



THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

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

Volume 27 No. 4

September 2007

Mary Nye Meyers, Editor

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



Mackinac Island, Michigan



*August 2007
Regional Meeting
District 23*

2007 IOBG CONTACT LISTING

APPOINTED OFFICERS

EDUC. & DEVELOPMENT

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

LEGAL OFFICER

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

LOG EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Mary Nye Meyers
1014 117th Street South
Tacoma, WA 98444-2450
Tel: 253-224-8592
fire_n_ice104@hotmail.com

SUPPLY OFFICER

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

PROTOCOL OFFICER

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

RECORDING SECRETARY

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

WEBMASTERS

Marshall Nemoy (Dawn)
bgtreas@iobg.org

Mary Nye Meyers
fire_n_ice104@hotmail.com

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

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

REPRESENTATIVES

BOAT U.S.

Vern Bendsen 707-422-3510

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

AUXILIARY LIAISON

Ray Thompson 386-445-5530

HUMANITARIAN FND. LIAISON

Phil Arms 707-644-9016

NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION

Phil Arms 707-644-9016
Art Garside 734-671-6997

U.S. SAILING

Bill Thayer 760-632-9058

U.S. POWER SQUADRON

BJ Ursin 360-671-1700
iobg898usps@aol.com

U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Larry Draper 650-871-0802

MEMBER LEADERSHIP PUBLIC RELATIONS

Art Garside 734-671-6997

COMMITTEES

AUDIT

Harvey Sussel 561-691-4424
Carol Promessi 925-427-6250
Richard Janiszewski 609-294-2393

BY-LAWS & POLICY MANUAL

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

ANNUAL MEETING 2007

Richard Janiszewski 609-294-2393

ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW

Harvey Sussel 561-691-4424
Carol Promessi 925-425-6250
Marshall Nemoy 888-378-2211
Jerry Rudd 253-838-9027

ELECTIONS

Jerry Rudd 253-838-9027

NOMINATING

Harvey Sussel (Chairman) 561-691-4424
Carol Promessi 925-427-6250
Richard Janiszewski 609-294-2393

RECEIVE NOMINATIONS FROM IOBG/HF

Phil Arms 707-644-9016
Richard Janiszewski 609-294-2393
Ray Thompson 386-445-5530

ELECTED OFFICERS

Executive Secretary

Mary Eiffert (Alan)
P.O. Box 464
LaConner, WA 98257-0464
Tel/Cell: 206-819-5809
meiffert@earthlink.net

Northwestern VP

Mike Parish (Roxanne)
3502 West 2nd St.
Anacortes, WA 98221
Tel: 360-770-5864
Fax: 360-299-8512
mparishiobg@verizon.net

North Central VP

Debbie Banks-Skellenger
88 Beachdale Drive
Avon Lake, OH 44012
Tel: 440-933-3031
Fax: 440-845-4335
debbiebs@oh.rr.com

Northeastern VP

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

Southwestern VP

George Knies (Ann)
2333 Lariat Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Tel: 925-939-0230
Cell: 925-330-5676
Fax: 925944-0474
machbuster1@earthlink.net

Southeastern VP

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

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

#1 Ken Rollins (Rita)
8202 SR 104 Suite 102 PMB147
Kingston, WA 98346
Tel: 206-819-3295
Rollin_Rollins@hotmail.com

#7 Open

#14 Rich Ahlf (Shirley)
63 El Molino Dr.
Clayton, CA 94517
Tel/Fax: 925-672-2514
rahlf@sbcglobal.net

#21 Leo Vortuni
4308 Patrice Rd.
Newport Beach, CA 92663
Tel: 949-722-1153
lvortuni@aol.com

#27 Chuck Browning (Barbara)
247 Temple Drive
Bel Air, MD 21015
Tel: 410-569-6338
Bus: 443-460-1000
Cell: 443-309-6674
Fax: 443-460-1001
cbrowning@jwsons.com

#2 Ed Ackerman (Marilyn)
308-10461 Resthaven Dr.
Sidney, BC V8L 3H6
Canada
Tel: 250-656-7799
Fax: 250-656-1242
eimut88@shaw.ca

#8 Louis J. Daniello
126 Lakeshore Dr. PH#27
North Palm Beach, FL 33408
Tel: 561-627-3748
Cell: 561-722-1994
Fax: 561-833-3573
loudaniello@aol.com

#15 Gary Hall (Audrey)
2063 Grandview Street
Oceanside, CA 92054
Tel: 760-757-6796
hulakal2@cox.net

#22 David Loughran
1203 Bay Ave.
P.O. Box 746
Mantoloking, NJ 08738
Tel: 732-892-8388
74020.450@compuserve.com

#50 Damian Pflieger (Barb)
800 Farrer Street
Maumee, OH 43537
Tel: 419-893-3004
Fax: 419-897-7277
dpflieger@buckeye-express.com

#3 Lewis Smith (Margot)
135 Paul Drive
Amherst, NY 14228
Tel: 716-691-7626
margots@localnet.com

#9 Mark Hupp (Barbara)
P.O. Box 352050
Toledo, OH 43635
Tel: 419-385-8715
Bus: 419-450-8216
huppo1@buckeye-express.com

#16 Marsha Landreth
3600 Harbor Blvd. #173
Oxnard, CA 93035
Tel: 805-201-3027
Bus: 805-389-1909
marshal@ouhdsd.k12.ca.us

#23 De Ramsey (Maude)
7300 Tuscarora Cir.
Indian River MI 49749
Tel: 231-238-9965
Cell: 219-718-1555
francisramsey@att.net
Winter: November to May
145 Harkness Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91106
Tel: 625-356-4645

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

#4 Ron Defieux* (Linda)
641 Blueridge Ave.
N.Vancouver, BC V7R 234
Canada
Tel: 604-987-7425
Fax: 604-985-7263
rdefieux@shaw.ca

#10 Anne Fox (Terry)
1161 N. Ogden Dr. #202
Los Angeles, CA 90046
Tel/Fax: 323-654-4923
Cellular: 323-819-4402
syclb95@aol.com

#18 Open

#24 Ken Bruce
#16-950 Lanfranco
Kelowna, BC V1W 3W8
Canada
Tel: 250-860-5673
kdbuce@shaw.ca

#70 Bill Young (Sue)
5 Grasmere Grove
Rochester, Kent ME2 4PN
England
Tel: 0163 471-3478
bluesil@hotmail.com

#5 Evertt H. Roberts (Vi)
612 N. Hayden Bay Drive
Portland, OR 97217
Tel: 503-285-8802

#11 Wilma Rosenberg
32145 Beachfront Ln.
Westlake Village, CA 91361
Tel/Fax: 818-889-3204
wilmawlyc@sbcglobal.net

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

#25 Jim Yount (Rose)
33836 Michigamme
Chesterfield, MI 48047
Tel/Fax: 586-716-0890
Bus: 586-524-8638
jfy2043@aol.com

#75 Keith Wardell (Patsy)
4 Glandovey Road
P.O. Box 25-025
Christchurch, 8005
New Zealand
Tel: 64-3-3516046
Fax: 64-3-351-6672
homehostingltd@inet.net.nz

#6 Sue Roach (Mike)
45-995 Waialeale Rd. #66
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Tel/Fax: 808-247-8083
sueroach@hawaii.rr.com

#12 Vincent J. Core (Eileen)
739 Fairmount Drive
Chatham, NJ 07928
Tel: 973-635-7415
sailcore@worldnet.att.net (S)
sailcorebsm@att.net (W)

#20 David J. Meshulam (Gail)
66 Darby Ct.
Madison, NJ 07940
Tel: 973-377-8807
Cell: 973-727-9892
Fax: 973-301-2320
DJMGEM@aol.com

#26 John W. Thompson (Penny)
P.O. Box 390
Mt. Sinai, NY 11766
Tel: 631-476-1763
ppandjt@optonline.net

JAPAN

Kuniteru Matsumoto (Kiyoko)
3-3-22 Matsumoto Building
Dajima, Kitaku, Osaka
Japan 530-003
Tel: 06-458-7020
Fax: 06-441-3765

* President

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I
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B
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f
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PRESIDENT

Carol Promessi (Phil)

128 Pelican Loop
Pittsburg, CA 94565

Tel: 925-427-6250
Fax: 925-427-6250
Email: cpromessi@aol.com



**PRESIDENT
ELECT**

Richard Janiszewski (Patricia)

9 Deer Run Road
Parkerton, NJ 08087

Tel: 609-294-2393
Fax: 609-296-3933
Email: richardjaniszewski@msn.com



**FIRST
VICE PRESIDENT**

Jerry Rudd (Jackie)

37834 43rd Ave. South
Auburn, WA 98001

Tel: 253-838-9027
jrjackie1@comcast.net



**SECOND
VICE PRESIDENT**

Ray Thompson (Dorothy)

71 Weymouth Lane
Palm Coast, FL 32164

Tel: 386-445-5530
rthompson015@cfl.rr.com



**PAST
PRESIDENT**

Harvey Sussel

8573 Beacon Hill Road
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

Tel: 561-691-4424
Email: sussel1@aol.com



TREASURER

Marshall Nemoy (Dawn)

3517 Camino del Rio South, Ste. 208
San Diego, CA 92108-4028

Tel: 619-282-5050 / 888-378-2211
Res: 858-565-1093
Fax: 619-282-5252
Email: bgtreas@iobg.org

From the President by Carol Promessi



It feels a bit like placing the period at the end of the last sentence in a story. A better analogy might be that it's like doing the last mile in a long journey. One thing's for certain, it's been a whale of a trip! A trip both challenging and gratifying.

I was honored to be asked to serve the Blue Gavel as the first woman President and I deeply appreciated the many offers of help and support which I have received from all of you. Over the last several years I have been gratified to find that these offers adequately express my thanks to all of those who have given so generously of their time and talent during my tenure as an Officer.

I owe a special debt of gratitude to my husband Phil for his unending help and unwavering support. If going through the chairs can be characterized as a journey, then Phil must be characterized as my "traveling companion". I cannot even remotely conceive of pursuing the duties of the last few years without him at my side. With this "Phil" thank you very much. I could not have made the trip without you.

The real reward, however, was experiencing a sense of team spirit with my Officers, that only resulted in an award winning, creative outcome, but will help us to continue and make Blue Gavel one of the most distinctive organizations.

As I now leave office, I have two requests of my shipmates; the first is that the future be approached with open-minded optimism. The second is that your incoming Officers be given the same level of support, which you so kindly shared with me. It's the members who make it all happen! It's the members that make our organization the success it is today.



As 2007 draws to a close, I want to thank you for all your participation and help this past year. Your support has helped make this a good working year and hopefully our workshops and our new services we have provided, will help promote new growth in Blue Gavel.

This year was not without its challenges. We are committed to keeping you informed and listening to your suggestions and trying to implement new ideas. I have enjoyed receiving all your suggestions and we have used them all in our workshops.

As we prepare for 2008, our commitment is stronger than ever, and we will continue to make changes and improvements to ensure you get what you need and when you need it. As any changes are made, we will keep you informed and ask for your input. We are still looking for ways to offset rising costs and we will continue to exercise expense discipline. We remain committed to meeting the needs of each District and every member.

Thank you again for your support and I look forward to working together with you in 2008 and beyond.





From the President Elect

by Richard Janiszewski

Upon completing my term of office as Commodore of the Spray Beach Yacht Club in 1988, I, like many Past Commodores, felt the need to pause, recharge my batteries and decide what, if anything, I would like to do next. My ties to the mission of Spray Beach Yacht Club continued to be strong, but tempered by my realization that those who immediately replace me and those to come in future years deserved unencumbered latitude and complete freedom to act independently.

A close friend, P/C George Cripps and member of the Bridge of IOBG District 12, pointed out the striking similarities in the mission of the IOBG and that of the Spray Beach Yacht Club. P/C Cripps effectively showed that through the Blue Gavel one has the opportunity to continue to contribute in areas of personal interest and community. So began my involvement and commitment to the ideals of the Blue Gavel over a period of enjoyable years, longer though than I care to admit.

During this time, my principal motivation has always been what can I do for the Blue Gavel. I found Ev Henry's "Basics and Essentials", which I reported on in the March 2007 LOG, inspiring and as valid today as when they were formulated in 1955.

As I assumed greater responsibilities and decision-making requirements within the Blue Gavel, I found myself guided by several personal principles. Inadvertently, at first, they became the basis from which I would reach consistent conclusions. They involved the following principles of vision, mission, values, and operating standards.

OUR VISION:

What we seek to become

A leading organization whose inspired and engaged presence add value to all we touch.

OUR MISSION:

Why we are here

This is effectively stated in our by-laws and on the mast-head of the Blue Gavel LOG.

OUR VALUE:

Who we are

We act with integrity and honesty. We recognize each person for difference he or she makes. We drive innovation and results by understanding the organization and all its components and its opportunities. We are committed to the values of responsibility, sustainability and openness. Our focus on success is constant.

OUR OPERATING STANDARDS:

How we work

We assess the impact of our decisions. We are united by a common vision, mission values, and operating principles. We are led by an Executive Committee that enforces our principles, sets our strategy and manages our capital. We do not expect sudden success and will move ahead methodically and incrementally. There are no failures, only quitters.

I thought these principles might be of interest.

On another matter, we shortly will hold our Annual Meeting on Long Beach Island, New Jersey from October 17-21, 2007. The meetings/activities, business and social are contained in the recent July Blue Gavel LOG and on the IOBG web site. This meeting is one of the most important meetings, held each year. Nominated officers, the 2008 budget, by-law changes are only a few of the items which will be presented, discussed and voted on.

It is your opportunity to be a meaningful part of your organization. Planned social activities will be innovative and enjoyable. I urge your attendance or as an alternative, your action, to assure that your Chapter and District are represented.



From the First Vice President by Jerry Rudd

The Regional summer meeting started with a great workshop on Friday with much discussion and good ideas that the Executive Committee will take in consideration. President Carol Promessi started these workshops when she was Southwestern Area V.P. and they worked so well she incorporated them into our Regional meetings across the United States.

Having the Regional meeting at Mackinac Island Yacht Club with the workshop has helped District #23 immensely. They now have a complete Bridge and looking forward to working on their District.

Marc Connelly gave a report on the Marketing Plan and picked up some new ideas from members, as well as, some from the emails received. I want to thank you for sending in your ideas and concerns to Marc and myself. Communication is what makes it work. Marc will have the final plan ready for the Annual Meeting.





From the Second Vice President

by Ray Thompson

Mackinac Island...

Received reports from both Northwest and Southwest Area Vice Presidents.

No IOBGA concerns nor requests.

Have remained in touch with the Navy Yacht Club Pensacola since their Charter renewal. After the renewal they requested a transfer to District #8. Because of the embarrassing length of time required to handle their request they have voted to now remain in District 51.

To spare disappointment in these transfer requests, it is necessary that the By-Laws be strictly observed and that assumptions be minimized.



From the Office of the Treasurer

by Marshall Nemoy



Here is a summary of the Treasurer's report dated August 8, 2007 and presented at the regional meeting in Mackinac Island, Michigan. The financial information was as of July 31, 2007 and for the seven months then ended. Overall our net income to date is \$33,729 which, by itself, sounds good until you realize we have the expenses of the August meeting and the Annual Meeting in October still to come. Depending on how many delegates attend the Annual meeting and other normal expenditures, we could have \$45,000 additional expenses through next December. That would mean a loss of approximately \$12,000.

This would be the third year in a row that we have experienced a loss from operations. The primary reason for this state of affairs is the failure to raise dues when the cost of normal operations have gone up. In discussions it was decided that our operations are functioning at the minimum acceptable level and reducing services or communications was not the answer. The fact that we have not voted a raise in dues since October of 2000 speaks volumes.

When we suffer operational losses we also see our financial position or net assets decline. While our total assets are sufficient to absorb the projected loss, we cannot continue on this path forever.

All of the operating areas of IOBG except for *The Blue Gavel LOG*, are under budget. The *LOG* is over budget due to increase in paper and printing costs. Postage for the *LOG* is \$340 under budget even with the postal rate increase.

The number of paid members as of August 1, 2007 is 2,616 which is 54 less than last year. Historically, our membership has slowly declined for various reasons but mostly from Districts not seeking new members from the "graduating Commodores class". If 90% of our active Chapters got their new Past Commodore to join IOBG, our membership would be increasing.

As an accommodation to our traveling members, our membership year ends on September 30th. After October 1st, dues received will be credited to your 2008 dues unless specified otherwise. There is a recommendation from the Executive Committee to increase the annual dues by \$10.00. If adopted, the International dues will be \$40.00.

Dues should be sent to your District Treasurer. The District Treasurer in turn sends the International portion to the International Operations Center.

If you would like a full copy of the Treasurer's report contact the I.O.C. either by email at bgtreas@iobg.org or calling us at 888-378-2211.

IOBG NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The IOBG Nominating Committee has made the following nominations for officers for the year 2008.

The election shall take place at the Annual Meeting to be held in Long Beach Island, New Jersey on Saturday, October 20, 2007.

The Nominations are:

President	Richard Janiszewski, Dist.22 (automatic as per bylaws)
President Elect	Jerry Rudd, Dist.1
First Vice President	Ray Thompson, Dist.8
Second Vice President	Vern Bendsen, Dist.19
Immediate Past President	Carol Promessi, Dist.19
Financial Officer	Marshall Nemoy, Dist.15
Executive Secretary	Mary Eiffert, Dist.1
Northeastern Vice President	Marc Connelly, Dist.3
Northwestern Vice President	Arthur Kovarnik, Dist.1
North Central Vice President	Open
Southwestern Vice President	Larry Draper, Dist.19
Southeastern Vice President	Tom Sullivan, Dist.8
District 50 Director (East of Mississippi River)	Damian Pflgebraar, Dist.9
District 51 Director (West of Mississippi River)	Anne Fox, Dist.10

Respectfully Submitted:

Harvey Sussel, Past President & Chairman
Carol Promessi, President
Richard Janiszewski, President Elect



“A Shore Thing”

October 2007 Annual Meeting Long Beach Island, New Jersey

The October 2007 Annual Meeting will be held on Long Beach Island (LBI), New Jersey on October 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21. The suggested airports are Newark International Airport (approximately 95 miles from LBI), Philadelphia International Airport (approximately 75 miles from LBI), and Atlantic City Airport (approximately 30 miles). Atlantic City is home to Spirit Airlines. For complete directions, see Map Quest or your favorite internet source.

For individuals wishing to attend a Broadway show in New York City—Matinee days are on Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday. If you come early and choose to attend a play in New York on Wednesday, instructions will be provided to bus into the city and return. On the sign-up form, indicate that you are planning to attend a play. Choice of the show is up to you. Theater tickets can be purchased on-line through www.ticketmaster.com. On Wednesday night, the Barnegat Light Yacht Club will host a “Meet and Greet” with dinner and open bar for our first get-together.

On Thursday, the IOBG will meet; and the IOBGA will be able to tour the Tuckerton Seaport, and have an opportunity to visit Barnegat Lighthouse and its surrounding nature trail. A delicious luncheon will be provided at Spray Beach Yacht Club; or if visiting the Seaport, luncheon can be ordered from Skeeters, a Seaport restaurant. Evening festivities will be hosted by Little Egg Harbor Yacht Club with cocktails (open bar), hors d'oeuvres, and an extensive buffet dinner. Mr. Frank Pearson will speak about sea-glass collecting, and will have jewelry available for purchase from his collection. In turn, he will donate a percentage of sales to the Humanitarian Foundation.

On Friday, there will be an opportunity to tour the Ocean Yacht Company. This visitation is, however, limited in number, so sign up early. For those not wishing to visit Ocean Yachts, there will be an excursion to historic Smithville Village for unique shopping and/or the Lenox factory where Lenox is offered at amazing discounts!! If you just want to sit back and partially relax, blue claw crabbing is available from the docks at Spray Beach Yacht Club. Just let us know that you want to crab. Return to Surf City Yacht Club for lunch at approximately 12:30. On Friday afternoon, there will be meetings of the IOBG and IOBGA at Spray Beach. On Friday evening, Spray Beach Yacht Club will host cocktails (open bar), hors d'oeuvres, and a sit-down dinner. Your menu choice is on the Meeting Order Form.

Saturday is again a busy day! The IOBG and IOBGA and IOBGHF will hold their annual meeting at Spray Beach Yacht Club with luncheon (a Tuscan Buffet) to follow at the Engleside Inn. They will then meet back at the yacht club for a continuation of their meeting. On Saturday evening the Grand Ball at the Sea Oaks Country Club will be held. Cocktails (cash bar) and hot hors d'oeuvres will be from 6-7, with dinner and dancing following at 7 pm. The band for the evening is the Diablo Sandwich Band and, as their name indicates, they are a fun group! The Country Club is approximately 15 miles from the Engleside Inn on Long Beach Island; however, for those desiring transportation, a bus will be available. Be sure to mark this box on the Annual Meeting Order form if you desire this transportation.

Again, if you have any questions, please contact me at (609) 294-2393 or e-mail me at richardjanizewski@msn.com. The Annual Meeting Order Form is in the Log or can be found on the IOBG and IOBG-A websites, www.iobg.com. Pat and I are looking forward to this weekend, and to meeting with you.



Annual Meeting Order Form

October 17-21, 2007

Long Beach Island, New Jersey

	Time	No. Persons	Event Cost	Total
Wednesday, October 17th				
Registration at Engleside Hotel Lobby	2:00-5:00			
Attending Broadway Show Matinee		() Yes, I am attending a show		
Meet and Greet (Barnegat Light YC)	6:00-10:00	_____	@ \$15	\$_____
snacks, dinner, open bar				

Thursday, October 18th				
Registration (Spray Beach YC)	9:00-3:00			
IOBG Round Table Discussion	9:00-11:30			
IOBGA/Guests-Tuckerton Seaport	10:00	_____	@ \$10	\$_____
IOBGA – Lunch Tuckerton Seaport (Skeeters) (order from menu)				
IOBG – Lunch (Spray Beach Yacht Club)	12:00-1:00	_____	@ \$12	\$_____
IOBGH – Meeting (Spray Beach YC)	1:30			
Cocktails and Dinner – (Little Egg Harbor YC)	5:30	_____	@ \$32	\$_____
Hors d'oeuvres, Buffet (Beef Bourgeon, Shrimp Scampi, Chicken Marsala, etc) Open Bar				
Dress - Nautical Casual				

Friday, October 19th				
Registration (Spray Beach YC)	9:00-12:00			
Ocean Yacht Tour (limited to 75)	9:00-12:00	_____	No Charge	
Historic Smithville Village (unique shopping)	9:30-12:00	_____	No Charge	
Return to joint Lunch (Surf City YC)	12:30	_____	@ \$12	\$_____
IOBG Pre-Meeting Discussion (SBYC)	1:30-3:30			
IOBGA Meeting (Spray Beach YC)	1:30-3:30			
Cocktails and Dinner (Spray Beach YC)	6:00-10:00 (open bar)			
() Chicken Français		_____	@ \$35	\$_____
() Broiled Mahi-Mahi		_____	@ \$35	\$_____
Dress – Nautical Casual				

Saturday, October 20th				
Registration (Spray Beach YC)	9:00-10:00			
Humanitarian Foundation (Spray Beach YC)	8:00-9:00			
IOBG Annual Meeting (Spray Beach YC)	9:00-11:30			
IOBGA Annual Meeting (SBYC)	9:00-11:30			
Joint Luncheon (Engleside Inn)	12:00-1:30	_____	@ \$25	\$_____
Tuscan Buffet				
IOBG Annual Meeting (Continued) SBYC	2:00-3:30			
Grand Ball (Sea Oaks Country Club)				
Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres	6:00-7:00			
Dinner and Dancing	7:00-11:00	_____	@ \$67	\$_____
() Petite Filet Mignon with Prawn Stuffed Jumbo Lump Crabmeat				
() Horseradish Encrusted Salmon				
() Vegetarian Entrée				
Installation of Officers				

Sunday, October 21st				
IOBG Fall Regional Meeting (Engleside)	9:00-10:00			

UNIFORM - WINTER



Annual Meeting Order Form

October 17-21, 2007

Long Beach Island, New Jersey

Please make checks payable to "IOBG 2007" and send entire form (2 pages) to:

Richard Janiszewski – IOBG 2007
9 Deer Run Road
Little Egg Harbor NJ 08087

Welcome to Long Beach Island, New Jersey

For air travel, use Philadelphia International Airport, Newark Airport, or Atlantic City Airport. Please call the Engleside Inn at (609) 492-1251 directly for reservations. When making reservations, please mention that you are part of the International Order of the Blue Gavel. Engleside Inn will include a Continental Breakfast on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Room rate is from \$95 per night (plus tax), double occupancy. Room reservations should be made before September 15, 2007.

If you are planning on the cruise, Newark would be your best airport. You can return a car at Newark and you will receive information regarding transportation to the ship (private car – approximately \$25 per person). Further information will be available at www.iobg.org and also in the next Log.

Weather is usually very pleasant this time of the year; however, it can be chilly in the evenings. Casual nautical attire will be appropriate in the evening. If you have any questions, please call at (609) 294-2393 or e-mail at richardjaniszewski@msn.com.

District Number _____ Office Held _____

Name _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone () _____ E-mail _____

Spouse/Guest is a member of IOBG _____ IOBGA _____

Function Amount Submitted: \$ _____

Add \$15 (single) transportation to Sea Oaks \$ _____

Add \$30 (couple) transportation to Sea Oaks \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED \$ _____

For our planning purposes, please indicate if you will not be renting a car and will need transportation on Long Beach Island. () Yes, I will need total transportation on LBI.

Your reservation must be received no later than October 5th, 2007. Thank you.



“We’re Cruising”

To help you in planning for the IOBG Canada and New England Cruise on October 21st, Newark Airport would be the most convenient place to fly into.

On Sunday, October 21st, mini bus arrangements will be made to transport you from Newark Airport to the cruise ship, and back to Newark Airport on October 27th.

The cost of transportation is \$20 per person each way. However, if you are planning to stay in New York City, and return on a different day, the company can provide alternate transportation. New York City Limousine can be reached directly at 1-800-505-7724.

In order to aid in planning and to secure a space on the mini bus, please send your check to Carol Garside. If you have any questions, please contact either Carol and Art Garside or Dick and Pat Janiszewski.

*Thank You to Our Contributing
LOG Photographers:*

*Debbie Banks-Skellenger
Carol Garside
Michael & Mary Nye Meyers
Marshall & Dawn Nemoy
Phil & Carol Promessi
Marybeth Thayer*



International Order of the Blue Gavel
Cruise to New England with fellow boaters immediately following the '07 Annual Convention and Meeting!

Cruise Aboard



NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE

EXCLUSIVE CRUISING

NORWEGIAN SPIRIT



October 21, 2007

6 Day Canada & New England Cruise

Itinerary: New York City - At Sea - Halifax - Bay Harbor
Boston - Martha's Vineyard - New York City



Inside	Cat. K	\$ 772.54
Oceanview	Cat. G	\$ 872.54
Balcony	Cat. BE	\$1072.54

Price Includes: Cruise for 6 days aboard Norwegian Spirit, all taxes, Cocktail party & 50 Shipboard credit per cabin.

Initial Deposit of \$50 due Dec. 4, 2006

Second deposit due June 15, 2007

Final Payment due August 1, 2007

Insurance is highly recommended.

A passport is required for this cruise.

A post cruise stay in New York on October 27 is in the works. Accommodations at the Crowne Plaza in Time Square, dinner, and a Broadway show is planned. Prices are not available until mid 2007.

Airfare is available upon request.



For Reservations or Information please contact:

Rose Madden, Jeanne Schaefer

(239) 542-0111 or (800) 741-0112

4307 Del Prado Blvd.; Cape Coral, FL 33904



I would first like to take this opportunity to thank District #23 Director De Ramsey and Mackinac Island Yacht Club for hosting the Summer Regional Meeting. Hats off to such an outstanding weekend! It was like going back in time, no phones, no cars, no computers, just the clickety clack of horseshoes. The setting was fantastic and the camaraderie was overflowing!

But most of all my spark plug award goes out to De Ramsey for signing up 4 new members at the meeting!!

It took a simple phone call to start the ball rolling, now District #23 is revitalized, has Officers and De has been signing up members every time he talks to someone! The NCVP Debbie Banks Skellenger has been a great help to De and to the District.

Last year it was suggested that the International Officers give guidance, encouragement and support to floundering Districts and ascertain what assistance they may need. I have tried to be very involved with those Districts this year.

I would like to welcome the two new approved Chapters into our organization, The Yacht & Country Club and the Cape Fear Yacht Club.

President-Elect Janiszewski presented his proposed budget, which he will present at the Annual Meeting with a proposed dues increase of \$10.00. Further details in his article.

Past President Sussel presented the proposed slate of officers for 2008.

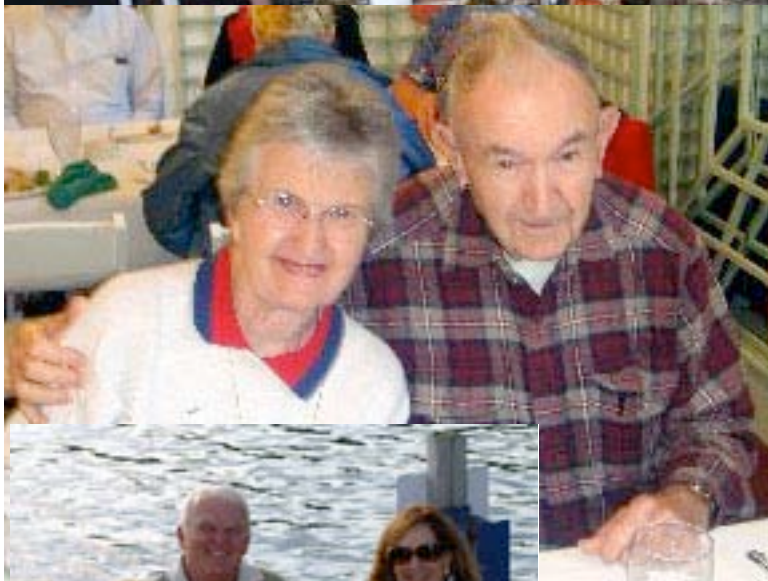
We had a toast to our Log Editor Mary Nye Meyers who just got married, congratulations Mary and Mike!! What a beautiful place to spend a honeymoon and to have all your IOBG family attend!!

This year has been a working year, looking to revitalize IOBG, we have also become somewhat stagnant and we have to be creative and look for some changes which is sometimes hard to do in an organization. I have created a Marketing Committee and this committee is comprised of the Area VP's and the liaison to the Executive Committee is First VP Jerry Rudd. I feel with the input from the membership and the committee we will be able to come up with a fantastic plan which will be presented at the Annual Meeting in October. So please if you have any other suggestion, please notify Marc Connelly, Chairman or any of the Area VP's.



Back to reality!!

Carol Promessi
International President





**August 2007
Regional
Meeting
District 23**





NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION

Submitted by Earl Waesche, Legislative Director

This is the latest on the Circuit Court Ruling which could end up requiring all recreational vessels to have a water discharge permit. I have some detail on the oral arguments of the plaintiff and appellants, questions/statements from the judges, etc. if anyone is interested.

Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals on Water Discharge Ruling

On 14 August the U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, heard oral arguments in the appeal for Northwest Environmental Advocates v. EPA. The appeal was on the Court ruling that took away the exemption for recreational vessels from the Clean Water Act allowing normal water discharges. The three judge panel heard arguments from the appellants, the US Dept of Justice speaking for the EPA and the environmental group plaintiffs with no decision being reached. Some at the hearing indicated there was only a 50/50 chance for a successful ruling. The judges indicated the case would be submitted for a decision and by their questions seemed to have some sympathy for the appellants. We are hoping for a decision within six months.

Failing a favorable court decision our only hope is in HR 2550 which would exempt us from any discharge permit process. We now have 50 co-sponsors in the House for this bill. A companion bill will be introduced in the Senate when Congress reconvenes after the August recess. Again, all are encouraged to write their Senators requesting their support for this legislation so important to the future of boating.

The EPA posted a request for comments on the docket: "Development of Clean Water Act National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permits for Discharges Incidental to the Normal Operation of Vessels." NBF submitted comments along with 2000 other respondents. The comment period has concluded and 99% of the respondents opposed the permit process.

We will continue to address all these issues, working with the BoatBlue Coalition, which includes many industry and boating organizations until we have achieved a successful conclusion.

LOG Minutes

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

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

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

Member Leadership & Public Relations Art Garside, Representative

TRADITIONS and CUSTOMS OF YACHT CLUBS

The Royal Thames Yacht Club is the oldest yacht club in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland and maybe the oldest continuous yacht club in the world. It has had many distinguished Commodores including Dukes, Lords, Earls and Admirals to name a few. Many of the traditions and customs that we observe today are believed to have originated at the Royal Thames Yacht Club. Many of the club's policies were influenced by the British Navy and have been adopted by yacht clubs around the world.

The reason I bring the subject of traditions and customs of Yacht Clubs up is, at a recent event held at our club there were several visiting Commodores. Spying all the burgees on display and noting none from their clubs the question was asked, what our policy was relative to burgee exchange. The answer I received was, we don't have one, but if they wanted to leave one of theirs we would be glad to display it along with the others on our wall. If they were interested in one of our burgees, we would be more than happy to sell them one. Now what is wrong with this picture? If we want our club to be recognized as a true yacht club and not just another social club it's necessary to abide by accepted policy and practices of other yacht clubs.

I looked up the policies and practices on burgee exchange in Chapman's and found nothing. Next I turned to Yachting Customs and Courtesies, a new book in our library at the club, donated by our Chapter of the Blue Gavel, again nothing. So I took the bull by the horns and called the author of Yachting Customs and Courtesies. His response was...while it's not universally accepted, the great majority of clubs practice burgee exchange. I would like to see our club adopt a policy on this subject, hopefully one that would make us all proud to say we are members of the yachting community and a prestigious yacht club.

COMMODORE INSIGNIA

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

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

BLAZER EMBLEMS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR THE AUXILIARY

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

Quantity		Navy Blue	Black	White	Unit Price	Total
	IOBG Blazer Emblem					
	Auxiliary Blazer Emblem					

Please Print

I am a paid up member of IOBG District # _____ Yacht Club _____ Year _____
IOBGA District # _____

Signature _____ Ship to: _____

The above will be verified. _____

Member will be billed for emblems when shipped. _____



District News

Northwestern

Districts 1-2-4-5-24

Mike Parish

Northwestern Vice President

The District #1 Summer Picnic was held at Brownsville YC in July. 50+ members attended but unfortunately the outside activities had to be cancelled due to the inclement weather. The Fall meeting and Change of Watch will be held September 14-16 in Marysville, WA.

George Knies has been busy working with the Districts on membership problems and the unauthorized use of IOBG items. I hope they are close to a conclusion. I had made a similar suggestion to them last fall and am glad to see that they are now talking with George to get a second opinion, which agrees with mine.

The District #24 Okanagan Invasion will be held September 7-9 in Summerland, B.C. Plans so far include a train ride and hold up, lunch on a lake cruise boat, an attitude adjustment get together at Summerland Yacht Club Saturday night and farewell breakfast on Sunday morning.

I hope everyone has a great boating season in the small amount of time that is left.

District 4

Ron Defieux, President

With the co-operation of Member Club E.H.Y.C our support for the 'GIFT OF SAILING' program is in full swing. We are co-sponsoring 8 young children who do not have the financial means to enter any sailing program. As well as donations from Blue Gavel Canada, E.H.Y.C. members donated \$300.00 at their sailpast and False Creek Yacht Club also is contributing, final amounts still to be calculated by President Vic Bilan. We are very excited about our involvement in helping develop this program and are hopeful that other member clubs will get involved.

District 5

Bob Gedde, Vice President

District 5 has been very active this spring and summer with an injection of new enthusiasm and activity in hopes of building a bigger and stronger membership in the coming years.

For the IOBG Spring Regional Meeting District 5 organized an evening aboard the Portland Spirit for a dinner cruise and another special dinner at Vancouver Yacht Club for a social opportunity to get acquainted with International Blue Gavel members.

Summer found a very industrious group of District 5 Past Commodores giving back to their boating community by involvement and a partnership with the Oregon State Parks Department. This group adopted a park on Sauvie's Island, known by land as Wapato Wayside and by boat as Hadley's Landing. Five campsites with fire pits were created, paths cleared, picnic tables were added, the dock was power washed and any necessary repairs were made with a commitment from District 5 to have an annual cruise and clean up at the park.

Anticipated events this fall will include an educational, Willamette Valley Wine Tasting Tour and the Annual District 5 dinner meeting, which will be held at Tyee Yacht Club for the indoctrination of 2007 Commodores along with nominations and elections of new officers.



District News

Southwestern

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

George Knies

Southwestern Vice President

Festival of Sail San Francisco anticipates being a part of the ®, a series of tall ship races designed by the American Sail Training Association (ASTA). ASTA works in concert with port festivals to celebrate the world's rich maritime heritage and traditions, while providing opportunities for education under sail and adventure travel for participants of all ages.

CANADIAN AND US WEST COAST - Port Festival Dates

Victoria, British Columbia June 26th - 29th
Tacoma, Washington July 2nd - 6th
Port Alberni, British Columbia July 10th - 12th
San Francisco, California * July 23rd - 27th
Channel Islands, California * August 8th - 10th
Los Angeles, California * August 13th - 17th
San Diego, California * August 20th - 24th
Dana Point, California * September 5th - 7th

** Ports using the name Festival of Sail for their event*

IOBG Districts 14 and 19 are combining forces to give time and talent to support our requested adopted ship California. We will be working with the crew to facilitate their port visit including public boarding, reception(s), day sail(s), shore activities, etc. We have participated in the TALL SHIP CHALLENGE visits in 1999, 2002 and 2005.

I have been conducting monthly lunch meetings with the Directors and Presidents of D-14 and 19 and appointed representatives of the PICYA and the CGAUX coordinating joint activities and preparations for the February 2008 regional meeting in Oakland California and other events this year and next.

April 14th District 14 provided the Race Committee and Race Committee Boat for the first Interclub Race on San Francisco Bay for 2007. Ann and I attended the "celebration of life" memorial tribute to Sue Brauner at the San Joaquin Yacht Club on June 3rd. On the weekend of June 23rd, I took part in the Summer Sailstice celebrations conducted by the Treasure Island Sailing Association and the Treasure Island Yacht Club.

I am pleased to report that in accordance with our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the USCGAUX and the USPS many of our Chapters have initiated plans to coordinate VSC's and BS&S classes at their Clubs. As a 25 year member of the USCGAUX and a new member of the USPS, I am optimistic about this opportunity to take part in disseminating boating safety programs for the general boating public.

I have a full schedule for July and August attending IOBG functions at NorCal Yacht clubs every weekend. Unfortunately Ann and I are not able to attend the Summer Meeting as I am the organizer and Principal Race Officer for the PICYA CHISPA/Youth Regattas at Clipper Cove on 18 August.

District 6
Sue Roach, District Director

IOBG activities in District 6 have been quiet this year, as local officers have been busy with travel in conjunction with family emergencies. However, IOBG members are active with endless yacht club events including regattas, race committee, charity fishing tournaments, and the 2007 TRANSPAC Yacht Race.



District 6 greeted
"California Girl" after the 40 year old Cal-40 completed
the 2007 TRANSPAC race to Hawaii.
Members provided leis, food and delicious mai tais!

The Honolulu TRANSPAC Committee requires about 600 volunteers to operate the Finish Line at Diamond Head Lighthouse, race headquarters, committee boats, boat hosting, awards and trophy banquet, mooring operations, publicity, communications and parties! Blue Gavel members can be seen working in all of these committees to insure the 75 arriving yachts are met with Aloha.

District 6 is proud to welcome a new Chapter: The Hawaii Women's Yacht Racing Association (HWYRA) with 5 new members. The organization has grown to over 90 members since its humble beginnings in 1993.

They have encouraged and supported women's sailing through monthly meetings, sailing seminars and clinics, as well as, the sponsor of the first ALL women's regatta in Hawaii, which today is the Annual Greenhow Regatta. Their members are always present to support activities such as the TRANSPAC and Pacific Cup, local PHRF racing and charity fishing tournaments.

We bid a sad Aloha to Margaret Haig, past Commodore of Pearl Harbor Yacht Club. She was also the Commodore of Hawaii Youth Sailing Association for many years, and Hawaii Yachswoman of the Year, 1993. Margaret passed away in June 2007.

District 10
Anne Fox, District Director

District 10 is down in its numbers, although new members were brought in at Opening Days. We are less than 50 members and but dues are being paid.

District 10 has done a couple of events. Our annual barbecue at Cerritos Bahia Yacht Club drew a few faithful members. We are in the process of doing a fundraiser for the Humanitarian Foundation. Tickets have been distributed to the yacht clubs in the District and all the monies collected will go to the Foundation. The fundraiser will culminate at Change of Watch in November.

District 15
Gary Hall, District Director

District 15 is having another good year under the leadership of President Linda Loftis. Our Membership Appreciation Beach Barbeque was a great success, as was the new wine and cheese tasting party.

I believe that both fun and fundraising events are successful if they are well advertised to the members. It does seem that we are competing for the time and attention of our people who have many other activities to choose from.

I have contacted some of our members who are not active. Most say, they are happy to only have our membership card and read the newsletter. It seems the few would object to a dues increase to cover expenses. I am afraid that those of us who go to the Regional meetings will have to continue to pay our own way.

District 19

Phil Promessi, District Director

Mackinac Island is located on the Great Lakes in Michigan in the Straits of Mackinac. The Mackinaw Bridge is the dividing line between Lake Michigan and Lake Huron. Getting there was quite a trip. We had to make two plane changes and our itinerary was changed seven different times, but we made it after approximately two days of flights.

This island was the playground for all the wealthy families of Chicago and New York in the 1800's and a lot of mansions were built on the island and are known as cottages. No automobiles are allowed, only horses and bicycles. The only motorized vehicles allowed are emergency vehicles (ambulance and fire engines). It was great that the only sound you heard was the clip-clop of horses on the pavement. The island is also home to the famous "Grand Hotel" that received notoriety from the movie "Somewhere in Time" starring Christopher Reeves.

Two meetings were held at the Mackinac Island YC. A workshop was held on Friday and the Regional Meeting was held on Saturday. Besides the regular business, nominations for the 2008 officers were announced and the budget for 2008 was presented.

The new shoulder boards are now available from the International Supply Officer except for the boards for District Director that should arrive shortly.

Several issues were discussed, but the most important issue was the budget, which showed a significant loss in net income. A motion to increase the dues by \$10 was passed and shall be voted on at the Annual Meeting in New Jersey in October.

A copy of the balance sheet will be available at the General Meeting. **It must be noted that there has not been an increase in the dues since 2001.** The cost for printing and distribution of the LOG newsletter has risen substantially as have other expenses. The Executive Committee examined several areas and cuts have been made over the last two years. One of the suggestions was to cut the content of the LOG to reduce the pages and if you want more information you could get it on line like the media is now doing.

The major issue is that we are losing members and the dues income is not sufficient to support the International operations. It was agreed that a \$10 increase would not be excessive and would go into effect next year. It is important that we increase our membership to what it used to be. Several suggestions were made and a Marketing plan is now being implemented to facilitate this issue.

The nominations for next year include Larry Draper, District 19 for Southwest Area Vice President, and Vern Bendsen, District 19, for Second Vice President. Carol Promessi will automatically become the Jr. Past President. George Knies, District 14, will remain as Legal Officer.

This Regional Meeting accomplished a lot of issues and was very informative. To learn more of what is happening at the International level, attend the General Meetings and I will answer any questions to the best of my ability. I will have a copy of the financial statement for your perusal.

See you on the Delta

District 21

Leo Vortouni, District Director

On September 18th, IOBG District 21 arranged for a day long cruise on the S.S. Victory Lane, a WW II fully restored cargo ship out of Los Angeles harbor. We had a total of about 50 participants most of which were IOBG members and guests as well as 15 ALYC members.



The cruise included great food and drinks and had very interesting tours of the ship, including the engine room and the bridge (while under way) as well as several museums and exhibits and a mock aerial dogfight with many of the canons and heavy machine guns firing away!





District News

North Central

Districts 7-9-23-25

Debbie Banks-Skellenger

North Central Vice President

Mackinac Island – what an incredibly beautiful blast from the past. We just returned from our summer Regional meetings hosted by District 23 and Mackinac Island Yacht Club under the direction of P/C De Ramsey. The entire extended weekend was beautifully orchestrated (thanks to De and President Carol) – not one detail was overlooked by either. MIYC is a gorgeous club and the members of MIYC were very friendly and helpful. Our Round Table discussions regarding the newly formed Marketing Committee was very informative and is progressing nicely. Much was discussed in our General meeting which I am sure will be covered regarding next year's outline. To surmise, if you were unable to attend, you really missed spectacular camaraderie and informative meetings.

Districts 7, 9, 23 & 25 all have been very busy and active throughout the summer months of boating. Amongst many activities, D 7 hosted a cocktail party for over 150 people in June for the Greater Cleveland Boating Association. This is always a big success as everyone really enjoys themselves, but better yet IOBG gets the exposure from the area that it represents. It truly is a win-win situation. President, Scott Croxford will have more to say in his article. District 9 held their very successful annual Pig Roast this summer. I got the opportunity to attend this event and talk with many old friends. District 23 under the leadership, guidance, encouragement and HARD WORK of Director De Ramsey is adding many new members and chapters to their roster. De's article will further detail these developments of his efforts. District 25 has added 2 new chapters. They held their very successful summer rendezvous at the Great Lakes Steel Boat Club with over 170 people and 40 boats in attendance. Their Executive Board has an active developmental plan working diligently to retain old members and gain new ones. Districts 7, 9 & 25 collectively hosted a cocktail party in honor of InterLake Yachting Association's Commodore, Jim DuPre in July. Over 150 Commodore's attended at the Put-in-Bay Yacht Club. This event is always very successful for all 3 Districts and certainly heightens the IOBG awareness amongst boaters.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working as your NCVP this year. I've met many great people and had much fun while I worked with my Districts to better our organization. However, I am moving in different life directions by going back to school and therefore will be unable to devote the time necessary to service such a great organization and the fabulous people it represents. I thank you all and wish you the very best.

Another chapter in the history of Districts 7 is about to come to a close. 2007 will go down as another one of those years, with many great successes and too many lost friends.

The most relevant success this year for me is the arrival of a new Bridge with new eyes and a "we can do that" attitude. Creative ideas, outside the box thinking has already been put forth and I am confident that next year's President, Tony Caruso, will lead this energetic bridge to new heights. Stay tuned and participate.

To start the year our hard working Ladies Auxiliary kicked it up a notch with their "Chili Cook Off" hosted at Inter-City Yacht Club. It has always been a great way to shake off the winter doldrums and reconnect with our summertime comrades.

The Blue Blazer Social, our yearly recruiting function, started by P/C Debbie Banks Skellenger in 2003 proved again to be an extremely potent forum for enlisting new members. This event invites the current Vice Commodores and Commodores of our member club. It gives them two opportunities to meet and enjoy what we call the Blue Gavel.

If you missed our summer party at this year's GCBA Huron Rendezvous, give yourself a big kick in the pants. We belong to a great group of boaters with friendships that are eternal and this afternoon brought out the best in our fraternity. The food, the friends, the fun and in the sun made this day very special for all.

In July we hosted, with District 9 and 25, a cocktail party for the current I-LYA Commodore Jim DuPre. Being part of and being recognized by the entire boating community serves us well in attracting quality people.

Our charity of choice this year was the Cleveland Sight Center which supports a sailing program for the vision impaired. If you would like to know more about the program or would like to help, contact Central VP Bruce Boyden.

We added another club to our roster this year thanks to the hard work of Tony Durieux, South Central VP. Alum Creek Yacht Club, a sailing club in the Columbus area brought in a half dozen or so Past Commodores and has opened the door to other exciting opportunities in central Ohio.

Availability of IOBG apparel was much improved this year. Hope McLeod has righted an impossible situation by getting us access to here before unseen items and continues to find new ways to fly and wear our colors.

On behalf of the entire Bridge I want to thank you for your support and for the confidence you have reposed in us.

Closing on a personal note.

Life seems to offer little but curve balls. Every once and a while one just hangs there and you can smack it out of the park, but most of the time it is a swing at thin air. Leaving you exhausted, frustrated, and feeling like all your plans, hopes and dreams were for knout, forgetting momentarily that you will get another pitch.

My short tenure in the Blue Gavel has given me both but the hardest to let go of, is the lost of a friend. This year we lost too many friends. Two of them having been from my Bridge and hold a special place in my heart, Rich Dezzutti, P/C Lake County Yacht Club and Robert Graven, Past President of District 7 and P/C Edgewater Yacht Club. Their friendship, guidance and mentoring will never be forgotten.

To all the family members and friends of those who have been called to calmer waters, I wish you peace and the piece of mind that we are a family and that we all care deeply.

God Bless Us All.

District 23
De Ramsey, District Director

I would like to thank all those that attended our Regional summer meeting hosted by District 23 and Mackinac Island Yacht Club. The meetings were very informative and the camaraderie was even better yet. I believe that the many attendees coming from as far east as New Jersey; as far south as Florida; as far west as California and as far north as Washington really made an impression on my District's members.

A number of potential members from our District came to see what we were all about and found themselves wanting to be active within IOBG. As a result of much hard work and organizing, we have been able to add 5 new members and will be adding a new Chapter soon. I would like to welcome the following new members: Win Cooper III, Bart Huthwaite, Sue Webster, Roy Boudreau and Don Schorthaar to our IOBG family.



I would like to give a special THANKS to our staff at Mackinac Island Yacht Club for all the special services they provided to help make our meeting an astounding success. These were our manager Tim and his assistants, Laura and Lake.



I look forward to continued success for my District and all of IOBG.



District 51
Vern Bendsen, District Director

Like all other Districts, District 51 is in the midst of their boating season. Communications with the members has been minimal because of the summer activities and vacations for the members.

We will report on those summer activities at the close of the season. But as a reminder, if anyone is visiting anywhere in District 51, let me know if you would like to contact someone where you are going.

Enjoy your boating season!



District News

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

Marc Connelly
Northeastern Vice President

Mackinac Island...WOW !!! Great weather, wonderful friends and meetings where a lot was accomplished. "Many Thanks"

Working on our marketing program has been a lot of fun work. Your committee appreciates the opportunity to have had an open forum in Mackinac. The thoughts and ideas for this program were very diversified and well thought out. Our final presentation and implementation of the program will be presented at the International Annual meeting in October. The meeting will take place October 18th.

**It is imperative we have the attendance of all
Area Vice Presidents and District Directors.**

The marketing program is an important component of our current and future membership.

IOBG is experiencing an excellent number of humanitarian efforts, both regionally and locally. The districts with humanitarian efforts are easily the most cohesive and successful. All areas and Districts should be looking for a humanitarian function or strongly supporting a current program.

As you read this, please take a moment and go to the IOBG website. Click on "links" and then IOBG Humanitarian Foundation. Here you can learn how our own foundation can aid your local area project.

District 3
Submitted by Art Theobald

Sandy Beach Yacht Club hosted a benefit "Poker Run" for the widow of deceased State Trooper David Brinkerhoff, son of one of our Board members. They had an outstanding turnout of members from District #3 Chapters in addition to State and City Police. They raised \$25,000.00.

For more on the story and the benefit please see our web site at : www.trooperbrinkerhoff



District News

Southeastern

Districts 8 & 18

Tom Sullivan

Southeastern Vice President

Having just returned from the IOBG International Meeting at Mackinac Island, Michigan, I feel refreshed and challenged for our future. Also, if you have never visited Mackinac Island where August temperatures average 52 degrees during the day and telephones, TVs & autos do not exist (horses & bicycles do) then you owe yourself a treat to visit Mackinac Island at least once in your lifetime. I felt privileged to have stayed at the Mackinac Island YC and met District Director De Ramsey (a legend of the Island), his lovely wife Maude, his Chaplain Vincent Carroll, and Commodore Win Cooper who hails from Miami and also belongs to Coral Reef YC. Win's going to also help Lou Daniello and the rest of us convince Coral Reef that a Blue Gavel Chapter might just be something that will assist the Past Commodores and the YC at Large.

This meeting of the International emphasized that different clubs have different circumstances and characteristics. IOBG meetings should be fun and spouses should not be neglected. Contacts should never be lost—COMMUNICATIONS OF ALL TYPES SHOULD BE EMPLOYED.

The meeting went on to say each Chapter needs a "sparkplug" (quarterback) and in many (not all) an Auxilliary would help sustain the Chapter's mission. A marketing plan was developed and discussed with goals and objectives which should help Districts retain and offer acceptance to Past Commodores. More is to come so stay tuned.

It was also noted, International Treasurer Marshall Nemoy was honored for his 15 years of service to the IOBG. Congratulations Marshall.

District 8's Executive Board Meeting was held on Aug. 10 & 11 at Ft. Walton YC. The highlights of the meeting was District 8's membership which stands at 547 Past Commodores. All systems seem to be working and plans for District 8's Annual Meeting on Oct. 12 & 13 at Charlotte Harbor YC were discussed. A temporary Secretary was appointed to replace Dick Kelley of Palm Coast YC who has health issues. Good luck Dick.

District 8's roster is currently at the printer and should now include The Yacht & Country Club of Stuart whose application the International approved at the Mackinac Island Meeting. I am told this Club has 22 Past Commodores and fits all the requirements of the IOBG. Since they are near where I live I had the chance to check out all the details that are required. Welcome Aboard Yacht & Country Club of Stuart.

Kudos to Ft. Pierce YC & its growing youth Sailing Program and Stuart Corinthian YC where Commodore Dan Perez presented a check to Florida Oceanographic Society from his club's Fishing Banquet.

Progress is being made in District 18. Commodores of several Clubs have set dates for Fall meetings when most of their membership returns from (sometimes) cooler climates. Mailings have gone out and examples of growth will appear on the District 18 Web site of the IOBG.

We also welcome aboard to District 18 The Cape Fear YC with 105 members and 15 years of existence.

On Sept. 7th & 8th my wife Susan & I plan to attend the weekend meeting of The Florida Council of Yachts Clubs (FCYC) at the Moorings Club in Vero Beach and answer any questions their members have concerning the IOBG. I'll keep you posted.

In connection with my series "why Blue Gavel?" the following letter speaks for itself.
Remember, we work for each other.



ISLES yacht club

ISLES YACHT CLUB CHAPTER - Punta Gorda, Florida
International Order of the Blue Gavel

10 March 2007

To: Tom Sullivan, SEVP District #8

I thought that I'd write a letter and let you know of our current status here in Punta Gorda at the Isles Yacht Club. Our IOBG Chapter is as strong as ever; fully recovering from the devastation of Hurricane Charley, and the numbers are still growing with two new members just this past month.

As a first order of business I would like to thank you on behalf of the members of the Isles Yacht Club for the generous donation that you made to help us on our road to recovery. It was a little hard to see the vision of what we would look like after two years; but the vision started with the hope and dreams of a new club backed by money. Yours was the first outside organization to come to our aid and for that we shall be ever grateful. Please pay us a visit when you are in the area. We would like to show you the results of a seed that you helped us plant in our recovery efforts.

Our new Isles Yacht Club web site is up and running and can be seen at www.islesyc.com. Please take a few minutes to see what we have going on in our club. I think that you will be impressed by the number of activities and depth of member commitment demonstrated by their participation.

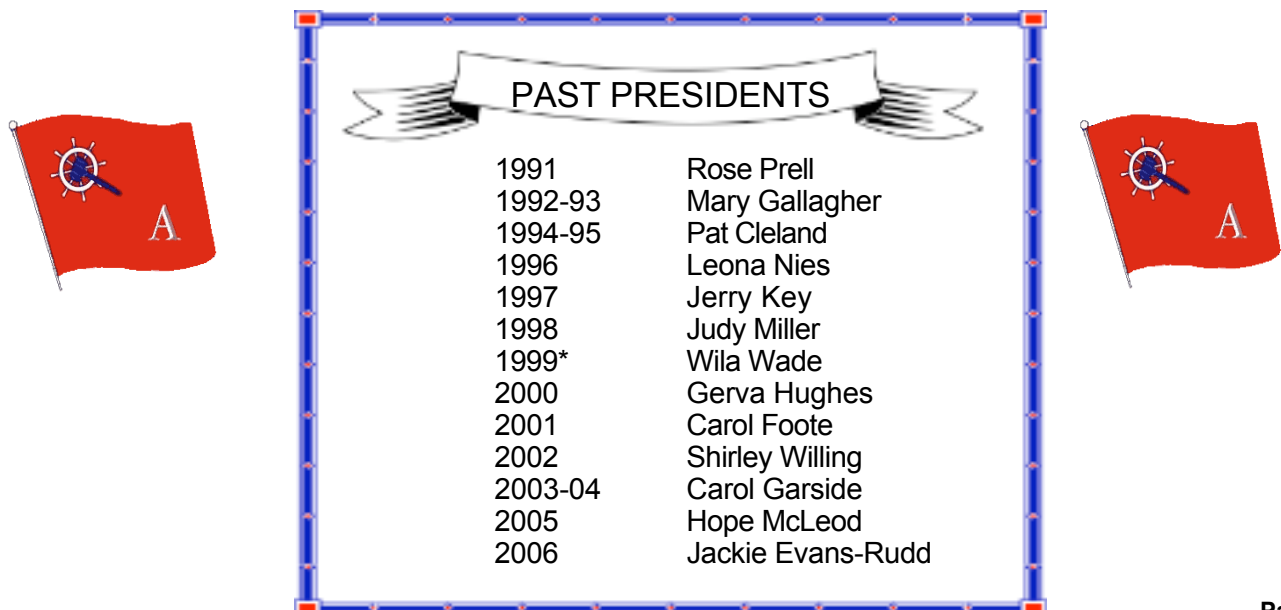
Sincerely,

Kurt Kuehn
President
Isles Yacht Club Chapter, IOBG

1955 - 2006 I.O.B.G. Past Presidents

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

*Deceased





International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary



From the President *by Pat Graven*

As many of you know, a lot has happened to me since I wrote in the last LOG. The boat finally got in the water with two new bearings on the shaft. But there was no time for the sails to be put on this year.

For those who do not know, I lost my husband and best friend Bob on July 16, 2007. He had been ill for awhile but he had always sprung back – this time was different – he never sprang back. It has left a hole that cannot be filled and I feel like I'm always forgetting something – something is missing. I guess that's normal though. I would like to thank all of you for the cards, emails and flowers that were sent. It makes me feel proud to be a member of such a genuine organization.

Going to Mackinac Island really helped me along as well. The affection and care that all of you shared with me made the time a very pleasant one. I would like to thank D. Ramsey for coordinating a **SPECTACULAR** regional meeting. And a **BIG THANKS** to Commodore Win Cooper III and the members of Mackinac Island Yacht Club for putting up with us at their club.

Now on to business, one of the concerns that many of you expressed at the round table session was the lack of participation of the membership to be involved in holding office. The old saying that 80% of the work is done by 20% of the members, might be 90/10 in many cases. Even in my own District we are having a difficult time filling positions. There is no easy answer, but one suggestion is that if the same people keeping doing all the work, no one else will stand up and take over. So the decision to take a "tough love" attitude might spur others into action. When nothing is happening in the district – and someone asks why, you can say, "well, no one came forward to do anything".

Another suggestion to develop a purpose was to pick a local charity to be a member and to participate. Start an entertainment committee to get more people involved on a lower level. I think with many organizations – we have an ebb and flow of membership and people participating in activities – sometimes we just have to ride it out.

I would like to welcome Catawba Island Club's IOBGA Chapter to our ranks. They are from my neck of the woods and it's good to see other areas of the country growing.

I know all of you have grumbled about the problem in getting shirts and supplies from our present supplier. All is not lost. It has been determined by our Legal Advisor of the IOBG, George Knies that the IOBGA burgee and name had never been copyrighted and consequently "Our contract with Commodore Insignia does not convey exclusive usage rights to our name and burgee". What that means in a nutshell is that the IOBGA can have their letters, logo and burgee printed locally for distribution.

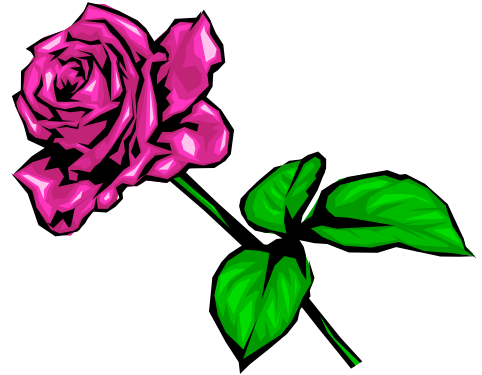
See you in New Jersey.

From the Past President *by Jacquelyn Evans Rudd*

It's that time again to step up and take the challenge. If you would like to run for a office or do the Web Page please get in touch with one of the Flag Officers.

The Executive Board has recommended the following slate of officers:

President:	Pat Janiszewski
President Elect:	Audrey Hall
1st Vice Pres:	Ann Knies
2nd Vice Pres:	Chris Snedaker
Secretary:	Lucille Anthony
Treasurer:	Richard Hardy
Immediate PP:	Patricia Graven
Senior PP:	Jacquelyn Evans Rudd
Northeast Director:	Betsy Saunders
Northwest Director:	Angelica Rooker
North Central Director:	Hope McLeod
Southeast Director:	Open
Southwest Director:	Open
Europe Director:	Sue Young
IOBGA Log Editor:	Open
Web Master	Shirley Willing (but could be Open)



We are doing a memorial IOBGA Quilt in the name of Bonnie Sussel. We have several IOBGA emblems in different washable materials, but let's add the members yacht club emblems/burgees. So if you have an old shirt, jacket, or anything with your yacht club's name or burgee and are ready to throw it out - -WAIT - - cut out a 13 inch square and bring it to the annual meeting or you can mail to me. You don't have to sew or be a quilter to participate just send in your washable square.

This priceless quilt will be auctioned off at the Annual Meeting in Seattle 2008.



Rita Rollins
Northwest Regional Director

District 1 has 66 members. Nine are new members and 13 are renewals. They have lost no members. They have been working very hard to keep their current members and renew old ones by sending out invitations to prospective new members before each meeting. Obviously this seems to be working very well for them.

There have been two social activities this quarter, two District Board Meetings, and one membership meeting. I attended the Visitors' Weekend at Clover Island Yacht Club in Kennewick, WA which was fantastic. The Clover Island Club invited me and my husband, Ken, to the Morella Day Weekend at Lyons Ferry on the Snake River, a joint cruise between Spokane Yacht Club and Clover Island Yacht Club. It was a good time and we advise all IOBGA members to support your group in all Districts.

Hope McLeod
North Central Regional Director

First, I have to say that this area is deeply saddened by the loss of District 7 Past President, Bob Graven. He was the husband of IOBGA President, Pat, and a personal friend. He will be missed.

Here in the North, things have been hot and wet. The end of the boating season is rapidly approaching with the coming of the Labor Day weekend. I have not heard too much from the districts. Our boating season is short, so much of it is spent on the boats in the water.

Districts 9's new chapter, Catawba Island Club is up and running, and should have all their Officers in place by the next LOG. Welcome aboard! The District keeps active with one or two regattas every weekend.

District 7 has helped their main body put on cocktail parties at both the Greater Cleveland Boating Association's annual steak roast, and the Inter Lake Yachting Association's regatta. The later is done in conjunction with all the North Central Districts. It gives all the members a chance to get together each summer.

I'm looking forward to the off season activities. Hope to see many of you at the convention in October.

Southwest Region
District 15
Submitted by Dawn Nemoy

Every year in January, IOBG District 15 offers a yacht club management seminar for all members of the Boards of area yacht clubs. This seminar covers such things as legal and financial aspects of club management and protocol

District 15 Auxiliary is investigating the possibility of offering a companion seminar for the spouses of the bridge members, Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore, covering what the expectations of the spouse are. Because the spouse's role varies widely from club to club, a lot of input is needed from each of the clubs. This is an opportunity to get the soon-to-be outgoing Commodores' spouses involved in the organization. We want to find out what they wish they had known going in. This is envisioned as more of a casual, round table discussion over coffee. Hopefully, we would have representatives from each of the yacht clubs there to answer questions about how things are done at their particular clubs.

Examples of possible topics are:

- Preparation for your club's Opening Day ceremonies
- Attendance at neighboring Opening Day ceremonies
- Are there specific events or aspects that the spouse is expected to organize -- check-in table, decorations, menu, etc.
- Input on galley operations
- Leading "Ladies" groups
- Are expectations different when the spouse is male? Who handles "Ladies" affairs when spouse is male?

We think this could be a useful adjunct to the IOBG yacht club management seminar. Hopefully, we can get this together in time for the next seminar in January.

Christine B. Snedaker
Southeast Regional Director

June 11, 2007 was a sad day in my life as well as our local North Palm Beach YC and the IOBGA, as we lost a dear friend and loyal member, Bonnie Sussel. Bonnie fought a brave challenge with cancer and passed peacefully with her beloved husband, Harvey Sussel, Past President of the IOBG, her children, brother and other family members at her side. The North Palm Beach YC IOBG Auxiliary participated in a brief ceremony at her memorial service. Bonnie was a true friend to me and many others. We will miss her dearly.

July 3, 2007, my husband and I and guests from our North Palm Beach YC spent a lovely evening with Louise and Dan Redner and Carole Ford at the Halifax River YC. Louise is President and Carole is Vice President of their IOBGA chapter. We discussed having joint activities between Palm Coast and Smyrna Auxiliary Chapters. I informed them of my goal to develop Chapters on the Gulf Coast Pensacola area and the Ft. Myers area so that we could have a District Charter. We also discussed ways that we can assist the IOBG Chapters with their functions. We had a delicious dinner and camaraderie.

Friday, July 27, the Auxiliary joined the IOBG Chapter members from North Palm Beach YC in the first monthly Sundown Ceremony at the Sailing Club in West Palm Beach. After dinner and a short meeting with the Auxiliary members, we participated in the lowering of the flag ceremony conducted by the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Thanks to Joe Tringali for initiating this event, which we plan to do once a month. Both the IOBG and the Auxiliary were dressed in their summer uniforms including hats for the ceremony.

The North Palm Beach IOBG Chapter is in the process of planning a S.O.B. Piloting Adventure (Students of Bowditch) event in conjunction with their Labor Day Weekend Rendezvous to Hutchinson Island. The winner of the S.O.B. piloting contest takes custody of the antique brass binnacle donated by a local jeweler. It is engraved with the names of the winning club, boat, captain and crew.

I have been trying to organize Chapters on the Gulf Coast & the Panhandle. I was hoping to meet with potential Auxiliary members at the District 8 meeting at Ft. Walton YC on August 11th. Unfortunately, that did not happen. We are now trying for the District 8 meeting in October at Charlotte Harbor YC.

Betsy Sanders
Northeast Regional Director

District #3 Auxiliary had a member's social luncheon followed by a meeting on June 7th at the Buffalo Yacht Club. Fifteen members attended and we were rewarded with a delicious lunch which was enjoyed by all.

At the meeting following, we were given the dates of summer events planned for IOBG District members and their mates: the Inter-Club IOBG Party at the Buffalo Yacht Club Summer Station at Pt. Abino, Ontario and the Summer Sail on Lake Ontario at the Island Yacht Club in Wilson Harbor followed by a Pig Roast at the Club. The event was held as a fundraiser in support of the Junior Sailing program at Olcott Yacht Club. Both events were well-attended and a good time was had by all.

The District #3 Annual meeting, elections, and dinner will be held October 4th at LaSalle Yacht Club in Niagara Falls, NY.

Our IOBGA District President, Gen Dobmeier, announced that she will be retiring at the Annual Meeting this October so a new President will have to be found and elected.

The Excalibur boat that District #3 IOBGA donated \$1,000 to help fund construction has finally arrived and is at Anchor Marine on Grand Island. Our donation was matched by the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation. At the moment, it is waiting for some final work on an internal power lift and the U.S.C.G. inspection and approval. The boat was built for the handicapped to enable them to learn to sail and enjoy the waters of our area.

Northeast Region
District 26
Chris Swett, Secretary

The ladies of the Mount Sinai Yacht Club IOBGA are proud to be "District #26's winner for activity, social functions and fundraisers" as announced in the last issue of the LOG by Northeast Regional Director Betsy Sanders. Our Auxiliary consists of a small number of very hardworking individuals and I'd like to recognize them all for everything they have done during the last few years that our IOBGA has been active. Thanks go to Penny Thompson, Gail Schaeffer, Lori Salyer, Laura Bertolotti, Cathy Prwivo, Eileen Budney, Diane Dick, Colleen Farrell, Ginny Larsen, Lynn Laucelia, Cathy Reynolds, Deirdre Davis, and myself, Chris Swett.

In April, the IOBGA took part in the Mount Sinai Harbor Beach Committee Cleanup by serving up the hotdogs and chili to the hungry volunteers. The Mount Sinai Yacht Club has been hosting this annual Spring event for many years where community groups, families, and individuals put on plastic gloves, grab garbage bags, and pitch in to assist the Town of Brookhaven to help beautify our Mount Sinai Harbor and Cedar Beach located on Long Island Sound.



On June 10th the IOBGA worked with the IOBG members to serve up ribs, baked potatoes, jumbo shrimp cocktail, and salad at their Annual Blue Gavel Rib Dinner. This is always a great event where the IOBG raises funds through the dinner and raffles.

In November we will conduct a food drive at our club's general meeting. The items collected will be distributed to community soup kitchens.

On a sad note I want to recognize the passing of our honorary and only male member, Joe Sheehan, husband of PC Claire Sheehan. We will always remember Joe for his good nature, love of desserts, and his loyal support of his spouse while she was Commodore.

PHOTOS: Gail Schaeffer, Penny Thompson, and me "dishing the dogs" at the Beach Cleanup.

The other is the IOBGA gals "ribbing it up" at the Blue Gavel Rib Dinner.





IOBGA 2007 Officers

PRESIDENT District 7

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

President Elect

Pat Janiszewski District 12
9 Deer Run Road
Parkertown, NJ 08087
Tel: 609-294-2393
pjaniszewski@prsdnj.org

First Vice President **Open**

Second Vice President

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

Secretary

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

Treasurer

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

Immediate Past President (2006)

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

Senior Past President (2005)

Hope McLeod District 7
1599 East Crossings Place
Westlake, OH 44145
hkmcleod@sbcglobal.net

DIRECTORS:

Northeast Betsy Sandes
716-886-7653

Northwest Rita Rollins
206-819-3295

North Central Hope McLeod
440-892-1113

Southeast Chris Snedaker
561-627-6002

Southwest Paul Bertik
818-368-6346

England Sue Young
0163 471-3478

Hawaii Open

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

UNITED KINGDOM **MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR**

Sue Young District 70
5 Grasmere Grove
Rochester, Kent ME2 4PN
England
Tel: 0163 471-3478
bluesil@hotmail.com

AUXILIARY LOG EDITOR

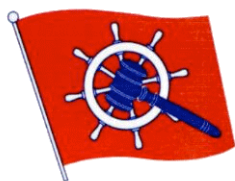
Betsy Sanders District 3
751 W. Ferry St. Apt. A & B
Buffalo, NY 14222
Tel: 716-886-7653
betsynted@aol.com

WEBMASTER

Shirley Willing District 25
292 Esdras Place
Windsor, Ontario, Canada N8S 2M5
swilling@sympatico.ca



ATTENTION AUXILIARY TREASURERS:
Dues filing form has been provided on the
IOBGA Website for your use.



International Order of the Blue Gavel

AREAS & DISTRICTS

NORTHWESTERN AREA

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

SOUTHWESTERN AREA

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

NORTH CENTRAL AREA

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

NORTHEASTERN AREA

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

SOUTHEASTERN AREA

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

EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI

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

WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI

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

ENGLAND

- District #70

NEW ZEALAND

- District #75

2007 DISTRICT OFFICERS & AREAS SERVED

- #1 PRESIDENT - Northwest**
Art Kovarnik (Carol)
P.O. Box 3786,
Silverdale, WA 98383
Tel: 360-692-5544
akovarnik@msn.com
SECRETARY
Pieter Rooker (Angelica)
8512 29th St Ct NW
Gig Harbor, WA 98335
Tel: 253-265-8022
prooker@msn.com
- #2 PRESIDENT - Canada**
Ed Akerman (Marilyn)
308-10461 Resthaven Dr.
Sidney, BC V8L3H6
Canada
Tel: 250-656-7799
Fax: 250-656-1242
eimut88@shaw.ca
SECRETARY/TREASURER
John Biggs (Carole)
6406 McKenzie Dr.
Duncan, BC V9L 5R9
Canada
Tel: 250-746-4941
Bus: 250-754-8435
johncarole@shaw.com
- #3 PRESIDENT - Northeast**
Warren C. Schafer (Kathleen)
7241 Plank Road
Lockport, NY 14094
Tel: 716-439-8059
wscunit@verizon.net
SECRETARY
Paul Schneeberger
11 Bywater Ct.
Williamsville, NY 14221
Tel: 716-688-3032
schnee1953@aol.com
- #4 PRESIDENT - Canada**
Ron Defieux (Linda)
641 Blueridge Ave.
N. Vancouver, BC V74 2J4
Canada
Tel: 604-987-7425
Fax: 604-985-7263
rdefieux@shaw.ca
SECRETARY
Betty Harris-Peake (Dennis)
1078 English Bluff Rd.
Delta, BC V4M 2N6 - Canada
Tel: 604-943-4923
Fax: 604-943-1205
bettyharrispeake@hotmail.com
- #5 PRESIDENT - Northwest**
Edward Blatter (Diana)
10109 SE 38th Ave
Milwaukie, OR 97222
Tel: 503-367-4403
SECRETARY
Bonnie Baldwin (Joseph)
59475 Barr Avenue
St. Helens, OR 97051
Tel: 503-397-5000
Fax: 503-397-5012
boattwin@comcast.net
- #6 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Stan Radio
99-1440 Aiea Heights Dr. #56
Aiea, HI 96701
Tel: 808-488-6056
radios001@hawaii.rr.com
SECRETARY
Ron Dodini (Becky)
44-128 Kea'alau Pl
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Tel: 808-235-2470
huiana@hawaii.rr.com
- #7 PRESIDENT - North Central**
Scott Croxford ((Laurel)
5310 Middlebury Ct.
Sheffield Lake, OH 44054
Tel: 440-934-0950
Cell: 417-850-3288
scott_croxford@tamko.com
SECRETARY
John Sukis (Rosemary)
3759 Lake Road
Sheffield Lake, OH 44054
Tel: 440-949-8006
rsukis@adelphia.net
- #8 PRESIDENT - Southeast**
Jack Kennedy III (Mary)
P.O. Box 18757
Panama City, FL 32417-8757
Tel: 850-233-7616
Fax: 850-230-2690
kennedj11@comcast.net
SECRETARY
Richard L. Kelley (Delores)
6 Collingville Ct.
Palm Coast, FL 32137
Tel: 346-445-4292
dickkelley@aol.com
- #9 PRESIDENT - North Central**
Gary Ryan (Carol)
P.O. Box 423
Holland, OH 43528
Tel: 419-867-1187
Cell: 419-280-0577
SECRETARY
Ray Morrow (Jan)
12660 N. Lakeshore Dr.
LaSalle, MI 48145
Tel: 734-242-7111
- #10 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Rett Considine
1536 W. 25th Street #267
San Pedro, CA 90732
Tel: 310-480-2657
sgyc95@aol.com
SECRETARY
John Fults
3914 Mistral Drive
Huntington Beach, CA 92649
Tel: 714-846-7548
jhfults@verizon.net
- #11 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Jon Robbins (Rosemary)
4712 Admiralty Way #481
Marina del Rey, CA 90292
Tel/Fax: 310-301-0350
Bus: 310-413-7373
sv_west_star@msn.com
SECRETARY
David Phelps (Joan)
P.O. Box 2024
Crestline, CA 92325
Tel: 909-338-4439
Bus: 909-338-9319
Fax: 909-338-9319
david.p.phelps@smithbarney.com
- #12 PRESIDENT - Northeast**
Vincent J. Core (Eileen)
739 Fairmount Dr.
Chatham, NJ 07928
Tel: 973-635-7415
sailcore@worldnet.att.net (Summer)
sailcorebsm@att.net (Winter)
SECRETARY
Open
- #14 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Larry Draper
753 Chestnut Ave.
San Bruno, CA 94066
Tel: 650-871-0802
Cell: 925-325-2623
draperl@jps.net
SECRETARY
George Knies (Ann)
2333 Lariat Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Tel: 925-939-0230
Fax: 925-944-0474
machbuster1@earthlink.net
- #15 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Linda Loftis (Dennis)
3024 Quebrado Circle
Carlsbad, CA 92009
Tel: 760-632-2547
L8039325@earthlink.net
SECRETARY
James Coburn (Karin)
777 Aldea Drive
Oceanside, CA 92057
Tel: 760-967-2702
Bus: 760-807-4439
coburn777@cox.net
- #16 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Jack Borkowski
153 Eaglerock Ave.
Oxnard, CA 93035
Tel: 805-382-9709
Cell: 805-890-2623
jackjb99@yahoo.com
SECRETARY
Nancy Rowe (Roland)
4216 Harbour Island Lane
Oxnard, CA 93035
Tel: 805-382-9514
nnrowe@aol.com
- #18 PRESIDENT - Southeast**
Open
Secretary/Treasurer
Open
- #19 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Gary McGrath (Estella)
1567 Dianda DR.
Concord, CA 94521
Tel: 925-682-5939
Fax: 925-687-5443
gmac6262@aol.com
SECRETARY
Joan Marsh-Clune
258 Heron Dr.
Pittsburg, CA 94565
Tel: 925-427-6607
jmarsh6607@yahoo.com
- #20 PRESIDENT - Northeast**
Stanley Zielinski
121 Yale Terrace
P.O. Box 333
Linden, NJ 07036
Tel: 908-486-2094
staszziel@aol.com
SECRETARY
Raoul Rabiner
145 Rector Street
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
Tel: 732-826-0845
crusaderrabbit@att.net
- #21 PRESIDENT - Southwest**
Walt Kadyk (Marti)
4993 Saddlewood Place
Alta Loma, CA 91737
Tel: 909-781-2940
walt.kadyk@comserco.com
SECRETARY
Sheila Van Guilder
3665 Bear Street B
Santa Ana, CA 92704
Tel: 714-434-7550
svanguil@adelphia.net
- #22 PRESIDENT - Northeast**
David Loughran
1203 Bay Ave.
P.O. Box 746
Mantoloking, NJ 08738
Tel: 732-892-8388
74020.450@compuserve.com
SECRETARY
Betty Jane France (Robert)
13 Paul Jones Dr.
Brick, NJ 08723
Tel: 732-477-3732
- #23 PRESIDENT - North Central**
Bart Huthwaite Sr. (Nina)
P.O. Box 1999
Mackinac Island, MI 49757
Tel: 906-847-6094
Fax: 906-847-6047
huthwaite@aol.com
Winter:
5076 Lacosta Island Ct.
Punta Gorda Isles, FL 33950
Tel: 941-639-8533
Cell: 989-734-8208
SECRETARY
Sue Webster (Len)
634 West Surf St.
Chicago, IL 60657
Tel: 773-935-2978
Bus: 773-665-8200
Sue@websterlink.com
- #24 PRESIDENT - Northwest**
Carol Zumpano
60 Calgary Ave.
Pentiction, BC V2A 2T6
Tel: 250-292-8750
czumpano@vip.net
SECRETARY
Yvonne Crawford (Steven)
1547 Klien Rd.
Kelowna, BC V1Z 3H5
Canada
Tel: 250-769-7325
skicondo@telus.net
- #25 PRESIDENT - North Central**
Tom Lyon (Luann)
9322 Eastwind Dr.
Livonia, MI 48150
Tel: 734-953-1634
tlyon341@msn.com
SECRETARY
Tom Hepp (Cheryl)
35764 Bal Clair
New Baltimore, MI 48047
Tel: 586-716-4155
Cell: 586-709-3105
thepp2@ford.com
- #26 PRESIDENT - Northeast**
Ernie C. Odierna (Camille)
5 Highridge Road
Larchmont, NY 10538
Tel: 914-834-2162
ernie01@optonline.net
SECRETARY
Martin L. Egeland (Mary)
4 Chalden Court
Huntington Station, NY 11746
Tel: 631-351-0935
carolprin@aol.com
- #27 PRESIDENT - Northeast**
Karen Anderson (George)
5 Pine Lane
Northeast, MD 21901
Tel: 410-287-6934
Cell: 443-309-6853
Fax: 410-287-0040
kanderson@chesapeakeisle.org
SECRETARY
Carol Hogan (Pete)
233 Bridge Drive
Joppa, MD 21085
Tel: 410-679-0594
Cell: 433-417-6286
Fax: 410-333-9970
p1hcah@msn.com
- #70 PRESIDENT - England**
Bill Young (Sue)
5 Grasmere Grove
Rochester, Kent ME2 4PN
England
Tel: 0163 471-3478
bluesil@hotmail.com
SECRETARY
Sue Young (Bill)
5 Grasmere Grove
Rochester, Kent ME2 4PN
England
Tel: 0163 471-3478
bluesil@hotmail.com
- #75 PRESIDENT - New Zealand**
Harry Sutcliffe (Gay)
20 Aroha Pl.
Snells Beach, Warkworth
New Zealand 0920
Tel: 0064-9-4254407
thesuttys@xtra.co.nz
SECRETARY
Margaret Kennett (Peter)
4 Thackers Quay
Christchurch 8023
New Zealand
Tel: 64-3-3842332
Fax: 64-3-3775281
p-mkennett@xtra.co.nz
- 2nd Home:**
P.O. Box 1658
Mackinac Is, MI 49757



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

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