



THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

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

Volume 27 No. 3

July 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



When I first took office last October it looked like it was going to be a smooth transition and an easy year for me, but the first six months of this year has been a roller coaster ride. Our organization has suffered the loss of District 70 Director Bob Carter, District 18 Director Joe Zammit, retired Recording Secretary Sue Brauner, and Bonnie Sussel, IOBGA First Vice President. It has been a very sad first six months. They were active members that contributed a lot to IOBG. They will truly be missed.

There is only one word I can find to describe the Spring Regional Meeting "Perseverance"

In spite of the many difficulties and obstacles that I encountered organizing the Spring Regional Meeting, we managed to have a terrific meeting and I would like to express my gratitude to District #5 Director Ev Roberts, P/P Ira Nies and the dynamic A-nette Crawford, District #5 Events Coordinator. They did a yeoman job considering the circumstances.

The meeting was held at the Columbia River Yacht Club on Thursday. The morning session consisted of "Round Table" discussions regarding what IOBG can really be, and where we can do the most good and why we can't get there today. Subjects like our expectations of what to implement, the changing society's effect on the membership and commitment were discussed. These are just a sample of our concerns. If you can think of any of your concerns or ideas please don't hesitate to communicate them to me or to others on the Executive Committee.

We enjoyed having a very nice crab salad for lunch at the Columbia River YC. The afternoon meeting was convened at 1300 hours. The President Elect made an audit report and it was approved. The issue of the new shoulder boards for officers of Districts was approved. The boards will be modeled after the reserve officers of the English Navy, affectionately referred to as the "Wavy Navy". You can order these new boards through Commodore Insignia

Remember that the number of paid memberships whose dues have been received by the IOBG Treasurer by August 1st will determine the number of votes each District will have. So, please remind your Treasurer to get past due notices out to those who have not paid.

I would like to welcome the three new approved Chapters into our organization, Anchor Bay Yachting Association, Kent Island YC and Hawaii Yacht Woman's Yacht Racing Association. "Welcome aboard". I look forward to meeting and getting to know you all.

Our guest speaker, BJ Ursin, a Past Commander of the Power Squadron, and IOBG Liaison to the USPS, discussed the signing and the objectives and implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the IOBG and the USPS. His talk was very informative and we learned a lot of what the Power Squadron stands for. He further discussed how to encourage the Districts and Yacht Clubs to implement the courses necessary to satisfy the requirements of the States that have mandatory certification. If you are interested contact him for further information at his e-mail address: iobg898usps@aol.com.

After the meeting we were treated to a fabulous Dinner Cruise on the Willamette River, the largest river contained entirely within the state of Oregon. The dinner was outstanding as was the entertainment from Osaka, Japan. The waiters and crew of the ship were fantastic. The officers of District 5 outdid themselves that evening. Thank you so much for all the roses that were presented to all the women members.

Many, many, many thanks and kudos to Ira Nies and John Jones for the fabulous dinner and great evening at the Vancouver YC. The ambiance was terrific and the view of Mt. Hood was outstanding. All enjoyed the hospitality and camaraderie of the club members. Thanks to Ira for his efforts. If it weren't for him we would still be waiting at the Double Tree Hotel for the next van!!!! **Thank you, thank you, and thank you.**

Of course we enjoyed the beautiful day at Washington Park for the Knighting Ceremony where our President Elect was knighted under the rose, Louis XIV. Unfortunately the next day it rained heavily during the parade.

The Centennial Ball was the Grand Finale on Saturday night and was a huge success. There were approximately 1200 people for dinner and dancing.

Looking forward to seeing you at Macinac Island.

From the President Elect

by Richard Janiszewski



With the arrival of spring, those Districts and Chapters subject to winter weather are now alive with boating, social and fraternal activities. Great planning and execution are paying handsome dividends throughout the Blue Gavel as reported by area Vice Presidents and District Directors. An air of well being and confidence permeates our organization and deservedly so. My congratulations to all who have worked so hard and now enjoy the fruits of their labors.

This year is, to me, one of promise and continued progress. For the most part, communications both upward and downward have improved as a result of a fuller commitment on the part of all involved and new programs designed to broaden and open new channels of communications; i.e. full and timelier communications of matters of concern; objective deliberations by all involved and prompt issue resolution. Open round-table meetings will be held at every regional meeting chaired by P/P Phil Arms—the objective being to provide a formal means to discuss matters of mutual interest and concern. This initiative, coupled with a renewed spirit of cooperation and commitment, will result in tangible, positive results.



Some Districts are reporting membership increases; new Chapter applications and new District initiatives to these ends. At our Charleston, South Carolina, Winter regional meeting, President Carol Promessi announced the formation of a marketing committee with Northeast Vice President Marc Connelly as Chairman, and area Vice Presidents Mike Parish, Debbie Banks-Skellenger, George Knies, and Tom Sullivan as committee members. The liaison officer is First Vice President Jerry Rudd. The committee will made its first report at the Portland regional meeting. I believe this action has vast potential for the Organization as well as our Districts and Chapters. Other initiatives are under development resulting from District and International level consultations.

Existing policies and procedures are continuously reviewed to assure they meet the needs of today's Blue Gavel, including timeliness and effectiveness. As necessary, changes have and will continue to be made. One such area, though, that requires your support is our New Chapter Application Procedure (see Policy and Procedures Manual—Revised October 2005, pages 32, 33 and 34). To assure that new Chapter Applications are processed in a timely manner, with the required information, the procedure must be faithfully followed. It begins with the stipulated District approvals. Concise information about the yacht club applying for a chapter and, if exceptions are requested, the reason(s) are required. Area Vice Presidents must approve and forward the application to the President Elect who is responsible for compliance at the Executive Committee level.

Our web site contains the procedure for those who may not have a current manual. Should you, perhaps, feel change in the procedure is necessary, please contact me. I would be pleased to share your thinking.

Have a wonderful summer. I hope to meet with you at our Summer regional meeting in Michigan and our annual meeting in October at Long Beach Island, New Jersey. We need your continued help to achieve our vision of being an organization that adds value to all we touch.



From the First Vice President by Jerry Rudd

During the winter meeting President Carol Promessi asked the Area Vice Presidents to come up with a marketing plan, with myself as the liaison and Mark Connelly as the chairman.

Over the next few months Mark and the other VP's gathered information from several sources and put together a draft which was presented at the Spring Region meeting.

We would like your input regarding any additions or changes. Please read it in full and make your suggestions. You can email or snail mail to Mark Connelly or myself. Just remember we need your suggestions by August 11, 2007 so the final report will be ready for the annual meeting in October.

I.O.B.G. Marketing Plan and Ideas

Introduction:

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.

To complete our mission and grow the organization, we must reach out to the yachting community. We need to maintain our present membership and to engage new audiences in the form of Chapters and if necessary new Districts.

As our mission statement indicates social, educational, and humanitarian programs should be the vehicle for member retention and growth.

Develop the Goals:

- A) What does the organization want to achieve as a result of its marketing efforts?
- B) The goals should be continuing and long term.

Words to start our thinking:

Retention	Recruiting	Recognition	Support	Status
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Dick Janiszewski: Yearly membership gain of 10% over previous year. Each District commit to a new Chapter per year.

Tom Sullivan: Goals to be continuing and long term. Each member recruits one member per year.

George Knies: Rejuvenate dormant chapters by contacting all P/C's personally. Contact yacht clubs that do not have a chapter.

Carol Promessi: What do we do to motivate meeting attendance and social participation. Develop public relations skills and advertising.

Debbie Banks-Skellenger: Help develop District goals.

Marc Connelly: Area V/P's should develop and submit a yearly plan for each District. Area V/P's should develop and submit a recruiting plan. The plans could be reviewed quarterly with their respective VP

Situational Analysis

Internal conditions: skills, staff, systems and structure of the organization.

External factors: social, cultural, and geographical.

Current literature related to IOBG.

Tom Sullivan: Northern yacht clubs are 6 months vs southern @ 12 months. Difference between power boaters and sail boaters. Formal vs Casual.

Marc Connelly: Current literature is fine. Our literature should be used by Area V/P's in conjunction with a direct mail letter. Tom's comments are on the mark.

Market Analysis:

Understanding our market In this case, we define market as a group of people who assimilate in similar ways to an organization. Market segmentation is dividing the whole into parts. Again in this case it would be geographical.

Tom Sullivan: Adapt to older, laid back, casual individual.

Marc Connelly Our market is only segmented by power vs sail. This segmentation should have little effect. Our total market is the boating community.

Target Criteria

We must decide on a selection criteria. Do we want to start with small Chapters, large Chapters or Chapters in a geographical area.

Tom Sullivan: Any Chapter, the bigger the better.

Market Strategies:

We must do more than just promotion and communication. What does IOBG say, but more importantly what does IOBG do. Again look at the Mission Statement: "through social, educational, and humanitarian programs."

Tom Sullivan: Prompt, strong follow up

Dick Janiszewski: Recognize, accept and utilize the vast potential of the Auxiliary and Humanitarian Foundation.

Debbie Banks-Skellenger: Invite all P/C's to District meetings.

Carol Promessi: Ask for and understand District needs. Round table discussions for District officers and members.

Marc Connelly: Dick's comments could not be better. Especially IOBGHF!! The HF program is extremely weak. The HF program could be a huge tool for the Area V/P's to work with.

Programs and Services:

To retain and recruit new members we may need to redesign or develop new programs.

I think our members are telling us they need substance to their IOBG relationship. They are looking closely at what we are doing and determining their alignment with IOBG based on their values and needs.

Tom Sullivan: Light, casual and seasoned with ideas.

George Knies: Link District or Chapter web site to the international.

Dick Janiszewski Encourage suggestions for a new member services.

Debbie Banks-Skellenger: Membership benefits with card, ie: West Marine Discounts, Hertz discounts etc.

Marc Connelly: First program to deal with is the HF. As mentioned above, this could be a real tool, let alone a rallying point in many Districts.

The Auxiliary should also look at expanding their recruiting efforts. Districts with Auxiliaries seems to be more functional.

Promotion and Outreach:

Promotion refers to all communications, public relations and outreach. Promotional efforts must connect, engage and develop relationships.

The most effective outreach is individualized and personal. IOBG must recognize that this type of outreach is expensive, time consuming and poses interesting geographical challenges.

Tom Sullivan: Because people do not want to do very much, spoon feeding the Chapter or individual.

George Knies: Inter-chapter involvement depending on geography.

Implementation:

Once we have answered and defined the above listed steps, implementation can occur.

Leadership to a clear and consistent effort and direction is a must. Many questions on implementation will have to be answered because we must remember this is a volunteer organization.

Marc Connelly: If we are going to finalize and implement a plan, it should be at the August meeting and implemented with the officers for 2007-2008.



From the Second Vice President

by Ray Thompson

As liaison to the I.O.B.G.A., I attended an inaugural meeting at the Palm Coast Yacht Club on May 12th. Christine Snedaker presented an I.O.B.G.A. Charter and an election of Officers was held.

On May 13, 2007 Ms. Snedaker held a similar meeting at the Halifax Yacht Club. Her meeting almost coincided with the dedication ceremony of the new Halifax facility. This new \$5.6 million building replaces what was reported to be the oldest continuous housing for a yacht club in America.

I attended District 8's Spring meeting April 27-28th held at the Key Biscayne Yacht Club. This excellent club enjoys a great location and an enviable waiting list. District 8 reports it's continuing efforts to expand and refine the Ambassador program.



From the Office of the Treasurer

by Marshall Nemoy



This is a summary of the Treasurer's Report dated May 31, 2007 and presented at the regional meeting in Portland, Oregon on June 7, 2007.

Financial Statements:

The financial statements were as of April 30, 2007 and the four months then ended. Our total assets are \$121,778 which is \$8,718 less than the same date last year. All of the assets except for \$883 of receivables and prepaid expenses are in cash accounts. The net income for the four months ended April 30, 2007 is \$40,305 which is \$1,532 better than budget but \$4,565 lower than last year. The variance is primarily due to the fact that the March, 2006 issue of *The Blue Gavel Log* was not published.

Our dues collections are \$90 greater than the same period last year but \$3,366 below our budget for 2007. The expenses are \$4,191 less than budget and \$4,976 higher than last year. The expense variance is in the areas of printing, postage and travel.

Membership Statistics:

As of June 1, 2007 we had 2,464 paid members as compared to 2,482 on the same date last year, a difference of 18. Members are reminded that the number of paid members as of August 1 determines the number of votes each district will have at the Annual Meeting in October. Dues will be considered timely paid if the transmittal is postmarked by July 31, 2007.

International Operations Center:

Administrative items to note are:

Auxiliary dues must be sent to the Auxiliary Treasurer, Audrey Hall. Do not combine IOBGA and IOBG dues on the same transmittal and check. This will delay both types of dues payments as we send back the entire transmittal for correction.

Members are reminded that a returned issue of *The Blue Gavel Log* for a undeliverable address or temporarily away will cause the member's record to be flagged and nothing will be sent to that address.

We have had some problems with bulk mail being returned as undeliverable when, in fact, the address is correct. This is a Post Office problem and we in IOBG can not resolve it.

We thank all the District Treasurers for their good work in providing all the information necessary to process dues payments

If you would like a complete copy of the treasurer's report, contact the International Operations Center at 888-378-2211 or email to bgtreas@iobg.org.

Additional Benefits of the Blue Gavel Web Site at www.iobg.org

Notification when the Blue Gavel LOG is published...

The Executive Committee, faced with rising paper and postage costs, has adopted a plan where members may request to be notified when *The Blue Gavel LOG* is published on our web site, www.iobg.org. Each issue is placed on the web site when it is sent to the printers for printing and mailing. The time difference between posting on the web site and mail delivery can take up to four weeks.

The issue on the web site is in full color as opposed to the printed version that is in color only on the front and back pages. To download an issue from the web site you must use a broadband connection such as DSL or Cable. The file size can range from 4 to 14 megabytes (which means a dial-up connection is out of the question). Once downloaded you may view and/or print any page or the entire issue. The file format is Adobe Acrobat which is on most computers. If not, the reader is a free program from Adobe.com.

Here is how the plan will work:

- *A member sends an email requesting to be added to the Email Notification List to the International Operations Center at bgtreas@iobg.org.
- *The members email address is placed on the list
- *When *The Blue Gavel LOG* is posted on the web site, everyone on the Notification List will be sent a email which will contain a link to the issue. When the member clicks on the link they will be taken to the file for that issue and downloading can begin.

Important: This is a cost saving procedure. Therefore, if your name is placed on the Email Notification List, you will NOT receive the printed version.

Another benefit of this procedure is that surviving spouses who wish to continue receiving *The LOG* must now pay a subscription fee. If they sign up for the email notification, it will be free.

Communication...

This is really exciting; your District can now have the most current information available to all IOBG members with just a click!

IOBG has the availability of linking the District web site to the officer page on the IOBG web site.

Please E-mail your District web site address to the International Operations Center (IOC) and Marshall will look at your web site and find the pages most useful to a member searching for officer or activity information.

District #8 is one of many Districts that the IOC has been setting up, which is linked to the officer page. For a great example take a look and go to iobg.org, go into the Southeastern Region and click on District #8. Under the heading you will see web site and upcoming event, just click and see the activities and other important information that is available. This is what we can do for your District.

This is another service that IOBG offers to its Districts and members.

Your Executive Committee and Officers have been hard at work trying to implement your suggestions. If you should have any other suggestions please let us know we are trying to accommodate our members.

Carol Promessi, President

Spring Regional Conference

June 7-10, 2007

The Royal Rosarian Rose Festival's 100th Anniversary



Legal Officer Report
by George C. Knies



June 2007

Portland, Oregon

There exists an ever-present issue Past Commodores that were not invited by a majority vote of their IOBG chapter, attempting to end run the policy by joining another club and applying for membership at-large, etc. The bylaws are clear in this regard and no exceptions should be considered. IOBG Bylaws Article III, Membership, Section 1. Individual membership in the International Order of Blue Gavel shall be by invitation and limited to Past Commodores of qualified Yacht Clubs of the World, as defined in Article III, Section 2, who have served their clubs credibly, Past Commodores shall be eligible for membership in IOBG if: (a) Selected, recommended, approved, and invited by the IOBG Chapter of the Yacht Club of which they are a Past Commodore.

The only option failing the aforementioned process is to pass through the chairs of your new club affiliation that would make you eligible in the future to be invited for membership in the IOBG by their chapter.

On March 12, 2007 I sent a "Cease and Desist Order" to the Bullion Shoppe in Southern California for copyright infringement of our name and burgee. PC Earl Hohlmayer owner of Commodore Insignia informed me that the owner of the Bullion Shoppe had contacted him that weekend and that Commodore Insignia had subsequently purchased all Bullion Shoppe's assets.



Grand Hotel Mackinac Island, Michigan

Compilation by George C. Knies SWVP

Grand Hotel opened in 1887, billed as summer retreat for vacationers who arrived on Mackinac Island by lake steamer from Chicago, Erie, Montreal and Detroit, and by rail from across the continent. The property's 600-foot front porch soon became the principal meeting place for all of Mackinac Island as well as a promenade for the elderly and a "Flirtation Walk" for island romantics.

Increasing popularity required the addition of the West Wing in 1897, but the island's popularity reached a kind of fever pitch as turn-of-the century automobiles found their way onto the island. A law banning cars was soon passed, but wasn't enforced until the 1930's. In 1933 W. Stewart Woodfill, who had been hired as a desk clerk in 1919, purchased the hotel and became sole owner. Two years later, a radio station was added, where patrons could listen to Jack Benny and other popular programs.

In 1976 R.D. Musser, who joined the hotel staff in 1951, and his wife Amelia, began redesigning the hotels interior and exterior with the help of architect Richard Bos and decorator Carleton Varney. In 1979 the Mussers purchased Grand Hotel. In 1998, six new named rooms opened in the West Wing in honor of first ladies Jacqueline Kennedy, Lady Bird Johnson, Betty Ford, Rosalynn Carter, Nancy Reagan and Barbara Bush. Two new two bedroom suites, the Grand and the Carleton Varney, were also added.

Two years later, the expansion started up again, as construction began on the Millennium Wing, which included a 300 seat addition to the Main Dining Room and 42 new guest rooms. The Millennium Wing opened in 2001 on the east end of the hotel, featuring The Grand Pavilion, a 3,600 square foot private meeting room and dining room. In 2003, the Masco Cottage, a four-bedroom retreat, was added to the east end of the hotel, bringing the total number of guest rooms to 385.

Old world elegance of Grand Hotel envelops you the moment you step onto Mackinac Island and board a horse-drawn carriage taxi or stroll the short distance to the hotel. Either way your passage will be peaceful; cars aren't allowed on Mackinac Island-one of the many traditions that still reign from the opening days of Grand Hotel back in 1887. This Victorian-style hotel possesses the world's longest veranda--a 600-foot porch that stretches the full length of the property, one of Michigan's oldest golf courses and a wide variety of leisure attractions.

The property has been a venerable icon of summer resorts since it opened, but the Grand achieved cinematic fame when the 1980 film "Somewhere in Time" Starring Christopher Reeve and Jane Seymour, was shot on location. But don't let its turn of the century façade cast the impression that the property itself is antiquated. The slower, more leisurely pace of the past merges with all the amenities of the present to make your stay memorable. Explore beyond the hotel grounds and discover the island's numerous other diversions, including Fort Mackinac and a historic village with quaint shops featuring Mackinac's world famous fudge.



Summer Regional Meeting

August 16-18, 2007

*Hosted by District #23
Mackinac Island Yacht Club*

Thursday, August 16th

Check-In at Hotel 3:00 PM
Relax & Enjoy Mackinac Island

Friday, August 17th

Continental Breakfast at Hotel

Mackinac Island Yacht Club

Round Table Discussions:
IOBG District Directors & Area Vice Presidents 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
IOBGA Workshop 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Lunch on your own. Relax and enjoy the afternoon.

Mackinac Island Yacht Club

Cocktails 6:00 PM
Dinner 7:00 PM
*Cost includes Saturday's lunch

Saturday, August 18th

Continental Breakfast at Hotel

Mackinac Island Yacht Club

Summer Regional Meeting 9:00 AM -12:00 PM
IOBG/IOBGA

Lunch 12:30 PM
*Included in cost of Friday's dinner)

Cocktails 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Dinner – **Island House Hotel** 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM
(Dress- Nautical dress)

Sunset Evening Cruise 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Sunday, August 19th

Mackinac Island Yacht Club

Farewell Sunday Brunch 11:00 AM

UNIFORM: Summer Uniform



Summer Regional Meeting Mackinac Island Reservation Form

	<u>No. of Persons</u>	<u>Event Cost</u>		<u>Total</u>
<u>Friday, August 17th</u>				
Mackinac Island YC - Dinner at 7:00 PM				
Filet Mignon _____				
Vegetarian _____	_____	@ \$35.00		\$ _____
<u>Saturday, August 18th</u>				
Mackinac Island YC - Lunch at 12:30 PM				
Barbeque _____				
Vegetarian _____		Price is included in the above price		
Island House Hotel - Dinner at 6:00 PM				
Prime Rib _____				
Chicken _____				
Whitefish _____				
Vegetarian _____	_____	@ \$37.50		\$ _____
Sunset Evening Cruise 7:30 - 9:00 PM	_____	@ \$20.00		\$ _____
<u>Sunday, August 19th</u>				
Mackinac Island YC - 11:00 AM				
Farewell Sunday Brunch	_____	@ \$15.00		\$ _____
Arnold Ferry tickets				
(round trip from Mackinaw City)	_____	@ \$12.00		\$ _____
TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED:				\$ _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "F.D. Ramsey" AND SEND THE RESERVATION FORM TO:

P/C De Ramsey, Dist #23 Director
7300 Tuscarora Cir.
Indian River, MI 49749

231-238-9965

francisramsey@att.net

District Number _____ Office Held _____

NAME _____ SPOUSE/GUEST _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ PHONE () _____

SPOUSE/GUEST IS A MEMBER OF IOBG _____ IOBGA _____

Your Reservation must be received No Later Than August 1, 2007



Arriving in Mackinac

Arnold Transit Co. is world-renowned as one of the best passenger ferries to Mackinac Island.

You will check in at the Arnold Transit Dock in Mackinaw City. It is well marked and is just a half-mile south of downtown of Mackinaw City. Right downtown is the Shepler Ferry Dock and then south about a half-mile or so is the Starline dock then the Arnold Transit dock. The docks all front on the highway on the north side of Mackinaw City.

The main office at Arnold Transit Co. will have a list of those who have made reservations and will check off as you arrive so that you will be able to get the roundtrip discounted price of \$12.00, that is available only to our members. Please make sure you take your IOBG membership card for identification when checking in. This price will not be honored at any other ferry line. They accept, Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express. Those of you who have already sent your payment in with your reservation form will be marked paid on the master list at the Arnold Transit Co.

Also, for those of you who are land cruising, if you choose to park your own vehicle, free overnight parking has been arranged for the entire stay. There is also valet service available, but you have to make certain you identify yourselves as IOBG or you will have a daily charge of \$5.00. Anyone arriving by motorhome will have special parking in Mackinaw City and will have an Arnold bus pick up and take you to the dock. Please contact De Ramsey for details if you are arriving by motorhome.

The cruising schedule commences from Mackinaw City to Mackinac Island, 7:30 AM every hour till 8:30 in the evening, Fridays and Saturdays till 9:30 PM.

The schedule leaving Mackinac Island to Mackinaw City commences at 8:00 AM every hour till 9:00 PM in the evening, Fridays and Saturdays till 10:00 PM.

COMMODORE INSIGNIA

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

IOBG SHOULDER BOARDS

Shoulder Boards shall be on a Navy Blue field with crossed anchors with the IOBG burgee superimposed on them at the head of the board followed by the insignia of rank. The crossed anchors shall be in the color of the stars or stripes

INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS:

President	Six Gold Stars
President Elect	Five Gold Stars UP
First Vice President	Five Gold Stars DOWN
Second Vice President	Five Gold Stars DOWN
Executive Secretary	Five Gold Stars DOWN
Treasurer	Five Gold Stars DOWN
Area Vice Presidents	Five Gold Stars DOWN
District Director	Three Gold Stars in a Triangle
Past District Director	Three Silver Stars in a Triangle
APPOINTED OFFICERS	Four gold Stars in a Square

DISTRICT OFFICERS

District President	Three Gold Wavy Navy Stripes
District Vice President	Two Gold Wavy Navy Stripes
Secretary & Treasurer	One Gold Navy Stripe
Past District Officers	Entitled to Wear Silver at designated level

GENERAL MEMBERS

Four Silver Stripes with Insignia

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 in good standing 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



United States Power Squadrons® Joins Forces With The Nation's Yacht Club Leaders
 By: J. Robert Baechle

At its 2007 Annual Meeting in Jacksonville, Florida, the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) took an historic step to strengthen its mission to improve recreational boating safety through education by signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Order of the Blue Gavel, an organization of approximately 2,300 past commodores from the world's yacht clubs. This agreement announces that these yacht club leaders will play an important role in influencing yacht clubs and the boating public to appreciate the importance, value, and accessibility of the Power Squadrons' boating safety programs

The International Order of the Blue Gavel originated in 1953. Its membership consists of 2,300 past commodores who are members of yacht club chapters organized into 29 districts in the United States, Canada, and more than ten other countries. An important part of its mission involves youth marine and sail training and safety-at-sea presentations. As senior officials, Blue Gavel members are uniquely placed and qualified to play a significant role in promoting the availability and benefits of the USPS boating safety education courses.

In its 2005 "Boating Statistics" report, the U.S. Coast Guard identified 4,969 reported accidents that resulted in 697 deaths and almost \$39 million in property damage. According to this document, where there were fatalities, more than 70 percent of the operators had no boat operator instruction. The agreement between these organizations takes direct aim at reducing these numbers. It outlines the individual and combined responsibilities that each will fulfill.

The United States Power Squadrons is the nation's oldest and largest organization devoted to boating safety education. Interestingly enough, its roots were in a group named "The Power Squadron of the Boston Yacht Club" in 1913, and it was founded as a national organization at a meeting of the New York Yacht Club in 1914. Until 1920, Power Squadron members had to first belong to a yacht club. Now, many decades later, an agreement has been made for the two groups to work together again.

Today the Power Squadrons have about 45,000 members in 450 squadrons residing in 33 districts. They bring considerable boating knowledge and teaching experience to educating the boating public in safe boating practices. Earlier this year it added a continuing education program, consisting of a series of courses and seminars to its traditional educational course activities. This program, called "USPS University," includes a Boat Operator Certification program consisting of four levels of demonstrated proficiency of on-the-water boating skills.



BJ Ursin, District #1, is the IOBG liaison appointed to be the contact between the USPS and IOBG. This was the signing of the "Memorandum of Understanding" between IOBG and the USPS.



Submitted by Earl Waesche, Legislative Director

Ev and I attended the just completed DHS Small Vessel Security Summit. I think all agreed it was an excellent summit, well run by the DHS Institute and the Coast Guard, with good planned audience participation. There were 350 attendees from all walks of industry, government and private organizations. Key addresses were given by USCG Commandant Thad Allen, the Secretary of DHS, Michael Chertoff and RADM Brian Salerno, USCG and others.

On the first day there were three panel presentations with a moderator followed by questions from the audience. The panels were Recreational Vessel interests, Commercial Vessel Interests and State and Local Government Interests. Each panel member in turn made a presentation on their group's perspectives. I served on the Recreational panel. My presentation is printed in this issue of the LOG. This was followed by splitting up into work groups where threat scenarios were presented on Waterborne Improvised Explosion Devices, WMD threats in various areas of the country and other scenarios. Participants then suggested possible threat resolution/deterrents and presented their workgroup results back to the general audience.

Many ways were discussed on how a small vessel could be used in a terrorist attack such as in the attack on the USS Cole. Many ideas were presented including enhancing America's Waterway Watch, some automated means of identifying a vessel (using AIS not generally accepted), operator/passenger ID, better surveillance, more enforcement, stakeholder partnering, better fusion and distribution of data obtained, better risk assessments, use of restricted access zones, radiation detection and lack of funding at Federal and state levels. This is not a complete list but were key areas of concern.

SMALL VESSEL SECURITY SUMMIT REPORT

When the National Boating Federation learned of the Small Vessel Security Summit and the perceived threat by small vessels to maritime security, we were pleased by the invitation and the opportunity to offer our thoughts and suggestions on this important subject. Admittedly, most of our two million members were not aware of the threat or risk of terrorist use of a small vessel in an attack. Assuming the threat is real, we feel a risk assessment would be very useful in order to assess the most probable risk, the level of deterrence needed and the amount of resources required to implement a solution. This could also provide a description of the physical characteristics and type of individuals for the boating public to be on watch for and the most probable locations for an attack. In any case, the boating community needs to cooperate with the Department of Homeland Security and the Coast Guard to assist in achieving adequate deterrents to prevent the threat by small vessels to maritime security, or at least mitigate the risk.

The first and most obvious need is the ability to identify the vessel and those aboard. Some suggestions have come directly from our members. One was to implement an Automated Identification System transponder for recreational vessels. This is apparently not favored by the Vessel Traffic Service, as it would overwhelm the receivers with so many additional signals. The solution to this may be a modified, less robust, AIS system to delineate small and recreational vessels on a different frequency. This would have the additional benefit of reducing the cost to far less than the existing commercial units. However designed, a means must be found to provide a low cost transponder or this would be a strong disincentive to the boating community. Further suggestions for vessel and passenger identification were to require vessels to display documentation numbers on their bow just like state vessels do now. The Coast Guard could integrate the state registered vessel data and documented vessel data into a national data base, which would provide instant identification of the vessel and its ownership without the necessity of boarding. Direct linkage to the file from on board the Coast Guard vessel would be required, plus on-going data base maintenance. If boarding was deemed necessary to verify the operator, a boating education certificate is suggested for identification, consistent with state regulations, or a state driver's license. This would have the dual benefit of operator identification and required mandatory education. (Currently all but 13 states now require mandatory boating education.) Passenger identity could be via state driver's license.

A model for the Coast Guard small vessel deterrent system, suggested by a member of the Maryland State Police Aviation Command, could be the National Capital Regional Control Center. The Center is a 24/7 operation which the Coast Guard participates in.

If an incident occurs, say a small plane entering the no-fly zone over the Capitol, it can be tracked, identified and if necessary neutralized under the Center's control. This technology could be adapted for small vessel tracking, identification and interdiction. It should be easier to track a small vessel doing 18 knots than a small aircraft doing 150 MPH.



The systems and approaches described above do not address the problem of foreign registered small vessels at our maritime borders. We have been told a foreign pleasure craft need not report itself in U.S. waters. We believe the foreign pleasure craft poses a greater risk than U.S. vessels since it is foreign, difficult to identify and has no AIS system.

Another way in which a small vessel could be used by a terrorist is simply by theft of the vessel. To this end, a suggestion has been made to implement a system of updating reports on small stolen vessels in real time, available to all waterborne Homeland Security commands. These could also be included in the national data base.

Other ways to protect our waterways is to enhance existing programs that have good potential but have lost momentum. Foremost among these is America's Waterway Watch program. As the brochure says: we, the millions of U.S. boaters, are the "eyes and ears" for our maritime security. This initiative should be reemphasized through aggressive media ad campaigns, public education and outreach. We also have the established security zones around ships and port facilities. Recent reports show that U.S. Navy efforts to construct physical barriers around ships and port facilities have failed and millions of dollars wasted. Clearly, this problem needs to be rectified. Nonetheless, the security zones for critical ports and vessels at sea should again be brought before the public in the methods mentioned earlier.

In summary, a number of ideas have been discussed here to minimize the small vessel security threat. Some are good existing programs and others are new procedures and technologies. Regardless of what systems are implemented, their utility without adequate enforcement and surveillance is questionable. We have noticed decreased Coast Guard presence on our waterways, at least in the mid and southern areas of the Chesapeake Bay. While we believe increased enforcement is necessary, we do not think boat operator licensing, which is expensive and ineffective, is a solution. Again, we suggest a formal risk assessment be conducted to quantify the scope of the threat, the most probable perpetrators, and the geographic areas of greatest risk.

Water Access 2007 A National Symposium: Working Waterways and Waterfronts

The symposium was held in Norfolk VA, on May 9-11, 2007. There were 170 attendees and sponsors from government, industry, and the academic community. The purpose of the course was to discuss the problem of diminishing waterway access and possible solutions. Common problems were rising land costs, sky rocketing taxes, increased insurance, conversion of facilities to condominiums and local regulations limiting public access. The meetings were broken up into various interest panels with presentations by people experienced in local access issues.

Case studies were given to show attendees what has been done in various parts of the country and how these solutions can be brought home. The leadoff Plenary panelists include Ryck Lydecker, Boat U.S. moderator; Thom Dammrich, President, NMMA; Rod Moore, Exec Director, West Coast Seafood Processors Association; Katherine Andrews, Exec Director, Coastal States Organization and David Kennedy, Director, NOAA Office of Coastal Resource Mgmt. Additional panels included: Successful Local Initiatives, Legislative/Legal Panel, Technical Studies and Tools to Address Access, State Initiatives and Local Case Studies.

Thom Dammrich made the following points: We have National Parks but not waterfront, the significant contribution to our economy from the 72 million boaters in the U.S. Seven areas to concentrate on: 1) Build an access communications network. 2) Get boat access integrated into local planning 3) Work with all levels of Government. Government is the largest owner. 4) Promote measurement of boating access and economic impact. 5) Improve policy of regulatory permitting for boat access. 6) Plans are needed by state for boating infrastructure. 7) Dredging - "Can't get there." (Presumably he meant the lack of funding for civil works dredging.)

I admit going to the conference expecting the worst but was surprised to learn of how much has already been accomplished in many state and local initiatives. This is but a synopsis of the Panels and some of the speaker comments. An excellent publication "Access to the Waterfront: Issues and Solutions Across the Nation" was prepared by the Maine Sea Grant Staff. Also the Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences (VIMS) is preparing final conclusions and recommendations from the Symposium of CD for distribution this summer.



“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 Viking Yacht Company to observe the manufacturing and building techniques of one of the world’s premiere sport fishing yacht manufacturers. This visitation is, however, limited in number, so sign up early. For those not wishing to visit Viking 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) snacks, dinner, open bar	6:00-10:00	_____	@ \$15	\$ _____

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			
Viking 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!!!!

Mike Billington, District 19

Gregg Hansen, District 15

Mary R. Nye, Editor

Michael L. Meyers

For sharing your photos with us.



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
RECREATIVE 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

In Memoriam



Sue Brauner

1939-2007

It is my sad duty to report that we have lost a valued and true friend and colleague in the passing of Sue Brauner. She was truly an asset to our organization and contributed much.

She was born on July 15, 1939 in San Francisco. She graduated from Balboa High School in 1957. From 1995-96 she was a member of the PICYA centennial Committee. In 1996 she was a member of the Special Awards Committee. Her years of service in PICYA spanned 5 years in different capacities.

She became Commodore of Driftwood Yacht Club in 1994 and became a member of IOBG District 19 in 1995. She served in many capacities for her club including secretary of the Make a Wish foundation charity drive for Driftwood YC. She instituted the Gavel Tidings Newsletter for District 19 and became its Editor.

In 2000 she received the IOBG President's Award and was knighted in 2004 by the Royal Rosarians at the Portland Rose Festival. She served as the IOBG International Recording Secretary for ten years, 1996-2006. She retired last year as a legal secretary.

If you ever needed an answer to a question Sue was the one to ask. She knew just about anything you needed to know about Blue Gavel. She had a generous heart and was fun to be around. She will be definitely missed, and things will not be the same without her.

Phil Promessi, Director District #19





District News

Northwestern

Districts 1-2-4-5-24

Mike Parish

Northwestern Vice President

District #5 held a Blue Gavel dinner and it went well. They are now planning a clean up party on one of the Islands that several yacht clubs cruise to and are putting on a dinner cruise during the Rose Festival week.

District #24 is planning for their annual Okanogan invasion in September. If you are going to be in the area and would like to attend, please contact Janice Cornett-Ching @ 1-250-492-4380. Janice has put the invasion on for the past several years and has done a fantastic job. Having fun is saying it all.

Districts 1, 2, 4, 5 & 24... please look up iobg.org, click on chapter address by District and look for your yacht club. If it is not listed please e-mail me the information and I will do the paperwork to get your club listed. Information needed is District number, club name, physical address, (where the club is located, no P.O. box), phone number. Please include fax number and email address if appropriate.

My email address is mparishiobg@verizon.net

District 1

Ken Rollins, District Director

Our District Meetings have been well attended over the past year, but the Summer Picnic is showing a decline in attendance. This is something we need to work on.

I can't say enough about District 1 newsletter. Kudos again goes to Mary Nye for the fantastic job on District 1's newsletter. Her hard work has made our newsletter one of the best.

Fund Raisers & Team Work Among Chapters:

The RBAW, Clover Island and Spokane Yacht Club's combined forces with other IOBG District 1 members to make IOBG District 1's first fundraiser a huge success. Over \$9,000.00 was raised in support the Make A Wish and Wishing Star Foundations.

The District 1's Auxiliary and Corinthian Yacht Club of Tacoma have again stepped up to the plate by sponsoring the fourth annual "The Race for the Stars Regatta". The sailboat regatta was well attended and all proceeds were divided up between Wake A Wish, Wishing Star and IOBG Humanitarian Foundations.

On May 18-20 Rita and I attended Visitors Weekend at Clover Island yacht Club. As always we had a very good time. It's hard to beat a party at Clover Island. Six yacht clubs were in attendance; Richland, Walla walla, Spokane, Sea Bacs Benicia and Clover Island.

The highlight of the weekend was a game of skill, tossing a large metal washer into one of three holes. After a number of rounds, the champs were Betty Hinckley (Clover Island YC), and Randy (cobby) Cowell (Spokane YC).

District 1 (Continued)
Ken Rollins, District Director

We, and a number of members of all the yacht clubs, took part in the annual boat and boathouse christenings. A large group, with champagne in hand, followed Commodore Larry Salsberry to a number of boat houses. At each boathouse the Commodore read the certificate with the name of the boat or boathouse that was being christened, and of course there was a short toast of champagne to each christening.

Rita and I were asked to attend a joint cruise, between Clover Island and Spokane Yacht Clubs, to Lyons Ferry over Memorial Day. After attending visitors weekend at CIYC, we moved our motorhome to Jim and Betty Hinckley's for the week to prepare for going to Lyons Ferry.

Attending the Lyons Ferry Memorial weekend, there were a total of three motorhomes, four Spokane and seven Clover Island boats. The weather was breezy, but sunny. We had some rain but it was early in the morning or late at night.

Saturday afternoon was the second tournament in as many weeks. The tournament, enjoyed by young and old, and having a fantastic time, was won by Betty Hinckley CIYC and Roger Bishop SYC.

Saturday night Lyons Ferry Marina and RV prepared a fantastic BBQ dinner, with all of the fixings. The dinner was the best and followed by a street dance. The DJ had all the right tunes and everyone had a very good time.

Living in Washington all our lives, this was the first time Rita and I spent time at Lyons Ferry. Just a little history of the area, the train trestle that crosses the Snake River was constructed in the 1800's. It was the longest and highest trestle of it's time. When the Lower Monumental Dam went in, and it raised the Snake River, the trestle lost the height status, but, to this day still holds the length record. Another bit of Washington trivia is that the bridge that replaced the ferry is the old Vantage Bridge. When the Wanapum Dam went in, just south of Vantage on the Columbia River, the state of Washinton constructed a new bridge and reconstructed the old bridge at Lyons Ferry.

We would like to thank CIYC and SYC for a fantastic time over those two weekends. Rita and I were privy to see two Yacht Clubs, with a strong IOBG / IOBGA affiliation, have the best of times and they both truly enjoy boating.

District 4
Ron Defieux, President

Blue Gavel / Canada had planned a fun filled weekend April 21,22, and 22 for our American friends appropriately named " Shipmates Across The Border" it included a welcome reception at False Creek Yacht Club on Friday. A scenic tour on the Fraser River by authentic sternwheeler and lunch at historic Steveston on Saturday, with dinner at an award winning Bistro. A special brunch had been set up with dinner at Royal Vancouver Yacht Club.for Sunday.

Although we mailed out some 300 invitations, we only received confirmation from three couples, so the whole weekend had to be scrapped, which was extremely unfortunate as a lot of effort and expense had been put into the project.

On a more positive note our decision to financially support ' A Gift Of Sailing' has been a tremendous success. The program initiated by Eagle Harbour Yacht Club's sailing director, provides full financial support for children, who do not have the financial ability to pay for the courses. In 2006 the club awarded 5 scholarships and in 2007 they have funding in place for 11, 8 new applicants and three from last year who are advancing to a higher level.

We are proud to again be a sponsor of this project for 2007 and we are hopeful that other Member Clubs that have Sailing Programs can incorporate similar venues.



District News

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

George Knies
Southwestern Vice President

Ann and I appreciate the welcome and hospitality of the Del Rey YC and those IOBG SoCal members who attended this Round Table discussion on 24 March; A special thanks to Wilma Rosenberg for making the meeting arrangements and Bill Thayer past SWVP for assisting me in my transition process.

COMMUNICATION, COMMUNICATION, COMMUNICATION is the catch phrase of the day. As one of the prime subjects addressed at the February 2007 meeting in Charleston it arose as an example at this R/T meeting. The word is not being passed along the IOBG and IOBGA pipeline up or down, In this regard the following issues and hopefully solutions were discussed:

***Use of e-mail, USPS (Post Cards), Newsletters and especially websites (Our IOBG website will place a link to your site) to disseminate information. Unfortunately e-mail has evolved to the point many of us have incorporated spam-blockers, firewalls and other security and convenience devices that block many communications. It is also apparent that even the use of the telephone is limited due to such devices incorporated on the receiving end. The solutions being, "word-of-mouth" and the combination of several or all of the aforementioned systems. Our postal rates will increase shortly, post cards are cheaper and they are often times read and filed preferably over flyer or enveloped pieces of mail.

***Dues Notices: First notice in Oct. of the preceding year via e-mail and post card, second notice in Nov. All notices should emphasize that **"if you want your new membership card by the first of the new year pay your dues now."**

***We discussed the need for appointing chapter delegates to improve flow of district information.

***Better coordination of district and area event planning, to preclude conflicts between racing, cruising and social events.

April 14th District 14 provided the Race Committee and Race Committee Boat for the first Interclub Race on San Francisco Bay for 2007. The morning started out with heavy rain showers and high winds, fortunately we were aboard Jim and Sandy Aberer's Grand Banks "El Nido". The race participants experienced less comfort, but they are Bay Area Rag Sailors and don't know any better. The race started on time with five classes competing. Our Race Committee consisted of PC Jim Aberer, Marin YC and TIYC, PC Sandy Aberer, TIYC, PC George Knies, TIYC, PC Lynette Breed, Sequoia YC and her husband Russ Breed IOBGA, Rear Commodore TIYC. We displayed my IOBG Burgee along with USSA Race Committee



Flag on the stern. All crews sighted our IOBG burgee as it was on the starting line, good marketing exposure.... especially since the race was conducted in a professional and expeditious manner.... No Protests!

Southwestern VP Report Continued...

George Knies, SWVP

Ward Cleaveland Trophy, IOBG District 14's Deed of Gift is presented to the yacht club sponsoring the vessel winning first place in the Youth Decorated Boat Competition. The boat name is Dream Catcher. The girls on the boat are Debbie Dyslin, Michelle Dyslin, Sara Dyslin, and Sidney Williams. A "keeper" trophy is given to the vessel's owner. The Parade was held in Redwood City Harbor on March 31, and the Trophy was presented at the Sequoia Yacht Club's "Floato de Mayo" Celebration on Saturday, May 5th.

In the best interests of improving inter-organization communication and cooperation I have been conducting monthly NorCal luncheon meetings with district directors, presidents and appointed representatives to the CGAUX and the PICYA. Our May meeting formulated our plan to hold the Winter Regional Meeting In Oakland California.

District 11

Wilma Rosenberg, District Director

Our Southern California District consists of Yacht Clubs in Westlake Village, Santa Monica Bay, and King Harbor.

During March and April, we have been initiating most of the Jr. Staff Commodores into the Blue Gavel, at their yacht club's Opening Days.

Our program schedule kicked off the year at Port Royal Yacht Club in King Harbor. It was a wine tasting event. The profits will go towards our philanthropic projects. Everyone who attended had a great time, good food, good wine, and lots of friendship. If you're in this area, stop in and visit this friendly club.

We are looking forward to our upcoming "Windy Cue". These events are BBQ's and we provide all the trimmings. Everyone has a great time. We try to have an interesting speaker at each Windy Cue.

In July, our District is having a cruise to Long Beach for a weekend. If you are interested, contact VP Gary Green. It should be a great time. There will be docking facilities for all attending. Check your e-mails, as Gary will be sending out the info shortly.

The Westlake Yacht Club Blue Gavel Chapter recently had a Blue Gavel Casino Night. All the Blue Gavel members came in summer uniform. Everyone was given \$500 to play for the evening. There was delicious food from nearby restaurants or caterers. There were lots of nice prizes for the "Big Winners". They made over \$2,300 which will be used for College Scholarship fund. It was lots of fun. Thanks to Mike Singer, President of the Chapter.

The attendance at these events results in new friendships; learn about what's happening in the District 11, and having an enjoyable time.

Please check your e-mails for future events. We are trying to use this communication rather than spend on postage.

Contact any of our officers for any info: Jon Robbins, President, Gary Green, Vice President, Sue Artof, Vice President, Dave Phelps, Secretary, Rosalie Green, Treasurer, and Lynne Hammet, Membership.

District 15

Gary Hall, District Director

District 15 represents the 14 Chapters in the San Diego area. I have returned for my third, non-consecutive term as Director.

The members have been busy with the same schedule of activities that has kept them involved.

In January we put on a seminar for new Officers and Board members. This March we had a brunch for our new IOBG members. This April and May most have been busy with Opening Days.

On June 23 we will have our traditional Membership Appreciation beach barbeque at Mission Bay Yacht Club.

District 15 is trying a new fundraiser on July 21. This will be a wine and cheese tasting party held at Point Loma Yacht Club. We hope this will make a significant contribution to the Humanitarian Foundation.

District 16

Marsha Landreth, District Director

District #16 held a Hobo Cookout behind Ventura Yacht Club, July 12th. President Jack Borkowski barbecued scrumptious road-kill cow parts and chicken, field corn, but the mud pie was cold.

For being the most appropriately dressed, Director Marsha Landreth won the best screw-cap wine a dollar could buy. She magnanimously passed the bottle around the campfire for everyone to share. The Harbor Patrol broke up the gathering before the coals were cold.



District 19

Phil Promessi, District Director

District 19 comprises the entire Northern California Delta region and contains 27 yacht clubs that have chapters in IOBG. The District has been active, but participation has dropped off from previous years. We have gained membership over last year. We now have a total of 177 members.

District 19 held their annual cruise out to Delta Marina in May. The participation was low. There were 6 boats and approximately 20 members. A Board meeting was held and the subject of the dues increase was brought up. After discussion we agreed to wait until we can obtain more information before deciding whether to support it or not.

Our next function will be the member appreciation BBQ at the Stockton YC. We should have better participation at this event because it seems everyone likes to attend a free function. A membership meeting is scheduled for this event, which will be held on July 28-29.

District 19 supports the Girls Sea Scout troop in Stockton California. These girls learn about sailing and maintaining a vessel. They acquired an old PT boat and are rebuilding it. It is amazing to hear how these teenage girls get in and work on engines, rigging and all the necessary jobs that are required to run a ship. District 19 held a 50/50 raffle and donated \$700.00 to their cause.

We are working to encourage more participation in the District, but it seems that it is getting more and more difficult. The interest is not as extensive as it used to be. We are looking into providing more functions and other ways such as combining functions with District 14. District 14 and 19 are now planning for the Winter Regional Meeting in Oakland California. We are looking forward to a better year.



District News

North Central

Districts 7-9-23-25

Debbie Banks-Skellenger

North Central Vice President

District 25

Tom Lyon, President

At our summer Rendezvous hosted by Great Lakes Steel Boat Club we had over 40 boats attend and over 170 people attend. We had entertainment on Friday and Saturday with a reception on Saturday afternoon.





District News

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

Marc Connelly
Northeastern Vice President

District 27 presented \$5,000.00 to the Children of Fallen Soldiers Relief Fund

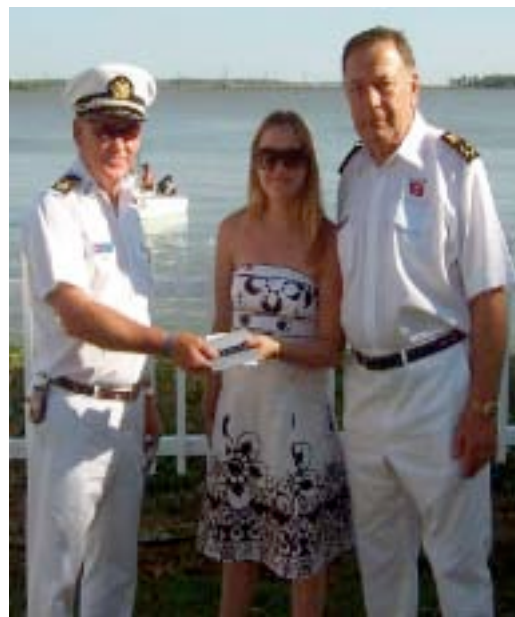
Miss Tina Allen representing MS Becky Campbell founder and CEO of The Children of Fallen Soldiers Relief Fund received a check for \$5,000.00 from Past Commodore Marc Connelly, Vice President of the International Order of the Blue Gavel, Northeastern Region who was representing I.O.B.G. District 27.

Children of Fallen Soldiers Relief Fund Inc. was founded October 23, 2003 to help support surviving U.S. Military children who have lost a parent in the Afghanistan or Iraq wars by providing them with college grants.

Their College Grant Program has been expanded to include both U.S. Military Children and spouses who have either lost a love one as a result of the Afghanistan or Iraq wars or have a severely disabled parent or spouse who was injured during a deployment to either war.

Their second objective is to help the surviving members of these families with financial assistance. Their goal is to make awards to applicants in need, some whose funds were raised in their particular State that have children under the age 18, and who are in need of assistance with housing, repairs, utilities, medical expenses, groceries, clothing, school supplies and other expenses deemed necessary in order to help alleviate their needs.

There is no substitute for a parent, but they strive to ease the pain, suffering and honor the memories of our fallen soldiers.



Kent Island Yacht Club becomes Chapter of District 27

Kent Island Yacht Club joins The Bush River Yacht Club, Charlestown Yacht Club, Crescent Yacht Club, Belvedere Yacht Club and Otter Point Yacht Clubs which make up the I.O.B.G. District 27 covering Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and the Chesapeake Bay.

"Welcome Aboard Kent Island Yacht Club"



Over the Horizon...

District 3



A longtime member of Buffalo Canoe Club, P/C Rudolf L. Bauer, died June 3, 2007, following a brief illness. Born in Cleveland, OH., he started American Greeting Card Corporation in Cleveland. Later he joined Hinde & Dauch Paper Company as Sales Manager and relocated to Buffalo, NY.. He served as Chairman of Town of Amherst Solid Waste Committee. An avid sailor and power boater P/C Bauer was a longtime member of Buffalo Canoe Club, a District #3 Chapter, one of the original Charter Chapters of the District and served as Commodore in 1979. He was Chairman of the 100th and 125th club anniversary celebrations. P/C Bauer chaired reconstruction of the famous outer boathouse landmark after the destructive fire in 1991. Memorial services were held at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Buffalo, N. Y..



District News

Southeastern

Districts 8 & 18

Tom Sullivan

Southeastern Vice President

District 8



District 18

Joseph Francis Zammit, District 18 Director, passed away Sunday, March 25, 2007, at Forsyth Medical Center. Mr. Zammit served in the U.S. Navy and later graduated from the Stevens Institute of Technology in 1949 with a degree in mechanical engineering. He was employed by Allen B. Dumont Laboratories for three years in Clifton, N.J., and then moved to Winston-Salem where he worked at Murcota Corp., and later became president and CEO. He was an Eagle Scout and an active member of Lake Norman Yacht Club, where he was a former Commodore. Mr. Zammit also served as senior judge of the American Yacht Racing Association.

TO ALL “KEEPERS OF THE FLAME”

From time to time, I am asked or I see an email asking why we have an organization called “BLUE GAVEL” (IOBG). The following article by Past President C. Frank Wreath covers this subject pretty well and (I feel) is worth reading.

P/C Tom Sullivan, Southeastern Vice President

WHY BLUE GAVEL?

Presented at the Smyrna Yacht Club

September 19, 2002

Why should I be a member of the Blue Gavel? This question has been directed to me several times during this past year as President of District 8 of the International Order of the Blue Gavel. As a result I have discussed this question with many individuals, including past and future International Presidents. In addition, I have reviewed publications from the Blue Gavel and relied heavily upon knowledgeable members of the Blue Gavel. So I will now attempt and answer.

To start with, you are a member of a very elite group of individuals. You have risen through the membership of your Yacht Clubs to the most honored position in the organization. There is an old saying that “10 percent of the members of any organization do ninety per cent of the work.” This is especially true in Yacht Clubs, and that is why you are the “cream of the crop” when it comes to recognition and stature in your Clubs. If a club has 500 members, and the average time a person belongs to the organization is twenty years, there is a four percent chance of a member becoming Commodore over the twenty year period. So wear your Past Commodore Stars proudly, you earned them and you should be honored for your efforts.

When you have served your time as Commodore and become eligible to join a Blue Gavel Chapter, you are joining a very elite group that is by invitation only. You cannot buy your way in and no one can take away the silver stars that you worked so hard and diligently to earn.

The Blue Gavel began in 1953 when the outgoing Commodore of the Rainier Yacht Club in Seattle, Washington observed some of the Past Commodores sitting around talking about how they should be able to provide something for the betterment of the Yacht Club. This group of past Commodores became the first Blue Gavel members and since that time the organization has grown to include thousands of members worldwide.

What does Blue Gavel do? Lets just mention a few of the many things that the Blue Gavel provides to Past Commodores as well as Chapter Yacht Clubs.

It honors Past Commodores through an international fraternal organization.

It selectively associates ladies and gentlemen of good character having a common love and appreciation of yachting and social and outdoor activities of every kind on the basis of background, character, personality, and social acceptability. In other words, your Yacht Club attracts individuals from the surrounding community who have like interests and common goals.

It provides past Commodores with an extensive opportunity for worthwhile yachting activities for the purpose of cultivating strengthening, perpetuating and preserving the ties of continued friendship, honor, benevolence, sportsmanship, fraternal and social relationships among Past Commodores of Yacht Clubs and Yachting Associations. We all love yachting,, boating, and water activities and tend to be drawn to people with similar likes and past times.

It subscribes to and stimulates interest in Yachting traditions, ceremonies customs, ethics and etiquette.

It aides and promotes the development of more able and knowledgeable yachtsmen and women, who may participate in yachting activities and marine events and ceremonies of every kind as a result of high standards of honor, tradition, good sportsmanship, and the fraternal and social relationships experienced by and between Past Commodores. We as Blue Gavel can support this by sponsoring sailing programs or other boating activities at our Yacht Clubs.

It encourages and promotes the continuing interest and service of qualified and proven Past Commodores to their own Yacht Club and its activities without in any way usurping the authority and responsibilities of the incumbent Officers, for the best interest of the club.

It helps to prevent the wasting of an untapped pool of the greatest group of seasoned, experienced and respected individuals in the yachting community- the Commodores who worked up through the flags to the top "Chair of Sound Judgement"- the stewardship of their Club as Commodore.

It provides an opportunity and forum for these individuals to continue to do something worthwhile for their Club, to work toward broader yachting associations and the betterment of yachting activities.

It assists Clubs to insure that the traditions, customs glory and ethics of yachting will not be lost to future generations.

It revitalizes and assures the continuing interest of qualified and proven individuals in their Club's activities while providing them with suitable insignia, flags, recognition and honor.

There are two types of Blue Gavel Chapters, one is an honorarium bestowed upon Past Commodores for their faithful service and gives them meetings to attend along with other individuals that have attained the same level of stature in their Club. The other type works as a knowledgeable group to keep alive the flame of Yacht Club tradition such as; customs courtesies, leadership principles, public and private ceremonies, etc.

Some of the support that your Blue Gavel Chapter can supply to your Club include such things as; Installation of Officers, serving on committees, acting as a sounding board for ideas from Club members, officiating at special functions, etc.

We in District 8 have undertaken a program called "Sailability" as our humanitarian project. This program provides specially designed boats for handicapped individuals so that they may enjoy the pleasures of boating and handling a boat without assistance. Many of these people were relegated to sitting in their wheelchairs on shore watching those of us more fortunate enjoy the many pleasures that boating has to offer. This year we have been able to donate approximately \$2500 towards the purchase of one of these boats.

As a member of the Blue Gavel, you are recognized as a Past Commodore. When you visit other Yacht Clubs there is instant recognition of your past accomplishments and admiration by members that understand what it means to be a "Past Commodore". It is a coveted position obtainable by very few. So again I say wear your "Silver Stars" proudly and join with others who have successfully survived the "Trial by fire."



District 50 Damian Pflieger, District Director

The vast majority of Blue Gavel members belong to Districts that are located on the West Coast, East Coast or the Great Lakes, as that is where most boating is done.

District 50 consists of Chapters and members East of the Mississippi River that do not have enough Chapters to form a District. District 50 membership for 2007 is at 55 paid members from places such as Massachusetts, Kentucky, Virginia, and Washington DC. Also in District 50 is the US Naval Sailing Association and 6 Members-At-Large.

Members that relocate from their home District may remain a member of that District or be placed in District 50 or 51 (West of the Mississippi).

A District Director is the only officer in these two Districts and acts as a contact person and liaison to the International. If I can be of assistance or answer any questions, my contact info is in the front of this publication.

District 75 Harry Sutcliffe, President

Greetings from Down Under... I thought I would let the Organization know what we do socially in New Zealand. Two main groups operate on a regular basis, one in the north (Auckland), the other in the south (Christchurch) with a small group meeting occasionally in the center (Wellington).

The Auckland group meets monthly for an evening meal at one of the local Yacht Clubs and also organizes the occasional weekend outing. So far in the past six months we have cruised two rivers and ridden a bush railway.

The Christchurch group meets bi-monthly at a local Pub for a lunch meal. However we have Blue Gavel members living in most parts of N.Z and being a hospitable lot, we would like to welcome fellow IOBG members visiting N.Z. to make contact with either myself (Harry Sutcliffe), Margaret Kennett, Secretary or Keith Wardell, District Director.

We would be able to assist in travel arrangements and would love to host visiting members. Our AGM this year is in Nelson on September 7-9, 2007.

Best wishes Harry Sutcliffe (NZ President)

INTERNATIONAL IOBG GATHERING IN LYTTLETON, NEW ZEALAND

When P/C Penny and P/C Joe Orth, National Potomac Yacht Club, Washington, DC found that they would be visiting friends in Christchurch, New Zealand over Christmas, they thought it might be nice to meet some of the IOBG members in the area and possibly do a burgee exchange. They contacted District 75 Secretary, Margaret Kennett to see if this was possible. Secretary Kennett contacted several IOBG members. Patsy Wardell, working with the Orth's friends in Christchurch, set up a gathering in Lyttleton, a port near Christchurch, for the day after Christmas.

The party was held at the home of the John and Adrienne Dove which is situated on a hill overlooking the harbor. Attending were John and Adrienne Dove of the Catamaran Squadron of Canterbury Yacht & Motor Boat Club (CYMBC), IOBG District 75 Director Keith and Patsy Wardell, Pigeon Bay Boating Club: Barry and Wisha Bowater, Canterbury Yacht & Motor Boat Club (CYMBC) , and John Hurst, Banks Peninsula Cruising Club, and George and Arla Zimmerman, Christchurch friends of the Orth's .

The Banks Peninsula Cruising Club and the CYMBC have now combined and the new format is now called The Naval Point Club and John Hurst is the Patron of this Club.

A delightful time was had and the burgees of the National Potomac Yacht Club and the Naval Point Club were exchanged. A copy of the latest NPYC newsletter with numerous pictures of their Halloween party was presented to provide background on NPYC. A great time was had by all. Please note the IOBG flag flying above the group.

It was discovered that Keith and Patsy Wardell's grandson is attending the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA. The Orth's live in Williamsburg. Small world!

Left to right: Photo taken by Penny Orth

John Dove-Catamaran Squadron of CYMBC: Joe Orth: Arla Zimmerman: Keith Wardell – IOBG District 75 Director and Pigeon Bay Boating Club: Patsy Wardell; Adrienne Pavelka-Dove: Barry Bowater-Canterbury Yacht & Motor Boat Club (CYMBC): Wisha Bowater: John Hurst-Banks Peninsula Cruising Club: George Zimmerman:

December 26, 2006 Lyttelton, New Zealand



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

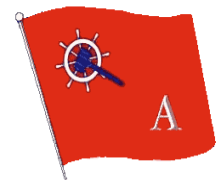
2006	Harvey Sussel The Captains Yacht Club North Palm Beach Yacht Club	1988*	George Cooper Lighthouse Point Yacht Club	1967*	Ken Wise Edmonds Yacht Club
2005	Art Theobald Sandy Beach Yacht Club	1987	Dr. Burton Jay Southwestern Yacht Club	1966	Randy Rockhill Rainier Yacht Club
2004	Larry Foote San Joaquin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

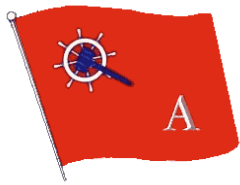
*Deceased



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

It is already mid June and our boat is not in the water – unfortunately. I am sure all of you at one time or another has one of those seasons where the boating season just does not fit in. This is our year!!!

Hope McLeod and I had the opportunity to travel to Michigan for the Opening of the Island. The island they are speaking of is Grosse Ile. Our hosts for our stay were Jim and Betty DuPre from District 9. Jim is also the current Commodore of the Interlake Yachting Association. The event introduced all the Commodores, past and present from the local yacht clubs. Yours truly was one of the outsiders but was treated like royalty by all that were there.

As many of you already know, the passing of Bonnie Sussel was a bittersweet ending to a long and courageous battle. Her sense of humor and energy will be deeply missed. Many of us are struggling with sick or ill loved ones on a daily basis. In some ways living through the experience makes us stronger and gives us a perspective on life that we never appreciated before. We take for granted our good fortune until we realize that it is gone never to be retrieved again. Consider this the next time you and your significant other get into “it”. Think of your good fortune and appreciate every day.
LIFE IS NOT A DRESS REHEARSAL!!!

We are looking for a few good people to take positions for the up coming year under Pat Janiszewski. It has been a great way to see how others in the country use boating as their recreation and you meet a lot of really nice people. Please contact Pat J. or myself if you have any questions about taking a position.

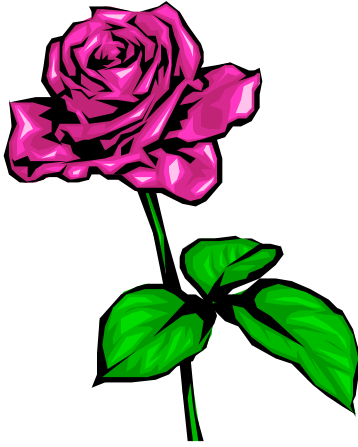
Speaking of Pat J., I would like to thank her for taking the reins at the Portland meeting. I heard there was a lot of good discussion.

Hope to see you in Mackinac in August.

WEB MASTER'S REPORT - SPRING REGIONAL MEETING - 2007

I would like to thank those who have contributed articles and photos for the web site so far this year. It's important to remember that the web site is evergreen, hopefully growing, never stagnating. Our web site allows us to easily remain in touch with each other, even though we are miles apart. Whatever you have to share, I can always find a place for it. If you have any ideas to improve the web page, please share them as well.

P/P Shirley Willing, IOBGA Web Master



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:

*Bonnie Sussel District 8
First Vice President*



A SPECIAL NOTE FROM THE AUXILIARY EDITOR

Harvey Sussel has written me to let all of you know how very grateful he is for the many, many nice thoughts, wishes and sorrows you have extended to him and his family, both while she was ill and after she passed away. He said she was 100% Blue Gavel and always wanted to be involved.

It has been very nice for him to know how many friends Bonnie had, and it has helped him through the pain he is experiencing.

I would like to thank the members in attendance at our meeting in Portland for their discussion and contribution regarding several topics. The highlights:

*The new tri-fold brochure has been printed and looks great! Gerva Hughes, Auxiliary Past President, distributed copies to those in attendance. If you need copies for your area, please contact Gerva, or you can simply download a copy from the IOBGA's active website. Thank you, Gerva, for handling the editing and publication, and Shirley Willing for putting the brochure online.

*The cost of a widow's/widower's LOG newsletter is \$15. Also, the LOG can be downloaded from the IOBG website.

*At the Annual meeting, time is put aside for workshops, discussions, Meet and Greet new attendees/members, etc. What would you, as members, like to be included in this meeting? Please let me know if there is any area you would like covered.

*Clothing – It is doubtful that Commodore Insignia (the clothing distributor) will attend the Annual meeting to bring clothing items for sale. It was decided that I will bring some pictures of available fall items to the Mackinac Island Summer Regional meeting, and would pre-order items for individuals to be available at the Annual meeting. For example, there are fleece shirts, with a zipper neck, available for approximately \$35 (including logo) in the colors of navy, red, black, and royal.

*Anyone interested in a position for next year should contact Pat Graven or Pat Janiszewski.

*There is information regarding the Annual Meeting elsewhere in the LOG and on the IOBGA website. Please note that **everyone**, whether an Auxiliary member or not, is invited to participate in all Auxiliary events.



Rita Rollins
Northwest Regional Director

On May 18th – 20th Ken & I attended Visitors Weekend at Clover Island Yacht Club. As always we had a very good time. Six Yacht Clubs were in attendance; Richland, Walla Walla, Spokane, Sea Bacs, Benicia and Clover Island.

The highlight of the weekend was the “WASHOES” tournament. “WASHOES” is a game of skill, tossing a large metal washer into one of three holes. The champs, for the weekend, were Betty Hinckley C IYC and Randy (Cobby) Cowell SYC.

A number of members and guests took part in the annual boat and boathouse christenings. A large group, with champagne in hand, followed CIYC Commodore Larry Salsberry to a number of boat houses. At each boathouse the Commodore read the certificate with the name(s) of the boat or boathouse that was being christened, and of course there were a short toast of champagne to each christening.

Ken & I were asked to attend a joint cruise, between CIYC and SYC to Lyons Ferry over Memorial Day. Attending the Lyons Ferry Memorial weekend were a total of three motor homes, four Spokane and seven Clover Island boats. We had some wind and a little rain but it was early in the morning or late at night.

Saturday night Lyons Ferry Marina and RV Park, prepared a Fantastic BBQ rib dinner. The dinner was followed by a street/parking lot dance. The DJ had ALL the right tunes.

Just a little history of the area. The train trestle, that crosses the Snake River, was constructed in the 1800's. It was the longest and highest trestle of it's time. When the Lower Monumental Dam went in it raised the Snake River and the trestle lost the height status but still holds the length record. Another bit of Washington trivia is that the bridge that replaced the ferry is the old Vantage Bridge. When the Wanapum Dam went in, just south of Vantage on the Columbia River, the State of Washington constructed a new bridge and reconstructed the old bridge at Lyons Ferry.

We would like to thank CIYC & SYC for a fantastic time over those two weekends. Ken & I were privy to see two Yacht Clubs, with a strong IOBG / IOBGA affiliation, have the best of times and they both truly enjoy boating.

Hope McLeod
Northcentral Regional Director

Due to the, hopefully temporary, hiatus of our group up in District 25, my job has been limited to contacts in Districts 7 and 9. To my advantage, both of these Districts are conveniently located and I see many of the members quite often.

District 7 and 9 both continue to have strong Auxiliaries and promote their organizations through events and meetings. It makes my job easier.

I have been in contact with Catawba Island Club and hopefully the paperwork I sent along will be voted on in Portland and the spouses there will begin their new Chapter. This is a large club on Lake Erie and I, for one, would be honored to have them join us. I hope to visit and present the charter to them, when the process is complete.

My other goal is to try to find a solution to bringing District 25 back as an active part of the organization. We miss them in the North Central. They were always an integral part of all that went on in IOBGA.

To all of you who made it to Portland, "take time to smell the roses for me"!

Chris Swett, Secretary
District 26

District 26 IOBG Auxiliary Mt. Sinai Yacht Club, Mt. Sinai, Long Island, New York

On April 15th, despite the rains and furious winds of a "major northeaster," 85 people attended the second annual IOBGA Fashion Show and Luncheon at the Mt. Sinai Yacht Club. The day turned out to be a tremendous success and we are proud to announce that again, we raised over \$2000 from our luncheon and raffle baskets to support our troops and "wounded warriors." With the monies raised we purchased boxes and boxes of supplies and delivered them to the Shoreham Army Reserve Center for shipping to the troops in Iraq.

In addition, the IOBGA donated \$1000 to the "Wounded Warriors Project" which provides backpacks to injured servicemen and women with the necessities and comfort items most needed and requested as they prepare for a long-term rehabilitative stay in hospitals overseas and in the U.S.

After two years as our President, Penny Thompson and her husband, John, will be leaving Long Island at the end of the summer. Penny has been the master of ceremonies of our two spring fashion shows as well as last November's Tea. Her enthusiasm will be sorely missed. We welcome our VP Gail Schaeffer as our next President, and Lori Salyer will fill in behind her as our new VP. Cathy Prwivo will stay on as Treasurer, and Chris Swett, will continue as Secretary, Historian, and now as the reporter for the IOBGA LOG.

Our next project coming this fall will be a food drive held at our club's November General Meeting to support the local area soup kitchens and food pantries.



<p>Christine B. Snedaker Southeast Regional Director</p>
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Feb 1st - 4th – I attended the IOBG meeting (District 18) in Charleston, SC. Due to prior Charleston YC schedule commitments, we were unable to have any prospective IOBGA members attend our Meet & Greet. I did get a few names from one of their members at the Friday cocktail party and sent emails about IOBGA. To date, I have not had a response from any of the emails.

Feb 22nd - I installed the new IOBGA officers at Palm Coast YC and conducted their first official meeting. Their new officers are: President - Evelyn Hutchison, V.P – Dottie Thompson, Sec/Treas - Dolores Kelley and Humanitarian Chairman - Tom Trayer. Also attending were some of the member's spouses and IOBG 2nd VP, Ray Thompson. I thank the Palm Coast members for a delicious lunch and all the warm hospitality extended to my husband and me.

Feb 23rd – My husband and I visited Halifax River YC and were royally treated to a tour of their new clubhouse and a delightful luncheon with IOBGA Halifax President, Louise Redner and her husband, Dan. Louise and I have had numerous communications by mail and phone. She is doing a wonderful job in her second year as President. Once a year, Halifax opens their IOBGA meeting to New Smyrna YC and Palm Coast YC. It will be exciting to see how these Chapters grow and participate in our District and National meetings.

April 26th – Art & Carol Garside and my husband, Frank, and I cruised on our boat down to the IOBG District 8 meeting at Key Biscayne YC. Our first stop was Ft. Lauderdale, FL where we visited the Coral Ridge YC. We caught up with P/C Ed O'Donnel and his wife and several of their members for dinner. Hopefully, we can get an IOBGA Chapter going at their club.

April 27th -29th – I attended the District 8 meeting at Key Biscayne YC. Saturday morning we had an IOBGA Meet and Greet while the IOBG meeting was held. We had IOBGA members from Palm Coast (Dottie Thompson & Joanne Squires), Platinum YC (Carol Garside), Charlotte Harbor YC (Lynne Oakley), Bay Point YC (Mary Kennedy), Pensacola YC (Innes Richards) & Vero Beach YC (Pat Stringer). The discussion at the meeting was our goal to get a District 8 Charter by the end of the year. Mary Kennedy developed the IOBGD8 website and has graciously given her time and effort to including IOBGA District 8 info on the website. It was agreed that we need to get a couple IOBGA Chapters in the Florida Panhandle. Mary Kennedy and Innes Richards agreed to assist with this goal. We agreed to meet at one of the yacht clubs, to be announced, prior to our next District 8 IOBG meeting in August, to organize those Chapters. I met JoAnn Young, whose husband is P/C of Key Biscayne YC who attended many of the weekend events. I hope that JoAnn will step up to the plate and organize another IOBGA Chapter for Key Biscayne. We have been exchanging ideas through emails.

I am delighted to announce that we had our first IOBGA article in the District 8 Gulfstream Publication. We are now recognized as a valuable asset to the IOBG. I get all the correspondence via emails from the District 8 President, Jack Kennedy. My husband informed me that Jack spent a few minutes in the District 8 meeting thanking me for getting the Auxiliary active and he is looking forward to better events and turnout....YEAH!

<p>Betsy Sanders Northeast Regional Director</p>
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District #3 has very little to report due to the long winter here and no boating activity. We had a luncheon June 7 at the Buffalo Yacht Club for District members, purely a social event.

District #12 is actually a two-month District with Long Beach Island mainly a summer home for their members, and when they come down, usually on the weekends, they have their own agenda.

We have no Auxiliary in Districts 20, 22, or 27. I have contacted people in all three trying to get something going, but so far, no success.

District #70 has no report.

District #26 is again our winner for activity, social functions, and fundraisers. Keep up the good work! Their report is in a separate article, even though it is part of the Northeast Regional Report.



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



IOBG Humanitarian Foundation IOBG Humanitarian Foundations, Inc.

PATRON OF THE FOUNDATION PROGRAM

IOBGHF launched a program to provide special recognition to contributors who donate \$100 or more. Each contributor will be awarded a distinctive "Action for Life" pin which signifies their status as a patron of the foundation.

Election of Directors of the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation

The bylaws of the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation specify that the Executive Committee of the IOBG are the Trustees and voting members of the Foundation. There are three classes of membership in the Foundation: Voting Members (Trustees), Regular Members (all members of IOBG) and Humanitarian Members (those who are not members of IOBG but who support the Foundation and its work). The Voting Members are the ones who elect the Directors of the Foundation.

The Chairman of the Board of the Foundation appoints a Nominating Committee to select qualified candidates for election to the Board. This Nominating Committee shall make its report at least 60 days before the date of the election at the Annual Meeting of the Foundation. The Annual Meeting of the Foundation shall be held in conjunction with the Annual International Convention of the IOBG. Nominations by petition may be made at least 45 days prior to the election. The Annual Meeting of the Foundation will be held on Saturday, the 20th of October, 2007. Therefore, the nominating committee should report no later than August 21st, and nominations by petition should be received no later than September 5th.

The President of the IOBG has appointed a Committee to Receive Nominations for Director of the Foundation. The committee is: President Elect Richard Janiszewski, Second Vice President Ray Thompson and P/P Phil Arms (Executive Secretary to the Trustees of the Foundation). The Foundation Nominating Committee makes their report to this committee, and nominations by petition should be forwarded to them.

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, please do not hesitate to contact the committee, Chairman of the Board P/P Marion Hughes, or Foundation President P/C Joan Marsh-Clune. Please forward nominations by petition to Phil Arms at 352 Seawind Drive, Vallejo, CA 94590, pbarms@aol.com.

From the President ...Joan Marsh-Clune

The Humanitarian Foundation serves a unique purpose in Blue Gavel. It is Blue Gavel's "charitable and educational" entity, an IRS authorized 501(c)3 organization, that is able to receive your contributions and create two benefits: One benefit is to you, the donor, because your donation is tax deductible, and the second benefit is that your contribution can be matched with others to create greater impact in the community.

The purpose of the Foundation is to support initial and expanding programs for boating-related projects, to assist existing projects to achieve self-sufficiency by building successful fundraising programs, and to promote community-based initiatives that bring the spirit and sport of boating to the community. Part of this purpose is met each year by local Chapters and Districts that create and fund their own projects. The Foundation encourages and endorses those individual programs. The service back to our communities is inherent in our yacht club tradition.

An extraordinary effort has been undertaken by District 27 under the leadership of District Director Chuck Browning to benefit the Children of Fallen Soldiers. Our nightly news is full of stories of young men and women serving in the Armed Services around the world, risking their lives in the service of our country. Their families, their children deserve help, support and hope when they are faced with loss. District 27 determined to assist these children, raised money, reached out to the families, and provided real help for those in need.

While heartily endorsing all of the local community activities undertaken by Clubs, Chapters, and Districts, the Humanitarian Foundation, itself, needs your financial support as well. The Foundation stands in a unique position to benefit communities that have programs that exceed the capacity of local Chapters and Districts. The Foundation can bring additional resources to complement those programs by providing additional funds for scholarships, fund raising, and community outreach.

We rely totally on contributions from you, IOBG and IOBGA members, and local yacht and boating clubs. As you plan fundraising activities this year, please earmark a portion of those funds for the Foundation.

The Foundation established a Memorial Fund a few years ago to provide a way for members to honor the memory of members no longer with us and to honor the special achievements of those who continue to touch our lives. Recently, memorial donations have been received to honor the memory of some very special people, very special friends:

- *Joe Zammit, long time District Director of District 18 and Board Member and advisor to the Humanitarian Foundation from its very beginnings.
- *Sue Brauner, Past Commodore from District 19 and, for 10 years, Recording Secretary for the International.
- *Bonnie Sussel, wife of P/P Harvey Sussel, active IOBGA Board Member, and irrepressible friend to everyone in the Blue Gavel community and beyond.

Their dedication to our organization and to boating will live on in our memory and in the projects that these funds will allow us to support.

If you are interested in making a contribution to the Memorial Fund, please contact any member of the Board or send your donation directly to CFO Jackie Evans Rudd. Please include the name of the person you are honoring and the name and address of the person(s) to whom an acknowledgement should be sent along with your own return address information.

We look forward to continuing service to our communities with your help.

Chairman of the Board

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“The International Order of the Blue Gavel Humanitarian Foundation provides the boating community the ability to create real differences in others’ lives. The foundation provides resources to existing charities and benefits communities through new initiatives involving boating activities and education.”

This is the Mission Statement of the Humanitarian Foundation.



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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