

THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL **AN ASSOCIATION OF PAST COMMODORES**

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July 2009 Mary Nye Meyers, Editor

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



2009 IOBG DIRECTORY

APPOINTED OFFICERS

EDUC. & DEVELOPMENT

Phil Promessi (Carol) 128 Pelican Loop Pittsburg, CA 94565 Tel/Fax: 925-427-6250 ppromessi@comcast.net

LEGAL OFFICER

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

LOG EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Mary Nye Meyers (Michael) P.O. Box 44130 Tacoma, WA 98448 Tel: 253-224-8592 fire_n_ice104@hotmail.com

SUPPLY OFFICER

P/C Earl Hohlmaver

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

PROTOCOL OFFICER

Marsha Landreth 3600 Harbor Blvd #173 Oxnard, CA 93035 Tel: 805-201-3027 Bus: 805-389-1909 mlrs4742@gmail.com

RECORDING SECRETARY

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

WEBMASTER

Mary Nye Meyers (Michael) fire n ice104@hotmail.com

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Phil Promessi (Carol) 128 Pelican Loop Pittsburg, CA 94565 Tel/Fax: 925-427-6250 ppromessi@comcast.net

HISTORIAN

A.R. Theobald (Betty) 2710 SW 47th Terr. Cape Coral, FL 33914-6165 art.theobald@ymail.com

REPRESENTATIVES

BOATILS

James Hinckley 509-582-7590

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

AUXILIARY LIAISON

716-838-2016 Marc Connelly

HUMANITARIAN FND. LIAISON RECEIVE NOMINATIONS FROM IOBGHF

J. Mark Montobbio 415-883-3436

NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION

Dave Kutz 360-297-2935

US SAILING

760-632-9058 Bill Thaver

U.S. POWER SQUADRON

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

U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

Larry Draper 650-871-0802 draperl@jps.net

MEMBERSHIP & MARKETING

716-838-2016 Marc Connelly

COMMITTEES

AUDIT

609-294-2393 Richard Janiszewski 253-838-9027 Jerry Rudd Ray Thompson 386-445-5530

BY-LAWS & POLICY MANUAL

Vern Bendsen (Chairman) 707-422-3510 George Knies 925-939-0230 Carol Promessi 925-427-6250 Ray Thompson 386-445-5530

ANNUAL MEETING 2009

Ray Thompson 386-445-5530

ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW

Carol Promessi (Chairman) 925-427-6250 Marshall Nemoy 888-378-2211 Jerry Rudd 253-838-9027

ELECTIONS

Vern Bendsen 707-422-3510

NOMINATING

Richard Janiszewski (Chairman) 609-294-2393 253-838-9027 Jerry Rudd Ray Thompson 386-445-5530

ELECTED OFFICERS

Executive Secretary

Mary Eiffert (Alan) 39906 Black Mesa Lane Palm Desert, CA 92260 Tel/Cell: 206-819-5809 Cell: 760-567-8824 meiffert@earthlink.net

Northwestern VP

Art Kovarnik (Carol) P.O. Box 3786 Silverdale, WA 98383 Tel: 360-692-5544 Cell: 360-981-4595 akovarnik@msn.com

North Central VP

Francis D. Ramsev (Maude) 204 NE 12th Court Cape Coral, FL 33909 Tel: 239-829-0809 Cell: 219-718-1555

francisramsey@att.net

Northeastern VP Chuck Browning (Barbara)

247 Temple Drive Bel Air, MD 21015 Tel: 410-569-6338 Cell: 443-309-6674 Fax: 443-460-1001 captainchuckb@aol.com

Southwestern VP

Larry Draper (Deanna) 753 Chestnut Ave. San Bruno, CA 94066 Tel: 650-871-0802 Cell: 925-325-2623 draperl473@att.net

Southeastern VP

Tom Sullivan (Susan) 1213 SW Eagleglen Pl. Stuart, FL 34997 Tel: 772-223-8789 sueandts@bellsouth.net

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

- Mary Nye Meyers (Michael) P.O. Box 44130 Tacoma, WA 98448
 Tel: 253-224-8592
 fire_n_ice104@hotmail.com
- Don Fisher (Rita) 1080 Iris Avenue Victoria, BC V8Z 2N7 Canada Tel: 250-479-5516 dritscher@shaw.ca
- Lewis W. Smith (Margot) 135 Paul Drive Amherst, NY 14228 Tel: 716-691-7626 margots@localnet.com
- Ron Defieux* (Linda) 641 Blueridge Ave. N.Vancouver, BC V7R 2J4 Canada Tel: 604-987-7425 Fax: 604-985-7263 rdefieux@shaw.ca
- Ira Nies (Leona) 18858 N. 96th Lane Peoria, AZ 85382 Tel: 360-695-5742 Cell: 360-608-5909 irasnies@hotmail.com 3812 E. Evergreen Blvd Vancouver, WA 98661
- Stanley W. Radlo 99-1440 Aiea Heights Dr. #56 Aiea, HI 96701 Tel: 808-488-6056 radlos@hawaii.rr.com

- Tony Caruso (Ottalee) 9361 Canterbury Lane Mentor, OH 44060 Tel: 440-974-0420 Bus: 440-269-8300 Fax: 440-205-1065 solitaire9361@att.net
- Francis D. Ramsey (Maude) 204 NE 12th Court Cape Coral, FL 33909 Tel: 239-829-0809 Cell: 219-718-1555 franciscapes (2011) #8 francisramsey@att.net
- Jack White (Joanne) 12292 Lakeshore Dr LaSalle, MI 48145-9177 Tel: 734-242-4558 Bus: 419-244-5557 Fax: 419-244-4702 commodorej@aol.com
- George Demos 16641 Edgewater Lane Huntington Beach, CA 92649 Tel: 714-846-1572 #10 hhyc97@aol.com
- Gary Green (Rosalie) 10715 Hepburn Circle Culver City, CA 90232 Tel: 310-204-4411 Bus: 310-348-9627 Fax: 310-665-8659 garygreen@ca.rr.com
- #12 Vincent J. Core (Eileen) 739 Fairmount Drive Chatham, NJ 07928 Tel: 973-635-7415 sailcore@worldnet.att.net (S) sailcorebsm@att.net (W)

- Shirley Ahlf (Rich) 63 El Molino Dr. Clayton, CA 94517 Tel/Fax: 925-672-2514 richandshirley@sbcglobal.net
- Linda Loftis (Dennis) 3024 Quebrada Circle Carlsbad, CA 92009 #15 Tel: 760-632-2547
- Clark Owens P.O. Box 3552 Ventura, CA 93006 Tel: 805-701-7880 Cell: 805-701-7880 clarko1@bigplanet.com
- Thomas A. Sullivan (Susan) 1213 SW Eagleglen Place Stuart, FL 34997 Tel: 772-223-8789 sueandts@bellsouth.net
- #19 Gary McGrath (Estella) 1567 Dianda Drive Concord, CA 94521 Tel: 925-682-5939 Fax: 925-687-5443 gmac6262@aol.com
- David J. Meshulam (Gail) 152 Mirage Boulevard Barnegat, NJ 08005 Tel: 609-488-5036 Cel: 973-727-9892 Fax: 609-488-5017 djmgem@aol.com
- Leo Vortouni 4308 Patrice Rd. Newport Beach, CA 92663 Tel: 949-722-1153 lvortouni@aol.com

- David Loughran 1203 Bay Ave. P.O. Box 746 Mantoloking, NJ 08738-0746 Tel: 732-892-8388 dploughran@comcast.net
- Francis D. Ramsey (Maude) 204 NE 12th Court Cape Coral, FL 33909 Tel: 239-829-0809 #23 Cell: 219-718-1555
- Ken Bruce #24 #16-950 Lanfranco Kelowna, BC V1W 3W8 Canada Tel: 250-860-5673 kdbruce@shaw.ca
- Lois Conte (Rick) 169 Gallup Mt. Clemens, MI 48043 Tel: 586-463-5952 Cell: 586-321-2400 Fax: 586-463-6545 #25 ctstrans@ameritech.net
- Emie C. Odierna (Camille) 5 Highridge Road Larchmont, NY 10538 Tel: 914-834-2162 Bus: 516-487-0927 Fax: 914-834-2168 emic01@cotoling not #26 ernie01@optonline.net

LTC (Ret) Robert L. Howe (Carol) 12413 Shelter Lane Bowie, MD 20715 Tel: 703-517-5482 Bus: 410-293-2130 Fax: 410-293-4845

pscoldsalt@hotmail.com

- Damian Pfleghaar (Barb) 800 Farrer Street Maumee, OH 43537 Tel: 419-893-3004 Fax: 419-897-7277 dpfleghaar@ buckeye-express.com
- Linda L. Loftus (Dennis) 3024 Quebrada Circle Carlsbad, CA 92009 Tell: 760-632-2547 linda.loftis@att.net
- #70 Bill Young (Sue) 5 Grasmere Grove Rochester, Kent England ME2 4PN Tel: (44)(0)1634 713478 bluesil@hotmail.com
- Keith Wardell (Patsy) 4 Glandovey Road P.O. Box 25025 Christchurch, New Zealand 8052
 Tel: 64 03 351 6046
 Bus/Fax: 64 03 351 6672
 homehostingltd@inet.net.nz

JAPAN

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



President

Jerry Rudd (Jackie) 37834 43rd Ave. South Auburn, WA 98001

Tel: 253-838-9027 Fax: 253-661-8683 jrjackie1@comcast.net

President Elect Ray Thompson (Dorothy)

71 Weymouth Lane Palm Coast, FL 32164

Tel: 386-445-5530

rthompson015@cfl.rr.com

First Vice President Vern Bendsen (Linda)

P.O. Box 984

Suisun City, CA 94585

Tel: 707-422-3510 Fax: 707-422-3510 vbendsen@pacbell.net

Second Vice President Marc D. Connelly (Kathy)

74 Welwyn Circle Buffalo, NY 14223

Tel: 716-838-2016 Bus: 716-893-4774 mdc@choiceonemail.com

Past President Richard Janiszewski (Patricia)

9 Deer Run Road Parkerton, NJ 08087

Tel: 609-294-2393 Fax: 609-296-3933

richardjaniszewski@msn.com

Treasurer

Marshall Nemoy (Dawn)

3517 Camino del Rio South Suite.208

San Diego, CA 92108-4028

Tel: 619-282-5050 / 888-378-2211

Res: 858-565-1093 Fax: 619-282-5252 bgtreas@iobg.org



President Jerry Rudd

First - Thank you to the 33 out of 35 who returned their ballots. I am sorry that the other two chose not to reply. The mail in ballots showed a better response than waiting for the Annual meeting, something to think about for future voting. As you all know by now, the results are posted on the IOBG web site's Home Page.

The Spring Regional Meeting was held at the Portland Yacht Club on Thursday, June 4th. Thanks to P/C Ron & Gale Timmerman and Committee. They were will organized and ready. They also had an outstanding "homemade" lunch for all of us. A special thanks to the ladies of PYC for all their work on the luncheon. If it weren't for Jackie, I would have had a couple more helpings of dessert.

After the Knighting ceremonies on Friday, Tyee Yacht Club hosted dinner. Commodore Mike Billupt is their number one chief at the BBQ - he did all the meat. I think he had a little help from Gary Nelson, Kathy Muro, P/C Joe Crawford and wife A-Net. Greg Bloomer gave us the history of Tyee Yacht Club, right up to the new renovation, which is quite lovely and also increased the size of the club.

Our Summer Regional Meeting is August 20-22 in Saugatuck/Douglas, Michigan. We will be busy. P/C Phil Promessi will have a workshop and 1st VP Vern Bendsen will continue with the By-Laws. Please bring a copy of the current By-Laws with you. You can download the newly updated By-Laws (June 2009) off the web site. You can find the link towards the bottom of the Home Page. The <u>Dress Code</u> for the meeting is white shirt, no tie, pants/skirt or shorts, white shoes. However, Dinner requires a Blue Blazer, white shirt w/tie, white pants/skirt, white shoes. (no shorts please).

I have appointed and had approved by the Board, P/C Michael Billington of District 19 as a "Goodwill Ambassador" for IOBG when he and his wife Diane take a three year trip to yacht clubs along the Great Loop. Those of you who live in the area of the Great Lakes and on the East Coast have an idea of what this



consist of, for the rest of us, it means going from the Gulf of Mexico up the East Coast, into the Great Lakes and down the rivers back to the Gulf area.

The name of the yacht is "The Diane B" a 32' Bayliner. Their plan is to have the boat shipped to St. Louis around September 1st then start the journey by going down the Mississippi River as far as the Ohio River and then take the Ohio to the Tennessee River. Mike and Diane are going to be in Tennessee where the Great Loop holds their convention with over 5,000 members attending.

Mike has spent three years planning and organizing this trip. They will contract Area VP and Directors along the way when they visit their areas and also try to attend District meetings when possible. Mike has put a 98-page booklet together with a primary route,

alternate route, and side trips together for their adventures. It has direction of travel with longitude and latitude and Internet data. He has also gathered a list of over 800 yacht clubs in the booklet that they will also try to contract. He will have some literature aboard about IOBG and encourage Staff Commodore to become members.

Mike will also need to pick up more literature on the way, as he possibly couldn't carry 3 years worth to begin with. That's where the Area VP, Directors and members can help out. You can re-supply Mike and Diane with literature.

We wish them calm seas and fair weather. Good luck and safe travels to you both.





President Elect Ray Thompson

Living in Florida and being an IOBG member of District 8 during the turmoil of the last several years has been unpleasant but enlightening. The assumption that regardless of the difficulties encountered, our Past Commodores would work together "For the Good of the Order", proved to be incorrect. In this instance, we saw camaraderie turn into irreconcilable differences and differing opinions into hard line politics.

Enlightenment of the membership regarding controversial policies, speedily bringing such issues up for a fair vote and then quickly implementing the results of the vote, would significantly reduce internal friction.

Such a program is now in place and the first tangible results of this program was reviewed and evaluated at the Portland meeting. Perhaps with this methodology, we will be able to clear up all controversial ByLaws. The accomplishment of correcting ByLaws to the satisfaction of the membership majority should then leave more time to pursue water-related activities.

Just a reminder that the 2009 IOBG Annual Meeting's location and date has been determined. The dates are October 21-24,2009 at the Renaissance Orlando Hotel at SeaWorld, 6677 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, Florida 32821.





http://renaissanceseaworldorlando.com

It is hoped that both the hotel amenities and the Theme Parks in the area will encourage a strong member turn out. More details appear in the LOG and on the IOBG Home Page of the web site.



Meeting 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

Beyond the Theme Parks

It's almost un-American to visit Orlando and not go to Walt Disney World. America's theme park mecca has a subtle side, with fine dining, spas, wildlife encounters, and a tropical oasis. At the "tropical" beach at Discovery Cove, you can take in Cirque du Soleil performance, visit Winter Park, a snowbird enclave with a jewel of a museum, and you see some wildlife on an airboat ride. Orlando, without the fanfare of the parks, turns out to be a pleasant, even rejuvenating getaway.



DISCOVERY COVE.

Orlando was settled around an American army post abandoned in 1849 after the Second Seminole War. Cattle became big business, leading to cattle rustling and with that lawlessness and gunfights in the streets. The city turned to growing cotton as a more dependable means of income. By 1870, "orange fever" had struck and the citrus industry was flourishing. When freezes devastated the orange groves in 1895, an industrious grower turned his packinghouse into an amusement complex of sorts, with a skating rink, a bathhouse, and a toboggan slide. The entertainment idea caught on, but it wasn't until 1971, when Disney opened the Magic Kingdom, that things kicked into high gear. Today theme parks are inarguably Orlando's main lure; an expanded Disney, has been joined by SeaWorld, Discovery Cove, Universal Orlando Resort, and Islands of Adventure.

Sneakers? Check. Sunscreen? Check. Hat, backpack, theme-park multiday ticket? Check. It's never too soon to begin strategizing. Because no one truly "escapes" to the magical worlds of Disney and other parks without fine-tuning a game plan. Armed with your map and provisions -- snacks, water bottles, sport drinks -- you're ready to outmaneuver the pixie-dusted millions who visit the area each year.



Once you're prepared with a realistic vision of your stay in Orlando, you'll be more than ready to let the fantasy sweep you away to the golden-spired Cinderella Castle in the Magic Kingdom. Then forward march to the lush jungles and sweeping savanna of Disney's Animal Kingdom. Discover Epcot and its hodgepodge of culture and technology. Finally, rewind to a Hollywood heyday that never was at the star-studded Disney-MGM studios. And you may not be finished yet, since the flashier colors and thrills of Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure a wait beyond Disney World's gates. Don't forget to give SeaWorld, Busch Gardens, and Cypress Gardens their due, either.







Visit Kennedy Space Center

Your journey into mankind's greatest adventure starts at Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex, where amazing exhibits and inspiring shows will immerse you into the past, present and future of the space program.

Your exploration starts with one of our world-renowned tours, where you depart Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex to see NASA's awesome facilities, including the massive launch pads, gigantic Vehicle Assembly Building, and the awe-inspiring Apollo/Saturn V Center.

There is so much to do at Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex - from live-action theatrical shows like 'Mad Mission to Mars', to the Astronaut Encounter where you can meet a veteran NASA Astronaut. During your Kennedy Space Center tour, you'll see 10-story-high rockets from all eras of space exploration in the Rocket Garden, walk through a full-size Space Shuttle mock-up, see IMAX space films on gigantic five-story screens, and see an actual Gemini program capsule on display in the Early Space Exploration exhibit.



Makahiki Luau Dinner Show at SeaWorld

It's time to wind down and enjoy the **Friday evening** Makahiki Luau Dinner Show at SeaWorld. When the Kahuna calls you to dinner, you'll wonder whether your still in Orlando! The Luau is complete with a bountiful island meal and rhythmic dances performed by authentic performers. As you sway to the haunting island music, the fiery performances will blaze against the brilliant sunset and you'll be transported to a magical Pacific paradise.

Wherever you decide to wander, stick to your plan and hang on to your hat, because it's going to be a wonderful joyride.







First Vice President Vern Bendsen

Are we having fun yet? You bet we are!

For Thursday's meeting, the Portland Yacht Club was our host. Their accommodations were very comfortable and the lunch was a delight. The newly remolded Tyee Yacht Club were the hosts for Friday's dinner. When visiting yacht clubs, it always amazes me how friendly their members are. I/we always meet new friends and renew friendships. A big THANK YOU to the Portland and Tyee Yacht Clubs for their gracious welcome.

Our meeting in Portland was very productive.

The mail ballot was a success. Thirty three (33) out of the thirty five (35) ballots were received. That is by far, the best voting record that any one can remember. The following election results will be incorporated into our Bylaws:

The results were:

Code of Conduct passed with 83% voting for Alternate District Director passed with 93% voting for Duties of the AVPs passed with 100% voting for District Vote Allocation:

Option A - Maintain current formula - Failed - 13%

Option B - One vote for each 50 members - Failed - 0.4%

Option C - Paid members in increments of 50 - Failed - 0.7%

Option D - Paid members in increments of 25 - Passed - 76%

By passing Option D, each District's vote(s) will reflect to District's percentage of its members to the total membership of the IOBG.

Every member of the Blue Gavel should have had input as to how their Directors voted for the Bylaw changes. If any member did not have input or was not aware of the mail ballot, please let me know because each AVP should have given the their District Directors the propose bylaw changes. The Directors in turn, were to inform the Chapter Presidents, and they their members. The Blue Gavel is for ALL its Members. And COMMUNICATION is the only way we can remain a solid unit.

The Executive Committee wants to bring our Bylaws into the 21st century, and we need your help and input. At the Portland meeting, the assembled members went over the first three Articles of the Bylaws and made suggested changes. These changes will be reviewed at the August Regional Meeting.

I ask all of you Blue Gavel members, to review our bylaws and give us your suggested recommendations for any changes. If you do not have a copy of the bylaws, you can get them on our web site at www.iobg.org.

Your Chapter Presidents, District Directors and AVPs, will be asking for your input. We would like the input to be sent to the Bylaws Committee by August 10th. This will give the Bylaw Committee time to have the suggested changes ready to be reviewed at the August meeting.

When Linda and I are traveling around boats, we always look to see if the boats are flying any burgee. Our cruise ship stopped at Astoria, OR. for a visit and docked next to a marina. So, naturally, Linda and I when to look over the marina. We saw one boat flying the Blue Gavel burgee.

On the boat's transom was the name 'Mister Roberts'. The city was Vancouver, WA. Who ever owns Mister Roberts, please let us know. We would be happy to met you some time.

Being in the Blue Gavel is somewhat like being a Marine. The Marines are a very select group. The Blue Gavel is like that. It is a very select group. Be proud of your membership. It is not for everyone.

In closing, let me leave you with this: What lies at the bottom of the ocean and twitches? - - - - - A nervous wreck.



Second Vice President Marc Connelly

As I have previously mentioned, part of my job is being the liaison between IOBG and the Auxiliary. Unfortunately the Portland meeting was in direct competition with our son's wedding. I look forward to the August meeting. I am sure the meeting will provide a venue for increased interest and our relationships.

The marketing program is showing some signs of success. But the signs of success are naturally coming only from the areas where the effort is being made to recruit and retain members. It is gratifying to see reports of new and revitalized Chapters, as well as, members coming back into the IOBG. For those officers and members who are trying to use the program, you are to be commended. "Many Thanks" from IOBG!!

Having seen the final tallies of the mail in ballots. I have to say that I was impressed with the interest and participation. Thirty-three ballots voting out of thirty-five sent out equals a 94% response. Please give yourself a pat on the back.

And this months broken record is: The Humanitarian Foundation. Why not investigate the benefits of your foundation and how your Chapters and Districts can benefit.

I look forward to seeing you at the August meeting in Michigan.

IOBG and IOBGA

Clothing and Accessories

Approved Vendors

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c/o Carol Wilson or Barbara Browning 201 Gateway Drive, Suite F Bel Air, Maryland 21014 Telephone: (410) 420-6880 Fax: (410) 420-6880 e-mail: barb1dte@aol.com or cwilson751@aol.com www.designthisent.com

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c/o David Kutz 23911 Newell Lane NE Kingston, Washington 98346 Telephone: (360) 297-2935 Cell: 360-271-1105 Fax: 866-239-2070

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Benicia, California 94510
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Fax: (707) 746-7685
e-mail:

Customerservice@embroideryfactory.com

Yachta Lettering

c/o Paul and Lynn Erb 13 Dori Lane Barnegat, New Jersey 08005 Telephone: (609) 698-6735 Fax: M/W/F: (609) 698-6735 e-mail: yachtalettering@comcast.net www.companycasuals.com



Treasurer Marshall Nemoy

The financial statements reported at the June 4, 2009 meeting in Portland, Oregon are as of April 30, 2009 and the results of operations for the four months then ended. Except for the balance sheet, the financial statements are presented in the budget comparison format.

<u>Summary:</u> Because of the resignation of the officers of District 8 last December and the resulting controversy our total assets have decreased \$1,098 from the same date last year. Our liabilities have increased because the International has been collecting district dues for District 8 while new officers were being elected.

Our dues collections are currently \$12, 524 lower than budget and \$12,150 lower than last year at this date. It is anticipated that the results of the mail ballot which is underway may convince some members to pay their 2009 dues. Expenses for combined operations are \$156 greater than budget but \$3,350 greater than last year. The net income of \$42,889 is \$14,370 lower than last year at this date. The largest negative variances occurred in clerical services and printing. A positive variance occurred in travel expenses. A complete copy of the Treasurer's Report may be obtained by sending a request to the International Operations Center.

The membership statistics attached to the report was prepared as of June 1, 2009. On that date we had 1,945 paid members compared to the 2,285 members we had a year earlier at this date. As is easily noted, District 8 has 227 less members than last year. The mail ballot that was opened and counted at the Spring Regional Meeting in Portland, Oregon is a sincere attempt to demonstrate to the District 8 members that the International is sensitive to their complaints while maintaining fairness for all members of IOBG. It is hoped that when the ballots are counted and the results published, many of the District 8 unpaid members will pay their 2009 dues.

All members are reminded that the number of paid members as of August 1 determines the number of votes allotted to each district at the Annual Meeting in October. Dues will be considered timely paid if the transmittal is postmarked by July 31, 2009. The formula utilized to allocate votes will be in accordance with the results of the election.

The Internal Revenue Service has modified the Form 990 -the tax return for exempt organizations - for the first time since 1979. The new Form 990 emphasizes transparency and is considerably more complex than the previous version. The IRS has provided simpler versions of the form for smaller organizations and subordinate entities. A simpler form, Form 990-N, can only be filed if the IRS has the organization listed as an exempt organization. Over the years many IOBG districts obtained a taxpayer identification number (TIN) primarily to open a bank account. Under the new rules each district must now file the electronic Form 990-N by May 15, of each year.

Continued on next page...

Here are some facts about the subject to provide you with a better understanding of the filing requirements:

- * All districts are automatically covered by the tax exempt status of IOBG. A list of all districts and their tax ID numbers has been sent to the IRS. The list contains the names and addresses of the district treasurers as the contact person for the district.
- * The IRS presently does not recognize most districts as exempt organizations. The international treasurer has sent a list directly to the IRS in Ogden, Utah requesting all the districts with valid taxpayer identification numbers be recognized as exempt organizations under our Group Exemption Number, GEN 8011. It will take four to six weeks for the IRS to process the request.
- * Once it is determined the IRS has processed our request, we will notify all district treasurers and provide instructions to file the Form 990-N.
- * The district treasurer's must electronically file (there is no paper form) the Form 990-N.
- * The district must have less than \$25,000 gross receipts for the year. Gross receipts are defined as all dues, both international and district, collected plus interest income, supply officer gross income and any other gross income before expenses generated by the district's activities. If that totals less than \$25,000, file the form 990-N.
- * If the total gross receipts exceeds \$25,000, you must file a Form 990EZ by May 15 of each year.
- * There is no penalty for late filing of the form 990-N, however, if the Form 990-N is not filed for three consecutive years, the district may lose its tax exempt status.

If a district treasurer has any questions, please feel free to contact me.

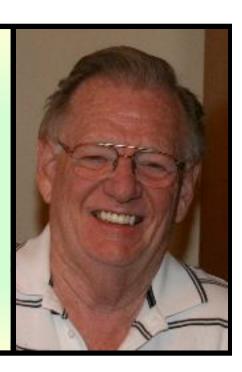


Thanks for the Pictures...

Contributing LOG photographers

for this issue...

Mike Billington Mary Nye Meyers Marybeth Thayer





Summer Regional Meeting

August 20-22, 2009 Saugatuck/Douglas, MI



"The Art Coast of Michigan™"

The National Trust for Historic Preservation names Saugatuck-Douglas, Michigan to its 2009 list of America's Dozen Distinctive Destinations.

Come and enjoy what the world is raving about!

Artist Galleries, Unique Shops and Boutiques, Charming 19th Century Architecture, and more!



1866 Old Schoolhouse

Major Optional Events Include:

SS Keewatin Museum

Center for the Arts (Professional Theatre Performance TBA)

Dune Buggy Rides, WWII DUK, Golf

Oval Beach (1 of top 5 in USA per MSNBC)

Room Reservation Deadline: June 15

Ship-N- Shore Motel/Boatel 528 Water Street Saugatuck MI 49453 (269) 857-2194 or www.shipnshoremotel.com

All rooms have water view.

Rates: \$145 - \$175

Mention "Blue Gavel"

Useful Links:

Saugatuck/Douglas Visitors Bureau: http://www.saugatuck.com/index.asp

Saugatuck/Douglas Historical Society: http://sdhistoricalsociety.org/

Tower Harbour Yacht Club: http://www.thyc.org/



August 20-22, 2009

Saugatuck/Douglas, Michigan

EVENT REGISTRATION (Mail-In) FORM					
Name:			_ Spouse/G	uest:	
Address:		City:		State:	_ Zip:
Phone:		_ E-mail:			
District #:	Yacht Club:				
IOBG Office Held	i :	Spouse/Gue	est Member (Of:IOB	GIOBGA
;	EVENT &	MEAL SE	ELECTION	<u>s</u>	:
<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	# Pers	<u>\$/per</u>	<u>Total</u>
Thursday, Augus Welcoming Friday, August 21	Ship-N-Shore	5:00-7:00	Compliment	ary (District 23	& THYC)
IOBG Lunch	Old Schoolhouse	Noon		\$10	\$
IOBGA Luncheon	Everyday People Caf	e 12:30		\$18	\$
Pig Roast	Mt. Baldhead Park	5:30		\$20	\$
Sunset Cruise	Star of Saugatuck	7:30		\$14	\$
Saturday, August					
Cocktails	Coral Gables Rest	5:30	Cash Bar		
Dinner	Coral Gables Rest	6:30		\$27	\$
3			тот	TAL COSTS	\$
REGISTRATION	I FORM MUST BE	RECEIVED	NO LATER	THAN AUG	UST 13, 2009

Please send check payable to:

ROBERT F. SAPITA/ Dist. 23 P.O. Box 581 Douglas, MI 49406

Questions? 269-857-2123 Email: bksapita@verizon.net

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INTERNATIONAL ORDER of the BLUE GAVEL 2009 Summer Regional Meeting

August 20-22, 2009

Saugatuck/Douglas, Michigan



EVENT SCHEDULE



Thursday, August 20

2:00	Ship-N-Shore Motel/Boatel Check-in
5:00 - 7:00	Registration (Ship-N-Shore)
5:00 - 7:00	Hospitality (Hosted by Tower Harbor YC & District 23)
7:00	Dinner (Restaurant of your choice)

Friday, August 21	Dress Code: Summer Whites
1 11aay, 7 lagaol = 1	Brees seas: sammer winter

7:00 - 8:30	Continental Breakfast (Ship-N-Shore)
9:00 - 4:00	IOBG Meeting (Douglas Old Schoolhouse)
12:00 - 1:00	IOBG Box Lunch (Douglas Old Schoolhouse)

9:00 - 11:00	IOBGA Meeting (Douglas Library Annex)
12:30 - 2:00	IOBGA Luncheon (Everyday People Café)

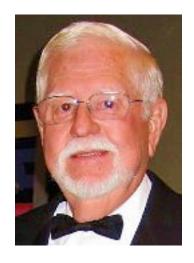


2:00 - 3:00 **IOBG Humanitarian Foundation** (Douglas Library Annex)

5:30 - 6:45	Pig Roast at Mt. Baldhead Park (Saugatuck)
7:30	Sternwheeler Sunset Cruise on Lake Michigan

Saturday, August 22

7:00 - 8:30	Continental Breakfast (Ship-N-Shore)	
9:00 - 12:00	IOBG Meeting (if Needed) (Douglas Old Schoolhouse) Dress Code: Summer Whites	
1:30 - 5:00	Free Time for Relaxing, Shopping, Touring	
5:30- 6:30	Cocktail Hour (Cash Bar - Coral Gables Restaurant)	
6:30	Dinner (Coral Gables) Dress Code: Blue Blazer and Whites	



Legal **O**fficer George C. Knies

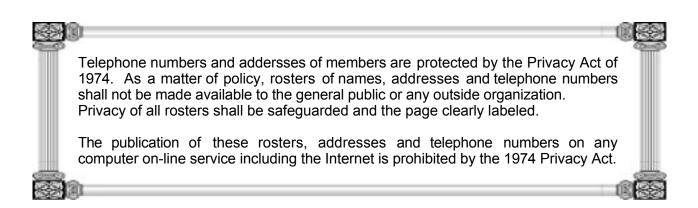
This is the age of irresponsibility. It seems as though most figure's who pass bye the public stage is a liar, a cheat, a fraud or in the case of elected officials, a failure. Child abuse scandals have tarnished the image of Catholic bishops and priests. Steroid scandals have racked Major League Baseball, the tour de France, and the Olympic Games. As the men who brought the financial system to the brink of collapse were cashing in and remodeling their offices, the executives and union officials who bankrupted the American automobile industry were begging the public sector to give them aid. On any given day, any public figure might be arrested, assaulted, admit to infidelity, go bankrupt, or break down emotionally in front of television cameras. There are no consequences, no accountability.

Our organization is going through major changes regarding our Bylaws and the manner in the way we conduct business. In addition to this the national and world economy is in severe recession, or maybe even a depression!

The fact of the matter is that we cannot go back to the way things used to be. Our world and recreational boating environment have become more complex. And we know that there will be new challenges and obstacles to overcome in coming years. Change is becoming the "new norm" in our society.

For some it is the opportunity for camaraderie or leadership - the opportunity to work together towards common goals with others. For others, it may be the opportunity for training - learning better seamanship and navigation skills. It is likely and understandable that some of us may have to cut back on our time commitment as volunteers, as we deal with all the other many challenges in our lives... but I encourage you to stay with your Club and the Blue Gavel in some capacity, and volunteer as you can. It does not matter whether you volunteer a little, or a lot, your efforts are important.

I encourage you to read our amended bylaws, and think about them - and remember that as we are going through tough times, an important part of our IOBG Ethos is to <u>support each other</u>, your Yacht Club and the IOBG.



"HUMAN BALLAST"

A SERIOUS SAFETY ISSUE LEFT UNCHALLENGED! George C. Knies

Did overloading of a 21 foot center console "Everglades" low freeboard boat contribute to it's capsizing in four to five-foot seas in the Gulf of Mexico with two NFL players and two friends recently? I have ten years Gulf of Mexico fishing and CGAUX patrol experience aboard my "Grady White" West of Naples Florida. I learned rapidly to appreciate rapid weather and sea state changes. At the time of this capsizing the crew was attempting to retrieve the anchor that was fouled and they were not wearing PFDs. Unfortunately, the total weight of the four occupants, the sea state and design of the boat contributed to this tragedy.

In the late 90s I participated in the investigation of several incidents of pontoon and deck excursion/tour boats capsizing in the Naples/Fort Myers Florida area due to overloading. More recently there were several small ferry and tour boats that capsized on the East Coast that caused fatalities due to overloading. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has recommended that vessel capacity plates reflect the <a href="https://oxen.pubm.nc.nih.gov/oxen.pubm.nc

According to the National Center for Health Statistics, between 1999 and 2000 the average American male weighed a whopping 190 lbs. Our female counterparts should not smile as the average female tips the scales at 163 lbs. We are getting bigger rapidly and the capacity plates on our boats haven't kept up. Recreational boat manufacturers are currently using 150 lbs. per person.

In 2004, the NTSB recommended that the Coast Guard revise its average body-weight standard of 150 lbs. after a tour boat capsized in Maryland. One year later the standards faced even more scrutiny after another capsizing in New York, in both cases the NTSB found that each passenger weighed nearly 30 to 40 lbs. more than the average weight that the capacity limits were based upon.

Following the New York incident, then Governor George Partaki demanded that the Coast Guard revise its weight standards and directed New York to raise its weight standard to 174 lbs. per passenger for tour boats.

While the Coast Guard was initially slow to respond in 2006 it recommended a new standard of 185 lbs. per passenger for small commercial boats. This is still under review, and to date there has been no mention of amending the weights for recreational boats.

It is glaringly apparent that there is an obesity epidemic in the U.S. affecting children as well as adults. I have been involved in Aviation Safety issues for over fifty years. I have written many articles addressing the obese passengers that require a seatbelt extension to meet the *fasten* seatbelt FAA rule. In the past if you were seated next to a grotesquely/morbidly obese person who was encroaching on your territory you had two alternatives, move to another seat, if none available get off the aircraft. As of April 2009 most major airlines changed their policy; now if your seat belt extension doesn't work and you cannot lower your armrest you have to purchase a second seat. Aircraft weight is an economic as well as a safety factor. I have argued-why should a 150 lb. passenger pay the same fare as a 350 lb. passenger!

The safety conscious boater should take the prudent course and apply the aforementioned NTSB weight criteria, especially on boats of 26 feet or less. Use common sense and not the outdated capacity plate when loading your boat. Should other states follow that of the state of New York?-You bet!!!



US Sailing Representative Report

by Bill Thayer

Due to record breaking support from US Sailing members, US Sailing will cover tuition for young adults (age 18 to 30) to attend the US Sailing Race Management Seminars and Judges workshops. More than \$152,000 was contributed to support "Youth Sailing", disabled sailing assistance, as well as, a new Race Officialship Initiatiative which encourages young sailors to get involved in race administration and participate in local clubs.

New York Yacht Club's Silver Panda (USA 1) bested Australia in the finals, successfully defending their title at the 2009 ISAF Team Racing World Championship held in Perth, Australia from January 31st to February 8th. Teams from Japan, New Zealand, Great Britain, Australia and Ireland, as well as, two teams from the United States competed.

US Sailing and Rolex Watch U.S.A. signed a four year sponsorship through the year 2012.

Terry Hutchinson (Annapolis, MD) and Anna Tunnicliffe (Plantation, FL) were Rolex Yachtsman and Yachtswoman of the year for 2008.

US Sailing waived their banner at the Volvo Ocean Race's only North American stopover in Boston Harbor.

Dave Perry is traveling around holding seminars on "Understanding the Racing Rules of Sailing. The US Sailing Appeals book for 2009-2012 became available in May. It includes the ISAF case book for 2009-2012.



VACATION TIME FOR IOBG SUPPLY OFFICE

Finally a vacation for the able bodied workers of **Commodore Insignia**. IOBG Supply Officer Earl Hohlmayer is sending Dixie and her husband Sandy to Greece on the Oceania cruise line ship -The Nautica. Dixie (the Greek) and Sandy have been working hard keeping the IOBG supply office in excellent condition.

Commodore Insignia will be closed between October 15 - November 2, 2009. There will be no shipping of products. Order early for items you might need for the 2009 ANNUAL MEETING in Orlando, Florida this October 21-25, such as ties cummerbunds belts, etc.

CUSTOM made items, ie IOBG Blazer Emblems, IOBG Name Tags and Shoulder Epaulets take 4 to 5 weeks for delivery, again place custom orders early if you need them in October! Place custom orders in by August.

We are working on an IOBG logo patch for shirts or hats



1380 Centerville Lane #32 Gardnerville, NV 89410-9715

Email: Comsignia@aol.com www.commodoreinsignia.com

Quantity



(775) 782-3380 (800) 315-7485 Fax: (775) 782-4003

IOBG Blazer emblems are authorized for sale by Commodore Insignia. These emblems have the Blue Gavel Burgee on the left staff and the Commodore's club on the right staff. They are available in a white or black background and the price is \$20.95 each plus shipping and tax.

BLAZER EMBLEMS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR THE AUXILIARY

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

Black

White

Unit Price

Total

					-	_		
	IOBG Bla	zer Emblem						
	Auxiliary I	Blazer Emblem						
Plea	ase Print							
ı an	n a paid up member of l I	OBG District #_ OBGA District #_		′achtClub				Year
Sigi	nature			Ship to:				
The	above will be verified.							
Mer	mber will be billed for en	nblems when ship	ped.					
		Cont	act Phone N	lumber: _				
	Email Addresses:							



2009 Annual Meeting **Events Schedule**

Renaissance Orlando Hotel at SeaWorld

Sea Harbor Drive

Orlando, FL 32821

1-800-468-3571 or 407-351-5551



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	<u>Time</u>	No Persons	Event Cost	<u>Total</u>
Wednesday, October 21				
Registration Hospitality Room Dinner - On Your Own	2 :00 - 5:00 PM 4 :00 - 6:00 PM Open		No Charge	
Thursday, October 22	All Meetings - Dre	ss Whites		
Registration Area VP's Round Table Discussion IOBGA - Attractions Lunch - IOBG Area VPs/Dist.Directors Round Table (cont) Hospitality Room Dinner - On Your Own	8:00 - 4:00 PM 9:00 - 11:30 AM 9:00 AM 12:00 - 1:00 PM 1:00 - 3:00 PM 4:00 - 5:30 PM (Three Restaurants i	@ n Hotel)	\$25.00 No Charge	\$
Friday, October 23	IOBG & IOBGA Me	eetings - Dress	<u> Whites</u>	
Registration IOBG Pre-Meeting Discussion IOBGA Pre-Meeting Discussion Joint Lunch District #8 Meeting IOBGHF Meeting Makahiki Luau Dinner Show at SeaWorld	8:00 - 4:00 PM 9:00 - 11:30 AM 9:00 - 11:30 AM 12:00 - 2:00 PM 1:00 - 4:00 PM 2:00 - 4:00 PM 5:00 PM - ?	@	\$25.00 \$53.00	\$ \$
Saturday, October 24	IOBG & IOBGA Me	eetings - Dress	s Whites	
Registration IOBG Annual Meeting IOBGA Annual Meeting Joint Lunch - Speaker District #8 Meeting (continued if necessary) GRAND BALL (Formal Dress) Dinner and Dancing Installation of Officers	8:00 - 9:00 AM 9:00 - 11:30 AM 9:00 - 11:30 AM 12:00 - 2:00 PM 2:00 - 4:00 PM 7:00 - 12:00 AM	@	\$25.00 \$68.00	\$ \$
Sunday, October 25			The same of the sa	
IOBG Fall Regional Meeting	9:00 - 11:00 AM		1	

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2009 Annual Meeting Mail-In Registration Form

Mail-In Registration Form					
Renaissance Orlando Hotel at SeaWorld					
6677 Sea Harbor Drive		Orlando, FL	32821		
Wednesday, October 21 Hospitality Room	No Persons	Event Cost	<u>Total</u>		
Thursday, October 22 Lunch - IOBG (The Renaissance Chicken Caesar)	@	\$25.00	\$		
Friday, October 23 Joint Lunch (The Deli Plate)	@	\$25.00	\$		
Makahiki Luau Dinner Show	@	\$53.00	\$		
Saturday, October 24 Joint Lunch - Speaker (The Plated French Connection)	@	\$25.00	\$		
Dinner and Dancing Installation of Officers	@	\$68.00	\$		
Dinner: Broiled Atlantic Salmon on Sauteed Spinach with Roasted Tomato Coulis. Boneless Breast of Chicken Stuffed with Spinach & Fontina Cheese and Mustard Cognac Sauce. If there is a special diet plate that you need please contact me.					
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		TOTAL:	\$		
Please call the Hotel for room reservations at 1-800-468-3571 before Sept. 25, 2009. When making your reservations mention IOBG for the special rate of \$109.00 for Single or Double This rate is also available for 3 days prior & 3 days after the conference for your leisure					
PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "IC	DBG 2009" AND	SEND THIS EN	ITIRE FORM TO:		
	ifford Lewis		į		
P.O. Box 350886		•	:		
District Number					
NAME		SPOUSE/GUES	ST		
ADDRESS		CITY	I		
STATEZIP CODE		PHONE: ()		
Spouse/Guest is a member of IOBG	IOBGA		· ·		
TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED: \$					
Value managementing project to a secret	N 1 4 Tl.				

Your reservation must be received No Later Than October 16, 2009



Shuttle To Orlando International Airport \$17.00 per person – Reservations Required

Departures from Renaissance Orlando to The Airport Reservations are required and can be obtained at the Service Desk

Should this schedule not be convenient for you, taxi service is available at any time at the bell stand.

The rate to Orlando International Airport is approximately \$55.00.

Shuttle Schedule to Magic Kingdom, EPCOT, Disney's Hollywood Studios and Disney's Animal Kingdom \$16.00 per person Roundtrip – Reservations Required

<u>Departures from Renaissance Orlando</u> 7:05AM, 8:05AM, 9:05AM, 10:05AM, 3:05PM, 4:35PM

Returns begin at the following times:
Hollywood Studios 3:00PM
Magic Kingdom and Animal Kingdom 3:30PM
EPCOT 3:45

Returns continue hourly through 1 hour past scheduled park closing and require reservations at least 90 minutes prior to desired departure time.

For Flights Departing Between		Your Shuttle Pick up time is
5:50 AM	6:45AM	2:55AM
6:50	7:45	3:55
7:50	8:45	4:55
8:50	9:45	5"55
9:50	10:45	6:55
10:50	11:45	7:55
11:50	12:45	8:55
12:50	1:45PM	9:55
1:50PM	2:45PM	10:55
2:50	3:45	11:55
3:50	4:45	12:55PM
4:50	5:45	1:55
5:50	6:45	2:55
6:50	7:45	3:55
7:50	8:45	4:55
5:50	9:45	5:55
9:50	10:45	6:55
10:50	11:45	7:5

COMPLIMENTARY Shuttle To SeaWorld and Aquatica Universal Studios, Island of Adventure and City Walk

<u>Departures from Renaissance Orlando</u> 8:25AM, 9:25AM, 10:25AM, 3:25PM, 4:55PM, 6:25PM

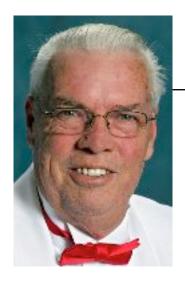
> SeaWorld – 3:30PM Aquatica – 3:20PM Universal Studios – 3:15PM Island of Adventure – 3:15PM City Walk – 3:15PM through 2:15AM

Returns continue hourly through 2 hours past scheduled park closing times and require reservations

Shuttle Schedule to Downtown Disney, Blizzard Beach and Typhoon Lagoon

\$16.00 per person Roundtrip – Reservations Required

Departures from Renaissance Orlando 7:25AM, 8:25AM, 9:25AM, 10:25AM, 3:25PM, 4:55PM



Worthwestern V.

OV. P.

Districts 1, 2, 4, 5 & 24

Art Kovarnik

District 1 Mary Nye Meyers, Director

Like most of the Districts...with the arrival of Spring and Summer comes the flurry of activity associated with the boating season and the people who love it. District 1 is no exception.

We began our festivities with the combined District 1 and District 5 Spring Meeting held in Hood River, Oregon on April 24-26. Members from both Districts attended the meeting and braved the wind and occasional rain.

Pictured from left to right: Dist. 5 members- P/P Ev Roberts & President Bob Gedde. Dist. 1 members- President Jim Hinckley & Dist. Director Mary Nye Meyers



All 57 attendees motored to the Cascade Locks to board the Columbia Gorge Sternwheeler for a 3-hour cruise. I was told that some of the group was seen leaving the pilot house after having a short stint at



District 1 - Continued Mary Nye Meyers, Director

District 1 was well represented at the Opening Day ceremony held at the Seattle Yacht Club on May 2nd. The annual parade with over 300 boats and 23 classes launched the first official day of boating season here in the Pacific Northwest. The dance hall 'ladies', sheriffs, gunfighters, cowboy hats and headdresses further authenticated this year's theme - "Wild, Wild West".



On July 10-12, we are traveling again...this time to our neighbors to the north for another shared District Summer Picnic with the IOBG Canadian Chapters at the West Bank Yacht Club on Lake Okanogan in Kelowna, British Columbia. We always have a wonderful time visiting with our Canadian friends.

Thanks to our hardworking Board, we have begun to see some success in District 1's utilization of the Marketing Plan introduced by 2nd Vice President Marc Connelly. We have all pulled together to develop new ways to communicate with our members. Using our new **E-lert system** we can instantly email our members with updates, announcements and reminders. On a more traditional note, we have also mailed letters of interest and invitation to our 22 active Chapters, 29 prospective Chapters and 35 inactive Chapters. District 1 has 149 members, based on the data from the same time last year...we have added 7 new members and lost NONE. Slowly but surely, we are seeing good things happening with the membership.

In this age of instant communication, I believe that the more we can do to keep in touch with our members, the more it will benefit us all. Consider establishing an E-lert system or maybe even your own District web site. Your web site can then be linked to the main IOBG web site. These are just some ideas that we are using in District 1.

Hope to see you in Saugatuck/Douglas, Michigan in August.





Districts 6, 10, 11,14,15,16, 19, 21 Larry Draper

In January, I attended an Awards & Installation of Officers at Del Rey Yacht Club for the Association of Santa Monica Bay Yacht Clubs.

On March 14 & 15, Deanna and I traveled to Southern California for the Opening Days at Marina Del Rey. The two-day event hosted by seven yacht clubs is always an enjoyable weekend.

We attended Northern California Opening Days in April.. On April 4th I had the honor to be a judge in the South Bay Opening Day. On the 26th we participated in Opening Day on the Bay, "Legends of the Sea". My yacht club, Oyster Point, won 4 trophies; the "Boat US, Ward Cleaveland" trophy for "Best Over-all", 2nd place for best decorated power boat, 1st place for flags and streamers, and the coveted Claude Benham trophy for the greatest number of participants in ratio to number of boats in the club and distance traveled. Deanna and I were honored to accept the "Benham" at a recent PICYA meeting.

On June 19, 2009 we attended the dedication of a new chapter in District 14 and the installation of new IOBG members at Marin Yacht Club in San Rafael, CA. George Knies was installing officer. Vern Bendsen, Larry Draper and Dist. 14 President, Lenworth Gordon assisted. The new members were Paul Simmons, William Olsen, Ric Laurence, Chuck Essayan, Ron Witsel and Jim Aberer.



On June 27 District 19 VP Herman Meyer and IOBGA District 19 President, Sue Meyer, hosted a barbecue at their ranch near Stockton, CA. This followed a wine tasting at a nearby winery. On July 25 District 19 will have an appreciation day and nomination for officers for the next year.

See you in Michigan. Page 24

District 10
LaVon Plumlee. President

Welcome Aboard to our newest member, Janet Satterfield from Single Sailors' Yacht Club. The induction ceremony was performed at our District 10 Welcome Aboard Prime Rib dinner for our new members at Bunker 33 aboard the Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach. Attendance by our members was outstanding. Our guests for the dinner included Captain Jon Kurtz, Commanding Officer of the Naval Weapons Station, and his wife. New members present at our dinner included P/C Ken Griffing and his wife Judy, and P/C Bill Wheeler plus our newly inducted member, P/C Janet Satterfield from Single Sailors' Yacht Club. Welcome aboard! We enjoyed meeting our new members, and we know they enjoyed the evening.

Events for the Charity Regatta begin next month with a Swap Meet on July 11th. Join us for our Pancake Breakfast followed by Hot Dogs adjacent to the Seal Beach Yacht Club. All funds from the Charity Regatta go towards the Long Beach Children's Clinic.

Fair winds and have a nice summer.



New Member Janet Satterfield (left) with Dist. 10 President LaVon Plumlee

District 14
George Knies, Secretary/Alt.Dist. Director

April saw District 14 participating in the South Bay Opening Day ceremonies by conducting a District meeting and serving on committees. Linda Bendsen was one of the judges for the decorated boat parade, also in attendance were 1st VP Vern Bendsen, SEVP Larry Draper, District 14 Director Shirley Ahlf and many more. The Central Bay (San Francisco Bay) Opening Day was planned by P/C Reg. Smith, Vice Commodore of the PICYA. District 14 provided the Media Boat, "El Nido" with P/Cs Jim Aberer, Sandy Aberer and myself on board. P/C Gordon Strom won first place for the best kids decorated boat.

In May our District provided the Race Committee and boat for the 2nd Interclub Race on San Francisco Bay. On May 9th there was a cruise-in to Treasure Island for the annual KABOOM fireworks display.

The Marin Yacht Club will receive their Chapter Charter during ceremonies on June 19th. District 14 will participate in the Summer Sailstice weekend activities taking place on Treasure Island June 19 – 21.

As of this date District 14 has 54 members 11 of which are new.

District 15 Linda Loftis, Dist. Director

I enjoyed the IOBGA member luncheon and look forward to the clambake on June 20th with Navy Yacht Club and Chula Vista Yacht Club. The District will pay part of the cost in appreciation to all members and spouses. We plan to have a luncheon in July at CVYC and later a trip to the casino with the IOBGA.

The Change of Watch will be at SGYC on October 3 and a Silent Auction for the Humanitarian Fund.

I am currently working with the newsletter editor to have a District 15 Directory made for all members.

District 19
Gary McGrath, District Director

Our last function was our annual District Cruise out to Stockton Yacht Club. We had six boats. After our meeting, we joined the Stockton YC members in a roasted pig dinner. After dinner there was a flag retirement ceremony where anybody can bring an American flag that is worn out or torn. I had a previous engagement so I could not stay, but I understand it is quite a ceremony.

Our membership in District 19 is 161 members (18 new and reinstated from 2008), we had a total of 31 members that did not renew from 2008. President Joan Marsh Clune has assigned those errant members to various Board members for follow up contact. We are currently engaged in that endeavor. The District has 28 Chapters and we only got 14 new Commodores to join this year. That has been an ongoing problem so the District has come up with some ideas to try and remedy that in the next year's recruitment. We are in somewhat of a dilemma in that IOBG is by invitation so our efforts must be to recreate the interest of those delinquent Commodores in order for them to nominate their current Commodores next year.

Last week we had a wine tasting and barbeque at our VPs (Herman Meyer) ranch. This was a well attended event and a good time was had by all even though the temperature hit triple digits. Again, it seems that the event meeting seem to bring out the most members.

Upcoming in July 26 is our Member Appreciation Day and this year it will be held at Windmill Cove Resort and Marina.

Members John and Lucille Anthony have graciously consented to put on a Lobster feed as a campaign fundraiser for Verne Bendson's inauguration.

District 51
Linda Loftus, District Director

I sent postcards to all members reminding them of dues to be paid and some answered. As it stands, I have only 7 out of 26 members paid. I am disappointed by this response, but understand the reasons - what with the economy, distance of several of the members and lack of local representation.

I wanted to let the District members know how I am voting on these measures and assure them that I will represent their District until the Annual meeting in October 2009. If any members of the District wish to be appointed to District 51 Director, please advise:President Jerry Rudd at his email address: jrjackie1@comcast.net



Worth Central V. P.

Districts 7, 9, 23, 25

Francis D. Ramsey

District 7
Tony Caruso, Dist. Director

In Janary, District 7 had an E-Board meeting at Lakeside Yacht Club in Cleveland to plan the events and functions for 2009. We provided staffing for a booth at the Mid-America Boat Show in Cleveland to further our mission in the boating community.

We also had an E-Board meeting in March where we finalized our District budget and provided for fund raising events and planned our donations for 2009.

On March 20 & 21, we held our Presidents Ball at the DoubleTree Inn. Attendance in this economy was somewhat lower than expected but almost 70 people attended and enjoyed the social functions. Even with the small attendance, we had a net profit of \$554.00.

On April 16 we held our "Blue Blazer Social" in the Penthouse at Bratenahl Place. This is our major membership event held every year. We invite the Past Commodores and the current year's Commodores from each of the 55 Chapters in District 7. This is an evening event of light refreshments, snacks, etc. The Bridge Officers and other interested members attend and make certain that the invited guests understand our organization and its

goals. Since its inception in 2002, the Blue Blazer Social has been a good method to obtain members.

I am certain that other Districts share the same problems in generating new memberships and the same difficulties in explaing our mission. As an example, we invited 139 individuals to this function and received responses only from 6 individuals. Yet 25 potential members came and we signed up 4 new members that evening with each new member's wife joining the IOBGA that night.

We had an E-Board meeting May 14th at Edgewater Yacht Club where we decided that the success of the social function justified trying this method of membership development in our in-land yacht club Chapters. We held a "Blue Blazer South" function on June 4 and invited 39 potential members from the 5 in-land Chapters. About 7-8 attended but we were able to sign 6 new members for IOBG and all of the wives joined IOBGA.

Combined with the one-on-one efforts from the Bridge Officers, we've added 22 new members to date in 2009. Offsetting our gains, we still have 86 members who have not paid 2009 dues.

District 9
Jack White, Dist. Director

District 9 had a successful fund raiser with its recent annual pig roast. The net proceeds are contributed to our local humanitarian fund and used to promote local charities. Funds have been sent to the Sight Center of Toledo - Juvenile Program, Vail Meadows for the Handicapped, Wertz Warriors - Special Olympics and some local food banks.

We are embarking upon a program to set up a fund to provide for the payment of Blue Gavel dues for our members who are in an extreme hardship position rather than, after many years of service to our organization, have them drop out due to their financial stress.

Monroe Boat Club has an antique car show and fund raiser in August, Cooley Canal YC has a dinner in November, Ottawa River YC has a fish fry coming up, Point Place BC has their famous roast beef dinner at the poker run in August.

Western Lake Erie Cruising Association is offering its expertise in predicted log training to any Blue Gavel Chapter.

District 9's membership is down overall and the E-board is working deligently to promote and recover our membership back to the 300's.

District 23
Bob Sapita, President

Greetings from District 23!

The Tower Harbour YC chapter has been active in two areas. One has been the promotion of IOBG to other yacht clubs and the other has been the preparation for hosting the 2009 Summer Meeting. While we haven't been successful in getting any new clubs to join to date, we are still working the issue. In an effort to get our 'foot in the door' we have offered to present to several clubs in the area the newly developed presentation on flag etiquette. In addition, we have mailed letters to 12 clubs in the area inviting them to attend a 'Let's Get Acquainted' session during our upcoming Summer Meeting. We are hopeful some new members and Chapters will materialize from these efforts.

Arrangements are well in place for the upcoming Summer Meeting here in the Saugatuck/Douglas area. We have been successful in securing waterfront lodging, appetizing catering, sunset cruising, and other attractions that should ensure a productive, edifying, and relaxing meeting experience.

We are particularly excited about having the recently restored 1866 'Old Schoolhouse' as a meeting venue. The area is so rich in 19th Century history and architecture that meeting there will certainly reinforce the values of tradition and service, two principles of the IOBG.

Our Chapter here, the officers and members of the Tower Harbour Yacht Club, are excited about hosting the Summer Meeting and are looking forward to making new friends and sharing our 'Art Coast of Michigan' with our fellow IOBG members. We will see you all at 42.64° N, 86.20° W - August 20-22!



Wortheastern V.P.

Districts 3, 12, 20, 26, 27

Chuck Browning

District 3
Lewis W. Smith, District Director

District 3 President Warren Schafer presided over an Executive Board meeting on June 16th. He recently underwent chemotherapy and has come through it very well. P/C Donald Peacock reported that District 3 has 138

members and has stayed almost the same for the last two years. The meeting's main objective was to make sure our summer social events are ready to roll.

P/C Paul Schneeberger has set up a summer party at the Buffalo Launch Club on July 23rd. Several members will provide their yachts for rides on the Niagara River, after which we will enjoy the club's hospitality at the "Lodge". Auxiliary members will conduct a raffle in continuing support of the "Excalibur" organization.

On August 12th, Tuscarora Yacht Club will host a Blue Gavel summer sail. P/C's Bill Guggemos and David McLeod have arranged an afternoon sail followed by dinner at their Lake Ontario club. Olcott Yacht Club is actively supporting junior sailing on Lake Ontario and Niagara Sailing Club is again sponsoring a learn to sail week on the Niagara River.

District 20
David Meshulam, District Director

District 20 had 9 P/C's attend the meeting last night representing 6 of our Chapters. Dave passed along my offer to attend and had the following results:

The consensus was that they had to concentrate on building the Chapters by convincing the P/C's that they are benefiting from membership in IOBG. The feeling is still that the members get nothing from the national organization for their \$40 membership fee. Keep in mind that except for Dave, the President, and 2 other members, none have gone to a Regional meeting. They also feel that the voting procedures now in place do not give any say to the individual member. Dave will address that issue after reviewing the bylaws as suggested. They will continue as a District for this year and will decide before the end of the year whether to continue.

To increase participation in their IOBG Chapter, District 20 is offering to support individual projects. Dave's yacht club Chapter; as well as 2 other Chapters are donating copies of <u>Watersmart from the Start</u> for distribution to kids. They are now able to get the texts free (paying only for freight) from the United States Power Squadron. This will certainly give P/C's and IOBG recognition.

District 26

District 26 is holding its 1St Annual "Thanks to a Vet Day" on September 13, 2009. All IOBG Chapters of District 26 are encouraged to invite disadvantaged Veterans and their guests to come to their respective clubs and spend a few hours on club member boats, either sail or power – touring their respective harbors. Some Clubs have done this in the past with great success.

Again this year District 27 will be raising funds to support two different charities, "Vet's on the Bay" will take out wounded veterans and their families for a day of relaxation and boating, also they will be raising funds for "Children of Fallen Soldiers" this organization supports children who have lost their Father, Mother or both parents in Iraq or Afghanistan.



Eastern Yacht Club

I would like to extend my thanks to Eastern Yacht Club for submitting their Chapter Membership Application and requesting to be part of District 27. Welcome aboard.

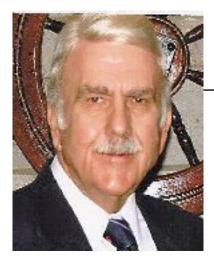
White Rocks Yacht Club is our newest IOBG Chapter in District 27 and I know we will be hearing a great deal from them in the future. Congratulations Commodore Brian & First Lady Joan

Bush River Yacht Club

Has scheduled their Opening Day Ceremonies on June 13, 2009. This is a big function with many sister yacht clubs and IOBG Chapters from all over the Chesapeake Bay in attendance. Congratulations to Commodore Tom Dice and First Lady Janis.

Bush River Yacht Club IOBG Chapter held their Dinner/Membership meeting on April 2, 2009. This meeting included their spouses for the first time and it was a big success.





Southeastern V.SP.

Districts 8 & 18 Tom Sullivan

District 8 held it's first official meeting on April 17 & 18 2009 at Royal Palm YC, Ft. Myers, Florida---and what a meeting it was !!

The following Officers were sworn in by SEVP Tom Sullivan:

DISTRICT PRESIDENT A.Lee Clifford of Royal Palm YC

VICE PRESIDENT Thomas "Joe" Dowdell of Marathon YC

SECRETARY/TREASURER Robert Pease of Royal Palm YC LEGAL OFFICER John A. Schultz of Venice YC

SUPPLY OFFICER Bob Shogren of Treasure Island Tennis & YC

GULF STREAM EDITOR Harvey Sussel of North Palm Beach YC

It was interesting to note that almost all those sworn in were members of the Florida Council of Yacht Clubs.

District Director De Ramsey was sworn in via telephone and will be available for duty in mid June.

In attendance were at least 32 members who were enthusiastic and focused on making District 8 whole again after the previous Board resigned to form a new organization last December (08).

We had a quorum and a proxy authorization was taken in addition to a mail in ballot which overwhelmingly elected the Board. Questions from the floor were fielded and it was interesting to note that everyone (except one person) attended the meeting to see District 8 "off and running" once again.

A plaque was presented to PC Hal Slaughter, Commodore of the Royal Palm YC for hosting this very important meeting.

Most members and their guests stayed on for lunch and renewed old friendships.

In the early evening, a cocktail party was held and dinner (off the menu) was served to some 80 people. Continuous music for listening and dancing had many "punishing the Parquet" and an enjoyable time was had by all.

My thanks to PC Lee Clifford for serving once again as District 8 President and PC Bob Pease for arranging this meeting at their Club. Kudos also go to the Past Commodores Mates Auxl., the Chefs, and the entire staff for making this weekend one that will be remembered.

District 8 is looking forward to holding it's Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL, with the International in October---- and honoring one of it's own, PC Ray Thompson.

The District is also extending a welcoming greeting to PIP Art (and Betty) Theobald when they arrive in Cape Coral; which is also the home of District President Lee Clifford and District Director De Ramsey.



President-Elect Ray Thompson (District 8) being Knighted in Portland, Oregon (2009 Spring Regional Meeting).

Dorothy Thompson & Family



District 18

PC John McAlister of Charleston Yacht Club reports that three Past Commodores will be applying for IOBG Membership.

Discussions are presently taking place with Dist. 18 Chapters for a much needed leadership team. PC Mike Barrow of Ft. Loudoun YC (Tenn.) is leading these discussions.



In Remembrance... Daniel Redner...2006 President District 8

LTC Redner passed away Saturday, February 14th in Ormond Beach, Florida. After attending the United States Military Academy at West Point, he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant and served in command and teaching staff positions in the U.S. and Germany before being assigned to the war in Viet Nam.

Upon retirement from teaching staff at Fort Benning, Georgia, he moved to Ormond Beach in 1983 with his wife, Louise. He became Commodore of the Halifax River Yacht Club in 2002 and District President in 2006.

To those who knew him best, he will be remembered as a man who by his actions, maintained the highest traditions of the military and lived by the code of the Long Gray Line, "Duty, Honor, Country".



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 contibutor will be awarded a distinctive "action for life" pin which signifies their status as a patron of the foundation.

"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.



Hinckley

There have been two LAP applications received by the Humanitarian Foundation requesting grants since our last Winter Regional meeting held in San Diego in February.

One project called "Panthers at Sea" was a joint venture project with Long Beach Singles Yacht Club and Jordan High School students from Long Beach, California. This project entailed

taking biology students on a one day sailing excursion at sea, providing the students an opportunity to experience an outing on the open ocean in a caring, instructional, and nutritional environment, broadening their appreciation of the sea environment and developing a respect for the ocean eco-system. This outing was followed up with enhanced classroom instruction.

The second application was submitted by District 19 IOBGA to help fund scholarships for the Girls Sea Scouts crewing on the "Tiki Too", a 95 Foot Viet Nam era gun boat PTF-26. The all-girl crew attends weekly meetings and scheduled events three weekends per month, eleven months per year. In 1983, the Tiki Too was the first all-female unit to earn CLIPPER CLASS - the Ancient Mariner Regatta's highest award and have repeated this feat on many occasions since. At our Board meeting in held on June 4th in Portland, Oregon, the IOBGHF agreed to issue District 19 Auxiliary a check a in the sum of \$1000 to be presented to the Girls Sea Scouts to be used for scholarships and safety equipment on the "Tiki Too" Program.

Information about the IOBGHF and LAP applications can now be found on the IOBG website. Go to IOBG.org and click on LINKS. In short we still need to create some fundraisers to help out our coffers so that we can



Chairman of the Board

P/P Marion Hughes 3608 Road #84 Pasco, WA 99301 Tel: 509-547-6743 marion.hughes@att.net

President & CEO

P/C Jim Hinckley 4017 S. Auburn St. Kennewick, WA 99337 Tel: 509-582-7590 Cell: 509-528-4874 jimandbetts@verizon.net

Vice President & Southwestern VP

P/P Carol Promessi 128 Pelican Loop Pittsburg, CA 94565-2002 Tel/Fax: 925-427-6250 cpromessi@comcast.net

Secretary

Carol Garside, IOBGA P/P 3336-C Sunset Key Circle Punta Gorda, FL 33955-1970

Tel: 941-639-1630 Cell: 734-658-6997 cgarside1@juno.com (Mid May - September) 20230 Island Estate Drive Grosse Ile, MI 48138-1263 Tel: 734-671-6997

Treasurer & Chief Financial Officer

Jackie Evans Rudd, IOBGA P/P 37834 43rd Ave. S Auburn, WA 98001 Tel: 253-838-9027

Bus: 425-460-8456 jrjackie1@comcast.net

Chief Legal Officer

P/C J. Mark Montobbio 17 Caribe Isle Novato, CA 94949 Tel: 415-883-3436 Cell: 415-382-6028 tobbio@aol.com

Director & Northeastern VP

P/P Art Theobald 2710 SW 47th Terr. Cape Coral, FL 33914 Tel: 239-471-2000 art.theobald@ymail.com

Director & North Central VP

P/P Art Garside 3336-C Sunset Key Circle Punta Gorda, FL 33955-1970 Tel: 941-639-1630

Cell: 734-658-6997 agarside1@juno.com (June - September) 20230 Island Estate Drive Grosse Ile, MI 48138-1263 Tel: 734-671-6997

Director

P/C George Demos 16641 Edgewater Lane Huntington Beach, CA 92649 Tel: 714-846-1572 HHYC97@aol.com

Director & Southeastern VP

P/C Bob Shogren 12250 5th Street East Treasure Island, FL 33706 Tel: 727-360-3809 shogren@ij.net

IOBGHF P/P & Ambassador

P/C Joan Marsh-Clune 258 Heron Drive Pittsburg, CA 94565 Tel: 925-427-6607 Bus: 415-399-6474 Cell: 925-864-1381 jmarsh6607@yahoo.com jmarsh@wsandco.com

Ambassador & Northwestern VP

P/P Ira Nies 3812 E. Evergreen Blvd. Vancouver, WA 98661 Tel: 360-695-5742 <u>irasnies@hotmail.com</u> (Winter) 18858 N. 96th Lane Peoria, AZ 85382

Ambassador, IOBGA P/P

Jerry Keys, IOBGA P/P 2697 Cabin Drive Wickliffe, OH 44092 Tel: 440-944-6350 jkeysails@aol.com (January - April) 700 Teryl Rd #1 Naples, FL 34112 Tel: 239-715-6350

Ambassador

Lucille (Lucy) Anthony 171 Bel Air Circle Fairfield, CA 94533 Tel: 707-399-8283 jojotolly1@aol.com

Ambassador

Patricia Graven, IOBGA P/P 116 North Rocky River Drive Berea, OH 44017 Cell: 216-389-3020 pgraven1@yahoo.com

Ambassador

P/C Bill Young 5 Grasmere Grove Rochester Kent, England ME2 4PN Tel: 44-0-163-471-3478 bluesil@hotmail.com



President

Audrey Hall (Dist 15) 2063 Grandview St. Oceanside, CA 92054

Tel: 760-757-6796 hulakai2@cox.net

President Elect **Lucille Anthony (Dist 19)** 171 Bel Air Circle Fairfield, CA 97533

Tel: 707-399-8283 JoJotolly1@aol.com

Vice President

Ann Knies (Dist 14) 2333 Lariat Lane Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Tel: 925-939-0230 Fax: 925-944-0474 BambiAnn@earthlink.net

Secretary

Deanna Tomei (Dist 19) 753 Chestnut Ave. San Bruno, CA 94066

Tel: 650-871-0802 dhtomei7057@att.net

Treasurer

Susan Sullivan (Dist 8) 1213 SW Eagleglen PL Stuart, FL 34997

Tel: 772-223-8789 sueandts@bellsouth.net

Immediate Past President

Pat Janiszewski (Dist 12) 9 Deer Run Road Parkertown, NJ 08087 Tel: 606-294-2393

richardjaniszewski@msn.com

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International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary



President Audrey Hall

By the time you read this, summer will have officially started. I know everyone has been ready to take their boat to the water. Whether you are cruising or racing we all have this wonderful camaraderie, the love of the water.

My special thanks to the Auxiliary members of the Portland Yacht Club for hosting our Regional Meeting this year. A meeting room was set up and ready for us to start. We accomplished a great deal and we have decided the rest of the year's goal will be to "have fun while fund raising."

Another special thanks to the Tyee Yacht Club for the great dinner they put together for the IOBG/A. All of us enjoyed the great camaraderie that this organization seems to generate. We made many new friends, as well as, renewed the old friendships.

We have three (3) good ways to connect with each other:

- 1. Contact me at hulakai2@cox.net or 760-757-6796
- 2. The Blue Gavel LOG Newsletter
- 3. Our own web site at **www.iobga.org**

We have our own site that you can put in your 'favorites' or 'bookmarks' when you need to find the latest information about what's happening with our Auxiliary."

You can go directly to our site at www.iobga.org (instead of clicking on the Links section of the IOBG web site and then looking for the Auxiliary site).

Our website has our section of the LOG newsletter for your convenience along with all the information you will need to help you stay in touch with your fellow members.

Please let me know what you think of our site and please don't hesitate to add your events.

Our next meeting will be in Saugatuck/Douglas, Michigan on August 20, 2009. District 23 is hard at work getting everything ready for us. We hope to be able to meet and greet many new friends of our Auxiliary. I do hope some of you will be able to join with us. Many of the details are on <u>our website</u> so please check to see what we are going to do and hopefully you can find something that will interest you enough to join in the fun.

Remember our goal this year "fun while fund raising"



IOBG Huxiliary Directory

DIRECTORS

Immediate Past President (2008)
Pat Janiszewski District 12
9 Deer Run Road
Parkertown, NJ 08087
Tel: 609-294-2393
richardjaniszewski@msn.com

Senior Past President (2007)
Patricia (Pat) Graven District 7
116 North Rocky Driver Drive
Berea, OH 44017
Cell: 216-389-3020
pgraven1@yahoo.com

Northeast Betsy Sanders 716-886-7653 Northwest Betty Hinckley

orthwest Betty Hinckley 509-582-7590

North Central Hope Mcleod

Southeast OPEN

Southwest Deanna Tomei

925-325-2623

England Sue Young

44-0-163-471-3478

Hawaii Open

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

AUXILIARY LOG EDITOR

Audrey Hall District 15 2063 Grandview St.

Oceanside, CA 92054 Tel: 760-757-6796 hulakai2@cox.net

WEBMASTER

Mary Nye Meyers District 1
P.O. Box 44130

Tacoma, WA 98448 Tel: 253-224-8592

fire_n_ice104@hotmail.com

UNITED KINGDOM
MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Sue Young 5 Grasmere Grove

Rochester

Kent, England ME2 4PN Tel: 44-0-163-471-3478 bluesil@hotmail.com District 70

Northwest Regional Report Betty Hinckley, District 1 President/ Director

District 1 and District 5 assembled at the Hood River Inn in Hood River, Oregon, on April 24-26, 2009 for a joint meeting of the two Districts. There were 14 members and guests present at the Saturday morning meeting. Two new members were inducted into the IOBGA: Diane Burns, Emerald Rose Yacht Club and Susan Williams, Seabacs Yacht Club. Leona Pointer, a charter member of District 1 IOBGA and a member of Spokane Yacht Club, was reinstated. Everyone present won a raffle prize. \$93 was raised for the three charities: Make-a-Wish, Wishing Star, and the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation.

Peter DeBoer, retired Coast Guard after 23 years of service, President of the Chamber of Commerce in Kingston, Kingston Port Commissioner, and Past Commodore of Kingston Cove Yacht Club, presented an excellent report on the proper use of the Maritime VHF radio. The three- hour dinner cruise aboard the Columbia Sternwheeler out of Cascade Locks on Saturday evening was a fitting ending to an outstanding weekend. The rain subsided and a double rainbow spanned the Columbia River Gorge from one side of the river to the other.

All Officers and Trustees of District 1 were invited to attend the Opening Day ceremony at Seattle Yacht Club on May 2, 2009. The theme "Wild, Wild, West" was quite evident as we walked the grounds or the docks and ran into lawmen, gunfighters and dance hall girls in the SYC Corral. The annual parade with over 300 boats in 23 different classes cruised past the judges through the Montlake Cut into Lake Washington. Aboard "Why Dreme", a 70 foot Horizon, IOBG and IOBGA participants enjoyed the unofficial first day of boating season.

Betts Hinckley, Gerva Hughes and Jackie Rudd represented District 1 IOBGA at the Spring Regional Meeting in Portland, Oregon, on June 4, 2009. Everyone should check out our web site: **www.iobga.org** for interesting information concerning the Auxiliary.

Everyone is looking forward to the upcoming Summer Picnic, July 10-12, 2009 with the Canadian Chapters at West Bank Yacht Club in Kelowna, B.C. on Lake Okanogan. We are expecting a grand turnout. The District 1 Fall Meeting at the Des Moines Yacht Club will be held September 18 - 20, 2009. Looking way ahead into the New Year, why don't you plan to attend the Spring IOBG Meeting for District 1 at Clover Island Yacht Club's new facility? Put the IOBG International Convention on your calendar for October 22-25, 2009 in Orlando, Florida at the entrance to Sea World. SEE YOU THERE!

Southwest Regional Report Deanna Tomei, Director

From January through March Larry and I attended as many Opening Day events as possible in Southern California. In between these events was the San Diego meeting, which I missed due to hospitalization. I want to thank Lucy Anthony for doing the minutes of the meeting.

Larry and I attended Northern California Opening Days in April. On April 4th we attended the South Bay Opening Day, "Legends of the Bay". On the 26th we participated in Opening Day on the Bay, "Legends of the Sea". Our yacht club, Oyster Point, won 4 trophies. More details in SW Vice President Larry Draper's article.

On June 19, 2009 we attended the dedication of a new Chapter in District 14 and the installation of new IOBG members at Marin Yacht Club in San Rafael, CA. We were asked to sit at various tables around the room and talk about IOBG. What a great way to meet the new members and what delightful tablemates we had! Two newly inducted members were at our table and we had no lack of things to talk about.

On June 27, District 19 VP Herman Meyer and IOBGA District 19 President, Sue Meyer, hosted a barbecue at their ranch near Stockton, CA. This followed a wine tasting at a nearby winery. On July 25, District 19 will have an Appreciation Day and nomination for Officers for the next year.

See you in Michigan. Page 38

District 15
Judy Longfellow, President

The District 15 IOBGA had a great New Member Lunch at the Bali Hai Restaurant in March where we welcomed our new members. We sold raffle tickets for a beautiful basket, put together by Grace Hansen, to raise money for

the Humanitarian Fund. Another basket with an Italian theme was donated by Judy Longfellow, which included her own homemade Limon cello, and was won by one of our new members.

Our next project is going to be in August and will be a fundraiser for a special group in San Diego. It a PHANTOM CRUISE. Please watch for your invitations. You will not want to miss out on this exciting fundraiser!

November 7th we will be taking a bus to Viejas to have fun and do some early Christmas Shopping. We will have some refreshments on the bus so it should be a fun time on our way out there. We want to fill the bus, so please feel free to ask friends to join you. More details about the trip will be out by the first part of October.

So far the rest of our year has been going great with attending the many Opening Days in our area and also going to the San Diego Association of Yacht Club dinners each month, where we have sold several of the IOBGA Cookbooks.

District 26
Christine Swett, Secretary

The Mt. Sinai Yacht Club IOBGA ladies held their 4th Annual Fashion Show and Luncheon with over 65 in attendance. A delicious buffet luncheon catered by the MSYC kitchen and the IOBGA ladies and family members modeled great fashions from Laurie Anne's Fashion Boutique of Mt. Sinai. Over 60 raffle

baskets contributed to the success of this event. The IOBGA was able to donate a total of \$1,800 to twelve worthy organizations, including local soup kitchens, churches, and other needy charities.

Once again, thanks to all of our members that helped with this event: Gail Schaeffer (coordinator), Lori Salyer (door), Chris Swett (50/50), Cathy Prwivo (MC and makeup), Ginny Larson (server), Laura Bertolotti (our basket lady), Dottie Mahon (ticket sales), Diane Dick (raffles), Lynne Laucella (raffles), Colleen Farrell (hair), Eileen Budney (door) and Deirdre Davis (support). Models this year were Lynne Laucella, Cathy Prwivo's granddaughter, Kara Haas, Gail Schaeffer's daughter, Tracey Egerter, and Gail's granddaughter, Gabrielle Tatilian.

At our May meeting we elected a new President, Dottie Mahon. Our other Officers will remain at their posts: Lori Salyer, VP; Chris Swett, Secretary, and Cathy Prwivo, Treasurer. Thanks to our out-going President Gail Schaeffer for a great two years. We all look forward to pursuing some new fund raising ideas that Dottie has suggested.

In April, members Chris Swett, Lori Salyer, and Eileen Budney assisted the Mt. Sinai Harbor Beach Committee by signing up workers and serving lunch to the many volunteers helping to clean up our beach for the William Waltz Memorial Beach Clean-



2009 DISTRICT OFFICERS & AREAS SERVED

PRESIDENT- Northwest Jim Hinckley (Betty) 4017 South Auburn St. Kennewick, WA 98337 Tel: 509-582-7590 Cell: 509-582-4874 Cell: 509-582-4874 jimand betts@verizon.net SECRETARY Ken Quimby (Lynne) 317 So. Shelley Lake Lane Spokane, WA 99037 Tel: 509-990-5670 klquimby@comcast.net

PRESIDENT - Canada Ed Ackerman (Marilyn) 308-10461 Resthaven Dr. Sidney, BC Canada V8L 3H6 Tel: 250-656-7799 Fax: 250-656-1242 eimut88@shaw.ca SECRETARY/TREASURER John Biggs (Carole) 6406 McKenzie Dr. Duncan, BC Canada V9L 5R9 Tel: 250-746-4941 Bus:250-754-8435 johncarole@shaw.com

PRESIDENT- Northeast Warren C. Schafer (Kathleen) 7241 Plank Road Lockport, NY 14094 Tel: 716-439-8059 wcsunit@netscape.com SECRETARY Robert Schmidt (Donna) Anherst, NY 14228
Tel: 716-688-8095
Cell: 716-863-0944
bdschmidt9@aol.com

PRESIDENT- Canada Ron Defieux (Linda) 641 Blueridge Ave. N. Vancouver, BC V74 2J4 N. Vancouver, BC V74 2J4
Canada
Tel: 604-987-7425
Fax: 604-985-7263
rdefieux@shaw.ca
SECRETARY
Betty Harris-Peake (Dennis)
1078 English Bluff Rd.
Delta, BC V4M 2N6 - Canada
Tel: 604-943-4923
Fax: 604-943-1205 Fax: 604-943-1205 bettyharrispeake@hotmail.com

PRESIDENT - Northwest Bob Gedde (Lorraine) 12532 SE Mill Court Portland, OR 97225 Tel/Bus: 503-254-0234 Cell: 503-473-7216 bobgedde@yahoo.com SECRETARY SECRETARY
Joy Brown (Ken)
8895 SW Homewood
Portland, OR 97225
Tel: 503-292-6925
Cell: 503-819-9598
wekenjoy@cs.com

PRESIDENT - Southwest PRESIDENT - Southwest Ronald L. Dodini (Becky) 44-128 Keaalau Place Kaneohe, HI 96744 Tel: 808-235-2470 Bus: 808-294-0135 huiana@hawaii.rr.com SECRETARY Donna B. Salisbury (Ed) 98-988 Palola Way Aiea HI 96701 Aiea, HI 96701 Tel: 808-485-0002 donnaned@earthlink.net

PRESIDENT - North Central PRESIDENT - North Central
Joel Kay (Nancy)
2112 Campus Drive
South Euclid, OH 44121
Tel: 216-382-7123/Fax: 216-382-9678
seawind@stratos.net
SECRETARY
John Sukis (Rosemary)
3759 Lake Road
Sheffield Lake, OH 44054
Tel: 440-949-8006
Bus: 440-570-4921/Fax: 216-663-8439
ipsukis@roadrunner.com

PRESIDENT- Southeast A. Lee Clifford (Ellen) 3327 SE 18th Avenue Cape Coral, FL 33904 Tel: 239-542-9511 aleeclifford@aol.com SECRETARY Robert Pease (Jan) 954 Bal Isle Drive Ft. Myers, FL 33919 Tel: 239-482-2610 bojan954@aol.com

jpsukis@roadrunner.com

PRESIDENT- North Central Debbie Spoerl 303 E. Williams Street Maumee, OH 43537 Cell: 419-345-0014 Bus: 419-385-5754 debbie53@yahoo.com SECRETARY Gary Weaver (Debbie)
P.O. Box 964
Holland, OH 43528
g.weaver@plastictechnologies.com

#10 PRESIDENT- Southwest LaVon Plumlee (Wiliam) 5292 Auburn Circle Westminster, CA 92683 Tel: 562-252-9681 Fax: 888-754-3604 Implumlee@nyclb.com SECRETARY Jon Fults (Lois Jean) 3914 Mistral Drive Huntington Beach, CA 92649-2138 Tel: 714-846-7548 Cell: 714-287-5743 jhfults@verizon.net

PRESIDENT- Southwest Rosalie Davis-Green (Gary) 10715 Hepburn Circle Culver City, CA 90232 Tel: 310-204-4411 Bus/Cell: 310-508-5237 Bus/Ceil: 310-508-5237 rgreen@ca.rr.com SECRETARY Lindsey Philpott (Kim Moore) 3646 Gaviota Avenue Long Beach, CA 90807 Tel: 562-595-8854 Bus: 310-749-3541 marline.man@verizon.net

PRESIDENT- Northeast Vincent J. Core (Eileen) 739 Fairmount Dr. Chatham, NJ 07928
Tel/Fax: 973-635-7415
sailcore@worldnet.att.net (Summer)
sailcorebsm@att.net (Winter)
SECRETARY

#14

PRESIDENT- Southwest Gordon Lenworth P.O. Box 8770 Emeryville, CA 94662 Bus: 510-812-4404 cogent@cogentcommunications. com SECRETARY George Knies (Ann) 2333 Lariat Lane Walnut Creek, CA 94596-6518 Tel: 925-953-8432 Fax: 925-944-0474

geoknies@att.net

PRESIDENT- Southwest #15 James Coburn (Karin) 777 Aldea Drive Oceanside, CA 92057 Tel: 760-967-2702 Bus: 760-807-4439 coburn777@cox.net SECRETARY Michele Rountree Wold Michele Rountree Wold 1506 Via Hacienda Chula Vista, CA 91913 Tel: 619-421-2995 Cell: 619-95-1948 mrtree@rocketmail.com

PRESIDENT- Southwest #16 Gene Beville 4550 Eastbourne Bay Oxnard, CA 93035 Tel: 805-985-7921 SECRETARY Teri Shephard 3600 So. Harbor Blvd. #209 Oxnard, CA 93035 Tel: 805-253-0595

#18 **PRESIDENT-Southeast** SECRETARY/TREASURER

PRESIDENT- Southwest
Joan Marsh-Clune (Richard Hardy)
258 Heron Drive
Pittsburg, CA 94565
Tel: 925-427-6607
Cell: 925-864-1381
jmarsh6607@yahoo.com
SECRETARY
Pat Carson (Barbi)
302 Cypress Drive
Rio Vista, CA 94571
Tel: 209-351-1584
pat@boatcaptain.net #19

PRESIDENT- Northeast Stanley Zielinski 121 Yale Terrace P.O. Box 333 Linden, NJ 07036 Tel: 908-486-2094 stasziel@aol.com SECRETARY Open

PRESIDENT- Southwest Bonnie Gibson #21 1780 Santa Ana Ave. #3 Costa Mesa, CA 92627 Tel: 949-631-4869 blgibson@aol.com SECRETARY Ken Schoffstoll 26362 Rosa St Laguna Hills, CA 92656 Tel: 949-425-9151 schoffstoll@cox.net

PRESIDENT- Northeast
David Loughran
1203 Bay Ave.
P.O. Box 746
Mantoloking, NJ 08738
Tel: 732-892-8388
dploughran@comcast.net
SECRETARY
Betty Jane France (Robert) #22 Betty Jane France (Robert) 13 Paul Jones Dr. Brick, NJ 08723 Tel: 732-477-3732

PRESIDENT- North Central RCSIDEN1- NORTH Cen Robert F. Sapita (Kay) 852 Center Street P.O. Box 581 Douglas, MI 49406 Tel/Fax: 269-857-2123 bksapita@verizon.net SECRETARY Don Schorfhaar (Sue) 9829 High Banks Drive Cheboygan, MI 49721 Tel: 231-627-2906 dschorfhaar@earthlink.net

PRESIDENT- Northwest Carol Zumpano 60 Calgary Ave. Pentiction, BC V2A 2T6 Canada Tel: 250-292-8750 czumpano@vip.net SECRETARY Yvonne Crawford (Steven) 1547 Klien Rd. Kelowna, BC V1Z 3H5 Canada Tel: 250-769-7325 skicondo@telus.net

PRESIDENT- North Central Warren Boerner (Dorothy) 11923 Hemlock Ct. 11923 Hemlock Ct.
Shelby Township, MI 48315
Tel: 586-254-3135
wboerner44@att.net
SECRETARY
Frank Uhse (Kelly)
1062 Seventh Street
Wyandotte, MI 49192
Tel: 734-285-6465
Cell: 313-363-6179
frank@nimmi com frank@nimmi.com

PRESIDENT- Northeast Thomas O'Connor (Sally)
22 Plymouth Road
Hauppauge, NY 11788
Tel: 631-234-9299
SECRETARY Martin L. Egeland (Mary) 4 Chalden Court Huntington Station, NY 11746 Tel: 631-351-0935 carolprin@aol.com

PRESIDENT- Northeast George Anderson (Karen) George Anderson (Karen 5 Pine Lane Northeast, MD 21901 Tel: 410-287-6934 Bus/Fax: 410-287-0040 ganderson@chesapeakeisle.org SECRETARY Karen Anderson (George) Fair Aiderson (George 5 Pine Lane Northeast, MD 21901 Tel: 410-287-6934 Bus/Fax: 410-287-0040 kanderson@chesapeakeisle.org

PRESIDENT- England #70 Ron Judd Ron Judd 41 Glynn Road Peacehaven, East Sussex England BN10 7SH SECRETARY Sue Young (Bill) 5 Grasmere Grove Rochester, Kent England ME2 4PN Tel: (44)(0)1634 713478 bluesil@hotmail.com

#75 PRESIDENT- New Zealand Harry Sutcliffe (Gay) 20 Arohia Place Snells Beach, Warkworth New Zealand 0920 Tel: 64 9 425 4402 Bus: 025 960910 thesuttys@clear.net.nz SECRETARY Kathy Fenn (Jim) Buller Road R.D. 2 Westport, New Zealand Tel: 64 03 789 8909 fennyachting@xnet.co.nz



Thank you to District 5 for hosting the Spring Regional Meeting



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