



# THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL  
An Association of Past Commodores

*Volume 28 No. 3*

*July 2008*

*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.

Spring  
Regional  
Meeting

June 5-8,  
2008

Hosted by  
District #5

Columbia River  
Yacht Club

Multnomah  
Channel YC

Portland  
Yacht Club

## WELCOME BLUE GAVEL



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## *From the President*

*by Richard Janiszewski*

Dear Fellow Blue Gavel Member:

The Spring Regional Meeting hosted by District 5 was productive and very enjoyable. I will address the numerous business items in this report, but the hospitality and courtesies extended by the Columbia River Yacht Club, the Multnomah Channel Yacht Club, and the Portland Yacht Club were in keeping with the high standards to which we have become accustomed. My personal congratulations and sincere thank you to all, and especially A-Net Crawford who coordinated every event magnificently and to her supportive husband, John, who efficiently provided transportation services.

I find it difficult to accept that eight months have elapsed since assuming my position as President. While we have enjoyed past successes due to the involvement of our members and the commitment of my predecessors, I realize and accept that much unfinished business remains to be completed. Additionally, new initiatives whose objectives are to maximize member friendliness and the overall effectiveness of efficiencies of the Blue Gavel are also being discussed and developed prior to presentation at our October 2008 Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington. These initiatives include IOBG LOG newsletter format and content changes; By-Law Code of Conduct; Value Added member program, and a scholarship award program for children and/or grandchildren of members. We continue to take actions to improve our website; member retention and new member solicitation; clothing supply program, and ways to improve communications, commitment, and involvement both upward and downward.

I would also comment on a proposal to significantly modify our current voting process. You should also know that I welcome diversity of thoughts and ideas and feel that great organizations indeed thrive and grow as a result of positive, progressive thinking at all levels.

District 8 has proposed the following voting By-Law change as of March 29, 2008, and I quote:

“Elimination of the one vote each that the Executive Committee, Area V.P.’s & Past Presidents are allowed at the Annual Meeting.”

“One vote for each 50 members a District has [the minimum required to start a District]”

In effect, all Districts with less than fifty members would have their current vote eliminated. (Refer to our By-Laws on the [www.iobg.org](http://www.iobg.org) web site for current voting process. This item was discussed at the Portland Regional meeting (June 2008) by the Executive Committee and at the General meeting. For those not fully familiar with our By-Laws, the approval of the Board of Directors is required for any and all By-Law changes. This proposal has and will continue to be a matter of much careful discussion and the ideas of all members is encouraged through their District Directors, Area Vice Presidents, Executive Committee Vice Presidents or directly to me at [richardjaniszewski@msn.com](mailto:richardjaniszewski@msn.com). I believe strongly that this matter should be resolved only on the basis of whether the current voting process is fair and balanced and what, if any changes, should be made. Any other approach or motive is patently bogus and does not translate to logic.

On a lighter note, for those planning on attending the August 7-9 Summer Regional Meeting in Long Island, New York hosted by District 26, I urge you to make early reservations. The hotel is filling up and the boat cruise is on a first-come, first-served basis. You don't want to miss out on the first Long Island Regional meeting—it promises to be unforgettable.

Enjoy good health and know your support is appreciated.



## *From the President Elect*

*by Jerry Rudd*



A-net Crawford and District 5 made quite the impression at the summer June meeting with meeting space and dinners on Thursday and Friday night. Multnomah Channel Yacht Club's members helped to put on a delicious Prime Rib dinner with all the trimmings, and what a neat clubhouse they have. We were honored to help Portland Yacht Club celebrate their 100th year anniversary in their newly decorated club with a chicken and steak barbeque dinner and trimmings.

There were at least forty IOBG members at the Rosarians Knighting Ceremony, where I was honored to be Knighted this year along with some very dignified candidates. A Brigadier General USAF, 1 Vice Admiral USN, 3 Rear Admirals (2 USN 1 USCG), US District Judge, Former Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court, West Point Head Football Coach, World War II Ace Pilot (105 Combat Missions), and many more. What an honor it was to be included and talk with these individuals.

District 1 is very excited to be hosting the 2008 Annual Meeting in October, they are lining up some great guest speaker, amongst them are USN Admiral of the Northwest and USCG Admiral of the 13th District and they're still working on others. One of our workshop speakers is none other than Past President of IOBGA Carol Garside on the operations and workings of the IOBG-Humanitarian Foundation, another will be information on the Marketing Plan IOBG has developed and much more. There will be lots of good information for the District Directors to check out and take back to the local District



Personalized tours of The Museum of Flight will be available for those coming in on Wednesday morning. To make your reservations for the museum tour please contact Jerry Rudd at 253-838-9027 or fax: 253-661-8683 or at jrjackie1@comcast.net.

Besides the workshops and meetings there will be the social activities. Thursday night, Des Moines Yacht Club is hosting a Country Western Barbecue, bring your western outfits or casual clothing, entertainment will be a surprise. Friday night will be an adventure back in time, a boat cruise to Blake Island's Tillicum Village to experience the Myth & Magic of the Northwest Coast Indians at a traditional salmon bake dinner and stage show.

Don't forget to send in your registrations. District 1 is looking forward to seeing you in the Great Northwest in October 2008. Registration Forms and Events Schedules are available for download from the IOBG web site at [www.iobg.org](http://www.iobg.org).

In Seattle, if you've but one experience, make it Tillicum Village!





## *From the First Vice President*

*by Ray Thompson*

I attended District 8's Spring Meeting (May 22-27, 2008) which was held at the Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club. This yacht club was almost completely destroyed during a hurricane several years ago. It has now been rebuilt and redecorated into a showcase. Good fellowship, good food, a "Sundowner Flag Ceremony" made this an attractive meeting place.

The meetings were well attended with General Business being quickly dispatched so that more time could be spent discussing "Old Business". Old Business was related to District 8's revised Position Paper.

Their position has been reduced to a single item which concerns itself with our current Vote Distribution. A second item discussed at length concerned their adoption of a District 8 Burgee. Amid some concern, this Burgee was strongly supported by the Officers who suggested that it was similar in nature to one of our State Flags. Some of the comments had to do with how this flag would be displayed relative to the IOBG flag? My reluctance was that this particular flag was originally designed for the "Florida Commodores' Association".

District 18 continues its efforts to revitalize the District. They are still seeking volunteers to step up and help with the efforts.

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IOBG Blazer emblems are authorized for sale by Commodore Insignia. These emblems have the Blue Gavel Burgee on the left staff and the Commodore's club on the right staff. They are available in a white or black background and the price is \$19.95 each plus shipping and tax.

**BLAZER EMBLEMS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR THE AUXILIARY**

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

Quantity	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 Second Vice President by Vern Bendsen*

During these past several months, I have been made very aware of how little knowledge many of our members have about IOBG.

Some of the comments I have heard are: How come we can't go to an Executive Committee meeting? How come we don't know what our District leaders are doing? How do several Chapters form their own District?

Bob Miller, who was our IOBG President in 2001, stressed that we need to continually communicate with our members on every level, the Chapter, the District and the International.

Because of the questions that are asked, it seems that communication to our members has not been very effective on all levels. In my February article I stated that "we will work to have better communication with our members". Apparently this is not the case, so there is much work to be done to get effective communication within our organization.

Let me start by answering the questions mentioned earlier in my article:

Any IOBG member can attend an Executive Committee meeting.

The only time members would be excluded is when the Committee needs to discuss personnel.

If you do not know what your District leaders are doing, you need to ask them. I suggest that you put your questions and comments in writing to your leaders.

Chapters who want to form their own District can ask any Executive Committee member how to go about forming your own District. It is very easy to do.

Any member can ask any Executive Committee members any question they want.

Let me close on this thought. Our bylaws tell us that we are an organization of Past Commodores of "good character having a common love and appreciation of yachting and social and outdoor activities of every kind". We need to get back to that basic premise of IOBG. We need to get the politics out of our organization. We need to have FUN.

Now that Summer is here, get out there and boat. HAVE FUN !!!

*Want to avoid tearing out pages of your newsletter?  
All Events Schedules and Registration Forms  
printed in this LOG can be downloaded from  
the IOBG web site at [www.iobg.org](http://www.iobg.org)*

# *From the Past President by Carol Promessi*



## Committee Members

Chairman: Carol Promessi, Immediate Past President  
Richard Janiszewski, President  
Jerry Rudd, President Elect

## Audit Report

In accordance with the Policy Manual, Treasurer Marshall Nemoj, furnished to the Audit Committee, the financial data of the International Order of the Blue Gavel for the period ending December, 2007.

Included was a detailed and comprehensive cover letter outlining the accounting system incorporated in his office. Also furnished were General Ledgers for the period ending 12/31/07, a Chart of Accounts used, Bank Reconciliation statements, Accounts Receivable Summary and an Accounts Payable Ledger. Standard accounting abbreviations and terminology used was easily understood as explained in the above mentioned cover letter.

All receipts were properly recorded and disbursements were documented in detail. Monthly bank statements were reconciled to verify balance. P/C Marshall Nemoj, Treasurer, was most helpful in furnishing the necessary data for this Audit.

We have studied and discussed these reports and find them to be in proper order according with approved and accredited accounting principals and practices.

It is the decision of our Committee to formally approve the Audit Report supplied by Treasurer Marshall Nemoj for the year ended December 31, 2007.

The Committee members make the following recommendations:

Richard Janiszewski: All future audits be conducted by an independent, professional third party

Carol Promessi and Jerry Rudd: The above issue of having an outside audit should be tabled until it could be determined what the difference in expenses would be to hire an outside auditor.

Have a line item added to the Budget under Executive Committee – Travel Expenses:

It is recommended that travel expenses for the Executive Committee shall be restricted to those travel expenses where the member/s that has to travel due to extenuating circumstances to discuss issues that are of concern to the District, and be limited to \$1500.00 per year.

Line item added to Operating Expenses: Officer and Directors Manual – Printing

Respectfully submitted,

P/C Carol Promessi, Past President, Chairman  
P/C Richard Janiszewski, President  
P/C Jerry Rudd, President Elect

In our personal opinion, we have been agonizing over the years the expenses and income of the organization and have been trying to cut expenses because of the dues increase.

It is counter productive to now add more expenses which goes totally against the decisions we have made to cut expenses. Therefore, we recommend that the Executive Committee look closely at the expenditures that are submitted by any person on the Executive Committee for expense reimbursement. The Treasure should examine the receipts and submit them to the Executive Committee for approval.

We recommend that the Audit procedure that has served us through the years be continued.

The most significant issue facing our organization is membership retention. We have lost members in the past couple of years. Some want to say that the International is responsible for the loss, but in reality it is the District's lack of attracting and maintaining

Respectfully submitted,

P/C Carol Promessi, Past President, Chairman  
P/C Jerry Rudd, President Elect



# *Legal Officer Report*

## *by George C. Knies*



### Reciprocal Arrangements With 501(c)(7) Clubs "The Unrelated Income Controversy"

The IRS is vigorously pursuing 501(c) organizations that have not been reporting unrelated income properly and that have not been accurately substantiating it in their accounting records. This controversial issue has generated lengthy litigation that has generated detailed criterion regarding unrelated income.

In many states reciprocal arrangements among clubs that offer the same services and operate under restricted or Club Liquor Licenses allow such visiting club members the privilege of consuming alcoholic beverages. This reciprocal convenience is not the case when it comes to the IRS and club income reporting. The advent of the Internet as a vehicle to speed up the billing and collection process of charges, and consequently has prompted more clubs to consider entering into these types of agreements. Yacht clubs have been promoting reciprocal use of their clubs for many years and believe that it is an added benefit to its members who are often out of town on business and pleasure. There is an ongoing debate among professionals in the club industry as to whether this source of income is to be classified as "member related" or "nonmember related" income.

If income were to be received from reciprocal arrangements, clubs must make a decision as to whether to classify it as "member related" or "nonmember related" income in its accounting records. Though important to all clubs, the classification decision becomes extremely important to a club that has applied for and received tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code. The issue is most important when a 501(c)(7) club makes the 15% / 35% limitation computation in order to identify a club's risks.

In 1979, the IRS published Private Letter Ruling 7950015 dealing with reciprocal arrangements. One of the questions raised by the requesting "Club" was as follows: Does the use of a Section 501(c)(7) social club by members of a club, which has a reciprocal agreement or working arrangements with the host club produce unrelated business income to the host club?

The general facts of this ruling found the "Club" had been recognized as an organization exempt from taxation as described in Section 501(d)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code. Its purpose was noted to provide a means of entertainment, amusement and athletic recreation and instruction for its members and others.

The "Club" had reciprocal agreements with approximately 40 similar clubs across the United States and two in Canada. These agreements permitted the "Club" members to use the facilities of reciprocating clubs and allow their members to use the "Club" facilities. This use permitted the "Club" to bill the visiting reciprocal members' clubs and permitted those clubs to bill the "Club" for charges incurred by its members.

IRS ruled: Regarding reciprocal agreements or working arrangements between clubs and the production of unrelated business income to the host club, it is the Service's position that under section 512 of the Code, amounts paid to a social club by visiting members of another social club are amounts paid by non-members even though both clubs are similar in nature, and the amounts paid are for goods, facilities, or services provided by such social club under a reciprocal agreement or arrangement with such other social club."

Thus, for this particular "Club", the IRS concluded that the use of a section 501(c)(7) social club's facilities by members of another club under a reciprocal agreement or working arrangement with the host club produced unrelated business income to the host club. The accounting department needed to record the income as "nonmember income."

"Amounts paid to a social club by visiting members of another social club are amounts paid by nonmembers even if both clubs are similar in nature and the amounts paid are pursuant to a reciprocal arrangement agreed to by both entities."

Considering the increase of IRS interest in 501(c) organizations it would be wise for clubs to review their reciprocal agreements with their attorney to determine whether openly inviting "nonmembers" into the club by way of reciprocals has an effect on either or both private status and the public accommodations laws.

From a tax prospective, nonmember or "general public" means persons other than "members" of a club or their dependents or guests. A member's spouse is treated as a member for this purpose, even though not listed as such in Club documents (Revenue Procedure 71-17). Revenue Ruling 79-145 provides additional definition of nonmember as it applies to a "guest" (an individual who is a guest of a member of the club and who ordinarily does not reimburse the member for the guest's expenses). Persons that are invited guests and that pay for their own activities and usage are to be identified as nonmembers of the club. Having nonmember income from the "general public" opens the club to questions regarding private status and the related host of issues ranging from discrimination to disability access not to mention jeopardizing tax-exempt status.

### **Summary:**

\*Even though an organization is tax exempt, it still may be liable for tax on its unrelated business income. An exempt organization that has \$1,000 or more gross income from an unrelated business must file Form 990-T, Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return.

\*No more than 15% of Gross Receipts should be non-member income from activities traditionally conducted by a yacht club, i.e. cruise-ins, sales to race participants from other clubs, etc.

\*IRS may consider "reciprocal club members" as "general public" for income purposes.

\*Be aware of local laws pertaining to Private Status and Public Accommodations.

\*A 501(c)(7) organization may receive up to 35% of its gross receipts, including investment income, from sources outside of its membership without losing tax-exempt status. Of the 35%, up to 15% of gross receipts may be derived from the use of the club's facilities or services by the general public or from other activities not furthering social or recreational purposes for members.

\*Club web sites should not do something on the Internet that would not be done in their own clubhouse; clubs should not do something on the Internet that would not be done in printed form, such as flyers and newsletters; the club web site is for your members' benefit not the benefit of the general public: Linking to any commercial sites may be dangerous to your club's tax health.

\*Public advertising such as "Dinner served Friday & Saturday Breakfast served on Sunday, Guest Berthing Available." "Visit our Yacht Club Facility, Guest Berthing is available at the Ideal Overnight Stopping Point." "You are invited to race our Friday night and mid-winter series, bar open Wednesday through Sunday." "Reciprocating Yacht Club, Cruise-ins Welcome." "Group Accommodations available through the club office." "Contact our Club Office for scheduled events"... etc. is a red flag to the IRS!

\*Every club has unique issues; therefore, it is strongly recommended that you seek advice from your legal and accounting professionals.

It seems clear that the IRS may take the position to treat income derived by a Yacht club pursuant to a reciprocal agreement with a Yacht club of like nature as income from nonmembers. It is suggested that clubs review their nonmember income limitations before embarking upon new reciprocal arrangements. Know that with full disclosure of reciprocal arrangements found on your clubs web pages or that of reciprocal clubs, the world, along with the IRS, will have a road map to this source of income.



# International Order Of the Blue Gavel Summer 2008 Regional Meeting Long Island, New York

**August 7 - August 10, 2008**

*additional days: Aug. 6th & 11th if desired.*

**Hosted by Northeastern Area District 26**

## Room Reservations & Events should be made by July 15, 2008

Contact Holiday Inn for FREE SHUTTLE service from Islip Airport only

Holiday Inn Express Stony Brook

3131 Nesconset Hwy

Stony Brook, NY 11720

Tel: 631 471 8000

www.stonybrookny.hiexpress.com

\$149.00/Night (Code BGA)

8/6 - 8/11 additional days if needed

*Contact Person  
Tom Cornell (All About Travel)  
Tel: 631 284 3952*

### Friday, August 8, 2008

Deluxe Hot Breakfast 6:00 am - 10:00 am  
*(Sponsored by Hotel)*

Executive Committee Meeting 9:00 am - 12:30 pm  
*(Mount Sinai Yacht Club)*

Lunch 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm  
*(Mount Sinai Yacht Club)*

Bus to NY Athletic Club Yacht Club 2:00 pm -

Cocktail Party 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm  
*(New York Athletic Club Yacht Club)*

Dinner 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
*(Harlem Yacht Club)*

Bus *(Mount Sinai and/or Hotel)* 8:00 pm

*Officers Dress -  
White full-length  
pants, shoes,  
hosiery, shirt.  
Jacket and ties not  
required.*

*Members Dress -  
Casual, smart/  
appropriate.*

### Thursday, August 7, 2008

Check in at Hotel 4:00 pm - till

Registration (Hotel) 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Management Party 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
*(Sponsored by Hotel)*

Dinner on-own *(see Points of Interest Packet)*

### Saturday, August 9, 2008

Deluxe Hot Breakfast 7:00 am - 11:00 am  
*(Sponsored by Hotel)*

Membership Meeting 9:00 am - 12:30 pm  
*(Huntington Yacht Club)*

Buffet Lunch Cruise 1:00 pm - 5:30 pm  
*(Northern V's - 92' Broward - Compliments of:  
PC Joseph & Judy Verderber (Huntington Yacht Club)  
(Luna Sea - 55' Viking - Compliments of:  
Tom & Regina Vieweg, (Huntington Yacht Club)*

Dinner (Manhattan) 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
*(Goldern Unicorn Restaurant)*

Bus *(Huntington and/or Hotel)* 8:00 pm

### Sunday, August 10, 2008 (Depart)

Deluxe Hot Breakfast 7:00 am - 11:00 am  
*(Sponsored by Hotel)*



**Limited Space Available  
Maximum 80 Guests**

*1st Come 1st Served*

## International Order Of the Blue Gavel Regional Meeting Saturday Aug. 9, 2008, 1:00 - 5:30 pm

4 - 1/2 Hour Buffet Lunch Cruise

From the Huntington Yacht Club to New York City  
aboard PC Joseph Verderber's 92' Luxury Motor Yacht

*Northern V's*

and /or aboard Tom Vieweg's 55' Luxury Motor Yacht

*Luna Sea*

**Price \$95.00 pp**

*Leaving promptly at 1:00 pm*

*Price includes Cruise, Lunch & Transportation*

*to Dinner, and return to Huntington YC and/or Hotel*

### Dinner: Chinese Banquet

**Golden Unicorn Chinese Restaurant  
18 East Broadway, New York, NY**

**6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

**Price \$48.00 pp** *(includes tax & gratuity)*

- Cruise Long Island Sound
- Down the East River -
- Passing & Viewing the UN
- Chrysler & Empire State Buildings
- 5 Bridges (including the Brooklyn Bridge)
- the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island
- The World Trade Center Site
- and the amazing skyline of NYC
- Docking at Liberty Landing, NJ  
- behind the Statue of Liberty
- Dinner to follow in Lower NY
- Transportation from NYC to HYC/Hotel

**International Order Of the Blue Gavel**  
**Hotel Information - Summer Regional Meeting August 7 - 10, 2008**  
**(August 6th &/or 11th if desired)**

Holiday Inn Express Stony Brook  
 3131 Nesconset Highway, Stony Brook, NY 11720  
 www.stonybrookny.hiexpress.com  
**Tel: 631 471 8000 (Group Code "BGA")**

**Room Reservations & Events  
 Should be made by:  
 July 15, 2008**

The rate for August 7th, 8th, and 9th is \$149.00 per room/per night. The Hotel has also agreed to hold the rate should anyone wish to arrive or leave a day or two earlier or later. The hotel has a "Manager's Reception" from 6-7 PM on Thursday with complimentary wine, beer and light buffet. There is a free hot deluxe breakfast every day, free high-speed wireless internet, 24 hour business center, indoor heated swimming pool, fitness center, and a free aqua massage for each guest. To book your accommodations you can call the hotel at the above telephone number and use the **Group Code: "BGA"** or for help with airline and/or rental car arrangements call:

**Tom Cornell, Group Sales**  
**All About Travel**  
**Tel: (631) 751-2925 E-mail: TNCornell@optonline.net**

**International Order Of the Blue Gavel**  
**Summer Meeting Registration August 7 - 10, 2008**  
**(August 6th &/or 11th if desired)**

**Make Checks Payable to:**  
**IOBG District 26**  
**and Mail to: ►►**

IOBG District 26  
 C/O Hal Salyer  
 34 Miller Avenue  
 Shoreham, NY 11786

District #: \_\_\_\_\_ Office Held: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Info: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse/Guest is a member of: \_\_\_\_\_  IOBG  IOBGA

**Event Selections - All Prices include tax & gratuity**

DATE	TIME	# OF PERS.	COST PP	TOTAL
<b>Friday, August 8</b>				
Lunch (Mount Sinai Yacht Club)	1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	_____	\$12.00 pp	\$ _____
Bus to New York Athletic Club Yacht Club/ Harlem Yacht Club (Dinner) and Return to Hotel and/or Mount Sinai Yacht Club	2:30 pm -	_____	\$28.00 pp*	\$ _____
Cocktail Party (New York Athletic Club Yacht Club)	4:30 pm - 5:30 pm	_____	\$20.00 pp	\$ _____
Dinner (Harlem Yacht Club)	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	_____	\$38.00 pp	\$ _____
Bus (Mount Sinai and/or Hotel)	8:00 pm	_____	.....*Price included in above.....	
<b>Saturday, August 9</b>				
Buffet Lunch Cruise (Northern V's - Huntington Yacht Club) (Luna Sea - Huntington Yacht Club)	1:00 pm - 4:30 pm	_____	\$95.00**	\$ _____
			**includes transportation to Dinner & Bus Back to Huntington YC/Hotel	
Dinner (Manhattan) (Goldern Unicorn Chinese Restaurant)	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	_____	\$48.00	\$ _____

**Make Checks Payable to:**  
**IOBG District 26**  
**and Mail to: ►►**

IOBG District 26  
 C/O Hal Salyer  
 34 Miller Avenue  
 Shoreham, NY 11786

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Complimentary Deluxe  
 Hot Breakfast at Hotel Daily**

IOBG



## CLOTHING

IOBGA



PC Earl Hohlmayer of Commodore Insignia has asked to be relieved of his responsibility for supplying clothing. He will continue, for now, to accept orders for the IOBG blazer emblems and Auxiliary blazer emblems, collar insignias, name badges, epaulets, ties, and belts, etc.

The Executive Committee has agreed to accept the submitted proposals of the following three very reputable sport garment vendors:

They are (in alphabetical order):

**DTE Design This, Inc.**

c/o Carol Wilson or Barbara Browning

Telephone: (410) 420-6880

Fax: (410) 420-6880

e-mail: [barb1dte@aol.com](mailto:barb1dte@aol.com) or [cwilson751@aol.com](mailto:cwilson751@aol.com)

**North Star Sportswear Corporation**

c/o David Kutz

Telephone: (360) 297-2935

e-mail: [davidkutz@aol.com](mailto:davidkutz@aol.com)

**Yachta Lettering**

c/o Paul and Lynn Erb

Telephone: (609) 698-6735

Fax: M/W/F: (609) 698-6735

e-mail: [yachtalettering@comcast.net](mailto:yachtalettering@comcast.net)

Web site for review of clothing available: [www.companycasuals.com](http://www.companycasuals.com)

This is a preliminary notice for informational purposes. Full details of all products including payment options and web site access will be available shortly.

If there are any other interested parties, a letter of intent, along with a digitalized sample of the IOBG Logo should be forwarded to the Executive Committee.

Please feel free to contact [richardjaniszewski@msn.com](mailto:richardjaniszewski@msn.com) should you have any questions.



## U.S. Sailing/IOBG Representative

by *Bill Thayer*

The new issue of the Racing Rules of Sailing (2009-2012) will be mailed the first week in December 2008.

The Burgee Program is the US Sailing endorsed insurance program for Yacht Clubs and non-profit sailing organizations. The Yacht Club and Jr Sailing Safety Program CD has been mailed to all participating members of the Burgee Program.

The well touted and very well attended Cruising and Seamanship Seminars have been accomplished. Twelve seminars in all for Cruisers and Racers with topics such as heavy weather sailing, search and rescue, weather forecasting and common medical conditions at sea, had attendance of over 13,000 participants. This year Bill Gladstone and John Rousmaniere put together a CD from these seminars that will sell for \$35.00 to members and \$40.00 to non members.

The United States sent 10 members of the US Disabled Sailing Team to Quingao, China to race in the IFDS Quingao International Regatta in May for five days of racing. The top ranked teams will compete again in the Paralympics Games in September, also in Quingao, China.

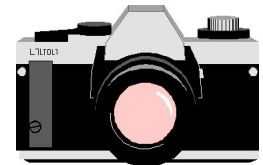
To show that it is not one sided, US Sailing held a powerboat training course for certified sailing instructors and other highly qualified candidates.

Senate Bill #2766 and House Bill #5949 "The Clean Boating Act of 2008" which would exempt recreational boaters from having to purchase a "discharge permit" for all recreational boats has cleared committee and is headed for the full House and Senate. This would include Sabots, Optis and up. The fight is not over as the bill must be acted upon and passed by September 30, 2008. US Sailing, as have all boating organizations, has set up a web site to assist us all in flooding congress with our feelings.

[www.boatblue.org/takeaction.aspx](http://www.boatblue.org/takeaction.aspx)

### *Special Note:*

*LOG photographs for this issue...*



*Unfortunately, no photographs of the Friday Evening or Saturday activities were submitted from our members.*

### *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](http://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: [bethnbillt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bethnbillt@sbcglobal.net)

In Seattle, if you've but one experience, make it Tillicum Village!



*Welcome to Seattle*

*October*



*2008*



**Marriott**  
SEATTLE AIRPORT







# 2008 Annual Meeting - Events Schedule

Marriott -Seattle -Airport

3201 South 176th Street

Seattle, WA 98188

1-800-228-9290

	<u>Time</u>	<u>No Persons</u>	<u>Event Cost</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Wednesday, October 22nd</u>				
Registration	2 :00 - 5:00 PM			
Silent Auction - Open	2 :00 - 5:00 PM			
Hospitably Room	5 :00 - 7:00 PM		No Charge	
<u>Thursday, October 23rd</u>				
<u>All Meetings - Dress Grays</u>				
Registration	8:00 - 4:00 PM			
Silent Auction - Open	8:00 - 4:00 PM			
Continental Breakfast	8:00 AM		No Charge	
Area VP's Round Table Discussion	9:00 - 11:30 AM			
IOBGA - Seattle Center - Bus	9:00 AM			
IOBGA - Ride the Ducks of Seattle/Lunch	11:00 AM	_____	\$20.00	\$ _____
Lunch - IOBG	12:00 PM	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
District Directors				
Area VPs Round Table (continued)	1:00 - 3:00 PM			
Des Moines Yacht Club - Bus Departs	4:30 PM			
Dinner & Entertainment (Dress-Western/Casual)	5:00 - 10:00 PM	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
<u>Friday, October 24th</u>				
<u>IOBG &amp; IOBGA Meetings - Dress Grays</u>				
Registration	8:00 - 4:00 PM			
Silent Auction - Open	8:00 - 4:00 PM			
Continental Breakfast	8:00 AM		No Charge	
IOBG Pre-Meeting Discussion	9:00 - 11:30 AM			
IOBGA Pre-Meeting Discussion	9:30 - 11:30 AM			
Joint Lunch - Speaker	12:00 - 1:30 PM	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
IOBGHF Meeting	1:30 - 2:30 PM			
Dinner - Tillicum Village-Bus (Dress-Casual)	3:30 PM	_____	\$50.00	\$ _____
<u>Saturday, October 25th</u>				
<u>IOBG &amp; IOBGA Meetings - Dress Grays</u>				
Registration	8:00 - 9:00 AM			
IOBG Annual Meeting/Cont. Breakfast	9:00 - 11:30 AM			
IOBGA Annual Meeting/Cont. Breakfast	9:30 - 11:30 AM			
Joint Lunch - Speaker	12:00 - 1:30 PM	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
IOBG Annual Meeting	1:30 - 2:30 PM			
Auction Items P/U - Shipped	3:00 PM			
No Host Cocktails	6:00 - 7:00 PM			
Dinner and Dancing (Dress-Blue Gavel Formal or Black Tie)	7:00 - 12:00 AM	_____	\$65.00	\$ _____
Installation of Officers				
<u>Sunday, October 26th</u>				
IOBG Fall Regional Meeting	9:00 - 10:00 AM			





# 2008 Annual Meeting Mail-In Registration Form



*Marriott -Seattle Airport*

*3201 South 176th Street*

*Seattle, WA 98188*

	<u>No Persons</u>	<u>Event Cost</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Wednesday, October 22nd</u>			
Hospitably Room		No Charge	
<u>Thursday, October 23rd</u>			
IOBGA - Ride the Ducks of Seattle/Lunch	_____	\$20.00	\$ _____
Lunch - IOBG	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
Dinner & Entertainment	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
<u>Friday, October 24th</u>			
Joint Lunch - Speaker	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
Dinner - Tillicum Village - Bus	_____	\$50.00	\$ _____
<u>Saturday, October 25th</u>			
Joint Lunch - Speaker	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
Dinner and Dancing	_____	\$65.00	\$ _____
Installation of Officers			
		TOTAL:	\$ _____

FOR AIR TRAVEL: Sea-Tac International Airport (SEA). Courtesy Shuttle to the Marriott-Seattle Airport Hotel

**Please call the Hotel** for room reservations at 1-800-228-9290 before September 15, 2008.

When making your reservations mention **IOBG** for the special rate of \$137.00 for Single or Double.

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

**P/C Jacquelyn Evans Rudd  
37834 43rd Ave South  
Auburn, WA 98001**

District Number \_\_\_\_\_ Office Held \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE/GUEST \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest is a member of IOBG \_\_\_\_\_ IOBGA \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED:            \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Your reservation must be received No Later Than **October 16, 2008**



# Northwestern

Districts 1, 2, 4, 5 & 24

## Arthur Kovarnik

N.W. Vice President

District 1 was well represented at the Spring Regional meeting in Portland in June. Plans were made to hold a joint Spring meeting with District 1 and District 5 in April 2009. The meeting will be held in Hood River, Oregon, followed by either a dinner cruise or dinner train ride into the foothills of the Cascade Mountains. District 5 is revitalized with many new members joining IOBG and District 1 is looking forward to hosting a joint meeting and social.

### District 1

Submitted by Mary Nye Meyers, Pres. Dist. 1

Many thanks to those members who were able to attend the District 1 Fall and Spring meetings. Both the Marysville Strawberry Festival Board (Fall Change of Watch) and Richland Yacht Club (Spring Meeting) made us feel so welcome and went above and beyond our expectations. The Saturday evening festivities at Richland Yacht Club's Western Night had the cowboys and cowgirls circling the wagons. Unfortunately, I didn't have my camera with me! Also, I want to welcome all our new inductees (members) and new Chapters (Emerald Rose YC- WA and Hells Canyon YC-Idaho).

We are all getting excited for the upcoming Fall Change of Watch meeting planned for September 19-21, 2008 sponsored by Spokane Yacht Club-WA. The Viva Las Vegas night, the Hit and Giggle golf match and a beautiful boat ride on the Spokane River are just a few things in store for us.



The Annual meeting of the IOBG is schedule for October 22-26, 2008. Jerry Rudd, 2002 Past President of District 1, will be inducted as President of the International Order of the Blue Gavel. District 1 will be hosting an international conference of guests. We have a lot of work ahead of us but it will be rewarding to see one of our own members as the new International President of IOBG.



Blue Gavel District 5 had a great opportunity during Rose Festival week to meet and greet many Past Commodores & First Mates from across the country with the International Order of The Blue Gavel.

June 5th. The first of several places The International group visited was Columbia River Yacht Club. As usual Columbia River Yacht Club did not hold back on their hospitality, or generosity, the lunch was wonderful, the International group was able to eat and enjoy the comforts of the clubhouse and the spectacular view of the Columbia River. The club house was also set up perfectly for their Spring Regional Meeting with a banner welcoming The Blue Gavel.

The second stop of the day was dinner at Multnomah Channel Yacht Club. The club house was decorated perfectly with round tables and red table clothes with a beautiful glass vase center piece and every woman greeted with a rose. The view was awesome with the water being so high, we could almost see over the dyke to the farm land of Sauvie Island. We have never had such awesome prime rib. The club house was packed. It was fun to see Past Commodores & First Mates from across the country have so much fun with Past Commodores & First Mates and members from the Metropolitan area.

The next day June 6th, they were off to a hosted dinner at Portland Yacht Club. The evening began with drinks and appetizers. The International Group of Past Commodores & Rosarians were able to meet and visit with several of PYC members and also enjoy the clubhouse and view of the Columbia River with their moorage below. Dinner was a delicious BBQ with a make your own dessert Sundae Bar. Again the tables were set perfectly with linens and lighthouse table centerpieces that were lit by candles. The International group of Past Commodores were very honored to have been a part of Portland Yacht Clubs 100th year and Past Commodore Ron Timmerman gave a little history of their club and clubhouse. The room was loud with people once again talking about boating and comparing yacht club traditions, it was a night you did not want to see end.

The President of The International Order Of The Blue Gavel Richard Janiszewski gave Multnomah Channel Yacht Club and Portland Yacht Club each a plaque of appreciation and a Burgle from his yacht club in New Jersey and they in hand exchanged Burgles from their yacht clubs which is tradition.

Blue Gavel District 5 would like to thank all of the visiting Past Commodores for supporting all of the Pacific Northwest Yacht Clubs.

District 5 and District 1 are also planning a joint meeting and murder mystery dinner train ride through the Columbia River Gorge, at the end of April. This will be a very outrageous fun time and we look forward to seeing everyone there. Details are still being worked out.





# Southwestern

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

**Larry Draper**

S.W. Vice President

“Opening days on the West Coast”

Opening day of the boating season brings much celebration and activity. Deanna and I traveled to Long Beach for the Opening Day and 25th Anniversary of Shoreline Yacht Club. In March we once again traveled south to Marina Del Rey for the Opening Day ceremonies for 7 yacht clubs. Marina Del Rey is so beautifully laid out with all seven clubs in close proximity.

Southern California traditions and ceremonies are so different from what we have in the San Francisco Bay area.. I was impressed with the Southern California more formal traditions; the uniforms, raising of the officer flags, cannon shots and obligatory speeches. All events held on the deck or property of the clubs as they are “commissioned”. Of course, fabulous food and drink followed each event.

On San Francisco Bay, all clubs who wish to participate gather on the Bay with boats decorated to theme. PICYA, Boat US, and Parker Dive Service sponsor the parade. This year’s theme, “Mother Goose and Friends” provided quite a challenge. I am pleased to say that my yacht club, Oyster Point YC of South San Francisco, placed 1st and 2nd in powerboats decorated to theme and 3rd in sailboats decorated to theme. OPYC also hosts the annual Opening Day Awards dinner and did we celebrate! Two other opening days celebrated in Northern California are The South Bay Opening Day and Opening Day on the Delta. Parades on the water precede parties at yacht clubs later in the day.

We attended meetings at Districts 14 and 19 as well.

District 11

Wilma Rosenberg, Dist. Director

Our territory is from Westlake Village to Marina Del Rey to King Harbor clubs.

The 2008 season began in February with a Wine Tasting for Charity Event hosted by the very gracious Port Royal Yacht Club. Great food, fun and friendships plus wine tasting were had by all. We made some money for the summer sailing scholarships for needy children. I even won a bottle of wine.

In March we had our 1st Spring Luncheon/BBQ that was FREE for all 2008 paid District 11 members. Such a deal! Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club was the hosting club. Thank you. Our own John Ellinwood spoke about sailing/cruising.

Westlake Yacht Club in May is having its annual Blue Gavel Scholarship for Juniors Fundraiser. It's a Casino Night with casino games, and a Texas Hold'em Tournament. I'll need all the help I can get from the dealers. Thanks IOBG Chapter President Mike Singer.

June brings our 1st Windy-Cue (BBQ). Everyone has lots of fun. We usually have a speaker/sailing.

This spring at Opening Days, Jr. S/C's were inducted into IOBG from: Pacific Mariner, Del Rey YC, South Bay Yacht Racing Club, Women's Sailing Association, Redondo Beach YC, King Harbor YC, & Port Royal YC. Welcome.

District 11 continues to support a women's shelter with soaps, lotions, etc. and we would welcome sailing equipment for a community youth program.

Our yacht clubs are full steam ahead into the racing season. Cruising is always on going with Mexico and Catalina Island as favorite spots to visit.

Past Commodores...come and be a part of our events. You will have a great time with new and old friends.



# North Central

Districts 7, 9, 23 & 25

## Francis D. Ramsey

N.C. Vice President

Our first item on our agenda upon returning this Spring was a meeting at the Mariners Boat Club. District 25 was having a dinner honoring Lois Conte, President of District 25. I had a meeting with Tom Lyons, District 25 Director and President Lois Conte. We discussed some problems and answered questions. I believe we came to an agreement about them.

Our second item was a trip to Douglas, Michigan to present a Charter to a new addition to District 23, the Tower Harbour Yacht Club. On May 31st we had a meeting with members of the new Chapter and I presented the Charter to Rosemary Hughes, Commodore of the Tower Harbour Y.C. In attendance were Bob Sapita, District 23 President; Past Commodores Chuck Bunting & Tom Kelly; members of THYC and R.J. Peterson, President of Tower Marine.



Our third item was our trip to Portland, Oregon for an IOBG Meeting and the Knighting of our President Elect Sir Jerry Rudd. We visited three yacht clubs. They were the Columbia River Yacht Club (we had a meeting there also), the second club was the Multnomah Channel Yacht Club and the third was the Portland Yacht Club which was celebrating its 100th year anniversary. They all made us welcome and it was a pleasure visiting them. We observed the Knighting Ceremony and saw the Rose Festival Parade which was sponsored by the Rosarians. Both were wonderful.

Our fourth item will be later this Summer when on August 2, 2008 we will go to Put In Bay, Ohio for a meeting of the ILYA and hopefully get to visit with personnel from Districts 7 and 9.

It has been a busy Spring but Maude and I have enjoyed every minute of it.



# Northeastern

Districts 3, 12, 20, 26, 27

## Marc Connelly

N.E. Vice President

### Marketing

“Many Thanks“ to Mary Nye Meyers for her considerable efforts in getting the Area Vice Presidents and District Directors reports live and on-line. On the Home Page of our web site ([www.iobg.org](http://www.iobg.org)), please go to the left side (blue side bar) and click on your applicable report and have a look.

Since this is new Comments are appreciated !!

### District 3

Over the past two years District 3 has been reporting the progress of Excalibur. This organization is dedicated to offering disabled and disadvantaged persons the opportunity to appreciate a boat ride and / or the experience of fishing. “Congratulations” Finally all the Coast Guard and other clearances for this unique new boat have been completed. Christening will be June 28th.

We look forward to presenting pictures to IOBG and of course to participating IOBGH in the next issue of the LOG. To see the uniqueness of this boat and program go to [www.excaliburls.org](http://www.excaliburls.org)

### District 20

President Stan Zielinski is to be applauded for his efforts to revitalize the enthusiasm in his District. A June 22nd luncheon set the stage for the future. We look forward to the new success of District 20.

### District 26

We are all looking forward to the August Regional Meeting on Long Island. P/C Ernie Odierna, P/C John Thompson and their committee are committed to giving us a New York boating experience. The Schedule of Meetings and Reservation Form can be found in this issue or on the IOBG Home Page.

### District 27



District 27 BRYC Chapter Conducted, their membership meeting on May 21, 2008.

IOBG District 27 Director Chuck Browning presenting donation to Vet's on the Bay. This charity supports wounded veterans and their families with a day of boating, and relaxation away from the hospitals. District 27 donated \$2,000 to Vet's on the Bay.



## District 27 (Cont')

Maryland Yacht Club had their Opening Day Ceremony on May 31 and the Queen of the Chesapeake Paget on June 1st 2008. Maryland Yacht Club covers over eight acres of beautiful waterfront at the end of Fairview Beach Road in Pasadena, Maryland.



IOBG District 27 President John Stepp introducing his Officers during the Bush River Yacht Club Opening Day Ceremonies

Telephone numbers and addresses of members are protected by the Privacy Act of 1974. As a matter of policy, rosters of names, addresses and telephone numbers shall not be made available to the general public or any outside organization. Privacy of all rosters shall be safeguarded and the page clearly labeled.

The publication of these rosters, addresses and telephone numbers on any computer on-line service including the Internet is prohibited by the 1974 Privacy Act.





# Southeastern

Districts 8 & 18

## Tom Sullivan

S.E. Vice President

On April 25 & 26 2008 at Charlotte Harbor YC a healing of sorts took place and elements of opposition blended into understanding and working together.

There's old saying that no one or anything can be all things to all people, except Bartenders & Lovers. I would like to add to this...the Blue Gavel can be all things to all people. Why I say this is because Yacht Club Chapters of the Blue Gavel have in most cases different reasons for their Chapters existing. Some Chapters are more formal and precise in their definition of the IOBG while others (usually sailing clubs) follow a more casual approach and attitude; almost like a sit-down-dinner versus a burger & beer approach. Which one is right----the answer is, both approaches are correct.

The one factor they have in common is: they both want to be under the IOBG umbrella and structure; and are for the most part satisfied with what they have.

With this in mind----a harmony and spirit of working together has taken place with some concerns over the IOBG's voting process-----and this is still being considered.

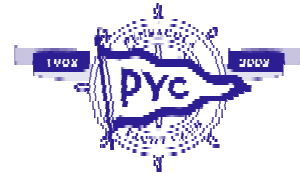
All in all-----it is great to be part of something that has a far reaching appeal-----and listens, but does not bend it's knee in defeat as it stands with its members.

In further business, President Dick Janiszewski met with Past President Art Garside and D8 President Rich Oakley for a 3-hour meeting which covered a multitude of subjects. Both President Dick Janiszewski and his wife Pat (Auxiliary President) visited Halifax River and later The Isles YC for its annual Blessing of the Fleet. Discussions were once again held with Isles YC members and everyone seemed pleased with how the meeting turned out. Other YCs recently visited by Dick & Pat were Ft. Pierce & Vero Beach Yacht Clubs.

D-18 has shown added growth with a reorganization of the Allatoona YC Chapter (GA.). Robert "Buzz" Bisanz has been heading up the Chapter's efforts.

The days are getting better.

## Pensacola Yacht Club Centennial Anniversary 2nd Annual Opening Ceremony & Blessing of the Fleet



The Pensacola Yacht Club (PYC) Chapter of the IOBG hosted the second annual Opening Day Ceremony on Sunday, April 6, 2008. This traditional ceremony originated in the northern states where the winters required yacht clubs to lay up their boats and boating activities until the winter thaws came to the area. The Opening Day Ceremony was a time of celebration and recognition of getting all the yachting activities open for a season of sun, sailing and fun on the water. Even though Pensacola Yacht Club is fully operational throughout the entire year, the idea of adopting a yachting tradition and custom to inaugurate our regatta season was well received by the club membership. The PYC Blue Gavel Chapter quickly grabbed the reins as the official host and organizer of the event.

For many years, the hosting of the long standing custom of the Blessing of the Fleet was the responsibility of the three yacht clubs located on Pensacola Bay on a rotating basis. This centuries old ceremony originated in southern Europe where predominately Catholic fishing villages looked to their priests for prayers ensuring safe and bountiful seasons. It continues still today in many local fishing areas in the southern part of the United States.

However, interest in continuing this tradition waned on the part of two of the clubs. PYC offered to continue the event annually and the responsibility was given to the PYC Blue Gavel Chapter. Since this event and the Opening Day Ceremony were likely to fall at the same time of year, the Chapter membership decided to combine the two events into a single activity. It has been adapted to include all who sail the seas and has added other festivities such as boat parades and cookouts. This year's celebration attracted 33 vessels including sailboats and power boats, all of which were distinctly decorated for the occasion. Father Jack Gray, PYC Fleet Chaplain and a member of the PYC Board of Directors conducted the traditional blessing ceremony.

This year, the combined event attracted visiting Flag Officers from several yacht clubs along the Gulf Coast including the Mobile Yacht Club, the Pensacola Beach Yacht Club, the Navy Yacht Club Pensacola, the Point Yacht Club of Josephine, Alabama. In addition, Commodore Ron Richards of the Gulf Yachting Association was a guest as was Mayor John Fogg of Pensacola (an active member of the PYC Chapter of IOBG) who read a Proclamation from the City of Pensacola honoring Pensacola Yacht Club on the occasion of its Centennial Anniversary. Other special guests included Escambia County Commissioner Gene Valentino and Past Commodores from Subic Bay, the Philippines; San Diego; St Croix, Virgin Islands; Navy Yacht Club Pensacola; and Navy Yacht Club Jacksonville.

Other activities and projects undertaken by the PYC Blue Gavel Chapter include the planting of the Centennial Trees at the Yacht Club to replace the huge Live Oak Trees, that were destroyed by Hurricane Ivan, which once graced the front lawn of the Clubhouse; the restoration of Fish Boat Number 1 (The Fish Boat was the original racing boat of the Gulf Yachting Association); and the building of a mast stepping hoist to support one design races hosted by PYC.

The PYC Blue Gavel Chapter has 31 very active members of which 19 are Past Commodores of PYC. Also, this chapter has two officers of the current Board of Directors of District 8.



Submitted by Earl Waesche, Legislative Director

## **NATIONAL REPORT- April 12, 2008**

### **EPA Permit for Recreational Boats**

As most everyone knows; unless legislation is passed, we all will need an EPA permit to operate our boats after September 2008. Since the previous bills introduced have not succeeded, a new bill has been introduced by Senate Environment and Public Works Chairwoman Barbara Boxer (D-CA). S2766, The Clean Boating Act of 2008, fully restores the longstanding exemption for recreational boats to have a permit for water discharges incidental to the normal operation of a boat. Additionally, the bill establishes a three-year framework for the EPA to determine if any Best Management Practices (BMPs) are needed for incidental discharges. If the EPA determines any "reasonable and practicable" best management practices are needed, the Coast Guard would take over as the lead agency and write the regulations. The Coast Guard would be required to determine the impact on the operational capability, and safety of the vessel and the economic cost of any BMPs that might be recommended. Even if BMPs were determined necessary, it would be difficult for the Coast Guard to administer any such regulations. The bottom line is we must all ask our Senators to serve as co-sponsors of S2766. The Senate is now in session and the activity is intense to gather as many co-sponsors as possible and get the bill passed. Presuming successful passage in the Senate the bill would then be sent to the House for a vote of Unanimous Consent. For details log on to [www.boatblue.org](http://www.boatblue.org).

### **The American Boating Congress**

(ABC) will hold its Legislative Conference April 27-29 in Washington DC at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel. There will be speakers from government and industry on issues of importance to boating and will include visits with legislators on Capitol Hill. The EPA permit legislation will be high on the agenda. A bill to prevent "hull splashing", or copying, reauthorization of the Coastal Zone Management Act, HR 3223 definition of working waterfronts, and others will be discussed. The ABC is sponsored by the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) who has led the fight on the EPA permit bill.

### **New Ethanol Requirements**

The recently passed Energy Bill contains new requirements for the amount of ethanol added to gasoline from 9 billion gallons in 2008 to 36 billion gallons in 2022. This will make it more difficult to locate any marine fuel which does not contain ethanol. Many have read of (or experienced) the effects of ethanol which loosens sediment in fuel systems, the way it mixes with water, its effect on older boats and on those boats equipped with fiberglass fuel tanks. This is good news for farmers who grow corn from which ethanol is derived but bad news for the boating community. Fortunately the bill does contain provisions added by the NMMA requiring the EPA to thoroughly review new fuels for safety and potential engine damage prior to approving them for sale.

### **Operation of Loran-C to Continue**

The Department of Homeland Security issued a press release indicating it would now continue Loran operations as a "national backup system to GPS." It further stated that the enhanced Loran, or eLoran, system will be a land based, independent system and will mitigate any safety, security, or economic effects of a GPS outage or disruption. The eLoran system will be an enhanced and modernized version of Loran-C, containing all new transmitting stations and an upgraded network. NBF has long been an advocate for Loran continuation as a backup for and complement to GPS and was one of the few groups working to bring this to fruition. NBF received a letter of appreciation from the International Loran Association for our efforts in making this happen.



### **Wallop/Breaux reauthorization**

The process for reauthorizing the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund (Wallop/Breaux) has begun. NASBLA sponsored a Partners Dinner in which open discussion was held among interested parties; many of whom were members of the former American League of Anglers and Boaters (ALAB). Many ideas were discussed but a number of key players objected to any reduction in the allocation to the Sport Fish programs. In fact NASBLA was requesting that some administrative costs come off the top of the fund before percentages are applied to all trust fund programs. This would have resulted in a modest increase in the Boating Safety funds without lowering the percentages applied to other Trust Fund programs. NASBLA is currently meeting with the American Fisheries Wildlife Association to attempt to reach an agreement. The Coast Guard is working on legislative proposals for the reauthorization as well.

### **Maintenance Funding for the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway**

NBF has contacted the Chairman of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association (AIWA), David Roach, to offer assistance in obtaining additional funding for the critical maintenance dredging on the ICW and all our Nations waterways. The President's budget for 2009 only allowed \$2.2M for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to dredge the 1200 mile ICW from Virginia to Florida. The AIWA welcomed NBF support and indicated he would like to work with NBF on future funding for the Corps Civil Works Program. In the meantime NBF will make contact with the appropriate committees in the House and Senate to try and obtain something closer to the \$30M that is actually needed.



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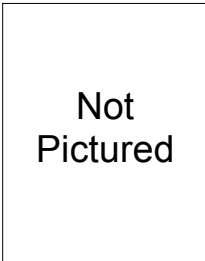
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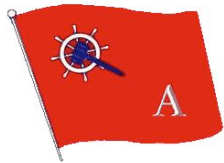
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# International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary



## *From the President by Pat Janiszewski*

Again, it was good seeing old friends and experiencing the “magic” of the Portland Rose Festival. I wish to thank the many individuals involved that helped make our stay in Portland memorable.. Involvement and friendship are the spirit of the Blue Gavel and the Blue Gavel Auxiliary.

I am happy to report that a decision has finally been made by the IOBG Executive Committee regarding clothing vendors. (also see IOBG article). The three vendors are (in alphabetical order) (1) Design This, Inc.; contact Carol Wilson or Barbara Browning; telephone (410) 420-6880; Fax (410) 420-6880; email [barb1dte@aol.com](mailto:barb1dte@aol.com) or [cwilson751@aol.com](mailto:cwilson751@aol.com). (2) North Star; contact David Kutz; telephone (360) 297-2935; e-mail [davidkutz@aol.com](mailto:davidkutz@aol.com); (3) Yachta Lettering; contact Paul and Lynn Erb; telephone (609) 698-6735; Fax MWF (609) 698-6735; email [yachtalettering@comcast.net](mailto:yachtalettering@comcast.net). Paul and Lynn have a web site to view products at [www.companycasuals.com](http://www.companycasuals.com). On this website, you can look for an item, find the order number, price, and then contact Yachta Lettering. Yachta will then add the cost of the embroidery (\$5.50 for the Logo), and shipping. They handle orders for one item and there is no need to order several items and break your budget. In this way you can “shop on line”.

I have been approached by several Districts/Chapters regarding the increase of the cost of the LOG. I stated to those who inquired that I would look into the situation and would like to report the following. At the February meeting in Oakland, I requested from the Auxiliary Liaison who addressed the Auxiliary meeting that I would like to place an inquiry regarding the LOG on the IOBG Executive Committee agenda and explained the Auxiliary concerns. Since I did not hear back from the Executive Committee, again, in June, I requested time to address the Auxiliary concerns. Meanwhile, I wrote to Marshall Nemoy and asked how many LOGs were involved. Surprisingly, the answer was eight-7 who paid \$10 and one who paid \$15. According to Marshall Nemoy, the cost of the LOG for a year is \$8.65 (not including extra handling required to deal with miscellaneous paperwork). In response to my request to address the Executive Committee, I was instead requested to address the entire IOBG members in attendance. My request was (1) that the price of the LOG be changed back to \$10 since only eight Auxiliary members were involved; **OR** (2) if it was not possible to change the price of the LOG back to \$10, that the Auxiliary will be billed at the end of the year for the extra \$5 and the Auxiliary, in turn, would return the extra \$5 to the IOBG. The members of the Auxiliary feel strongly that widows are being singled out and are the only individuals effected by this price increase. Unfortunately, the Executive Committee did not make a decision at the Portland meeting and stated they will “get back to me.” I will await their decision and hopefully will be able to inform you shortly. My question, is the extra \$5 per issue worth the cost of the alienation of 8 members and several Districts? To my way of thinking, it is not. Hopefully, the Executive Committee of the IOBG will agree with me. That, my members, is the ongoing “Saga of the LOG.”

After the last meeting in Oakland, the Auxiliary sent a copy of “**Water Smart From the Start**” to all District Directors. This important manual should be shared with your Chapters. As a result, I have received many e-mails thanking the Auxiliary for their foresight in this project and many Chapters are ordering the book for their junior yacht club members. I was also informed that the Power Squadron is applying for a grant to send a copy of the booklet to all Chapters within the IOBG. If you would like to order the booklet (which is an excellent learning tool for water safety for your child or grandchild), it can be ordered through the Power Squadron Website at [USPS.org](http://USPS.org) (then click on Ship's Store, and then books) or by telephone at 1-888-367-8777, extension 0. The order number is 01-39-107 for the student book and CD Rom. The cost of the manual is only \$5 plus shipping. The Auxiliary is proud to be able to present this dynamic book to your district.

## HELP NEEDED - AUXILIARY WEBMASTER

I have been informed by our IOBGA Webmaster, Shirley Willing, that as of the Annual Meeting in October, 2008, she will retire. Shirley has been our very capable and dynamic webmaster for the past twelve years and although she has asked many times for someone to "take over" the web site, no volunteers have been forthcoming. Now Shirley is retiring from the position, and we need someone to help. If you are interested, please let me and/or Shirley know, and she will assist you with any questions you might have. This is a job that can be done from your home, and traveling to and from meetings is not a requirement. It would really help the Auxiliary continue to be the dynamic group that it has become. Thank you for considering this position.

I have been in touch with Past President, Pat Gaven, who is coordinating the quilt project for the October 2008 Annual meeting. The quilt pieces are now being sewn together. The stitch pattern will be in the form of a star pattern. We are anxious to see this wonderful endeavor completed, and it is well on its way. Thank you Pat for all your efforts and follow through on this worthwhile project.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish John and Penny Thompson well. Penny was the founding President of the District 26 Auxiliary in Mt. Sinai, New York. John and Penny are moving "south" and perhaps another District and Auxiliary will be forthcoming. Under Penny's leadership, the District 26 Auxiliary raised several thousands dollars over the last 2 years through formal teas, fashion shows, and raffles. The monies were donated to the families of our troops serving in Iraq, to the poor and homeless, and many other charitable needs in their region. Again, the Auxiliary wishes John and Penny good health, and the best of luck.

In August, the next Regional meeting will be on Long Island, New York and we will be able to meet with this dynamic group of Auxiliary members. Reservation forms are available on the IOBG and IOBGA web sites. It looks like a wonderful weekend.

Meanwhile, clear weather, blue skies, and happy boating!



## Northwest Regional Report

Submitted by Betts Hinckley. Pres. District 1

The IOBGA Spring Meeting was held at the Shilo Inn in Richland, WA hosted by the Richland Yacht Club and Clover Island Yacht Club with twenty members present. The western theme, barbecue, and stomp-kicking music was enjoyed by all the “cowboys, cowgirls, and dance-hall gals” at the Richland Yacht Club.

Close to \$100 was raised to benefit the Humanitarian Foundation, Make-A-Wish, and Wishing Star Foundations. District 1 is quite active with 57 members. Jackie Rudd, Past International President, installed Paula Boeckman, Hells Canyon Boat Club, as a new member.

The student guide for **Water Smart From the Start** was introduced and individual chapters were urged to contact the Power Squadron to begin classes on understanding boating concepts of water and boating safety for “kids of all ages.”

## Southwest Regional Report

Deanna Tomei, Regional Director

Opening day of the boating season brings much celebration and activity. Larry (Draper) and I traveled to Long Beach for the Opening Day and 25th Anniversary of Shoreline Yacht Club. In March, we traveled south to Marina Del Rey for the Opening Day ceremonies for seven yacht clubs. Marina Del Rey is so beautifully laid out with all seven clubs in close proximity. South California traditions and ceremonies are so different from what we have in the San Francisco Bay area. I was impressed with the Southern California more formal traditions-the uniforms, raising of the officer flags, cannon shots, and obligatory speeches. All events are held on the deck or property of the clubs as they are “commissioned.” Of course, in good yacht club tradition, fabulous food and drink followed each event.

On San Francisco Bay, all clubs who wish to participate gather on the Bay with boats decorated to theme. PICYA, Boat US, and Parker Dive Service sponsor the parade. This year's theme, “Mother Goose and Friends” provided quite a challenge. I am pleased to say that my yacht club, Oyster Point YC of South San Francisco placed 1st and 2nd in powerboats decorated to theme and 3rd in sailboats decorated to theme. OPYC also hosts the annual Opening Day Awards dinner. Two other opening days celebrated in Northern California are the South Bay Opening Day and Opening Day on the Delta.

## District 15

We had our installation of new member luncheon in March and are happy to report that we added two new members to our district whose total is now about 36. The luncheon was held in one of San Diego's finest Oriental restaurants. A 50/50 raffle was held and proceeds donated to the Humanitarian Foundation. The IOBG's Annual Appreciation Day was held late June at the MBYC. In the future there will be an Auxiliary wine tasting hosted by the IOBGA. Check our website for exact times and dates.

## Northeast Regional Report

District 3

Those of us in the Northeast are certainly glad that summer has arrived. We held a holiday party at Sandy Beach Yacht Club with a catered dinner and raffle. The monies raised through selling baskets of cheer (\$151) were donated to Excalibur, our handicapped-equipped boat which is our main charity for the year.

Our total membership is now 56 members, six of which are new. Letters of invitation to join the IOBGA were sent out to prospective members and our response from them has been positive. (Editor's note - a wonderful idea to reach out and make an extra effort.) As new members of IOBG join, mainly outgoing Commodores, we are sending more letters of invitation to their spouses to join the Auxiliary. We are also still getting membership dues checks in. Unfortunately, the District 3 President has been ill. She is wished a speedy recovery.



**Northeast Region  
District 26**

The Mt. Sinai Yacht Club IOBGA ladies have been very busy. Just recently they held a very successful 3rd Annual Fashion Show and Luncheon with over 85 in attendance. A delicious buffet luncheon catered by the MSYC kitchen, great fashions from the Dress Barn modeled by the IOBGA ladies and family members, and over 30 raffle baskets contributed to the success of this event. The IOBGA was able to donate a total of \$2700 to twelve local soup kitchens, churches, and other charities.



Once again, thanks to all of our active members: Gail Schaeffer (President/Model); Lori Salyer (VP/Setup), Chris Swett (Secretary/Model); Cathy Prwivo (Treasurer/Makeup); Penny Thompson (Past President/MC); Ginny Larson (Setup/Cake); Laura Bertolotti (Raffle Baskets); Dottie Mahon (Ticket Sales/Door); Diane Dick (Model/Raffles); Lynne Laucella (Raffles); Colleen Farrell (Hairdresser); Deidre Davis (Raffles/Door); Eileen Budney (Setup/Model); Also participating in this even were Cathy Prwivo's granddaughter, Kara (Model); Colleen Farrell's daughter-in-law, Theresa (Model); and son, Tommy (Music); Penny Thompson's husband, John, (Model Escort), Lori Salyer's husband, Hal, (Model Escort) and MSYC member, Joe Triolo, (Model Escort).

At our May 25th Commodore's Breakfast, President Gail Schaeffer presented Past President Penny Thompson with a plaque recognizing her ground-breaking efforts establishing the MSYC IOBGA in the fall of 2005 and heading the group for the first two years. Penny and her husband, John, (District 26 Director) will be moving to Georgia in the very near future.



The IOBGA assisted the Mt. Sinai Harbor Beach Committee by serving lunch to the many volunteers helping to clean up our beach for Earth Day.

Back in November, MSYC members were asked to bring non-perishable food items to the General Meeting.



The IOBGA ladies gave a raffle ticket for each item donated and sold additional tickets for the food drive raffle basket titled, "An Evening Out." As a result, the ladies of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary were able to deliver two boxes of groceries and a \$50 supermarket gift card to four local food pantries. In December, the IOBGA donated a total of \$600 to six local churches and organizations.

**Southeast Regional Report**  
Susan Barrett Sullivan, Regional Director

District 8

We are happy to welcome the Fort Walton Chapter into the Auxiliary under the capable hands of Beverly Plummer, President; and Lynne Reynolds, Secretary/Treasurer. Their new members include Vicky Denny, Barbara Harrington, Carol Langford, Margaret Loar, Mary Nied, Beverly Parsons, Debra Petry, Beverly Plummer, Lea Raimy, Lynne Reynolds, and Phyllis Seaton. They are the newest Chapter, are full of enthusiasm and are off to a great start at working to make their Chapter successful. Their primary goal is to support the activities of the IOBG at Ft. Walton YC. In April they had a terrifically successful bake sale to raise money in support of the IOBG chapter's plans to contribute a new podium to the yacht club. In May, the new members helped to organize a lovely picnic day.

Six of the members attended two District meetings and participated in the IOBGA gatherings there. Presently, they are preparing to have a "Country Store" as part of the FWYC's festivities celebrating Independence Day and in September they will be part of the commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the founding of the IOBG at FWYC. They are certainly off to a great start!

At a recent meeting held at Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club presided over by Auxiliary District Director Susan Sullivan, many Auxiliary members attended including Louise Redner from Halifax River Yacht Club, Carol Shogren and Barbara Kimmerling from the Treasure Island Tennis and Yacht Club, Dorothy Thompson of Palm Coast, and Past President Carol Garside of Plantation Point Yacht Club, new members from Fort Walton, and so many others.



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