

Senior Past President (2006)

Jackie Evans Rudd District 1
 37834 43rd Ave. S.
 Auburn, WA 98001
 Tel: 253-838-9027 (H)
 206-767-0678 (C)
 jrjackie1@comcast.net

Secretary

Lucille Anthony District 19
 171 Bel Air Circle
 Fairfield, CA 97533
 Tel: 707-399-8283
 JoJotolly1@aol.com

DIRECTORS:

Northeast	Betsy Sanders 716-886-7653
Northwest	Angelica Rooker 253-265-8022
N. Central	Hope Mcleod
Southeast	Susan Sullivan 772-223-8789
Southwest	Deanna Tomei 925-325-2623
England	Sue Young 44-0-163-471-3478
Hawaii	Open

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

UNITED KINGDOM MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Sue Young District 70
 5 Grasmere Grove
 Rochester
 Kent, England ME2 4PN
 Tel: 44-0-163-471-3478
 bluesil@hotmail.com

AUXILIARY LOG EDITOR

Betsy Sanders District 3
 751 W. Ferry St. Apt. A & B
 Buffalo, NY 14222
 Tel: 716-886-7653
 betsynted@aol.com

WEBMASTER

Shirley Willing District 25
 292 Esdras Place
 Windsor, Ontario,
 Canada N8S 2M5
 Tel: 519-944-1397
 swilling@sympatico.ca





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.

"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.



Those whose names appear wish their friends in Blue Gavel a joyous holiday season and a healthy, happy New Year. In lieu of a card or gift to many friends, they have made donations to this special holiday fund raising project of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary to benefit the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation.

John & Lucy Anthony
Debbie Banks-Skellenger
Lou Daniello
Al & Mary Eiffert
Larry & Carol Fouts
Art & Carol Garside
Pat Graven
Jim & Betts Hinckley
Marion & Gerva Hughes
District 15 IOBGA
Richard & Pat Janiszewski
Ethel Keith
Louis & Jerry Key
George & Ann Knies
Art & Carol Kovarnik
Joan Marsh-Clune
Hope McLeod
Ingrid Menz
Michael & Mary Nye Meyers
Rod & Laurene Mineke
Jerry & Jackie Rudd
Frank & Chris Snedaker
Charles & Iwlani Stone
Bill & Marybeth Thayer
Deanna Tomei



Chairman of the Board
 P/P Marion Hughes
 3608 Road #84
 Pasco, WA 99301
 Tel: 509-547-6743
marion.hughes@att.net

President & CEO
 P/C Bob Shogren
 12250 5th Street East
 Treasure Island, FL 33706
 Tel: 727-360-3809
shogren@ij.net

Vice President & Northwestern VP
 P/C Jim Hinckley
 4017 S. Auburn St.
 Kennewick, WA 99337
 Tel: 509-582-7590
 Cell: 509-528-4874
jimandbetts@verizon.net

Secretary & Southeastern VP
 Carol Garside, IOBGA P/P
 3336-C Sunset Key Circle
 Punta Gorda, FL 33955-1970
 Tel: 941-639-1630
 Cell: 734-658-6997
cgarside1@juno.com
 (June - September)
 20230 Island Estate Drive
 Grosse Ile, MI 48138-1263
 Tel: 734-671-6997

Chief Financial Officer
 Jackie Evans Rudd, IOBGA P/P
 37834 43rd Ave. S
 Auburn, WA 98001
 Tel: 253-838-9027
 Bus: 425-460-8456
jrjackie1@comcast.net
jackieer@windemere.com

Chief Legal Officer
 P/C J. Mark Montobbio
 17 Caribe Isle
 Novato, CA 94949
 Tel: 415-883-3436
 Cell: 415-382-6028
tobbio@aol.com

Director & Northeastern VP
 P/C Marc Connelly
 74 Welwyn Circle
 Buffalo, NY 14223
 Tel: 716-838-2016
mdc@choiceonemail.com

Director & North Central VP
 P/P Art Garside
 3336-C Sunset Key Circle
 Punta Gorda, FL 33955-1970
 Tel: 941-639-1630
 Cell: 734-658-6997
agarside1@juno.com
 (June - September)
 20230 Island Estate Drive
 Grosse Ile, MI 48138-1263
 Tel: 734-671-6997

Director
 P/C George Demos
 16641 Edgewater Lane
 Huntington Beach, CA 92649
 Tel: 714-846-1572
HHYC97@aol.com

Director
 P/P Art Theobald
 140 Westchester Road
 Williamsville, NY 14221
 Tel: 716-633-7122
atheo@aol.com

IOBGF P/P & Ambassador
 P/C Joan Marsh-Clune
 258 Heron Drive
 Pittsburg, CA 94565
 Tel: 925-427-6607
 Bus: 415-399-6474
 Cell: 925-864-1381
jmarsh6607@yahoo.com
jmarsh@wsandco.com

Ambassador & Southwestern VP
 P/C Peggy Gregory
 6245 Golden Sands Drive
 Long Beach, CA 90803-2316
 Tel: 562-596-3529
 Cell: 562-858-3451
peggregory@copper.net

Ambassador, IOBGA P/P
 Jerry Key, IOBGA P/P
 2697 Cabin Drive
 Wickliffe, OH 44092
 Tel: 440-944-6350
jkeysails@aol.com
 (January - April)
 700 Teryl Rd #1
 Naples, FL 34112
 Tel: 239-755-6350

Ambassador
 P/C Dave Phelps
 P.O. Box 3758
 Crestline, CA 92325
 Tel: 909-338-4439
 Cell: 310-968-2860
 Fax: 310-297-3701
david.p.phelps@smithbarney.com

Ambassador
 P/C Anne Fox
 1161 N. Ogden Drive #202
 Los Angeles, CA 90046
 Tel/Fax: 323-654-4923
 Cell: 323-819-4402
syclb95@aol.com

Ambassador
 P/C Bill Young
 5 Grasmere Grove
 Rochester
 Kent, England ME2 4PN
 Tel: 44-0-163-471-3478
bluesil@hotmail.com

Ambassador
 Patricia Graven, IOBGA P/P
 3927 W. 162nd Street
 Cleveland, OH 44111
 Tel: 216-252-1141
 Cell: 216-389-3020
pgraven1@yahoo.com



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

2008 DISTRICT OFFICERS & AREAS SERVED

- #1 PRESIDENT - Northwest**
Mary Nye Meyers (Michael)
P.O. Box 44130
Tacoma, WA 98448
Tel: 253-224-8592
fire_n_ice104@hotmail.com
SECRETARY
Robert Weber (Cathy Joyce)
2617 NE 4th St. #123
Renton, WA 98056
Tel: 425-204-9187
Cell: 206-310-9102
robok46@msn.com
- #2 PRESIDENT - Canada**
Ed Akerman (Marilyn)
308-10461 Resthaven Dr.
Sidney, BC V8L 3H6
Canada
Tel: 250-656-7799
Fax: 250-656-1242
eimut88@shaw.ca
SECRETARY/TREASURER
John Biggs (Carole)
6406 McKenzie Dr.
Duncan, BC V9L 5R9
Canada
Tel: 250-746-4941
Bus: 250-754-8435
johncarole@shaw.com
- #3 PRESIDENT - Northeast**
Warren C. Schafer (Kathleen)
7241 Plank Road
Lockport, NY 14094
Tel: 716-439-8059
wcsunit@verizon.net
SECRETARY
Paul Schneeberger
11 Bywater Ct.
Williamsville, NY 14221
Tel: 716-688-3032
schnee1953@aol.com
- #4 PRESIDENT - Canada**
Ron Defieux (Linda)
641 Blueridge Ave.
N. Vancouver, BC V74 2J4
Canada
Tel: 604-987-7425
Fax: 604-985-7263
rdefieux@shaw.ca
SECRETARY
Betty Harris-Peake (Dennis)
1078 English Bluff Rd.
Delta, BC V4M 2N6 - Canada
Tel: 604-943-4923
Fax: 604-943-1205
bettyharrispeake@hotmail.com
- #5 PRESIDENT - Northwest**
Edward Blatter (Diana)
10109 SE 38th Ave
Milwaukie, OR 97222
Tel: 503-367-4403
SECRETARY
Bonnie Baldwin (Joseph)
59475 Barr Avenue
St. Helens, OR 97051
Tel: 503-397-5000
Fax: 503-397-5012
boattwin@comcast.net
- #6 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Ronald L. Dodini (Becky)
44-128 Keaalau Place
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Tel: 808-235-2470
Bus: 808-294-0135
huiana@hawaii.rr.com
SECRETARY
Donna B. Salisbury (Ed)
98-988 Paioia Way
Aiea, HI 96701
Tel: 808-485-0002
donnaed@earthlink.net
- #7 PRESIDENT - North Central**
Tony Caruso (Ottalee)
9361 Canterbury Lane
Mentor, OH 44060
Tel: 440-974-0420
Bus: 440-269-8300
solitaire9361@aol.com
SECRETARY
John Sukis (Rosemary)
3759 Lake Road
Sheffield Lake, OH 44054
Tel: 440-949-8006
jsukis@palmisanocpa.com
- #8 PRESIDENT - Southeast**
Jack Kennedy III (Mary)
P.O. Box 18757
Panama City, FL 32417-8757
Tel: 850-233-7616
Fax: 850-230-2690
kennedj1@comcast.net
SECRETARY
Richard L. Kelley (Delores)
6 Collingville Ct.
Palm Coast, FL 32137
Tel: 346-445-4292
dickkelley@aol.com
- #9 PRESIDENT - North Central**
Jack White (Joanne)
12292 Lakeshore
LaSalle, MI 48145-9177
Tel: 734-242-4558
Bus: 419-244-5557
Fax: 419-244-4702
commodorej@aol.com
SECRETARY
Ray Morrow (Jan)
12660 N. Lakeshore Dr.
LaSalle, MI 48145
Tel: 734-242-7111
- #10 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Rett Considine
1536 W. 25th Street #267
San Pedro, CA 90732
Tel: 310-480-2657
sgyc95@aol.com
SECRETARY
John Fults
3914 Mistral Drive
Huntington Beach, CA 92649
Tel: 714-846-7548
jhfults@verizon.net
- #11 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Gary Green (Rosalie)
10715 Hepburn Circle
Culver City, CA 90232
Tel: 310-204-4411
Bus: 310-348-9627
Fax: 310-665-8659
garygreen@ca.rr.com
SECRETARY
Mark Register
1253 23rd Street, Unit 2
Santa Monica, CA 90404
Tel: 310-828-0982
markreg@aol.com
- #12 PRESIDENT - Northeast**
Vincent J. Core (Eileen)
739 Fairmount Dr.
Chatham, NJ 07928
Tel/Fax: 973-635-7415
sailcore@worldnet.att.net (Summer)
sailcorebsm@att.net (Winter)
SECRETARY
Open
- #14 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Lynette Harter Breed
1792 S. Norfolk Street
San Mateo, CA 94403
Tel: 650-574-2251
Fax: 650-341-5192
lharter444@aol.com
SECRETARY
George Knies (Ann)
2333 Lariat Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Tel: 925-939-0230
Fax: 925-944-0474
machbuster1@earthlink.net
- #15 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Linda Whipple
1521 Savin Drive
El Cajon, CA 92021
Tel: 619-579-8321
LXWhipple@cox.net
SECRETARY
Open
- #16 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Jack Borkowski
153 Eaglerock Ave.
Oxnard, CA 93035
Tel: 805-382-9709
Cell: 805-890-2623
jackjb99@yahoo.com
SECRETARY
Nancy Rowe (Roland)
4216 Harbour Island Lane
Oxnard, CA 93035
Tel: 805-382-9514
nnrowe@aol.com
- #18 PRESIDENT - Southeast**
Open
SECRETARY/TREASURER
Open
- #19 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Peter Oswald (Nancy)
1800 Alma Ave. #307
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Tel: 925-943-3907
Fax: 925-866-1330
pnoswald@pacbell.net
SECRETARY
Herman Meyer (Suzie)
7341 Gilbert Road
Oakdale, CA 95361
Tel: 209-847-4935
hmeyer@meyer-law.com
- #20 PRESIDENT - Northeast**
Stanley Zielski
121 Yale Terrace
P.O. Box 333
Linden, NJ 07036
Tel: 908-486-2094
staszziel@aol.com
SECRETARY
Raoul Rabiner
145 Rector Street
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
Tel: 732-826-0845
crusaderrabbit@att.net
- #21 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Walt Kadyk (Marti)
4993 Saddlewood Place
Alta Loma, CA 91737
Tel: 909-781-2940
walt.kadyk@comserco.com
SECRETARY
Sheila Van Guilder
3665 Bear Street B
Santa Ana, CA 92704
Tel: 714-434-7550
svanguil@adelphia.net
- #22 PRESIDENT - Northeast**
David Loughran
1203 Bay Ave.
P.O. Box 746
Mantoloking, NJ 08738
Tel: 732-892-8388
dploughran@comcast.net
SECRETARY
Betty Jane France (Robert)
13 Paul Jones Dr.
Brick, NJ 08723
Tel: 732-477-3732
- #23 PRESIDENT - North Central**
William Platten (Roberta)
4016 West US 23
Cheboygan, MI 49721
Tel: 231-627-6276
comm.platten@comcast.net
Winter:
7440 Deep Run Drive
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301
Tel: 248-258-1541
SECRETARY
Don Schorffhaar (Sue)
9829 High Banks Drive
Cheboygan, MI 49721
Tel: 231-627-2906
dschorffhaar@earthlink.net
- #24 PRESIDENT - Northwest**
Carol Zumpano
60 Calgary Ave.
Penticton, BC V2A 2T6
Canada
Tel: 250-292-8750
czumpano@vip.net
SECRETARY
Yvonne Crawford (Steven)
1547 Klien Rd.
Kelowna, BC V1Z 3H5
Canada
Tel: 250-769-7325
skicondo@telus.net
- #25 PRESIDENT - North Central**
Lois Conte (Rick)
169 Gallup
Mt. Clemens, MI 48043
Tel: 586-463-5952
ctstrans@ameritech.net
SECRETARY
Russell C. Skitch (Sharon)
2037 22nd
Wyandotte, MI 49192
Tel: 586-899-6765
Rskitch@buffwhelanchev.com
- #26 PRESIDENT - Northeast**
Ernie C. Odierna (Camille)
5 Highridge Road
Larchmont, NY 10538
Tel: 914-834-2162
ernie01@optonline.net
SECRETARY
Martin L. Egeland (Mary)
4 Chalden Court
Huntington Station, NY 11746
Tel: 631-351-0935
carolprin@aol.com
- #27 PRESIDENT - Northeast**
Gary Barger (Nancy)
197 Magothy Beach Road
Pasadena City, MD 21122
Tel: 410-437-4936
Fax: 410-437-1695
superiorsystems@comcast.net
SECRETARY
Carol Hogan (Pete)
233 Bridge Drive
Joppa, MD 21085
Tel: 410-679-0594
Cell: 433-417-6286
Fax: 410-333-9970
plhcah@msn.com
- #70 PRESIDENT - England**
Ron Judd
41 Glynn Road
Peacehaven, East Sussex
England BN10 7SH
SECRETARY
Sue Young (Bill)
5 Grasmere Grove
Rochester, Kent
England ME2 4PN
Tel: (44)(0)1634 713478
bluesil@hotmail.com
- #75 PRESIDENT - New Zealand**
Harry Sutcliffe (Gay)
20 Arohia Pl.
Snells Beach, Warkworth
New Zealand 0920
Tel: 0064-9-4254407
thesuttys@xtra.co.nz
SECRETARY
Open



International Order of the Blue Gavel
3517 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 208
San Diego, CA 92108 USA

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