



THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

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

Volume XXV No. 4 September 2005 Mary R. Nye, Editor



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From the President

by Art Theobald

It was back in October 2004, in Buffalo, New York, that P/C Scott Croxford, Vice President, District 7, made us an offer we just couldn't pass up. He offered to host the Summer Regional Meeting in his hometown, Cleveland, Ohio.

Traditionally, the meeting held in August has become known as the Summer Regional Meeting and it was summer. Wasn't it. The warm Lake Erie waters and the seasonal northwest breeze made Cleveland, Ohio, an ideal site to visit the EDGEWATER YACHT CLUB, a District 7 Chapter, after a busy day touring the USS Mather, a lake bulk freighter, the USS Cod, a WW II decommissioned submarine and the now famous "Rock & Roll Hall of Fame". Some chose to tour the Great Lakes Science Center in downtown Cleveland which turned out to be the highlight and most interesting of the activities that were on the agenda. Whatever their choice, it was an interesting and educational day orchestrated by our host.

The I.O.B.G. and I.O.B.G.A. meetings held on Saturday to allow more of the employed and working members to participate, were well attended by North Central area members of District 7, 9 and 25. Dinner aboard the cruise ship "Goodtime II" at sundown afforded a breathtaking view of the illuminated skyline of the City of Cleveland, including the new Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the Science Center and the Cleveland Brown's football stadium.

For your information, the Executive Committee approved and authorized having the Minutes of the Regional Meeting posted on the web site as soon as prepared following the meeting. See www.iobg.org

Departing at sunrise on Sunday morning, we took with us fond memories of new friends we met and acquaintances that were renewed in Cleveland, Ohio.

Our sincere "Thanks for a Job Well Done" to P/C Scott Croxford, Regional Meeting Chairman, Hope McLeod, Hospitality Chairman, and their committees, the members of the North Central District 7 for an outstanding Summer Regional Meeting. The I.O.B.G. "Plaque of Appreciation" for hosting the meeting was presented to EDGEWATER YACHT CLUB.

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 Sue Brauner
IOBG Recording Secretary
2039 Olympic Drive
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(925) 229-2906 (Home)
(925) 932-1300 (Business)
Email: sue.bee@mindspring.com



From the President Elect

by Harvey Sussel

We have just concluded what I consider to be a very successful and informative Regional Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio. Many issues were addressed either by the regular session or by the Executive Committee following the regular meeting. Many issues will be discussed at the Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting will be held in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, October 26-30, 2005. Palm Beach Gardens is just north of the City of West Palm Beach with access via Palm Beach International Airport (PBI). I suggest early booking of flights as they will fill up quickly as this is the "snowbird" season and many northerners will be coming to the area for the winter. West Palm Beach is easily accessible via air from almost anywhere with probably a connection somewhere. The Marriott Hotel does not have a "limo service" but cab fare is about \$30.00-\$35.00.

The combined International and District 8 event is well along in the planning stages and the major items have been addressed and scheduled.

Please note the information and registration forms, as well as, the sign up page for the Marriott Hotel printed in this issue of the LOG for your convenience. It is a special room rate of \$99.00 compared to normal \$165-\$185 rates. Please sign up quickly, even if you are not sure. There is no penalty for early cancellation but if you procrastinate (as many IOBG people do), you may not be able to get that special room rate.

Our Hospitality Suite will be at its best and we will welcome you to warm, sunny southern Florida with open arms. Please take note of the dress codes as you pack....

Thursday and Friday morning meetings will be "summer whites...white shirt, slacks or skirt, shoes and no tie or jacket.

The Annual Meeting on Saturday will be "Meeting Dress" which means, Navy Jacket, Tie, White shirt and slacks or skirt and white shoes. The Annual Luncheon Saturday afternoon will be the presentation of awards.

Saturday evenings Grand Ball Dinner Dance will be Formal, (Black Tie Optional). Please make your dinner choices on the reservation sign-up page in this issue of the LOG. You will also need to make dinner choices for Friday night at the Palm Beach Kennel Club.

If you can, make a copy of the reservation form you send in so you will have a record of your reservations. Don't forget a bathing suit as the daytime weather will be in the high 80's, evenings 75+ and no rain is in the forecast. The hotel has a very nice tropical pool.

Please note that we will need Name and Birthdates (DOB) for those going on the Palm Beach Princess Dinner Cruise. It is not meant to embarrass anyone. It is a federal regulation because we are going on an ocean vessel.

The Carnival Cruise trip is scheduled for Sunday, October 30th from the Port of Miami. Contact Art or Carol Garside for more information.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly or our Program Chairman, Tom Sullivan at Susanb2646@cs.com or phone 772-223-8789.



From the First Vice President

by Carol Promessi

Isn't the new face-lift of The LOG great? This is just the beginning of some new things to happen and also receiving The LOG in a timely manner is very important to our members, after all this is our main source of communication. Good job Mary!

If you have not completed the Chapter Information Form, please do so and return it to me. The Chapter Information Form can be downloaded from our web site at www.iobg.org under the Chapter Addresses by District link on the Home Page. We are placing all IOBG Chapters on the web site for our members' convenience and if traveling to those places will be able to look up where the yacht clubs are located or just staying in touch with a member you met at one of the meetings.

District #7 of the North Central did an outstanding job in hosting our Summer Regional Meeting in Cleveland, many thanks go to District Director Debbie Banks-Skellenger (Peppi LaPew), President Elect Bob Graven and his wife Pat, 1st Vice President Scott Croxford and Hope McLeod and all the others for an outstanding hospitality suite and the transportation provided. The Great Lakes Science Center was truly a highlight!

The election of officers will be conducted at the Annual meeting on October 29, 2005 located in Palm Beach Gardens.

I will be mailing the Official Meeting Notice and other important documents to the Past Presidents, Executive Committee, Area Vice Presidents and the District Directors. Also, included in this packet will be the District voting eligibility for each District Director.

The number of paid memberships whose dues have been received by the IOBG Treasurer by August 1st will determine the number of votes each District will have.

Please complete the eligibility form for either the Director or Alternate Director with complete information and return to me so that we can establish the designated voting person at the Annual Meeting. If this information is not received, a District may be ineligible to vote.

The District Directors should promote attendance at the annual meeting to vote on behalf of their Districts; to present a written report to the meeting summarizing the year of their District's activities, new chapters, and to communicate their District's position on matters before the Board, including the election of officers and approving the annual budget.

If a Director or Alternate Director does not attend the annual meeting it results in disenfranchising the District, and significantly degrades the ties between the membership and the organization as a whole. It is imperative that if you accept the duties of a District Director that it is to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of that office and to promote the best interest of the organization.

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

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



From the Second Vice President

by Richard Janiszewski

Dear Fellow Members:

We are now better than three-quarters of the way through 2005, a year that started with a very productive annual meeting in Buffalo and was marked by steady and deliberate progress strengthening the IOBG.

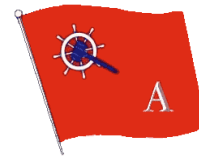
While we can point to very specific areas of change, there remains much to do and the Executive Committee is committed to advancing your organization effectively and as quickly as possible.

On another tack, I would like to share with you two of my keenest areas of interest to hopefully encourage your involvement. First, is my interest in junior sailing. In my home state of New Jersey, most yacht clubs have exceptionally active Optimist Dinghy sailing programs. The "Opti" is sailed today by over 150,000 youths throughout the world. It is the only dinghy approved by the International Sailing Federation. The Optimist Dinghy is a boat for all boys and girls, ages 8 through 16. Youth sailing builds self-reliance, physical strength, mental agility, and love of the water and environment – a Blue Gavel natural. If your yacht club is interested in youth sailing programs, look to the Optimist Dinghy, a boat that is challenging for the older child, but can be successfully sailed by the young.

The second area of personal interest is water safety. Many organizations offer water safety training programs, which include basic husband, wife, and children training, as well as advanced boating courses. I encourage every chapter/district to explore these absolutely essential programs.

I am also pleased to report that based on my communications with the Area Vice Presidents that report to me, Blue Gavel activities have been successful and rewarding to all involved. The good District news does not mean that there are no problems that crop up from time to time, but your elected officers are doing a good job addressing them.

I hope to meet many of you at our Annual Meeting in Florida. I am looking forward to talking with you. Until then, enjoy the rest of the summer and happy boating.



THE PALM BEACH GARDENS MARRIOTT
IS HONORED TO HOST THE
INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL
OCTOBER 26-30, 2005

RESERVATION FORM

(If reservations are made via this form, please be sure to call hotel to obtain confirmation number which will be required at time of check-in)

Special Room Rate is \$ 99.00 per night plus local taxes, single – quad occupancy.

You may also call 1-800-678-9494 to book reservations via credit card
(please identify yourself with the International Order of the Blue Gavel Group)

Please be sure to obtain your confirmation number.

Name (s): _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

Smoking Preference: _____ Bed Type Requested: Double-Double or King
(Please circle one)

Reservations must be guaranteed by:

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date: _____

Please mail reservations form directly to:
Palm Beach Gardens Marriott Hotel
Attn: Reservations Dept
4000 RCA Blvd
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

***** Reservations must be booked by October 12, 2005 to guarantee group rate.**

Annual Meeting & Convention

October 27-30, 2005

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida



The Annual Meeting will be held at the Marriott Hotel on PGA Blvd. located in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. This will be the incoming event for the President Elect. An excellent, busy social weekend is being planned that should make everyone happy to visit the sunny, southeast coast of Florida.

This event will be a combined International and District 8 Annual Meeting and Convention. The District 8 President Elect is Lou Daniello from the West Palm Beach area and would host the District 8 Convention two weeks earlier. To save time, money and double trips to the same area by many people, we have combined the two events into one gala party.

District 8 however, will have its separate meeting on Friday but will participate in all other functions.

Reservations may be made at the Marriott Hotel at 1-800-678-9494. We are listed as the "IOBG" and our group code is "I O B" (no "G")

Our guaranteed room rate is \$99.00, AN EXCELLENT RATE FOR "IN SEASON", IN SOUTH FLORIDA.

Please make your Hotel reservations ASAP. I don't want to see anyone turned away due to procrastination. You will find a hotel reservation form in this issue of the LOG as well as a daily information schedule, listing the meetings, the hospitality and special evening functions.

We will mail events and costs information to International Officers, District Directors and District Presidents.

Hospitality will be at its best, the schedule of evening activities is also listed in this issue of the LOG and it is one we feel will be enjoyed by all. Meeting Dress will be "summer whites" as we are in the tropics. This means Navy Jacket, White Shirt and Tie, White Slacks & Shoes. Ladies attire should be matching. Dress for all other events is "strictly casual".

The Carnival Cruise Line, Caribbean Trip is scheduled to leave from the Port of Miami on Sunday, October 30th about 4:00 PM. There is plenty of time to get there from the Marriott. Transportation from the Marriott to the Port of Miami is \$30.00 per person each way. Please contact P/P Art or Carol Garside for more information.



2005 ANNUAL MEETING and CONVENTION
INTERNATIONAL ORDER of the BLUE GAVEL

PALM BEACH GARDENS MARRIOTT HOTEL
WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

OCTOBER 26-30, 2005

DAILY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



WEDNESDAY, October 26

Registration 3:00 to 6:00 PM
Hospitality Suite 3:00 to 10:00 PM

THURSDAY, October 27

Area V/P's and District Directors Seminar 9:30 to Noon
Registration 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Members Lunch
Hospitality Suite Open 2:00 – 5:00 PM
Palm Beach Princess Dinner Cruise 5:30 to 11:30 PM

FRIDAY, October 28

Registration 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM **
IOBG Workshop Meeting 9:30 to Noon
IOBG Members Lunch Noon

DISTRICT 8 ANNUAL MEETING & LUNCHEON At OLD PORT YACHT CLUB

10:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Hospitality Suite Open 1:00 – 3:00 PM
Busses to Cocktail Party
Old Port Yacht Club & Dinner
at the Palm Beach Kennel Club 3:30 – 11:00 PM

SATURDAY, October 29

IOBG ANNUAL MEETING 9:30 to Noon
IOBGA ANNUAL MEETING 9:30 to Noon
ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON 12:20 PM
Holistic Healing & Herbs Presentation (Free) 1:30 PM

IOBG MEETING RESUMES 1:30 PM
Hospitality Suite Open 2:00 – 5:00 PM

IOBG REGIONAL MEETING (Following Annual Meeting)

Cocktails: Foyer Marriott Hotel (Cash Bar) 6:00 PM
ANNUAL DINNER DANCE 7:00 to 11:00 PM

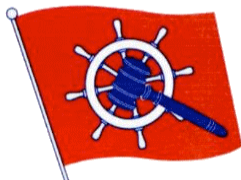
SUNDAY, October 30

Continental Breakfast - Hospitality Suite 8:30 to 11:00 AM

INTERNATIONAL ORDER of the BLUE GAVEL

2005 ANNUAL MEETING and CONVENTION

October 26-30, 2005



PALM BEACH GARDENS MARRIOTT HOTEL
PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL.



EVENT REGISTRATION FORM

CONFERENCE FEE \$10.00

WEDNESDAY, October 26

Registration (Hotel Lobby) 3:00 to 6:00 PM
Hospitality Suite 3:00 to 10:00 PM

THURSDAY, October 27

Area V/P's and District Directors Seminar 9:00 to Noon
Registration 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Hospitality Suite Open 2:00 - 4:30 PM
Palm Beach Princess Dinner Cruise 5:30 to 11:30 PM \$ 34.00
(Bus transportation included)

No. Persons _____ Cost \$ _____ Total Amount \$ _____

FRIDAY, October 28

Registration 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM **
IOBG Workshop Meeting 9:00 to Noon
DISTRICT 8 ANNUAL MEETING & LUNCHEON
at OLD PORT YACHT CLUB 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM \$ 20.00

No. Persons _____ Cost \$ _____ Total Amount \$ _____

Hospitality Suite Open 1:00 - 2:30 PM
Bus to Complimentary Cocktail Party
Old Port Yacht Club 3:30 PM
Bus to Dinner at the
Palm Beach Kennel Club 5:30 PM - 11:00PM \$ 41.00

DINNER CHOICE PRIME RIB _____ BROILED RED SNAPPER _____

No. Persons _____ Cost \$ _____ Total Amount \$ _____

SATURDAY, October 29

IOBG ANNUAL MEETING 9:00 to Noon
IOBGA ANNUAL MEETING 9:30 to Noon
ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON 12:15 PM \$ 24.00

No. Persons _____ Cost \$ _____ Total Amount \$ _____

EVENT REGISTRATION FORM Page 2

IOBG MEETING RESUMES 1:30 PM
Natural Holistic Healing & Herbs Presentation 1:30 PM No Charge
(Free for non-meeting attendees)
Hospitality Suite Open 2:00 - 5:00 PM
IOBG REGIONAL MEETING (Following Annual Meeting)

GRAND BALL and INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Cocktails: Foyer ..Marriott Hotel (Cash Bar) 6:00 PM
ANNUAL DINNER DANCE 7:00 to 11:00 PM \$ 55.00

DINNER CHOICES: ROAST PRIME RIB _____ VEGETARIAN _____
FRESH FLORIDA GROUPER _____

No. Persons _____ Cost \$ _____ Total Amount \$ _____

SUNDAY, October 30

Farewell Continental Breakfast
Hospitality Suite 8:30 to 11:00 AM

Total Cost for Events Selected: \$ _____

Name _____

Spouse/Guest _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____

Date of Birth (Federal Requirement for Palm Beach Princess Passengers)

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

**Saturday Registration in the Hospitality Suite

PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO "IOBG 2005" TO:

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Questions.....please call Tom Sullivan at (772) 223-8789

E-mail: susanb2646@cs.com



IOBG NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The IOBG Nominating Committee has made the following nominations for officers for the year 2006.

The election shall take place at the Annual Meeting to be held in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida on Saturday, October 29, 2005

The Nominations are:

President	Harvey Sussel (automatic as per bylaws)
President Elect	Carol Promessi
First Vice President	Richard Janiszewski
Second Vice President	Jerry Rudd
Treasurer	Marshall Nemoy
Executive Secretary	Mary Eiffert
Northeastern Vice President	Marc Connelly
Northwestern Vice President	Mike Parish
North Central Vice President	OPEN
Southwestern Vice President	Bill Thayer
Southeastern Vice President	Ray Thompson
District 50 Director (East of Mississippi River)	Debbie Banks-Skellenger
District 51 Director (West of Mississippi River)	Mike Parish

Respectfully Submitted:

Larry Foote, Past President & Chairman
Art Theobald, President
Harvey Sussel, President Elect

From the Office of the Treasurer

by Marshall Nemoy



August 15, 2005

To: All Officers, Directors and Members
From: Marshall Nemoy, International Treasurer
Subject: Treasurer's Report - Summer, 2005

This report was prepared for review and discussion by the Executive Committee and members attending the summer regional meeting on Saturday, August 20, 2005 at the Edgewater Yacht Club in Cleveland, Ohio. The information in this report is of interest to all members and you are encouraged to share this report with them.

Financial Statements

The financial statements included in this report are as of June 30, 2005 and the six months then ended. The financial position of the organization is shown on the Balance Sheet and the results of operations are shown on the statement of Budget Comparison - Combined Operations. Statements for each activity are also provided. With the exception of the Balance Sheet, all statements are shown in the budget comparison format.

Summary: As of June 30, 2005 the total assets were \$116,281 or \$1,450 less than last year at this date. The net income for the six months ended June 30, 2005 is \$32,116 which is \$14,471 lower than last year. However, the net income is \$1,283 greater than budgeted. A combination of budget variances of lower total revenue of \$4,134, lower cost of good sold of \$2,381 and lower expenses of \$2,935 make up the net overall positive results.

This year our dues collections are \$523 behind budget but \$5,628 lower than last year at this date. On the expense side, variances in legal services, office expenses, printing and travel accounted for the overall favorable variance in total expenses. More information is provided in the discussion of each operating activity.

International Operations Center: Most variances are due to timing differences when planned expenditures occur at different times than was entered in the budget. However, it should be noted that the legal expenses shown this year were for the cost of renewing our trademarks in the United States. The item was not originally in our budget. Overall, expenses are \$122 over budget and \$652 greater than last year. Additionally, postage expenses have been reduced by not re-mailing the *Blue Gavel Logs* that are returned to us for change of address, temporarily away or just plain undeliverable.

Executive Committee: The Committee's travel expenses are \$4,371 less than budgeted but \$4,508 more than last year. The current year variance is due to airfares being lower than expected. The prior year amount was low because of the number of excused absences from attendance at the regional meetings.

Supply Officer: The year to date net income of \$69 as compared to a loss last year at this date of \$79 is something to note. Our sales are \$3,433 below budget and \$2,756 less than last year and deserves investigation. We have been told there are more than one district purchasing burgees and other items from unauthorized sources. The expenses are lower this year by \$502 and the cost of goods sold percentage has been lowered by 2.3%. The goal was to prove the operation could break even.

It was announced that Tom Cieslewicz would be the new supply officer. We have not come to any agreement as of this date so the transfer has not taken place. Other options are being investigated.

Treasurer's Report Continued...

Area Vice Presidents: The activity is \$1,649 lower than budgeted and \$1,221 less than last year at this date. All area vice presidents are submitting expenses for reimbursement. Remember, each area vice president is allotted \$1,500 to take care of business within their district.

Annual Meeting: The host committee has received the amount budgeted from the International to help defray the cost of the meeting. The remaining expenses budgeted will occur between September and November.

Blue Gavel Log: The cost of producing the Log has escalated this year. Increases in paper cost appears to be the culprit. For the six months ended June 30, 2005 the cost of producing the Log is \$4,129 over budget and \$5,055 greater than last year.

Membership Statistics

The membership statistics attached to this report are as of August 1, 2005, the date called for in our bylaws to determine the number of votes allocated to each district. The total paid members this year is 2,838 which is 58 less than last year.

The number of votes allotted to each district is in accordance with Article VII, Section 2(a) of our bylaws. This report will be mailed to all district directors and officers along with the notice of the annual meeting.

2006 Budget

President Elect, Harvey Sussel, will present a 2006 budget to the Executive Committee for review. Once approved, the budget will be mailed to all district directors and officers for discussion at the district level. The budget will be voted on at the Annual Meeting in Florida.

Many districts change their officers in October just prior to the Annual Meeting. Accordingly, each new district director should be thoroughly briefed on all matters that will require a vote at the Annual Meeting.

International Operations Center

Here are a few items of interest to all members:

The *Blue Gavel Log* is being returned at the same level as in previous years. It cost \$1.06 to receive an issue back. We have ceased to re-mail the *Log* when there is a change of address. It would cost us another \$1.06 plus the labor. It would be far more efficient to send us your address when it changes.

Temporarily Away status with the Post Office means they will not deliver bulk mail. We get approximately 150 of these a year. We flag the members record so label data will not be produced until the seasons change. All members so flagged will receive a letter in September offering them the opportunity to pay an annual fee to receive the *Log* by first class mail.

Although the date to have your paid membership count towards the votes your district will receive has passed, you may still pay your dues. Membership dues received after October 1 are considered next year's dues unless specified otherwise.

With the assistance of Mary R. Nye, our new LOG Editor, we are planning to spruce things up a bit on our web site after she gets a handle on her duties as LOG Editor. She also will maintain the district officer lists and other items such as district calendars.

As the service bureau for IOBG we stand ready to assist you where we can. Feel free to call us or send your request by email or regular mail. There are ways we can help the districts but first we must know what you need.

District News

northWESTERN

Districts 1-2-4-5-24

JERRY RUDD

NORTHWESTERN VICE PRESIDENT



Right after the June meeting, my doctors & I decided it was time for my back surgery. Being summer and all, most everyone is on the water cruising and having fun, the timing was good for everyone, well maybe not for my wife. I have been in contact with all my Districts over the last couple of months, since I can't do much more than talk right now. Have a safe and fun boating season.

District 1

Jim Hinckley, Alt. Dist. Director

District 1 held their summer picnic at Brownsville Yacht Club in Brownsville, WA on July 17-18th. Everyone had a good time. According to rumors even their breakfast was what you could call gourmet.



The annual meeting and dinner dance will be September 16-18th at the Best Western Plaza in Puyallup, WA hosted by Seabacs Boat Club. The Change of Watch will take place at this time, with the new President Ken Rollins, getting things lined up for next year.

District 2

John Schaddelee, District Director

District 2 President John Schaddelee is working on obtaining information on their chapters for the IOBG web site. Their annual dinner meeting will be hosted by the Capital City Yacht Club on September 17-18th in Sidney, BC, Canada.

District 4

Ron Defieux, District Director

District 4 Secretary Betty Harris-Peake is updating their chapters for the IOBG web site. Blue Gavel Canada Annual Meeting will be held at the West Vancouver Yacht Club on October 15, 2005.

District 5

Evertt Roberts, District Director

District 5 held their spring picnic at Vancouver YC and Dolphin YC on June 24-25th. The weather was great. Their annual Fall meeting will be October 8th at the Dolphin Yacht Club and hosted by them as well.

District 24

Allan McLeod, District Director

District 24 President Allan McLeod is busy getting ready for their annual event, The Great Invasion. It will be September 9th-11th at Kelowna Yacht Club, British Columbia. They are planning a special cruise around the Lake with refreshment and dinner.

District News



northCENTRAL

Districts 7-9-23-25

STEVE WILLING

NORTH CENTRAL VICE PRESIDENT

The recent passing of so many Past Commodores in a very short time should remind all of us to enjoy each day, cherish our friends and loved ones, and appreciate the freedoms that we sometimes take for granted.

Since I recently sold my boat, my boating activities have been restricted to travelling by land cruiser. However this has not stopped me from travelling to land based clubs, and even to the Inter-Lakes Yachting Association Regatta held on South Bass Islands Put-In-Bay. The IOBG Commodores reception, was attended by over 130 people, with many future IOBG members in attendance. Also in attendance were Past International Presidents Rolf Tinge (1995) and Louie Key (2002). I-LYA and Associated Yacht Club past presidents and officers were also in attendance. This cocktail party has been held at each regatta for over 30 years and is funded by Districts 7, 9 and 25, and is a great example of districts co-operating with each other, to spread the word on advantages to belonging to "Blue Gavel."

Just a reminder the annual meeting will be held this year in Florida, anyone considering attending I would encourage to do so to learn what the IOBG is really all about.

District 7

Debbie Banks-Skellenger, District Director

A few thoughts in my mind from the past year...

I have filled out my redundant report, but find that there are many issues that are never covered in the questionnaire.

I am glad to see that the IOC has gotten some relief – no one person can handle as many jobs as was requested of that office. The past year has been very frustrating with D-7's involvement with International in regards to distribution of IOBG cards in a timely fashion, unavailability of product, Web site not being updated, late Logs and unavailability of Humanitarian Foundation. These are some major issues, which mainly have been addressed by our International Executive Board. I appreciate the quick response and concern I deem vital to the operation and continued growth of our organization.

Over the past few months, I have read many letters regarding various issues – Particularly costs affecting our organization. I believe that we need to seriously study how to trim costs before we increase dues. We call ourselves an "elite" organization, yet I continue to hear from potential members "Why join – what do I get from membership?" Hopefully, our problems of cards, product and information is a thing of the past – none helps recruit new members – Still.... I don't think we should fool ourselves – we are only as elite as our minds let us be. The only elite criterion for our organization is that you have to be a Past Commodore of an accepted club and voted into the organization. We beg members to join and try to justify our existence. What can we do to change this – it must come from a grass roots level-direct communication, phone calls or better yet face to face. It usually takes one motivator in a Chapter to get the ball rolling i.e. EYC.

District 7 Continued

Debbie Banks-Skellenger, District Director

The Humanitarian Foundation can be a win/win, helping people and promoting our cause, but without Thank yous and response from donations given, this leads us to a losing situation. I cannot currently promote the Humanitarian cause when I know first-hand that donations have still gone unacknowledged.

I think we must organize into a tightly cohesive unit with availability and communication our foremost goal. This is something that International can help us with, but must mostly be done on a District Level. We must be backed up by International with supplies, communication (newsletter & meeting notes), but our efforts must be local to make up the whole of International a stronger, more involved unit.

Just some food for thought...

District 9

Damian Pflieger, District Director

District 9 held its annual Humanitarian Fundraiser Sunday afternoon May 15th at Ottawa River Yacht Club in Toledo, Ohio. The event raised nearly \$1200.00 for local charities and Junior Sailing Programs. Gary Weaver, Humanitarian Chairperson, organized the Pig Roast Dinner with help from P/P Mike Myers and crew cooking the pig and the District Auxilliary bringing desserts.

Treasurer Rob Wolas reports a balanced budget thus far for 2005, with no outstanding bills. Membership stands at 344 paid members.

Log Editor Jack White reports the District Log will soon be out to the members. We mail out two Logs per year, one in the Winter and one in the Summer.

The nominating committee has been confirmed in preparation for our Fall Meeting and Change of Watch which will be October 2nd at Ottawa River Yacht Club. September 18th is the date of our annual District Rendezvous at River View Yacht Club in Toledo, Ohio. This is also the date of a Raffle Drawing for a Lighthouse Print that we have been selling tickets for all summer.

Rich Vail continues to update our District 9 website which provides another way to communicate to the members.

District 25

Joe Kerszykowski, Alt. Dist. Director

District 25 is slowly recovering, after the untimely death of District Director Jerry Phillip. The district has lost a valuable asset and good friend, his spirit will remain with us as District 25 carries on.

During the Inter-Lakes Yachting Association Regatta, District 25 served as host this year for the IOBG Commodores reception held at Put-In-Bay Ohio. This regatta has been held at this location every year for 112 years. The cocktail party is held to honour IOBG members and introduce flag officers who may become IOBG members in the future. This party sponsored by district 7, 9 and 25 has been held at each regatta for over 30 years.

The district rendezvous has been delayed due to the amount of summer activities that are crammed into our short boating season. Our hosts this year, Sunseekers Boating Club and Kingsbridge Yacht Club, have agreed to August 26-28th, at the Kingsbridge Marina. All IOBG members whether from District 25 or not are welcome. Contact any board member as listed on our web page www.iobg.org, for further information.

District News



northEASTERN

Districts 3-12-20-22-26

MARC CONNELLY

NORTHEASTERN VICE PRESIDENT

On August 10-11th President Theobald and myself traveled to New Jersey for the District #20 monthly meeting which was also attended by District #26. To personally attend these meetings always provides new perspectives that will benefit the Chapters, Districts and the International. This was certainly true of this meeting. Our notes of your ideas and concerns were voiced at the Cleveland meeting. I would like to personally "thank" District #20 and Director Arnie Epstein for their great hospitality.

At a recent District #3 meeting a mission to expand community involvement was discussed and will be implemented. District #3 is looking for volunteers to become involved with Excalibur Leisure Skills Center. Excalibur provides free boating and fishing to the disabled and disadvantaged. Volunteers are needed for direct involvement as well as fundraising. Any District #3 officer may be contacted.

It would be terrific to hear from other Districts who have also implemented community programs. A brief how's and why outline would be very helpful. Feel free to Email me at mdc@choiceonemail.com.

District News



southWESTERN

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

BILL THAYER

SOUTHWESTERN VICE PRESIDENT

The Southwestern Area is in full swing for the summer season, cruise outs and cruise ins, BBQ parties, Charity functions and just plain getting together and having fun.

I held the Southwestern area 2nd Roundtable August 6 at Shoreline Yacht Club of Long Beach hosted by District 10 and our old friends Anne and Terry Fox. We had five districts attending, District 16 was out of town and District 14 was committed. 1st Vice President Carol Promessi and Phil, District 19 Director, were also in attendance. These roundtable discussions are more informative to me than they are to the Districts as I learn their problems and as the Districts are all together they glean off each other and we all profit. The general problems arise from the grumblings by the Districts about items that the Executive Committee is working on, but not fast enough to suit all.

Events for the period:

District 10 held its annual July BBQ at Cerritos Bahia Yacht Club. We are concerned, however with the District's extra curricular activities with P/C Peggy Gregory healing from foot surgery, Jackie Demos with a broken ankle and District VP Jill Calhoun healing from a second foot surgery.

District 11 started its Windy - Cues with the 1st on June 14 which and the 2nd one August 16th. They have a cookout, a charity basket for the homeless and a guest speaker.

District 15 held its annual Member Appreciation BBQ with shish kabobs on June 26th at Mission Bay Yacht Club.

Southwestern Area Calendar:

District 6 is looking forward to the annual train ride to Ewa and the 30th annual Chili Cook-off at Iroquois Lagoon Yacht Club.

District 10's Change of Watch is November 6 at Huntington Harbour Yacht Club.

District 11's Change of Watch is November 19 at Del Rey Yacht Club.

District 14 is having the Fleet Week Rib Feed and Blue Angels on October 8 at Treasure Island Yacht Club and Change of Watch January 6, 2006.

District 15 will hold a Raft-Up in the Shelter Island Yacht Basin September 17 and 18 with a dinner at Southwestern Yacht Club Saturday evening and the Change of Watch October 22nd at Silver Gate Yacht Club.

District 16's Change of Watch is January 8, 2006.

District 19's Change of Watch is October 1 at Pittsburg Yacht Club.

District 21 will hold a Member Appreciation BBQ at Lido Isle Yacht Club in September and their annual Lobster Dinner November 2nd at Dana Point Yacht Club.

District 6

Charlie Stone, District Director

District 6, although small, is still hanging in there and keeping active. After hosting the Winter Regional meeting in February, many of our members assisted with the 16th Annual Goodwill Fishing Tournament at the Hawaii Yacht Club. This event provides an opportunity for people with disabilities

to experience the thrill of competitive fishing under the careful guidance of experienced skippers. I.O.B.G., District 6, has been one of the contributors to this event for many years.

In July, a good number of District 6 members were involved with the 43rd sailing of the Transpacific Yacht Race. This race, a dream of King David Kalakaua, was first sailed in 1906 and has grown to one of the premier ocean races of our time. This year, there were 75 yachts racing and District 6 members were involved in radio communications, finish line, race headquarters, escort and host greetings committees. Many of us are already looking forward to the West Marine Pacific Cup Race from San Francisco to Kaneohe Bay, next year!

Some upcoming events: Annual train ride in Ewa, running through a portion of the old sugar cane rail system. On Sept. 10th, we are looking forward to the 30th annual Chili Cook-Off at Iroquois Lagoon Yacht Club. This is always a fun time, not to mention some excellent chili!

District 11

David Phelps, District Director

As you probably know by now, my greatest responsibility is to represent District 11 at the Quarterly Regional Meetings. Unfortunately, because of my moving to the mountains at Crestline and because of traveling for Joan's and my 25th Wedding Anniversary, I have been rather limited. I promise to definitely represent District 11 at the International Convention in West Palm Beach Florida in late October. In past years, I have asked for any input to deliver to the Internationals. If anyone has any message or instructions to be acted on, please contact me by phone at 909-338-4439 or by email at david.p.phelps@smithbarney.com.

Don't forget the Change of Watch at DRYC on November 19, 2005. I know that Carol and Phil Promessi from the Executive Board will be in attendance. By that time, she should be the President-Elect of IOBG. We are honored to have them in attendance since District 11 has never had such Senior Officers at a Change of Watch. They're really super people and I really would like to have a huge turnout for this occasion. Among other things, I should be installed as PAST District Director, and join the "over-the-hill gang"

Look forward to seeing you all of you at the Windy-Cue and at the Installation Dinner.

District 14

George C. Knies, District Director

On Thursday, July 28th P/C Jim Aberer sailed "El Nido" and crew (Earl Ansley, Don Mibach, and others) from Marin YC to the Golden Gate YC where they embarked photographers and other media types to welcome the "Parade of Ships". "El Nido" was the "Media Boat" as well as the "Parade Control Boat". The order of parade was devised by P/C George

Knies in conjunction with the U.S. Coast Guard. George was on board as the parade coordinator, ably assisted by Desmond Thorsson as radio operator.

The parade commenced at 1100 hours as the *CUAUHTEMOC*, Mexico's 270' 1,800 ton Barque passed under the Golden Gate Bridge led by the San Francisco Fire Boat *PHOENIX*. The parade of 31 vessels passed along the San Francisco Waterfront then under the Bay Bridge to piers 30, 32 and 40. Those vessels with cannon on board rendered cannon salutes as they passed the Hyde Street Pier, Pier 39 and the Bay Bridge.

Treasure Island Yacht Club provided the venue for the Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association CHISPA/Youth Regattas that were held on Saturday August 13, 2005. The impressive turnout of volunteers from the International Order of the Blue Gavel; P/C Rich Ahlf (President D-14) and his wife Shirley, P/C Lynette Harter Breed (D-14) and her husband Russ, P/C George Knies (Director D-14) and his wife Ann Knies (D-14 AUX), P/C Carol Promessi (1st V.P.), P/C Phil Promessi (Director D-19), P/C Bill Thayer (SW V.P.) and his wife Marybeth enjoyed an exciting and rewarding day along with the competitors and visitors.



The Race Committee was comprised of P/C George Knies (Principal Race Officer), P/C Lynette Harter Breed (IOBG, TIYC & Sequoia YC), Russ Breed (TIYC & Sequoia YC), Reggie Smith, Desmond Thorsson (providing committee boat), and P/C Rich Ahlf, (IOBG & Island YC) (photographer). Fred Gibson and His dad operated one 'safe boat' while Don Mibach powered around in his inflatable as 'safe boat' two. Larry Mayne (PICYA Race Officer) manned the Sequoia YC Whaler as 'safe boat' three.

I conducted the skippers brief at 1040 hours and lunch provided by Blue Gavel District 14 was served at 1100. Prior to noon the competitors, some from as far away as Redding, launched their boats at the Treasure Island Sailing Center. The following Divisions participated in the Regatta: CHISPA "Lasers", Youth Divisions "Optimists" and "Flying Js".

Thanks to the brisk winds in Clipper Cove and a well coordinated Race Committee we were able to complete six races. Our safety boats maintained diligent supervision of capsizing boats. I was impressed with the good sportsmanship and polite friendly attitudes of all competitors that was borne out by the lack of any *official* protests.

Following the races all participants gathered at TIYC for a recap of the days events popcorn, soft drinks and a slide show presentation of photos taken during the races. The perpetual Trophies were on exhibit. West Marine provided individual \$25.00 gift cards to winners. All competitors received West Marine bags and other goodies.

The final results of the regattas were posted on the PICYA, TIYC, IOBGD-14 and other web sites as well as appearing in Latitude 38 and the PICYA Log.

Our next D-14 event will be Fleet Week Rib Feed and the Blue Angels on October 8th at Treasure Island Yacht Club.

District 15
Gary Hall, District Director

I really enjoyed the regional meeting in Portland, Oregon. For me one of the best parts was getting the new President and Vice President of my district to also attend. I have been encouraging everyone in district 15 to get involved and enjoy the IOBG. We all had enough politics when we were Commodores. The camaraderie and the good of the order should be our main concern.

District 15 put on our member appreciation barbeque June 26th. I thank Marshall Nemoj for getting us a great place at Mission Bay Yacht Club, President David Wood for organizing the event, and Vice President Linda Loftis for setting up the food and cooking the shish-kabobs.

The auxiliary will sponsor our next event. This will be a wine tasting at a winery in the hills above San Diego.

We usually get a good turnout for these events even though many are racing or cruising. Our best-attended event is the change of watch dinner. This is because there is less going on in the Fall. The other events are still important to most of our members

District 19
Phil Promessi, District Director

Summer is in full swing and so far it has been a long hot summer. District 19 has gained a new chapter, the "California Carver Yacht Club. The "Membership Appreciation Barbecue" was held on July 23-24. Many boats cruised in. Sixty IOBG members, two guests and approximately 60 members of Stockton Yacht Club attended. Stockton YC outdid themselves again, serving a pork loin barbecue with all the trimmings. This function is turning out to be a very popular one and one that will continue yearly.

The Auxiliary held a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle. Over \$2,200 was collected. Half of the income was awarded to the first, second and third place winners. The other half was divided between the Girl Sea Scout Troop 777 and the Humanitarian Foundation.

After dinner and the prizes were awarded, the Stockton Yacht Club held an official "Flag Retirement" ceremony where several tattered and torn American Flags were retired in a ceremony culminating in the burning of the flags. It was a very moving and solemn ceremony and I was very moved and impressed at the way it was done, not ever being at this type of function. Each flag was inspected by the participants and certified that the subject flag was indeed two tattered to be flown properly. It was then cut up into two pieces. One piece contained the blue field with the stars and the other piece comprised the stripes. Once it is separated, it is not considered a flag anymore and is tossed into the fire to be burned. The official organizations that can perform these ceremonies are the Boy Scouts of America, the Marines and the American Legion. P/C Ron Malmquist of the Stockton YC performed the ceremony as a Scout Leader. It was very impressive.

Treasure Island Yacht Club was the host club for the IOBG sponsored "CHISPA" Youth Regatta in Clipper Cove on August 14th. District 14 and 19 provided the committee boat and helped cook the hamburgers and hot dogs for the kids and adults and presented trophies to all the winners. There were four classes competing in 6 races. The Lasers were the Class A category, the Class B category comprised the Optimists, the El Toros comprised Class C and the Flying J's were in Class D. P/C George Kneis did an excellent job chairing the whole affair. Participants ranged in age from 10 to 18 years old in several different classes. Five races were run and all the kids had a great time.

The weekend of August 6th saw the Tall Ships sail into San Francisco Bay. It was quite a sight. There were a total of 31 vessels that participated in the event. Included in the parade of ships were tall sailing vessels from Russia, Mexico, New Zealand, and the Netherlands. They docked at several piers along the waterfront where they held open house for the weekend. District 14 Director George Knies was in charge of this event and Treasure Island Yacht Club provided a dinner for some of the crew.

Our next big function will be the "Change of Watch" dinner dance to be held at the Pittsburg YC on October 1st. There will be a hosted bar for one hour, and a choice of New York Steak or Salmon for \$35.00 per person. Max and Debbie will provide music.

District 19 will be having elections at the General Meeting on September 11. So far it has been a busy and hot summer. There has been a lot of activity on the Delta. The warm weather brings out the water nymphs that crowd the Delta Waterways. The ideal time to be on the water is when all the kids go back to school. October through December is the best time to cruise the Delta.

Next year is shaping up to be a great year, especially when Carol becomes President.

That's all folks!!!

District News



southEASTERN

Districts 8 & 18

RAY THOMPSON

SOUTHEASTERN VICE PRESIDENT

District #8 held an executive meeting July 22-24 which was hosted by the newly renovated Vero Beach Yacht Club. The last hurricane of 2004 left that club with much damage, both inside and out. All the renovations have been completed with the exception of some dock and outside electrical work.

The meeting presided over by President Joe King included all Flag Officers, District Director Joe Tringali, Southeastern V.P. Raymond Thompson and President Elect Harvey Sussel. Seventeen Yacht Club Chapters were represented.

P/C Ron Richards and P/C Charles Smith representing the Pensacola Yacht Club Chapter brought all the required paper work necessary for the transferring of their Chapter from District #50 into District #8. Their application was submitted to the Executive Committee and quickly approved.

The subject of regionalizing District #8 was raised; how such regions might be established; how they would blend in organizationally; how the officials would be selected was all discussed. With no formal plan being proposed the idea was tabled until further studies could be made.

District Director Joe Tringali discussed his letter of June 1, 2005 which presented seven propositions to the District Directors and District Presidents. Each of the seven propositions was reviewed both pro and con. Then, upon a motion made and carried, the Executive Committee voted 4 to 1 for approval of the letter as written.

Southeastern V.P. Ray Thompson suggested a program be instituted that recognizes and awards chapters for outstanding efforts and accomplishments. Such a recognition and awards program would create a communication flow both up and down. Recognition could come from efforts related to community, charity, boating or club activities. Awards could be emblems, certificates, flags or any other suitable item. Multiple awards might be considered to cover various types of activities. After some discussion, President Joe King asked that suggestions be submitted in writing.

The next meeting has been scheduled to coincide with the IOBG annual meeting in October to be hosted by the North Palm Beach Yacht Club and the Old Port Yacht Club.

District 50
Stephen Willing, District Director

VIRGINIA

Aquia Yacht Club is having a General Membership Meeting, October 4, 2005 at 8:00 PM, at the AHPDA Country Club. The AHYC fall cruise will be held October 8-10th, This is just a sample of the many events planned for the fall. For more information check out their web site at ahyc.org

RHODE ISLAND

Bristol Yacht Club is having an annual meeting November 13, 2005. As usual the many boating and club events are continuing and are too numerous to be listed here. For more information about activities and club information, see bristolyachtclub.org

MARYLAND

Bush River Yacht Club has a full schedule of events in the coming months, check out bushriveryachtclub.org for more current information about the club, events and membership.

FLORIDA

Pensacola Yacht Club is having a Commodores Brunch and regatta September 17, see Pensacolayachtclub.org for the full schedule of events, and membership information.

Tarpon Springs Yacht Club's address is 350 North Spring Boulevard. Tarpon Springs welcomes boaters from around the world. Check out tsyc.net for more information and to view the beautiful facilities available to members and guests.

Snowbirds who visit Florida or other states on a regular basis, may wish to join a local club as a social, associate or out of town member, often available at many of these beautiful clubs. Its great to have a home away from home, where friends meet.

COMMODORE INSIGNIA

1380 Centerville Lane, #32
Gardnerville, NV 89410
Telephone: (775) 782-3380 – (800) 315-7485
Fax: (775) 782-4003
Email: Comsignia@aol.com
Web: www.commodoreinsignia.com

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

BLAZER EMBLEMS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR THE AUXILIARY

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

Quantity		Navy Blue	Black	White	Unit Price	Total
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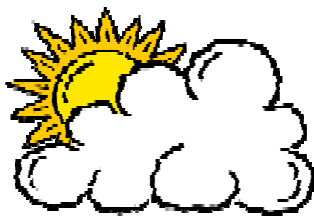
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The above will be verified. _____

Member will be billed for emblems when shipped. _____

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

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



In Memoriam...

Former Prime Minister Sir Edward Heath and former Port of London authority lockkeeper was the UK Director of the International Order of the Blue Gavel.

District 70 Director Robert Carter recalled how the former Conservative leader, who died a week after celebrating his 89th birthday, used to berate him for asking leading questions. "He would say, "Don't be so impertinent," said Mr. Carter who is known as Sailor Bob among his friends. "He never lost his sense of humor and he was very supportive of our yachtsmen," said Mr. Carter who is a former Royal Navy and Merchant Navy sailor. Sir Edward's love of sailing knew no bounds - he went on to skipper British teams to victory in a string of distance races.

He will definitely be missed.



For over 20 years, since P/P Burton Jay became involved in National Boating Federation, and went through the chairs to become President of NBF, IOBG has participated in NBF and has used our membership and position in the Federation to influence both legislators (state and national) and the Boating Law Administrators at the State level and the Coast Guard at the national level in matters concerning recreational boaters, particularly boating safety. It is a prestigious organization that does have influence with the Coast Guard, Coast Guard Auxiliary, Power Squadron, Congress and State legislatures. It is noteworthy that NBF reaches into areas where we, IOBG, do not have a presence. Because of our involvement with NBF as a Regular Member (voting), and because our delegates have usually held an office, we have become known in those areas, and have been able to establish IOBG as a responsible organization that represents those boaters who have chosen to affiliate with yacht clubs.

In illustration of NBF's position and status, attendees at the Annual Meeting in Newport Beach last March included the National Commander of the Power Squadron, a Past President of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, a representative of the National Commodore of the Sea Scouts, the Boating Law Administrator of California, the Director of the Office of Boating Safety of the Coast Guard, and the Director of the International Loran Association. All of these gentlemen spoke at the meeting.

I was elected Secretary of the NBF at that meeting. While I'm sure that my good looks and winning personality had a lot to do with that, I attribute my nomination to the fact that I represent IOBG at NBF, and IOBG has consistently sent delegates to NBF that were leaders and workers. I firmly believe that it is at and through our participation in NBF that IOBG, on the national level, has an impact on the world of the recreational boater. It is the only venue where we actually and consistently make a difference.

For example I would like to quote an email recently received by Earl Waesche from Dr. Lin Roth of the International Loran Association:

Hi Earl,

I wanted to let you know about this Internet survey regarding Loran that has just begun. The audience includes active mariners, and I would encourage NBF members to submit positive responses en masse. I just completed it, and it only takes a couple of minutes.

Best regards,
Linn

LORAN survey

The Ship Operations Cooperative Program (SOCP), sponsored by the U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD), is conducting a LORAN Survey <<http://www.socp.org/trial/loran-survey.htm>> to assist the Department of Transportation in deciding on the future of this electronic aid to navigation.

Ship owners and operators and active mariners are invited to respond to this short (14 question) Internet-based survey. (8/1/05)."

Earl passed the email on to several of us, and urged that we complete the survey. I urge all IOBG members to submit positive responses en masse also.

It is through opportunities like this that we can make a positive impact on recreational boating at the state and national levels.

I am concerned that our membership does not understand the role that NBF plays, largely because it is not an obviously public role. Attendance at Boating Law Administrator organization meetings does not make good press copy, but it is important, if you want to influence how boaters are regulated in their states. This article is part of my attempt to let you know more about the National Boating Federation.

Phil Arms



International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary

From the President

by Hope McLeod

Here we are at the time of year when the Annual Meeting and Convention are just around the corner. I feel as though here in the Great Lakes area, we just got our boats out of dry dock and it is fast approaching the time to once again put them away for the winter.

Plans for the October convention are falling nicely into place. The Auxiliary has come up with the following slate for 2006:

President.....	Jackie Rudd	(District 1)
President Elect.....	Pat Graven	(District 7)
Vice President.....	Betty Theobald	(District 3)
Treasurer.....	Pat Janiszewski	(District 12)
Secretary.....	Bonnie Sussel	(District 8)

Hopefully these choices will meet with everyone's approval. We feel it is a good cross-section of the areas we represent. Of course, keep in mind that your Board is only as efficient as you help them be. They need input (be it good or bad), to do their job.

Along with the meeting and the election, we have the award for the District who came up with the most members this year. You may be surprised! On Friday we are hosting a " MEET and GREET" breakfast. (see flyer in this LOG)

So, along with the fantastic weekend that the Sussels have in store for you, I can't see why many of you won't join us in sunny Florida. Let us get to know you and you'll definitely come back!

Til then, boat safe and stay well.



PAST PRESIDENTS

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

District 19
Dee Knobloch, District President

Tears in your eyes and a lump in your throat . . . those were the feelings of patriotism that were felt at the Flag Retirement Ceremony at our annual member appreciation dinner at the Stockton YC. P/C Ron Malmquist, an Eagle Scout, conducted a ceremony under a starry sky to pay tribute to and retire "Old Glory". Two to three dozen tired and tattered flags were inspected, disassembled and given a fiery, honorable rest. If you have never witnessed a moving tribute of this sort be sure to attend one.

At the same meeting, District 19 Auxiliary had their BIG 50/50 Raffle and Silent Auction charity fundraiser. It was a huge success thanks to all who contributed time, money, and gifts and to the Stockton YC for hosting the event.

Nominations for 2006 Officers are as follows:

President - Dee Knobloch Vice-President - Sue Meyer Treasurer - Charlene Avarbock

An opening for Secretary is still available, so if you are interested call or e-mail me as soon as possible. Elections will be at the Village West YC September 11, 2005.

Included in our September meeting will be a presentation of our charity check to the Girl Sea Scouts Troop 777. The Troop is responsible for the refurbishment of the Sea Scout Ship (SSS) Liberty. The young women are taught engineering, boat maintenance, seamanship and team work.

The SSS Liberty, a 95ft vessel, is being readied for a cruise down the coast to Southern California - way to go gals!!!

In October is our Black Tie Change of Watch at the Pittsburg YC and the last event of the year.



District 70
Eileen Want, District President

Greetings from our side of "The Pond," and a big hello to all our Blue Gavel friends. We recently met up at the Strood Yacht Club hosted by Bill Young. During the meeting it was decided we would continue our support for the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust, and Bill Young will be handing over a check to this charity.

It was also discussed what type of program would be required to encourage new members. A number of suggestions were made, and it is hoped we will see some results in the coming months.

Looking forward to meeting everyone again in Florida in October.



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Come Meet and Greet the IOBG “A Team”

- WHO?** IOBGA Members, Non-Members, Spouses & Guests
- WHAT?** Breakfast with Friends – new & old
- WHEN?** Friday, October 28, 2005
9:00 to 11:00 AM
- WHERE?** IOBG ANNUAL CONVENTION
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida
- WHY?** To Get To Know You

We hope you can join us for coffee and goodies.

Come casual, and let's just have an old-fashioned coffee clutch, while we get to know each other better. Who knows, you might just make a new friend. Some of our auxiliary friendships last a lifetime!!!



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.

From the President by Joan L. Marsh-Clune

"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.

In the last three years we have granted over \$30,000 to Local Area Programs funding youth and handicapped sailing projects. We would like to see more of these programs in more parts of the country.

The newest program of this kind is the work of Huntington Harbor Yacht Club in District 10, California. Their report will be in the next issue of THE LOG. We expect to use their experience and expertise to develop a model community scholarship program that could be used by a chapter, yacht club or other boating organization to provide water safety and sail training to young people in their community.

We refer these local programs as "Local Area Projects (LAP)". For information about how to request funds from the Humanitarian Foundation for a "Local Area Project," please see the application outline available online at www.iobg.org under the IOBGHF link. Please feel free to contact any member of the Board for more information.

Since we look to you for the financial support that enables the Foundation to achieve its mission, let me take this opportunity to thank all those in the Blue Gavel and the Auxiliary for their outstanding fundraising efforts and their personal generosity.

I.O.B.G. Humanitarian Foundation Memorial Fund

In the summer of 2002 we introduced our memorial fund program. Then as now we believe that there can be no more generous way to honor special friends, than with a gift to charity. We hope that you will consider the Humanitarian Foundation a favored charity for such gifts.

Gifts to this fund are always appropriate to remember special people in our lives including those who, gratefully, are still with us, achieving milestones and bringing us joy.

The members of the Humanitarian Foundation board, the I.O.B.G. Area Vice Presidents, and the officers of the Auxiliary have supplies of memorial envelopes. Please contact any one of them to obtain a donation envelope. Contributions made in honor or memory of others will be acknowledged in writing to the donor and to the honoree or the honoree's family.

Again we thank you for your generous contributions

From Phil Arms, Executive Secretary to the Trustees of the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation

The members of the Executive Committee of the IOBG are the Trustees and Voting Members of the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation. They are charged with electing the Directors of the Foundation at the Annual Meeting of the Foundation.

The Annual Meeting of the IOBG Foundation is scheduled to be held on Friday the 28th of October, 2005, in conjunction with IOBG Annual Meeting activities.

The President of the IOBG has appointed a Committee to Receive Nominations for Director of the Foundation. The committee is: Past President Larry Foote, President Art Theobald, President Elect Harvey Sussel, and P/P Phil Arms (Executive Secretary to the Trustees of the Foundation). The foundation nominating committee makes their report to this committee, and nominations by petition should be forwarded to them.

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, please do not hesitate to contact the committee, Chairman of the Board P/P Norm Gallagher, or Foundation President P/C Joan Marsh-Clune. Please forward nominations by petition to Phil Arms at 352 Seawind Drive, Vallejo, CA 94590, pbarms@aol.com. Nominations by petition may be made at least 45 days prior to the Foundation's Annual Meeting. This year that date is 13 September, 2005

The Trustees set the number of Directors of the Foundation. This number has been set at 9, and there has been no indication of a desire to change this number. These 9 Directors serve two-year terms, with 4 serving until 2006 and 5 whose terms expire this year.

The 5 whose terms expire this year are:

Norm Gallagher
Joan Marsh-Clune
Carol Garside
Joe Zammit
Jerry Key

The 4 whose terms expire in 2006 are:

Kathleen Smith
George Demos
Marc Connolly
Jackie Rudd

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“Our sincere “Thanks for a Job Well Done” to P/C Scott Croxford, Regional Meeting Chairman, Hope McLeod, Hospitality Chairman, and their committees, the members of the North Central District 7 for an outstanding Summer Regional Meeting.” - Art Theobald, IOBG President

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