



THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

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

Volume XXVII No. 2

March / April 2007

Mary R. Nye, Editor

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



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From the President

by Carol Promessi

I would like to take this opportunity to thank John McAlister of District #18, Charleston Yacht Club, for hosting the Winter Regional Meeting in February. I would also like to thank Second Vice President Ray Thompson and Southeastern Vice President Tom Sullivan for all their work in organizing the function.

The morning Round Table Discussion "What works for you" was broken up into groups and facilitated by the President Elect, the First Vice President, the Second Vice President and the Treasurer. Phil Arms and myself sat in separately at the various groups and answered any questions and listened to any suggestions that they had. This session was very productive and informative both to the members and also to the Executive Committee. This will be the new format for the rest of the year. There is a need to have the interaction between the officers and the members to improve communications and increase the growth of our organization.

Some of the topics that were discussed were: leadership, the Auxiliary, Ambassador programs, Charity programs, Humanitarian Foundation, and communications – upward and downward. It was suggested that the Area Vice Presidents have round table meetings in their areas to give guidance and direction, and to get publications out to local levels. These are just a few of the issues that were discussed and it was agreed that the most important issues are communication and promoting programs that encourage growth in their respective Chapters.

The Executive Committee has approved the "Memorandum of Understanding" with the US Power Squadron and the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. IOBG is in the process of implementing a new program to get actively involved in boating safety and guidelines for mandatory boating classes.

Combining the educational expertise and course material of the US Power Squadron and the US Coast Guard Auxiliary with yacht club facilities throughout the United States seems like a good start for meeting the coming demand for education that will result from mandatory licensing.

We will open up the door by creating a US Power Squadron and US Coast Guard Auxiliary Liaison Officer and an IOBG Liaison Officer to coordinate communications between local Districts and Chapters of the organizations regarding boating safety issues.

I feel it is important to have a greater involvement of IOBG members in national and local efforts to improve and promote boating safety courses that will be offered. We will encourage support.

I have appointed BJ Ursin from District #1 who will be the new IOBG Liaison to the US Power Squadron. BJ will have more to report during our Spring Regional Meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Spring Regional Meeting in Portland in June and also the Summer Regional Meeting at Mackinac Island in August. For more information see the articles regarding them in this issue of The LOG.

"We must operate in an atmosphere of harmony and good fellowship".

See you in Portland



From the President Elect

by Richard Janiszewski

Ev Henry, Founder of the IOBG in 1955, was an individual with great foresight and organizational skills. Much of what we are today organizationally, procedurally, culturally, etc. bear the imprint of Ev Henry and his successors.

At the start of new calendar year, we generally reinforce personal beliefs and make well-intentioned commitments (resolutions). In most cases, our good intentions will probably not bear fruit, but for those that do, we will be healthier, happier, and better individuals. We will also find that our intentions will change from year to year as our personal needs dictate.

Ev Henry developed several “Basics and Essentials” that he felt are absolutely essential for any organization and, of course, the IOBG. Now, over 50 years after their development, they are as valid today as they were then. In fact many have personal applications and especially, at this time of the year, are worthy of reiteration and careful consideration. For your personal and organizational information, they are reprinted as follows:

- * We must grow; to be static is to be stagnant.
- * We must augment boating and still do something worthwhile for mankind in general.
- * We must operate in an atmosphere of harmony and good fellowship.
- * We must build prestige and pride (of membership) and the caliber of our members.
- * We must exemplify a spirit of cooperation with other boating organizations and yacht clubs.
- * We must keep abreast of the times in which we live.
- * We must be governed by wisdom, tact, and consideration—not by dictatorship.
- * We must command the respect of our communities.
- * We must make meetings interesting with variety and inspiration.
- * We must keep members occupied and give them (full) appreciation for tasks well done. (People are like money: if you don't put it to work, you lose interest).
- * We must request ways to encourage suggestions to keep the group alive and dynamic.
- * We must always be adaptable to the needs of our members.

These “Basics and Essentials” were the subject of Past President Wes Ortner's presentation at the 1991 Annual Meeting in St. Petersburg, Florida. They probably have been discussed before and since, but are worthy of repeating.

On a separate note, all of us at the International are doing our utmost to have our Log reach you on a timely basis. To do this, we need your reports, articles, photos no later than one week after a Regional/Annual meeting. For the greater good of all, we have established this cut-off and will have to defer anything received later to the next LOG.



*From the First Vice President
by Jerry Rudd*

Our 1st Regional meeting for 2007 was held in District 18, Charlotte, South Carolina; I was looking forward to mild warm temperatures, but met with cool weather. Oh well, I know the sun will be out sometime here in the Pacific Northwest. District 8 held their meeting at the same time which gave the International a good turnout for theirs.

On Saturday morning we had round table discussions and the meeting in the afternoon, this worked out well due to the participation of District 8 members. The same discussion keeps popping up, retention and marketing of IOBG.

After some great discussions it was decided to form a committee made up of the areas Vice Presidents with Marc Connelly as the Chairman. They will work on ways to market IOBG for new members and retention of existing members. Marc Connelly will report to the 1st Vice President and the Executive Board. If any one has suggestions, ideas etc, please contact your area Vice President.

Our next Regional meeting will be held in Portland, Oregon at the Columbia River Yacht Club and a social evening event at the Portland Yacht Club. The Executive Board looks forward to meeting with District 5 and working with them to help build their membership.





From the Second Vice President

by Ray Thompson

Why Charleston for this meeting?

When the President of District 18 resigned in June 2006, there were 196 members listed on the roster, because of late dues billing, only 63 of these had paid at that time. Each member on the roster was sent a letter requesting a District meeting be scheduled at a time convenient to all at one of the clubs. Responses revealed concerns about how best to revitalize this District.

In the midst of our concern, we received a Chapter reapplication from the Charleston Yacht Club, a long time member of I.O.B.G. that had dropped out. While discussing my proposed visit to reinstate the Charleston Yacht Club with President Carol Promessi, she indicated that Charleston might be an appropriate place to hold our Winter Regional meeting. At the August 2006 Chapter reopening meeting, the Charleston Yacht Club was asked to host the February meeting. With the date being available, both the club and Chapter agreed to be our host.

While hoping everyone enjoyed the efforts of the Chapter, Yacht Club management, Area VP. and others. Hopefully, this program will serve as the impetus to revitalize District 18.



From the Office of the Treasurer
by Marshall Nemoy



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

This report was prepared and distributed for discussion at the winter Regional Meeting held Saturday, February 3, 2007 at the Charleston Yacht Club in Charleston, South Carolina.

Financial Statements

The financial statements presented in this report are as of December 31, 2006 and the year then ended. All statements except the balance sheet are presented in the budget comparison format. IOBG is organized into five operating activities. They are the International Operations Center, the Executive Committee, the Annual Meeting, the Area Vice Presidents and *The Blue Gavel LOG*. The financial results for each activity are discussed in this report.

Summary: The organization's total assets are \$6,375 higher this year than last. The increase is primarily due the \$5,827 cash held in trust by the International for District 18. For the year ended December 31, 2006 IOBG suffered a loss of \$2,606. This is the second year in a row that we have lost money. The primary reason in both years was reduced dues collections, 140 members in 2006 and 258 members in 2005. Further, the remaining inventory was sold at cost to our contractor, Commodore Insignia. The loss for the year was incurred in spite of expenses being \$13,971 less than budget and \$6,583 less than last year.

International Operations Center: As noted above, dues collections were \$6,210 less than budget and \$4,210 less than last year. Printing and meeting expenses were the primary reasons for total expenses exceeding the budget. A large part of the printing expenses was the cost of the "president's letter" for 2007, shells for our business cards and restocking of IOC envelopes.

Executive Committee: The committee's expenses were \$4,314 less than budgeted and \$745 less than last year. Again the largest variance was in travel of \$3,860 less than budgeted and \$658 less than last year. Most of the savings occurred because three of the meetings were on the West coast.

Annual Meeting: The total cost of the event this year was \$17,283 which is \$117 less than budgeted. This amount spent this year was \$3,952 more than last year but last year was the year of the hurricane. Less people attended and, therefore, less travel allowances were paid. Travel for this activity was \$2,600 less in 2005.

Area Vice Presidents: \$7,500 was budgeted for this activity and only \$3,323 was spent, a difference of \$4,177. The amount actually spent was \$477 less than last year. The reasons for the variances vary according to the individuals involved.

The Blue Gavel LOG: The activity's total expenses were \$8,387 less than budgeted and \$8,766 less than last year. The primary reason for such a favorable variance is the March issue was not printed. One issue of *The Blue Gavel LOG* presently is costing \$5,600 to \$6,000 for printing and postage. \$7,389 of the budget variance is attributable to printing and postage. In the final analysis the *LOG* is costing us less per issue than in recent past years and the quality of the publication has improved.

Treasurer's Report Continued...

Membership Statistics

A report of the number of paid members dues received by this office as of January 30, 2007 is attached. As of the date of the report we have received 300 more member's dues than the same date last year. Most of the positive change has been from District 8 who sent us one transmittal of 422 names for this year.

Differences between membership totals at the District level and the International almost always reflect the difference between dues received by the district and dues sent to the International.

International Operations Center

The operation is moving as expected at this time of year. The large influx of dues keeps us very busy but we strive to have membership cards out to members in less than one week. We also mail the District treasurers a list of each batch of membership cards mailed for members in their District. We have been getting some cards returned in the mail as undeliverable. When this happens we mail the card and enclosures to the District treasurer for follow up and delivery of the card.

When mail is returned to us we flag the members record either as undeliverable or temporarily away. Either status means no further mailings will go to that address. Periodically a list of such members is sent to the District treasurers.

Did you know *The Blue Gavel LOG* appears on our web site, www.iobg.org, before you would receive it in the mail? For those who file special orders to hold mail at the U.S. Post Office, you will not receive a *LOG* until you notify this office with a valid address where you can receive your mail. You may look at *The Blue Gavel LOG* on the web site and even print the article you want to keep. You can also review back issues there. Please keep this in mind if you do not receive your *LOG*.

The most significant issue facing the organization is what to do about adequate funding of operations. With two years of losses we are on a path of "eating the organization" until nothing is left. The membership's reluctance to approve an increase in dues has become counter productive. We have lost members in the past two years. Some want to blame the International for the loss of members each year. The truth is that attracting and maintaining membership levels is a District function. The District knows best what programs best suit their membership. If a District is losing members, it is a sign of a District that does not serve its membership. We all have busy lives but if we really care about IOBG, we have to get involved.

Because of the financial losses of the last two years I plan to put forth a list of recommendations to charge for services which heretofore have been provided at no cost. Tops on the list is not mailing *LOGs* to people who do not notify us when they change addresses each season. Next is to charge for replacing a membership card. Other such items will also be added to the list as they become known. Or, we could raise the dues and carry on as before.

We welcome your thoughts and questions. Please feel free to call us with your questions. We will either answer your question or put you in touch with someone who can. We are not perfect but, at least, we try hard.



Royal Rosarian Rose Festival Weekend

“Our Hat’s Off to 100 Years of Rose Festival Pageantry”

June 7 - 10, 2007

Spring Regional Meeting

Each year, many Blue Gavel members from around the world join the Royal Rosarians for their prestigious *Royal Rosarian Weekend* for three fun packed days.

The Royal Rosarians started this event over 50 years ago. They are a large group of highly motivated businessmen and women dedicated to promoting the best interests of their City and particularly the famed Rose Festival. By proclamation of their Mayor they are the Official Greeters and Ambassadors of Goodwill for Portland, the *City of Roses*. Their spirit, enthusiasm, generosity and achievements are legendary.

This year, in honor of the Rose Festival Centennial year, it will be an event co-produced with the Rose Festival Association. The Centennial Ball will take place at the Oregon Convention Center and will feature world-class entertainment, spectacular exhibits and numerous surprises.

The Rosarians honor visiting dignitaries throughout the year through a Knighting Ceremony and each year during the Rose Festival they bestow this honor on the International President Elect of IOBG. This year in the beautiful Washington Park Rose Garden Amphitheater the Rose Queen will honor us in the Knighting of President Elect Dick Janiszewski.

This year we will be staying in the Double Tree Lloyd Center Hotel. The Double Tree Lloyd Center Hotel places you two blocks to the west of the hotel for the actual parade route. Contracted rates are \$109.00 - \$159.00 plus tax. Reservations must be received no later than May 8, 2007, then space available basis at prevailing hotel room rates. Remember to ask for the **“Royal Rosarian room block”** to receive the special rates. I urge you to make reservations ASAP, since this is such an important event.

There will also be a hotel shuttle that will be available to take you to and from the airport, and there is a MAX light rail that is one block from the hotel and also an airport MAX light rail that runs regularly to the airport.

The Spring Regional Meeting will be held Thursday, June 7th at 10:00 AM, reception at the Portland Yacht Club for cocktails and light dinner. The Knighting ceremony will be held on Friday, June 8th at 10:00 AM, dinner at the Columbia River Yacht Club and the Grand Floral Parade will be Saturday, June 9th at 10:00 AM and the Centennial Ball will be held at 6:00 PM. Further information is included in the Registration and Ticket Order Form. Further details will be listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in Portland. This weekend promises to be the “Grandest Hospitality Weekend in their history”!!!

The International Order of the Blue Gavel
The Royal Rosarian Rose Festival Weekend
Hotel Reservations

DoubleTree Hotel – Lloyd Center

1000 NE Multnomah

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Please call the hotel to make your own reservations and ask for the Royal Rosarian room block to receive special room rates. The room rates are \$109.00 - \$159.00 plus tax. The hotel will sell out. Reserve your room now.

Reservations received by the hotel after May 8, 2007 will be accepted on a space available basis at prevailing hotel room rates.

For more information, please contact:



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The Royal Rosarian Rose Festival Weekend

Registration and Ticket Order Form



Early registration discount expires May 3, 2007
 All registrations must be received by May 25, 2007

Registrations must include payment



PACKET PRICING

Includes: Hospitality Room, Fun Night, Centennial Ball, Farewell Breakfast and transportation for Knighting Ceremony and Centennial Ball and Exposition.

Couple	\$395 per couple x	# _____ =	\$ _____
Single	\$200 per person x	# _____ =	\$ _____
Early registration discounts (BEFORE MAY 3rd)	\$15 per couple & \$10 per single		\$ _____

ALA CARTE PRICING

Hospitality Room	\$50 per person x	# _____ =	\$ _____
Fun Night	\$45 per person x	# _____ =	\$ _____
Centennial Ball	\$150 per person x	# _____ =	\$ _____
Farewell Breakfast	\$25 per person x	# _____ =	\$ _____

TICKETS FOR EVENTS NOT INCLUDED IN PACKET PRICE

Queen's Garden Party	\$30 per person x	# _____ =	\$ _____
Memorial Coliseum Parade Tickets	\$25 per person x	# _____ =	\$ _____
Centennial Exposition	\$8 per person x	# _____ =	\$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$ _____

Memorial Coliseum seating is available as an ala Carte item until May 25th. Orders for Centennial Ball tickets and Parade tickets cannot be refunded. The parade can be viewed for free, 5 blocks from the hotel, along the parade route.

NAME _____ Spouse _____

Street Address _____ Phone _____

City/State/Zip _____

Organization _____ Title _____

NOTE: If you have special needs due to a physical disability, dietary restrictions, etc. please attach a note and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Send this completed Registration Form to:

**THE ROYAL ROSARIANS
 Attn: Pam Baker, Registration Chair
 16136 NW Canterwood Way
 Portland, OR 97229**

The International Order of the Blue Gavel

Spring Regional Meeting
District #5

June 7– 10, 2007
Columbia River Yacht Club



June 7, Thursday

9:00 Transportation to Columbia River YC
10:00 IOBG Workshop Columbia River YC
12:00 Lunch at Yacht Club- Pay at Club-\$8.00
1:00 IOBG Meeting /IOBGA Meeting
2:30 Transportation back to Hotel
3:00 Hospitality Suite – Lanai Suites/1st Floor
3:30 Shuttle to Portland YC
Cocktail reception with light food
Premier showing "From One Rose"

June 8, Friday

8:30 – 9:00 Buses leave for Knighting ceremony
Washington Park Amphitheater
10:00 **KNIGHTING CEREMONY**
Washington Park Amphitheater
11:30 Buses return to Double Tree Hotel
1:00 - 4:00 Hospitality Suite – Lanai Suites
5:00 Shuttle to Columbia River YC
Cocktails and Dinner
OR Pay at Club - \$12.00
6:00 Fun Night with the Rosarians
See Schedule of events brochure
10:00
until ? Shuttle back to the DoubleTree

June 9, Saturday

MAX (Lightrail) free to Coliseum
for Float viewing
8:30 Pre-parade Entertainment
Preferred seating at Memorial Coliseum
10:00 **GRAND FLORAL PARADE**
After Parade
MAX (Lightrail) for return to
The DoubleTree Hotel
1:00 - 4:00
Hospitality Suite – Lanai Suites
5:30 Buses leave DoubleTree Hotel to
the Centennial Ball at the
Oregon Convention Center
6:00 **CENTENNIAL BALL**
Festival Formal or Black Tie
9:00 - Midnight
Shuttle returns to the DoubleTree

June 10, Sunday

8:30 Farewell Breakfast

Please contact Director Ev Roberts to confirm your luncheon and dinner reservation at the Columbia River YC. Call Ev at: 503-285-8802 or myself at: 925-427-6250 or E-mail me at cpromessi@aol.com .

On the heels of the successful Lewis & Clark Exhibition of 1905, Mayor Harry Lane decided the city should have a festival of roses. In those early years, horse-drawn floats, aquatic events, and fireworks highlighted the Festival. Following the 1907 event, a group of 10 businessmen formally organized the Portland Rose Festival as a non-profit civic enterprise to plan and finance the annual event.

Bigger is Better! The Rose Festival will celebrate 100 years of Tradition, Innovation and Celebration in the Portland community with a centennial event like none other! Join in this unprecedented tribute to Portland's history, culture and community as they reinvigorate past traditions and create new customs that will endure throughout the Rose Festival's next century!

Legal Officer Report

by George C. Knies



2007 Winter Regional Meeting
Charleston, South Carolina

1. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the US power Squadrons has been approved and will be executed shortly. My proposed changes to said document complies with the resolution we passed in Long Beach (encourage support of...)* and does not expose IOBG to any commitment other than acting as a communication conduit between our two organizations.

The CGAUX is a prime provider of Vessel Safety Checks and extended American Boating Courses and BS&S Courses. In this regard I drafted a MOU (IOBG & USCGAUX) and introduced it into the system (chain of management) at CGAUX District 11 Headquarters, CG Island, Alameda CA; the MOU is now being considered by CGAUX National Headquarters. Again IOBG is acting as a communication conduit between our two organizations.

This is a win-win situation for all concerned and if we have to acquiesce to too many 'whereas' paragraphs, so be it, the end result is what counts - opening a line of communication among our three organizations.

*RESOLUTION:

(2006 Annual Meeting Long Beach, CA)

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was

RESOLVED: That the International Order of The Blue Gavel shall promote Boating Safety Courses that are now being offered by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and the U.S. Power Squadrons, as mandated by States. The extent of International Order of The Blue Gavel involvement shall be to encourage support of public boating safety courses by our Districts and our Chapters.

2. I am pleased to report that several chapters have contacted me regarding certain local issues pertaining to music copyright at their clubs and use of our logo and name when conducting club activities, etc. Should you have any questions in this regard or other areas of your operations do not hesitate to contact me.

3. E-mail security. Anything that you want publicized to the world put it in an e-mail transmission. I have emphasized for years that you never say anything in a regular e-mail transmission that can come back and bite you, even if it was received from another party and you forwarded it. I use FAX messages when in doubt and they are not totally secure. We live in a dangerous and litigious world so practice extreme caution when trafficking on line.



Our apparel section is now updated...Check us out!

COMMODORE INSIGNIA

1380 Centerville Lane #32
 Gardnerville, NV 89410-9715
 (800) 315-7485
 www.commodoreinsignia.com

At the National Meeting I was asked to design a new set of epaulets for **District officers**. The new District officer epaulets are based on the Royal Navy Cadet epaulets. The epaulets are now available for \$20.00 a pair.

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

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

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

COMMODORE INSIGNIA

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

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

BLAZER EMBLEMS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR THE AUXILIARY

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

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

Please Print

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

Signature _____ Ship to: _____

The above will be verified. _____

Member will be billed for emblems when shipped. _____

Let's Jump Start to the Summer Regional Meeting

Mackinac Island Yacht Club

District #23

August 16–19, 2007

Let's step back in time for a bit, it was inevitable that 19th century writers would discover the Island's charm, but even before the written word, Indian legends were part of its history.

It was the Victorians who made Mackinac Island one of the nations most favored summer resorts. In the post-Civil War industrial age and before automobiles, vacationers traveled by large lake excursion boats from Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago and Detroit to the cooler climate of Mackinac Island. They danced to Strauss' waltzes, and listened to Souza's stirring marches. To be able to accommodate these overnight guests, boat and railroad companies built summer hotels, such as the Grand Hotel in the late 19th century. In the 1890's wealthy midwestern industrialists who wanted to spend more time on the Island built their own summer cottages on the east and west bluffs.

Its real Victorian image is preserved and enhanced by a small population of 500 permanent residents and summer residents, maintaining bluff cottages in original state. Mackinac Island State Park is honored by National Geographic as one of the ten finest parks in America.

When you step off of the Island Ferry Dock, you will be in a living Victorian village. Limited to transportation of horse and buggy, bicycle or foot, surrounded by water, it has escaped the vast changes of time. Mackinac Island is a great place for all persons with or without disabilities. There are electric carts, adult strollers, specially designed carriages and more for persons who are unable to walk or walk long distances.

In the 1830s, New England poet Henry Longfellow based his narrative poem, on written accounts of Henry Schoolcraft, an Indian agent who recorded information on Indian legends and culture while residing at Mackinac's Indian Dormitory. In July 1895, Mark Twain visited Mackinac and lectured at the Grand Hotel, Twain was paid \$345 for his speaking engagement!

In 1946 after World War II MGM filmed "This Time for Keeps" starring Esther Williams and Jimmy Durante. In 1979, the Grand Hotel was once again the setting for a romantic fantasy called "Somewhere in Time", starring Christopher Reeve, Jane Seymour and our own District Director De Ramsey.

Page 29

The original club members founded the Mackinac Island Yacht Club in 1937 with the acquisition of the former George Sweeney home. Members own the clubhouse and lease the land on which the clubhouse stands from the Mackinac Island State Park Commission.

If traveling by car: Travel through Michigan's Lower Peninsula, take I-75 North to Exit 337, Mackinac City, or continue across the Mackinac Bridge to Exit 344A, St. Ignace, and follow the signs to the Arnold Ferry Docks. Travelers from Michigan's Upper Peninsula can reach the Arnold Ferry docks by taking I-75 South to Exit 345, St. Ignace, or Exit 338, Mackinac City. Tolls are assessed for vehicles traveling over the Mackinac Bridge passenger vehicle \$1.25 per axle or \$2.50 per car, motor home \$2.00 per axle.

If traveling by air: Northwest Airlines offers flights from most major cities to Pellston International Airport (airport code PLN). An airport shuttle or taxi will be available from the airport to the docks for a fee.

If traveling by boat: Contact the Mackinac Island Marina at 906-847-3561, radio channels 16 or 9. The Harbormaster on duty from, 7:30 AM to 10:00 PM. Services available are: Transient dockage 4-day maximum, Water, electricity 110 V. 30amp/220 V, 50amp, restrooms & showers, holding tank pump-out.

We will be staying at the Murray Hotel, please make your hotel reservations by June 15th, first come first serve, depending on the number of reservations we receive, will give us a heads up knowing ahead of time, we will be able to locate another hotel for your stay. Please see the reservation form for all the details.

Director De Ramsey has been working very diligently organizing a great program and a side trip on Saturday after the meeting. We will have a round table discussion on Friday AM and the Summer Regional Meeting on Saturday AM. De will give some history of the island, he has so much knowledge after having been the Harbormaster for over 20 years and being very much involved with Blue Gavel.

I am trying to get as much information to you ahead of time so that you will be able to plan accordingly. Hope to see all of you in Mackinac.

We will have the final details in the June issue of The Log.

Carol



The Murray Hotel
A Tradition on Main Street for over a century

May through October
P.O.BOX 476, Mackinac Island, MI49757
(906) 847-3360
November through April
P.O.BOX 7706, Ann Arbor, MI 48107
(734) 665-5750

Dear Mr. Ramsey,

Thank you for your IOBG-International Order of Blue Gavel group reservation! Enclosed is a letter to inform you of the room block. We are holding rooms for the nights of August 16, 17 & 18, 2007 (Thursday, Friday & Saturday) for the IOBG-International Order of Blue Gavel at the Murray Hotel.

Below are the details of your reservation:

Rooms	# of rooms	Location	2007 rates Thursday, Friday & Saturday	Total per room for 3nts with 6%tax
Historic Queen bed with Standard View	15	Murray Hotel	\$111per night	\$ 352.98
Historic Queen bed with Patio View	9	Murray Hotel	\$125per night	\$ 397.50
Historic Queen bed with Front View	3	Murray Hotel	\$138per night	\$ 438.84

**Rates are based on double occupancy per night. Rates are subject to 6% sales Tax.

Historic rooms have shower and smaller vanity area
Standard View room is either facing another building or another part of the building

Please note that the number of rooms may differ from availability as some rooms have been picked up by your party. Check in time is 3pm and check out time is 11am. All rooms are air-conditioned with private bathrooms, color television and a complimentary deluxe continental breakfast is also included. If guests are bringing bikes, bike parking is available about _ of a block from the Murray Hotel at the Visitor Center and on Fort Street. All bikes must be locked over night.

In order for us to guarantee the rooms, a payment in full is required in check or money order within two weeks of placing the reservations. Credit card reservations are not accepted at this time. Changes or cancellations are refundable if made at least 30 days prior to arrival date with a \$20 service charge per cancellation. Reservations are made on availability on first come first serve basis.

Your guests can contact us at **1-800 462 2546** and please tell them to refer to **the IOBG-International Order of Blue Gavel Group**. All rooms that are not taken will be released on June 15, 2007. We would be happy to have your group stay with us and enjoy Mackinac Island next summer. I look forward to hearing from you and if you need to contact me, please contact me at 1-800 462 2546. Have a great day!

Sincerely,
Nisa Hameed Sultan, Manager

IOBG NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted by
Harvey Sussel, Committee Chairman

As per the International Bylaws, the Nominating Committee is composed of Harvey Sussel, Immediate Past President; Carol Promessi, President; Richard Janiszewski, President Elect.

This committee is charged with presenting a slate of officers to the membership for consideration and election. Members wishing to be considered for International Offices are requested to submit their letter of request for consideration to each of the Committee Members either by e-mail or direct mail.

The Committee will meet in Portland (or before as necessary). The Nominating Committee will announce its recommended slate of officers at the Regional Meeting, August 16-18, 2007 to be held this year on Mackinac Island, Michigan. This report will also be published in the September issue of the LOG newsletter.

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

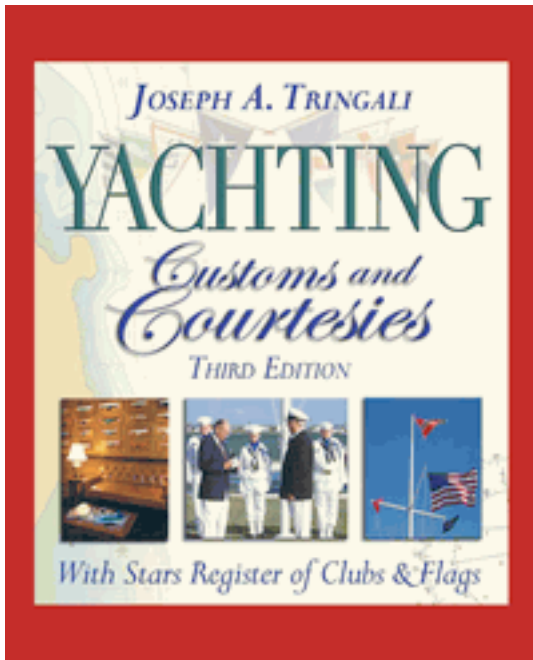
LOG Minutes

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

Book with I.O.B.G. Connection Goes National



Yachting Customs and Courtesies is a 480-page, meticulously-researched book. Whether you belong to a large club, a small club or no club at all; whether you own a boat or think you'd like to; or if you're simply interested in the pleasure boating lifestyle, you'll find something of interest in yachting Customs and Courtesies.

This is the book you've been waiting for -- the latest and greatest edition of the "bible" of yacht club protocol.

Greatly expanded chapters from the second edition, PLUS all-new chapters on leadership principles, boating activities and how to run a meeting, PLUS an updated Stars Register of Clubs & Flags, with over 800 full-color yacht club burgees and listings (including web sites and e-mail addresses) for over 2,000 worldwide clubs. This book belongs in every yacht club library and is a "must have" book for every club officer and member.

Nineteen full color chapters - 480 pages in all - with scripts and floor diagrams for all club ceremonies. "You'll always know where to stand with Tringali's Red Book in hand." Chapters cover everything from the proper use of reciprocity to the precedence of seating at a head table. The "Flags and Colors" chapter explains in detail the display of flags and use of finials both indoors and on the water. Five appendices provide additional information and sample bylaws and letters of introduction, and a special section gives the most complete history ever written of the United States Yacht Ensign

Yachting Customs and Courtesies, Third Edition is receiving national coverage. **P/C Joseph A. Tringali, Past President of District 8**, had a book signing at the United States Power Squadrons National Meeting in Jacksonville on February 22 and 23 of this year. He and spouse Mary Lou barely had time to get back home to North Palm Beach before they drove to Stuart, Florida, where Joe lectured at a dinner meeting of the Chapman School of Seamanship on March 16. A few days later they flew to Newport, Rhode Island where Joe did his thing at the Museum of Yachting, with a stop at the International Yacht Restoration School

Mary Lou and Joe were recently interviewed by *Soundings*, and have been told to watch for a lengthy (and we hope good) book review in *The Ensign*. If you haven't seen a copy of the book yet, check it out – type in "Yachting Customs and Courtesies Third Edition" on any Internet search engine (Google works great) and see what happens.



2007 ANNUAL MEETING “A SHORE THING”

Included in our December 2006 Blue Gavel Log was an article for your information outlining our general plans for our next annual meeting to be held on Long Beach Island, NEW JERSEY on October 17-21, 2007. While this meeting may seem far away, time has a particular way of sneaking up on all of us. While subsequent issues of the LOG will contain full schedules of meetings, social activities, and other fun things to do, it probably is wise to highlight the important information that you need to know for your personal planning.

The meeting dates are October 17, 2007 to October 21, 2007 on Long Beach Island, New Jersey. Airport accessibility is Philadelphia International Airport (PA), Newark International Airport (NJ), or Atlantic City Airport (NJ), although not all airlines serve Atlantic City. Major automobile rentals are available at all airports.

Hotel reservations can be made at the **Engleside Inn** located on the beach front on Long Beach Island, NJ. Reservation can be made by calling 1-800-762-2214. Please let them know you are with the International Order of the Blue Gavel. A continental breakfast will be provided.

If you plan to arrive early, and you wish to visit New York City, or take in a Broadway play, matinee day is on a Wednesday. If you purchase tickets, we will get you to New York through public transportation (which is around \$13 round trip). Also, Atlantic City (and the casinos) are only 30 minutes from Long Beach Island, and Cape May, (around 60 miles), with its charming Victorian homes, is also a place to consider visiting.

During the annual meeting, plans are being made to share the hospitality of each of District 12's five chapter yacht clubs. Another item of interest is a tour and lunch that has been scheduled at our “working” Tuckerton Seaport. We are also making plans to have a tour of Viking Yacht builders.

Viking is a family-owned company formed in 1964 who builds high-end tournament sportfishing & cruising yachts from 40 to 84 feet. The 1400 workers take the building of the yacht from its molding of the hull, to the custom wood shop for the interior, to its final in-water test. Viking has been awarded “Boat of the Year” by boating magazines. Having taken the tour, I can assure you that you will come away amazed at the building process of these yachts, an experience any boater will long remember.

Mark you calendar and plan to attend what promises to be a great IOBG Annual Meeting. Again, if you have any questions, please contact Pat or Dick at richardjaniszewski@msn.com.





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
EXPERIENCE 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

INTERNATIONAL ORDER of the BLUE GAVEL



IOBG.... Who?

How many of your boating friends or even yacht club members have never heard of the I.O.B.G.? Sometimes I feel we belong to a secret organization. To help correct this problem and to potentially recruit new members, I have submitted the following article to a dozen boating magazines. I need your help. If we all send a copy of this article to the editor of our favorite boating magazine, think of the coverage and exposure.

Dear Editor:

If you would publish this article in your magazine it would be appreciated

THE INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

The Blue Gavel is an organization of over 4000 Past Commodores from around the world. "The mission of the I.O.B.G. is to recognize Past Commodores of the international yachting community and unite them in order to promote the highest ideals of yachting and to preserve its customs and traditions through social, educational and humanitarian programs."

Although the Blue Gavel has no responsibility for the day to day operation of the yacht club, a Blue Gavel Chapter can be a valuable resource to your club. Our motto is "The Keepers of the Flame". I.O.B.G. addresses issues like yachting customs, ceremonies, courtesies, uniforms, flags, legal matters, meetings etc. Reciprocity between member clubs is strongly encouraged however not mandatory.

The Humanitarian Foundation which is the charity arm of the I.O.B.G. is a 501(c)3 organization. It is a 100% volunteer foundation. No donations are used for salaries and it specializes in education and boating programs for youth and adults with special needs.

For more information on becoming a member or starting a Chapter at your own club, go to our web site at www.iobg.org or contact our International business office at 1-888-378-2211. Better yet, attend one of our regional meetings listed below:

2007 Meetings

February 1-3	Charleston Yacht Club South Carolina
June 7-9	Columbia River Y.C Oregon Portland Y.C. Oregon
August 16-18	Mackinac Y.C. Michigan
October 17-21	Spray Beach Y.C. New Jersey

I.O.B.G. Past President Art Garside



District News

Northwestern

Districts 1-2-4-5-24

Mike Parish

Northwestern Vice President

It is wintertime here in the great Northwest. Not many things going on this time of year.

I have attended two meetings in District 5 since the meeting in Long Beach, California.

The first meeting was to layout plans and talk about the future of IOBG District 5. A-Net Crawford, the Events Chairperson, has a whirlwind of ideas for events already in place for this year. I hope that I have room on my calendar to attend most of them. It sounds like they will be a lot of fun. The Mystery Train Ride she put together last November was outstanding. Everyone had a great time. If you missed this event you better not miss the next one.

The second meeting was held at the Multnomah Channel Yacht Club in Scappoose, Oregon and was very well attended with a lot of enthusiasm. There was a lot of talk on how to get more members involved in doing things within their boating community. This meeting was not only their election of Officers for 2007, they also inducted 7 new members. Everyone there are interested in trying to get the District back into full swing and growing the membership back to the high numbers of the late 90's.

New District 5 Officers:

Director
P/P "Eve" Roberts (Vi)

President
Edward Blatter (Diana)

Vice Pres. & Treasurer
Robert Gedde (Lorraine)

Secretary
Bonnie Baldwin

612 N. Hayden Bay Drive
Portland, OR. 97217

10109 S.E. 38th Ave
Milwaukie, OR 97222

12532 SE Mill Court
Portland, OR 97233

59475 Barr Ave
St Helens, OR

District 4

Ron Defieux, President

District 4 hopes to continue funding "The Gift of Sailing Program, that was so successful last year.

"Shipmates Across The Border"

April 20-22, 2007

Vancouver B.C., Canada



EVERYBODY WELCOME
Gala welcoming party - False Creek Yacht Club
Charter boat trip and lunch
Saturday night banquet
Tour of the world famous Vancouver Aquarium
Sunday Farewell Brunch
Special hotel rates
All group fares
Great exchange to the Canadian Dollar



District 1

Ken Rollins, District Director

Change of Watch:

Kudos to the Clover Island Yacht Club and their IOBG chapter for making everyone feel welcome and for showing us the best time. The trips to the upper reach and through the locks were fantastic. Our thanks to the individual Captains for the use of their boats for the day. Thanks also go to the Richland Yacht Club for putting on the Friday Night Burger Burn and for the opportunity for Rita & I to meet a group of very nice people.

IOBG Annual Meeting:

Attending our first IOBG Annual Meeting at Long Beach, CA, was a grand experience. The camaraderie of members and yacht clubs was a good thing to see. I would like to thank Carol & Phil Promessi and all the supporting clubs for making my first Annual Meeting a memorable one.

As the new District 1 Director I plan to attend as many chapter meetings as possible and carry their IOBG concerns to the International level. If I don't know the answers to your questions I'll find them out and get back to you as soon as possible.



Fund Raising:

District 1 IOBG has a fundraising event in progress...a raffle for a Cruise to Alaska for two people in support of the Make A Wish, Wishing Star and the IOBG Humanitarian Foundations. Raffle will end at the our Spring Conference to be held in Seattle, WA in April 2007.



District News

Southwestern

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

George Knies

Southwestern Vice President

The last three months of a busy year involved attending the annual Wheelchair Regatta at the Encinal YC, Alameda CA., supported by Districts 14 and 19, Woman's Sailing Seminar at the Island YC, supported by District 14, and the Annual Meeting in Long Beach CA. In November I attended the PICYA awards dinner at the Encinal YC. In December it was my honor to swear in Shirley Ahlf, out-going Commodore of the Island YC as our newest member. At the same Charge of Watch I had the honor to swear in P/C Janet Frankel as District 14 Vice President.

The new year heralds increasing opportunities for growing our membership in existing Chapters and developing new Chapters. Districts 14 and 19 now have a designated representative, Vern Bendsen, with the PICYA (Pacific Inter Club Yacht Association), thereby increasing our communication links, coordination and support of mutual interest activities.

Ann and I attended the 15th annual PICYA Commodore's Ball and Installation Dinner held on Saturday, January 27th. This presented the opportunity to network with many District 14 and 19 P/C's and current Commodores as well as state and local Boating and Waterways officials. I had the opportunity to speak with Admiral Jodi Breckinridge, USCG, Commander USCG District 11 and Captain Uberti, USCG, Commander Sector San Francisco concerning certain recreational boating issues and forthcoming events.

It is disturbing to report that I have attempted to contact District's 10,16 and 21, all failing to respond to six email and one USPS request transmitted over the past six weeks. These District Directors or an appointed District Representative failed to submit their first quarter reports that were due in January. The lack of communication among Chapters, Districts and up and down the chain of management was addressed at our Charleston meeting.

We have several new programs being introduced and it is imperative that all of us are "on-the-same-page" to effectively implement them. I look forward to improving our Southwest Area communication interaction, especially now since California is facing boater's licensing requirements and other waterways and boating safety issues.

I commenced exploratory operations for hosting one of our 2008 meetings in Oakland California, which has generated enthusiastic interest and support from many San Francisco Bay Area Yacht Clubs.

District 11
Wilma Rosenberg, District Director

District 11 is located in southern California. It is made up of Chapters from Westlake Village, Marina Del Rey Harbor to King Harbor.

In November, 2006, we had our installation of officers at Del Rey Yacht Club. Following a delicious dinner we installed the following officers: Wilma Rosenberg, Director; Jon Robbins, President; Gary Green, Vice President, Susan Artof, Vice President; David Phelps, Secretary and CFO; Rosalie Green, Treasurer.

Our first event for 2007 was a Wine Tasting at Port Royal Yacht Club on Saturday, February 10th. This was a District fundraiser which raised enough money in 2006 to sponsor an underprivileged student's participation in a Summer Sail Training Program at the Del Rey Yacht Club.

The 2007 event calendar includes: Member Appreciation Day 03/25/07 at MVYC, Spring Brunch 04/14.07 at SMWYC, Windy Cue #1 06/05/07 at DRYC, Racer's B'fast 06/30/07, Cruise-out to Shoreline YC in July, Windy Cue#2 07/14/07 at DRYC, Windy Cue#3 09/18/07 at DRYC and Installation ceremonies in November TBA.

Sounds like a great active year ahead, hope all our P/C's re-new their membership and join the "Happy Spirit" by attending our events.

District 14
Rich Ahlf, District Director

District 14 San Francisco Bay Area initiated an aggressive recruiting campaign directed at the Chapters to include new Immediate Past Commodores and those that have let their membership lapse. This campaign was enforced by IOBG involvement in a myriad of local events and publicity in local Boating Publications. The result has been bountiful, we have 5 new members plus many potentials. We are forming an IOBG Auxiliary Chapter and hopefully present it at our next Regional meeting.

Our schedule of events for 2007 includes several Opening Day celebrations, the annual San Francisco Wheelchair Regatta, the Women's two-day Sailing Seminar, the PICYA CHISPA and Youth Regattas and special event Cruise-in piggy-backed with local yacht clubs, Fleet Week Blue Angels, K-Fog K-Boom Fireworks display and the Fourth of July Fire Works display. All of these events are posted on our IOBGD-14 Web Site.



District 16
Marsha Landreth, District Director

A brunch was held at Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club for District #16's Change of Watch on February 11th. The 2007 officers installed were: Director Marsha Landreth, President Jack Borkowski, Vice President Clark Owens, Secretary Nancy Rowe, Treasurer Gene Beville, and Supply officer Richard Olsen.



District 19
Phil Promessi, District Director

District 19 contains 27 Chapters in the California Delta between Sacramento on the North, Stockton on the East, Napa on the West, and Cruiser Haven on the South. It encompasses over 1,000 miles of waterways.

As of January 1 a total of 116 members have paid their dues for 2007. All dues are usually paid by April. The Change of Watch was held on January 6 at the Pittsburg YC. Approximately 40 members attended this function. The new officers for 2007 were inducted. They are: Gary McGrath President, Peter Oswald Vice President, Joan Marsh-Clune Secretary, Herman Meyer Treasurer, and Phil Promessi Director.

The next meeting is a General Meeting at the San Joaquin YC in the heart of the Delta. The new Commodores will be inducted at this meeting. Following this meeting will be the annual Cruise-Out to Delta Marina on May 19-20. This has been traditionally a popular function where members can sail their vessels to Rio Vista and barbecued ribs and chicken are served in the patio picnic area. A Board and Delegates meeting is held on Saturday.

After the Rose Festival and Regional Meeting in Portland Oregon the Membership Appreciation BBQ will be held again at the Stockton YC on July 28-29. This is the biggest function of the year and we usually gain old members to rejoin and new members decide to join us.

August 26th is when the new officers for 2008 will be introduced at the General Meeting to be held at Driftwood YC. September 16th a Board and Delegates meeting will be held at Bridge Marina YC and elections will be held. The Change of Watch will be at the Benicia YC on October 13th. As you can see, we have a full schedule for the year. Baring any unforeseen problems, all will go smoothly and hopefully we will gain more members and more participation.

So far we have not gained any new Chapters. The Chapters have been constant. The problem is in the membership. We normally have approximately 230 to 250 members. Last year we dropped to 164 members. Hopefully we will bring the membership back up again this year.



District News

North Central

Districts 7-9-23-25

Debbie Banks-Skellenger

North Central Vice President

During my short tenure as NCVP, I have made it my goal to communicate, communicate, and communicate some more. I feel this is vital to our Districts and ultimately our entire organization. We need to share ideas so that together we make a cohesive whole. We need to clarify ideas, decisions and policies so that our membership can fully grasp how IOBG is working for them.

I encourage my Districts to feed me information from their area as I will advise them on International decisions and policies. The back and forth flow of information is crucial for mutual understanding and growth between International Executive Officers and our membership we are working for.

Districts 7, 9 & 25 are very active throughout the year. District 7 Officers presented Alum Creek Yacht Club with their Charter, has held one Executive Board meeting and is readying for their President's Caribbean cruise February 17-24 aboard the Star Princess.



North Central Vice President Report Cont'
Debbie Banks-Skellenger

District 9 has already had 2 Executive Board meetings and is planning their annual Pig Roast for May. District 23 is in the process of revitalizing and reorganizing with Director De Ramsey spearheading the efforts. We are looking forward to our Summer Regional meeting hosted by District 23 at Mackinac Island Yacht Club. District 25 successfully held their President's Dinner Dance in January. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend due to illness, but reports of the dinner were gleaming. This District has a complete slate of activities planned for the year.

I would like to THANK the Charleston Yacht Club for hosting our 2007 Winter Regional meeting. Our morning "breakout" session discussing the topic, "What are we doing right?" proved to be not only informative, but mind expanding as well. I think many of us came away with ideas on how to perform our various duties better, which will make for a more dynamic and smoother functioning IOBG.

As a result of our morning session, a new Marketing Committee was formed comprised of the Regional Vice Presidents and International 1st Vice President Jerry Rudd. I look forward to brainstorming and implementing our ideas into positive action throughout the year.

District 9
Mark Hupp, District Director

District 9 membership is expected to remain around 340 members.

To try and get more involvement at District level we are moving the Spring meeting to March 25, 2007 at Toledo Yacht Club and the Fall meeting to November 4, 2007 at North Cape Yacht Club to get them away from Boat in and boat out time in the Great Lakes.

The annual Pig roast fundraiser is scheduled for May 6, 2007 at Ottawa River Yacht Club. Proceeds from this go to support junior sailing education programs and the new junior power program.

We are also revamping the September rendezvous



District News

Northeastern

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

Marc Connelly

Northeastern Vice President

Last year as I sat down to write these notes, Buffalo was sunny and 35 degrees. Conversations were well into plans for the 2006 boating season.

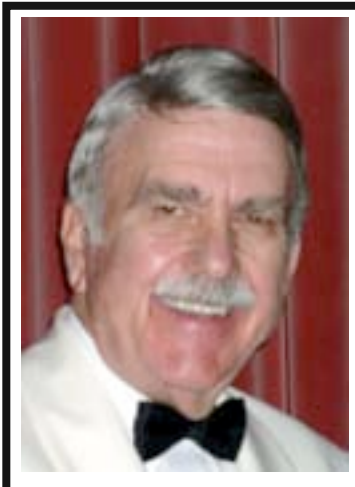
This year the wind chill is below 0, with the areas just south of Buffalo digging out of 42 to 46 inches of snow. Needless to say, boating in the Northeast consists of last seasons dreams and making plans for the 2007 season.

For this issue, the biggest news is from District 3. My own Tonawanda Island Launch Club. For the first time in many years we were able to have all but one Past Commodore in attendance for the installation of the 2007 officers.



Tonawanda Island Launch Club Past Commodores

Also "Congratulations" to Tonawanda Island. 2007 is the clubs 50th anniversary. A two day celebration is scheduled for July 14 & 15. In addition to current members, all previous members back to 1957 are being contacted and invited.



District News

Southeastern

Districts 8 & 18

Tom Sullivan

Southeastern Vice President

District 8's Regional Meeting was held in conjunction with the International's Winter Regional Meeting, Feb. 1-3 at Charleston Yacht Club, South Carolina. All officers were in attendance and the District finalized its need to update its by-laws, which was discussed several months ago at Old Port Yacht Club.

District 8 also published its next three quarterly meetings which will be held at:

KEY BISCAYNE YC

April 27, 28, 29

FORT WALTON YC

Aug. 10,11,12

CHARLOTTE HARBOR YC

Oct. 12,13,14

(Annual Meeting)

District 8 also drew accolades from the International Treasurer Marshall Nemoy who noted "most of the positive change has been from District 8 who sent us one transmittal of 422 names by Jan. 31."

At the February meeting Treasurer John Matthews' numbers reached 493 with three Yacht Clubs still to be heard from. That coupled with at least 30 - 40 new P/C's should put District membership numbers past those of last year.

Most of the problems associated with declining membership seem to be in the communications and marketing areas.



District 8's success is due to a new website put together by District President Jack Kennedy and his wife Mary, an outstanding newsletter (The Gulf Stream), Roster with P/C John Stringer as Editor, an Ambassador Program of follow-ups and visits keeping Blue Gavel Chapters up-to-date and most of all a positive attitude on the part of District 8 Officers. What also helps with retention is that Florida Yacht Clubs function year round.

Along with all of the above, Auxiliary Regional Director Chris Snedaker now has three Auxiliary Chapters at: North Palm Beach YC, Palm Coast YC, and Halifax River YC.

I had the privilege to add my signature of approval to this worthy effort.

District Director, Lou Daniello is getting closer in inviting Stuart Yacht & Country Club to join the IOBG. Admirals Cove YC is still being looked at and Mobile Bay YC & Navy YC, Pensacola are in the final stages.

District 18 Members will soon be getting a letter from me suggesting a new outlook and ways the District can become stronger and more focused.

I have heard from several members with ideas and five District 18 members of the Charleston YC (SC) were in attendance at the International meeting in February.

District 18 has a lot of possibilities and ideas which should come from the membership. .

District 51
Vern Bendsen, District Director

Where is District 51?

Ever since I have been a Blue Gavel Member, I have asked, "Where is District 51"? They said, it was everything west of the Mississippi River.

Then I asked, "What is everything?" They said, it was any area that did not have enough Chapters to form a District, or for any Past Commodore that did not have a Blue Gavel Chapter to join.

Now, that I am the Director for District 51, I am amazed at the size and scope of D-51. And I would like to let all of you know just where D-51 is. District extends from the Mississippi River to the country of Japan.

Many of you have traveled to some of our western states or countries in the Pacific that have Blue Gavel Chapters or Blue Gavel Members at Large.

Now, I get to the reason for this article. Below are the locations for the Blue Gavel Chapters and Members at Large in District 51.

They are:

Cedar Rapids, Iowa - Austin, Texas - Houston, Texas - Lakewood, Texas - Vail, Arizona - Acapulco, Mexico - Manila, Philippines - Osaka, Japan - Tokyo, Japan, and the U. S. Sailing Association.

If any of you are going to travel in any of the above locations, and are interested in contacting a Blue Gavel Chapter or Member at Large, let me know.

District 70
Bill Young, President



In Passing...

BOB CARTER – DISTRICT DIRECTOR, DISTRICT 70

It is with regret that I have to report that Bob passed away on 29th January 2007 at the age of 74. He had not been in the best of health for the past year.

Bob was founder member of IOBG District 70, having got involved through an acquaintance from New Zealand, and worked hard to recruit members. He was Past President of District 70 and was knighted at the Royal Rosarians ceremony some years ago. He was also a recipient of the IOBG Past Presidents award, and was involved with the Humanitarian Fund.

He attended several annual meetings of IOBG, making many friends, and organised the only regional visit to the UK in 1994.

He was a Past Commodore of Greenwich Yacht Club and Honorary Local Representative of the Cruising Association for the River Thames. He was a social member of several other clubs which he frequently visited.



MARIA FROUDE – Founding Member of District 70 IOBG Auxiliary

Maria Froude, one of the founder members of District 70 IOBGA, died on September 17th 2006 after a long battle against cancer. She was a great support to Ray and continued to come boating with him, even though she often felt far from well. Happily, she was able to celebrate her birthday upriver on the Thames at Cookham in July 2006 with a lot of friends, a cake and a bottle of 'bubbly' and she thoroughly enjoyed herself.

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

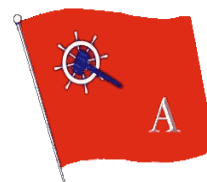
2006	Harvey Sussel The Captains Yacht Club North Palm Beach Yacht Club	1988*	George Cooper Lighthouse Point Yacht Club	1967*	Ken Wise Edmonds Yacht Club
2005	Art Theobald Sandy Beach Yacht Club	1987	Dr. Burton Jay Southwestern Yacht Club	1966	Randy Rockhill Rainier Yacht Club
2004	Larry Foote San Joaquin 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. Ortner 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	Evertt 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		

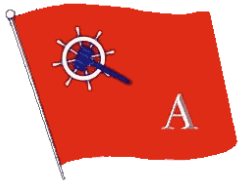
*Deceased



PAST PRESIDENTS

1991	Rose Prell
1992-93	Mary Gallagher
1994-95	Pat Cleland
1996	Leona Nies
1997	Jerry Key
1998	Judy Miller
1999*	Wila Wade
2000	Gerva Hughes
2001	Carol Foote
2002	Shirley Willing
2003-04	Carol Garside
2005	Hope McLeod
2006	Jackie Evans-Rudd





International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary



From the President

by Pat Graven

I had never been to Charleston before, and will have to go back some day. The only time I saw downtown was in the dark driving from the airport or getting a “little lost” on Saturday night. That town sure has a lot of bridges! Well on to business....

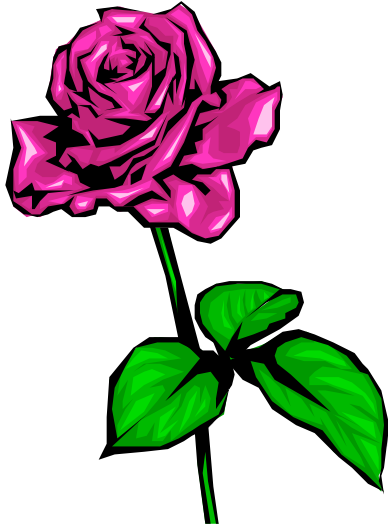
The Auxiliary had a nice turn out, particularly with District 8 showing up with two more new chapters. Halifax Yacht Club and Palm Coast Yacht Club were voted on and will be receiving their charters soon. Congratulations to Chris Snednaker for bringing life back into District 8.

The IOBGA tri-fold brochure is making great strides forward. Jackie Rudd and Carol Garside have corrected and updated the old brochure and will be getting about 1000 printed. I have asked for this to be available by the June meeting. We will also have it on the website so all of you can download the brochure and get it printed locally. This will save both time and money.

We learned at the meeting of the passing of the first President of IOBGA, Pat Cleland. She had been living in Florida and Chris Snednaker informed us of the sad news. Our deepest sympathies go out to her family, and a deep heartfelt thanks for being a pioneer to our organization.

Feel free to contact me via my e-mail at pgraven1@yahoo.com with any questions or issues you may have.





*From Past President
Jackie Evans Rudd*

The IOBGA Executive Board and members treasure the memory of our friends who have helped us and shared in our journey of life.

We offer a rose in memory of IOBGA members who have left us:

*Jackie King, District 8
Wanda Van Newkirk, District 7
Pat Cleland, District 7*

From the President Elect by Pat Janiszewski

I am happy to report that the membership in District 12 increased from 5 to 16 members. I will be contacting members in the spring to try to arrange for a get together.

Rita Rollins
Northwest Regional Director

Currently District 1 has 52 members (12 new members added). The IOBGA will have their 4th Annual Race for the Stars on April 7th. Race planning is underway, and they are expecting a large crowd. District President, Angelica Rooker, is working with Billy Carter Corinthian Yacht Club of Tacoma's Fleet and Racing Captain. District 1 has been working hard to keep their current members and renew old ones. The District sends out invitations to the prospective new members before each meeting. This seems to be working for us.



Betsy Sanders
Northeast Regional Director

This is the "quiet time" for District 3 as we are supposed to be experiencing winter! However, with no snow since the devastating storm of October 12 and 13, it's hard to believe it is winter with the temperatures in the high forties and low fifties. Dues bills were sent out at the end of October and we now have 54 paid members with 8 unpaid members, but checks are still coming in. A luncheon for IOBGA members is being planned for April or May 2007 at either the Buffalo Yacht Club or the Buffalo Launch Club. Notices will be sent out at a later date with more information, but we hope to see a large turnout.

Christine B. Snedaker
Southeast Regional Director

Congratulations to the new officers of the Halifax Yacht Club—Louise Redner, President; Carole Ford, Vice President; Carol Adamek, Secretary; and Rose Lauer, Treasurer. They were installed into office by Beverly Wichmann.



Liz Piazzoni, President
District 15

District 15 IOBGA members started the year early dining together in January. We look forward to meeting new members at our installation luncheon in February. We have enjoyed successful outings the last few years with recreational train rides, and another one is being planned for this spring or summer.



Penny Thompson, President District 26
--

District 26 hosted a "High Tea" at the Mt. Sinai Yacht Club for 59 women on November 19th. This event raised over \$1,350 for local charities. All our guests seemed to thoroughly enjoy our "Famous Women in History" contest and we received rave reviews about the food and teas. Because of the generosity of those attending, many families had a much happier holiday. We donated checks to three local churches for needy families, purchased clothing and food certificates for other families, and donated money to St. Jude's Children's Hospital and Newsday's Help-A-Family. It makes us proud to be able to give back to our community and help those less fortunate.



We have 13 very active and hard-working members who have devoted a great deal of time and energy for our two major fundraisers a year. We run a fashion show in the spring and another event in the fall, this year being the "High Tea," and we hold a meeting every month. Our membership has remained the same as last year.

Members requested from Penny Thompson a more detailed description of the High Tea. Below is Penny's response to this request. Thank you Penny, I hope this will help members with some new ideas.



The High Tea, although very profitable, was an unbelievable amount of work. Each Auxiliary member provided a full table of china and teapots, plus we each donated our baked goods. We made a list of all the different items served at a high tea; i.e., lemon bars, scones and curdled cream, date nut bread, chocolate covered strawberries, bourbon balls, tea sandwiches (three types) etc. We then each picked out one we wanted to cook. The ladies who attended loved it, but all the Auxiliary members voted that it was a **one-and-only** event as we were all extremely exhausted afterwards. We had to lug all the dishes there along with the baked goods, set it all up, serve the guests, and then wash all the dishes and lug them back home.

Our spring fundraiser, the Fashion Show/Luncheon is MUCH easier and more profitable. We use Dress Barn and they allow us 10 models with two outfits each, one casual and one dressy. Dress Barn offers the models 30% off on their outfits, if purchased, and also gives us 10% off coupons to give out to the attendees. Our yacht club provides a buffet luncheon for \$15 and then we clear the buffet from the center of the room and have a runway for our models. The money, however, is mainly generated from the raffles. Each member is asked to go to local stores and ask for donation; and surprisingly they did an excellent job. We had pedicures, certificates to restaurants, paintings, movie tickets, jewelry, salon certificates, etc. The raffles alone raised over \$1200. I acted as MC, told jokes, and introduced the models and described what they were wearing, etc. We are having our 2nd fashion show on April 15th and everyone is enthusiastic over it. Again, this is to raise money for the troops and also for local charities. This past Christmas we donated \$1500 to various charities, last spring we sent \$1500 to the troops in Iraq, and we still have \$1000 in our treasury for start-up money for the next event.



From England

Eileen Want from District #70 in England has written a lovely letter to her IOBG and IOBGA friends in the United States. The letter is copied below. Thank you, Eileen, it is so good to hear from you, and the IOBGA wishes you and Bob well.

Our boating activities began with some paddling! With London's high winter tides, areas along the Thames had flooded, including our mooring just along from Hampton Court Palace. Bob (Want) rolled his trousers up to wade on to the pontoon to reach our boat K-Ser-A. I watched from the bank with concealed amusement.

All was well at Easter for our first cruise down the Thames and on to the river Medway to moor in Chatham Docks, then on to Rochester to visit the Castle and surrounding areas where the greater writer, Charles Dickens, spent many happy years.

By May, we had bad news confirmed with Bob being diagnosed with cancer, so our summer plans for coastal cruising were scuppered. With the latest medication and strict doctor's orders, we compromised and took our boat to St. Katharine's Dock by London's Tower Bridge instead, for a summer of total rest and relaxation. The dock, itself, is also known as a haven, and it certainly was for us. With perfect weather, it was more like an oasis in central London—Bob and I sat on the back deck holding court with visiting boaters, family, and friends. Needless to say, the time spent resting was most beneficial to Bob, and thankfully his condition has since been brought under control.

As autumn set in, we took the boat "up river" along the Thames, and through a great number of locks. Phew!...to reach Henley for a boating regatta held by the Association of Thames Yacht Clubs. Gladly the good weather held out for a lovely trip. We also passed Runnymede on the way, where you'll be pleased to know that across the river there is a US Air Forces Memorial, and the John F. Kennedy Memorial, set in an acre of England given to the American people.

Winter rapidly approached, as did Christmas and my customary visit to New York with my daughters for a shopping spree. This time with a difference, New York was warmer than London, probably due to 'Global Warming,' but it meant that we could go out shopping without our heavy winter costs. New York is still as lovely as ever at Christmas time, such a wonderful atmosphere. We love it.

Our planned adventures for 2007 will include cruising our boat across the English Channel to France, Belgium, then up to Holland as far as the Friesian Islands for a two-month round trip. The only problem is having so many friends and family who want to crew. We'll need to hire the Queen Mary II.

We do enjoy keeping up with you all through the Blue Gave Log, which is very informative. We would also like to acknowledge all the hard work carried out by the IOBG/IOBGA members in the US, and all the fundraising to help good charities.



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**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

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