



THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

OF THE
INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL
An Association of Past Commodores

Volume 28 No. 4

September 2008

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.

Harlem Yacht Club



District 26



Huntington Yacht Club



Mt. Sinai YC



Summer
Regional
Meeting
Long Island, NY
Aug 7-10, 2008

District 8



NY Athletic
YC



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From the President

by Richard Janiszewski

Through the medium of recent Blue Gavel LOG newsletters and, in some cases, at Chapter and District meetings that I had been invited to attend, I have spoken of my awareness and that of your Executive Committee to reach closure on several items of unfinished business, as well as, several initiatives that would potentially enhance your organization's effectiveness and member friendliness. You should know that we have worked earnestly to this end this year. I made clear on several occasions that I personally welcome diversity of thought and opinion for it is through diversity that our organization will enjoy a full and rightful measure of success-success it deserves.

In recent messages, I urged greater effort by all to improve objectivity, communications, involvement, teamwork, support, and unity. There is no room in my Blue Gavel for personality-motivated matters, personal agendas, or stagnation. I addressed the principles of our organization as I see them: VISION-what we seek to become; MISSION-why we are here; VALUE-who we are; and STANDARDS-how we work.

The Blue Gavel, you and I, and our fellow members also have much to be grateful for and to be proud of. We are of a select and recognized group of international yachting and boating organizations whose membership is not automatic, but by invitation. We enjoy the value of a strong auxiliary and Humanitarian Foundation, both of which provide financial support, with your help, to many social, educational, and humanitarian activities. Through these organizations friendships and relationships have evolved which measurably contribute to our organization's success.

We all should be grateful that we have had the opportunity to be of service to our yacht clubs and our communities. Now having been accepted into the Blue Gavel as members, we have a similar opportunity to our District and to the Blue Gavel, itself.

Being invited this year by many Chapters to share in their seasonal and special events, reinforced my personal belief that our camaraderie is unique-a bond that develops due to many common interests such as boating, traditions, charitable and service projects, friends and, of course, good times. Indeed, it is a bond based upon common similarities rather than dissimilarities.

I experienced no clearer examples of such camaraderie than during my visits this year to the newly renovated Halifax River Yacht Club and the Isles Yacht Club, both District 8 Chapters. Both clubs were indeed member friendly, but more importantly they were entirely the result of the camaraderie, dedication, involvement, and unity of both club members-a wonderful example of a "yes, we can" attitude.

While there will always be the need and time for seriousness, we have a lot to be thankful for and yet much to enjoy-together. Should anyone wish to give attention and thanks to special activities, please provide appropriate information to your Chapter/District officers for inclusion in our Log publications. We have much to be proud of.

Enjoy, and know your support is appreciated.



From the President Elect

by Jerry Rudd

Thank you to Mt. Sinai Yacht Club, New York Athletic Yacht Club, Harlem Yacht Club and the Huntington Yacht Club for graciously hosting the IOBG Summer Regional meeting.

The 2008 Annual Meeting is October 23-26 at the Sea-Tac Marriott (Seattle, WA). Plans are being made for the 2009 meetings beginning with the February 2009 Winter Regional meeting in San Diego, CA; Spring Regional meeting in June in Portland, OR; the Summer Regional meeting in August in Douglas/Saugatuck area of Michigan and the 2009 October Annual Meeting in the Daytona Beach area in Florida. Specific dates and times to be announced at a later date.

Welcome to Seattle and the 2008 Annual Meeting - October 23-26

It is very important that all the District Directors attend this meeting. We have By-Law changes that need your vote, as well as, other items on the agenda. Some of the workshops will include Marketing, Duties and Responsibilities of the District Directors, a presentation by Carol Garside of the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation on what are the requirements of a 501c(3), how to fill out forms, etc. We all stand to gain valuable information at these workshops.

Our speakers on Friday will be a 2 Star Admiral of the USCG and a Rear Admiral of the USN (Northwest). On Saturday our speakers will be Director of Washington State Parks and either our Lt. Governor or Governor of the State of Washington.

Personalized tours of The Museum of Flight will be available for those arriving on Wednesday morning. To make your reservations for the museum tour please contact Jerry Rudd at 253-838-9027 or fax at 253-661-8683 or email at jrjackie1@comcast.net.

Thursday night the Des Moines Yacht Club will host a western theme barbecue dinner with entertainment by the world renowned Shifty Sailors, what a combination...Cowboys and Sailors. Nautical or western attire is appropriate. It is sure to be a fun night!

Friday night is a real treat...a boat trip to our State Park - Blake Island - which hosts the Tillicum Village. This favorite spot for tourists and locals alike features a traditional Indian Salmon Bake and Native dancing. After sunset on the boat trip back to Seattle, you will experience the spectacular Seattle skyline.



Saturday night is the big event - The Grand Ball and installation of the new Officers. District 1 has done an outstanding job in pulling this one together and looks forward to seeing you. Get your reservations in now as the rooms are filling up.

Remember, you will have some free time to enjoy the Marriott's large atrium with its lounge chairs, trees, plants and large pool. Don't forget your swimsuit.

Please let us know if you have any allergies or special needs. We will be glad to make special arrangements for you.



See you in Seattle...

In Seattle, if you've but one experience, make it Tillicum Village!





2008 Annual Meeting - Events Schedule

Marriott -Seattle -Airport

3201 South 176th Street

Seattle, WA 98188

1-800-228-9290

	<u>Time</u>	<u>No Persons</u>	<u>Event Cost</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Wednesday, October 22nd</u>				
Registration	2 :00 - 5:00 PM			
Silent Auction - Open	2 :00 - 5:00 PM			
Hospitably Room	5 :00 - 7:00 PM		No Charge	
<u>Thursday, October 23rd</u>				
<u>All Meetings - Dress Grays</u>				
Registration	8:00 - 4:00 PM			
Silent Auction - Open	8:00 - 4:00 PM			
Continental Breakfast	8:00 AM		No Charge	
Area VP's Round Table Discussion	9:00 - 11:30 AM			
IOBGA - Seattle Center - Bus	9:00 AM			
IOBGA - Ride the Ducks of Seattle/Lunch	11:00 AM	_____	\$20.00	\$ _____
Lunch - IOBG	12:00 PM	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
District Directors				
Area VPs Round Table (continued)	1:00 - 3:00 PM			
Des Moines Yacht Club - Bus Departs	4:30 PM			
Dinner & Entertainment (Dress-Western/Casual)	5:00 - 10:00 PM	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
<u>Friday, October 24th</u>				
<u>IOBG & IOBGA Meetings - Dress Grays</u>				
Registration	8:00 - 4:00 PM			
Silent Auction - Open	8:00 - 4:00 PM			
Continental Breakfast	8:00 AM		No Charge	
IOBG Pre-Meeting Discussion	9:00 - 11:30 AM			
IOBGA Pre-Meeting Discussion	9:30 - 11:30 AM			
Joint Lunch - Speaker	12:00 - 1:30 PM	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
IOBGHF Meeting	1:30 - 2:30 PM			
Dinner - Tillicum Village-Bus (Dress-Casual)	3:30 PM	_____	\$50.00	\$ _____
<u>Saturday, October 25th</u>				
<u>IOBG & IOBGA Meetings - Dress Grays</u>				
Registration	8:00 - 9:00 AM			
IOBG Annual Meeting/Cont. Breakfast	9:00 - 11:30 AM			
IOBGA Annual Meeting/Cont. Breakfast	9:30 - 11:30 AM			
Joint Lunch - Speaker	12:00 - 1:30 PM	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
IOBG Annual Meeting	1:30 - 2:30 PM			
Auction Items P/U - Shipped	3:00 PM			
No Host Cocktails	6:00 - 7:00 PM			
Dinner and Dancing (Dress-Blue Gavel Formal or Black Tie)	7:00 - 12:00 AM	_____	\$65.00	\$ _____
Installation of Officers				
<u>Sunday, October 26th</u>				
IOBG Fall Regional Meeting	9:00 - 10:00 AM			





2008 Annual Meeting Mail-In Registration Form

Marriott -Seattle Airport



3201 South 176th Street

Seattle, WA 98188

	<u>No Persons</u>	<u>Event Cost</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Wednesday, October 22nd</u>			
Hospitably Room		No Charge	
<u>Thursday, October 23rd</u>			
IOBGA - Ride the Ducks of Seattle/Lunch	_____	\$20.00	\$ _____
Lunch - IOBG	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
Dinner & Entertainment	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
<u>Friday, October 24th</u>			
Joint Lunch - Speaker	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
Dinner - Tillicum Village - Bus	_____	\$50.00	\$ _____
<u>Saturday, October 25th</u>			
Joint Lunch - Speaker	_____	\$25.00	\$ _____
Dinner and Dancing	_____	\$65.00	\$ _____
Installation of Officers			
		TOTAL:	\$ _____

FOR AIR TRAVEL: Sea-Tac International Airport (SEA). Courtesy Shuttle to the Marriott-Seattle Airport Hotel

Please call the Hotel for room reservations at 1-800-228-9290 before September 15, 2008.

When making your reservations mention **IOBG** for the special rate of \$137.00 for Single or Double.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "IOBG" AND SEND THIS ENTIRE FORM TO:

**P/C Jacquelyn Evans Rudd
37834 43rd Ave South
Auburn, WA 98001**

District Number _____ Office Held _____

NAME _____ SPOUSE/GUEST _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ PHONE: () _____

Spouse/Guest is a member of IOBG _____ IOBGA _____

TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED: \$ _____

Your reservation must be received No Later Than **October 16, 2008**



From the First Vice President

by Ray Thompson

The North Central Vice President De Ramsey attributes some loss to dues increase, but has some new yacht club interest. The weekend of August 2-3 was the annual meeting of ILYA at Put-In-Bay. De Ramsey and two IOBG Directors who are officers of ILYA were planning to attend that function and consequently missed the Summer Regional meeting in New York.

Based on my interpretation of these reports, the dropouts attributed to our dues increase was more about personal representation than money. After hearing the IOBG rational from an Officer, a number of dropouts have returned. Much of the discontentment seemed to come from little or no direct explanation concerning the needs and aims of IOBG.

In my first Alternate Directors report over four years ago I wrote, IOBG was better at sales than maintenance. That salient point highlights the need for a more direct relationship between the Chapters and the Board of Directors.

First: Directors or Alternate Directors must attend National Board Meetings.

Secondly: Those Directors must then report the the Minutes of those meetings at his/her District meeting.

In addition, that report should appear in the District Publication, if available. Further, since many Chapters do not attend District meetings, the District Director and District Officers should develop a schedule of visitation to these less active Chapters. Personal involvement and direction could activate marginal Chapters.

Basically this report is a rehash of our Marketing Plan. However, the Director reports that have been turned in to date, point out that we are not wholeheartedly following the plan. Whether the problem is time or money, or both, we should make that a round table discussion and final resolution. Without full support of all the Directors and Officers, both National and District, we will continue to lose members and even Chapters.

A letter sent to each Districts' current officers, pointing out the need for District Directors full participation in the Marketing Program and outlining the responsibilities of that position, might affect a more appropriate and careful selection of candidates.

*Want to avoid tearing out pages of your newsletter?
All Events Schedules and Registration Forms
printed in this LOG can be downloaded from
the IOBG web site at www.iobg.org*



From the Second Vice President by Vern Bendson

"I told my wife I wanted something antique as a gift for my birthday.
She had my birth certificate framed."

As I get more involved with our organization, all I can think of is; Politics! Politics! Politics! Why has our organization become so immersed in politics when we should be having Fun! Fun! Fun!

Our bylaws repeatedly tell us to have social and yachting events and outdoor activities with each other. To me, that says, "Let's have FUN."

So why are some members always bringing up some past construed injustice? It is time to move forward to the future. The past is the past. Let's move on!

No organization is perfect. We know that ours has room for improvement. If you have an idea for the betterment of the whole organization, present it on a positive note. If your idea does not succeed the first time, improve on it. Don't say I quit. Because, in the long run, quitters never win.

If we talk to one another and listen to one another, there is no reason that change can't be a win, win goal. To accomplish the win, win, we must think positive, be positive and act positive. I know that is not easy at this time because of the past. The past is the past. Let's move on!

Regional Meetings are always a highlight for me. I meet new Blue Gavel members and renew friendships with others. I enjoy seeing the different yacht clubs and meeting some of their members.

At this time I have visited about 30 different yacht clubs throughout the USA and Canada because of my membership in the Blue Gavel. I go places that I would not have gone; see things that I would not have seen. Our Regional Meeting in Long Island, NY is a good example. I haven't been to Long Island since the 50s. What a change! I didn't recognize anything.

A very special THANK YOU to our Regional Meeting host District 26. Their hospitality, organization and events were first class.

I was pleased to renew friendships and meet new Blue Gavel members from Districts 8, 15, 20, and 26. This is what Blue Gavel is all about; renewing and meeting boating people from around the country. Listening and learning what their boating activities and events are like and enjoying their camaraderie.





US Sailing Representative Report

by Bill Thayer

The East Coast starts the offshore season with the Onion Patch Series, the New York Yacht Club Annual Regatta, the Newport to Bermuda Race and the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club Anniversary Regatta.

The 8th Annual Summer Solstice, June 21 and 22 wherever you sail in the Northern Hemisphere as the longest sailing weekend of the year.

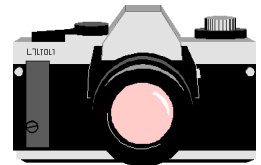
May 8th, US Sailing announced the appointment, reappointment and upgrades of Certified Judges and Club Race Officers from throughout the country for 2008 and 2009.

Chicago, along with Rio de Janeiro, Tokyo and Madrid have entered into the next stage of the bid campaign for the 2016 Olympics and Para Olympics.

US Sailing Board of Directors voted to withdraw *Mandatory US Sailing Membership for All Racing Sailors*.

On July 29th, President signed S-2766 "The Clean Boating Act of 2008".

*Thanks for the Memories...
LOG photographers for this issue...*



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Linda Loftis

Carol Garside

Marc & Kathy Connelly

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:

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Embroidery Factory
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 Benicia, California 94510
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 Fax: (707) 746-7685
 e-mail:
 Customerservice@embroideryfactory.com

North Star Sportswear Corporation
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 P.O. Box 569
 Kingston, Washington 98346
 Telephone: (360) 297-2935
 e-mail: davidkutz@aol.com
 www.northstarsportswear.com

Yachta Lettering
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 Barnegat, New Jersey 08005
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 Fax: M/W/F: (609) 698-6735
 e-mail: yachtalettering@comcast.net
 www.companycasuals.com

COMMODORE INSIGNIA

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 (775) 782-3380 (800) 315-7485
 Fax: (775) 782-4003
 Email: Comsignia@aol.com
 www.commodoreinsignia.com

IOBG Blazer emblems are authorized for sale by Commodore Insignia. These emblems have the Blue Gavel Burgee on the left staff and the Commodore's club on the right staff. They are available in a white or black background and the price is \$19.95 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.

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

Please Print

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

Signature _____ Ship to: _____

The above will be verified. _____

Member will be billed for emblems when shipped. _____

International Order of the Blue Gavel

The Association of Past Commodores



Philip B. Arms, Jr. **October 24, 1937 - August 18, 2008**

On Monday, August 18, 2008 the International Order of the Blue Gavel lost one of its most dedicated members. Past International President Philip B. Arms, Jr. has crossed over the bar and embarked on his final voyage. Phil Arms served as Commodore of the Navy Yacht Club San Diego in 1980, Commodore of the San Diego Association of Yacht Clubs in 1996, President of the International Order of the Blue Gavel in 1997 and was installed as President of the National Boating Federation this past April. In 1983 he was the recipient of the San Diego Association of Yacht Clubs' Alonzo de Jessop Award for outstanding service to yachting, the second highest award given by the Association. He also received the 1999 John M. Rumsey Award for service to yachting outside of San Diego County.

After serving as International President Phil Arms continued his service to IOBG as Chair of the By-laws Committee, Education and Development Officer, Protocol Officer and served as liaison to the Humanitarian Foundation. He was the creator of the regional meeting concept.

Born in Boston, MA, Phil served in the U.S. Navy for 21 years, retiring in 1981. After retiring, he was involved in teaching in San Diego and became the Director of Simulation for the California Maritime Academy. In addition, he was a long time member of the Free & Accepted Masons and Senior Warden and Treasurer of the Church of the Ascension, Vallejo.

Phil Arms was buried Saturday, August 23 at the family plot in Kennebunkport, Maine.

Our sympathy goes out to his wife Anne, daughters Liz and Susan (Charlie) and the other members of the Arms family. P/P Phil Arms will be missed by the entire Blue Gavel Fraternity.

A memorial service was held at the Church of the Ascension, 2420 Tuolumne Street, Vallejo, California at 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday August 27.

We mourn the loss but are consoled by the abiding faith that he and our shipmates who have preceded him will be waiting to guide us to the harbor of refuge that awaits us all.

The family requests contributions be made to the Church of the Ascension, Vallejo, California or to a charity of your choice.





Northwestern

Districts 1, 2, 4, 5 & 24

Arthur Kovarnik

N.W. Vice President



District 1

Our Convention Committee wishes to extend a warm welcome to each of you attending the 2008 International Order of Blue Gavel Annual Meeting. We know that your visit to the Emerald City in the beautiful Pacific Northwest will leave many lasting memories with you. With the average temperature for October being 60.2 degrees and the 7th lowest month of average rainfall at 3.17 inches, you should find the time of year ideal for exploring the many beauties of our Puget Sound area.

Our Convention Committee has selected a few choice tours for you to enjoy, which will give you a small sample of why so many of us refer to this area as being "God's Country". These include: the boat trip across the Sound to Blake Island State Park and the Indian Tillicum Village; Seattle Center and Ride the Ducks of Seattle; and the Museum of Flight at Boeing Field (if you are in early on Wednesday). On Thursday night, when we are at the Des Moines Yacht Club, the view of the East Channel of Puget Sound, with the Olympic Mountains on the horizon, should be magnificent.

If you have more time, the list of sights to see is endless. A walking trip on the Seattle Waterfront offers many interesting shops and sights. From the Bell Street Marina you can head uptown right through the famous Pike's Place Market, where, with your arms outstretched, you might catch a 25 pound Salmon at the Fish Market. Going further uptown to the Westlake Mall, after doing any "needed" shopping at the wonderful selection of stores, you can ride the Seattle Monorail to the Seattle Center, where you'll find the Pacific Science Center and the Space Needle. The view from the 520 foot level offers a panorama of all of downtown Seattle, the Waterfront with ferries going and coming, Lake Union with many Seaplanes landing and taking off, and, of course, in the distance to the East the beautiful Cascade Mountains including Mount Rainier. To the West you'll be able to look across Puget Sound and watch the sunset behind the Olympic Mountains. A trip to Ballard and the Chittenden Locks, which connects Lake Union with Puget Sound, is always interesting and, many times, entertaining as well. A short three hour trip going east on I-90 toward Snoqualmie Pass will make your camera think you are in New England for sure.

Want to see more water and beautiful bays and harbors? Take a drive south through Tacoma, west across the breathtaking Narrows Bridge with a side trip into Gig Harbor. Here you'll start looking for "For Sale" signs. Once back on Highway 16 headed north, you have two choices, (could be 20 but we're only giving you two here); (1) go as far as Bremerton and take the Ferry back to Seattle, via Rich Passage and pass by Blake Island; (2) continue North to Poulsbo, our "Little Norway" on Liberty Bay and then take the Winslow Ferry back to Seattle. You'll quickly see why it's called the "Emerald City". Beautiful! If you have an extra day available and really want to make it hard to leave, take a Scenic Seaplane ride with Kenmore Air out of Lake Union. Or best yet, a Kenmore Seaplane trip to the San Juan Islands and back. The view of this paradise from a few hundred feet in the air is beyond words. Landing in the small bays or harbors in the San Juans will make you cry for more. For more ideas and/or details, visit "seattleconvention&visitorsbureau" or "goseattlecard" on the internet.

If we can be of any help with additional information while here, please stop by the Registration Area in the hotel or contact any of our Committee Members. Enjoy your stay in SEATTLE!!!!

The 2008 Convention Committee Chairmans:

Mary & Al Eiffert
Art & Carol Kovarnik

Don & Val Espeseth
Mary & Mike Meyers

Jim & Betts Hinckley
Wayne & Peggy Weber

David & Janice Kutz



Southwestern

Districts 6, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 19 & 21

Larry Draper

S.W. Vice President

District 11

Wilma Rosenberg, Dist. Director

District 11 is made up of yacht clubs in Southern California from Westlake Village to Marina del Rey to King Harbor.

Our first Windi Cue at Del Rey Yacht Club headed by Rosalie Green was successful. All those in attendance heard Capt. Jim Cash tell about his adventures crossing the South Atlantic in a 35' catamaran. Everyone ate well and had a great time. Upcoming Windi Cues are on August 12 and Sept 23 at Del Rey Yacht Club.

Thanks to Jon Robbins who headed up a staff to cook a pancake breakfast for the sailors racing from Marina Del Rey to San Diego on July 4th at Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club. The profits go toward Junior Sailing Scholarships.

Our first 2008 scholarship recipient is Ryan Handwerk. He is attending a Laser and Double Handed Sailing Session this summer. District 11 is splitting the cost with the Santa Monica Bay Sailing Foundation,

The Westlake Yacht Club is also providing a scholarship to a deserving junior, Ryan Shaw. The Westlake Yacht Club Chapter is also having an outing for children from Casa Pacifica. It is a home for abused and neglected children. They will be treated to a BBQ lunch, ride on boats on Westlake lake and a gift. Good job, Mike Singer.

This year, we have made every effort to encourage our members to be active in IOBG activities by having interesting and informative speakers and by sharing in the "Corinthian Spirit"

District 50

Damian Pflghaar, Dist. Director

District 50 consists of Chapters and members EAST of the Mississippi River that do not have enough Chapters to form a District. The membership count for District 50 is at 39 members from 14 Chapters and 5 Members-At-Large, for a total of 44. This is down by 16 members compared to last year.

We welcome Diversey Yacht Club into IOBG. This is a new Chapter in the Chicago area that was approved at the Spring Meeting in Portland, OR.

Members that relocate from their home District may remain a member of that District or become a member of District 50 (EAST of the Mississippi) or District 51 (WEST of the Mississippi).

The District Director is the only Officer in these two Districts and serves as a contact person and liaison to the International. If I can be of assistance or answer any questions, my contact information is located on the inside cover of the LOG newsletter.

District 50 and 51 members will receive their membership renewal notices directly from the International Operations office.



San Francisco was the host for the Festival of Sail July 23-27, 2008. Every three years ASTA sponsors the Tall Ship races and port events along the West Coast. I have had the pleasure of being the Parade of Ships Coordinator in 1999, 2002, 2005 and 2008. This year D-14 and D-19 provided the "Media Boats." This was D-14 Jim and Sandy Aberer's "El Nido's" third year as a media boat and D-19 Jerry and Gail Zanolis "Dedicated's" first year.

I was on "Dedicated" as Parade Coordinator with helm duties shared by Jerry Zanolis and Vern Bendson. We left Treasure Island about 0930 and proceeded to contact five of the thirty-one (31) parade boats that had not received their 3' by 5' parade flags that were required by the Coast Guard to sail within the "Regulated Area" that extended along the San Francisco waterfront from the Golden Gate Bridge to the Bay Bridge. The muster area was west of the Golden Gate in the ocean. Wind and sea conditions made the flag transfers difficult but Jerry and Vern's skilled seamanship made the day.

The weather was exceptional for San Francisco and the parade went rather smoothly considering the many spectator boats and in one incident a San Francisco PD rigid-hull that apparently did not read the parade op-order and thought we were an interloper; if Vern had not made an emergency power cut we would have T-boned the SFPD boat.

In addition to our districts furnishing the aforementioned media boats D-14 adopted the "Lynx" and the "California" that participated in the parade and conducted cannon battles each afternoon of the festival. D-14 President Lynette Breed coordinated our volunteers and personally arranged for provisioning, repairs, transportation and the many other support and crew visitation activities. In this regard D-14 and the Treasure Island Yacht Club held a Sunday night Crew Party for the California, Lynx and the Nina. D-14 Director Rich Ahlf was the lead photographer on "Dedicated" taking mucho photos of the parade and an added feature prior to the parade.... The Bark "Eagle" sailing with the newest Coast Guard Cutter "Bertholf" that will be commissioned here at Coast Guard Island on August 4th. I will be presenting the "Bertholf's" Commanding Officer a framed picture of the Oldest and Newest Coast Guard Cutters sailing together at the commissioning ceremonies.

Rich, Lynette and I are unable to attend the summer meeting as this is the fifth year that we will be conducting the Pacific Inter Club Yacht Association CHISPA and Youth Regattas as members of the Race committee. D-14 has provided the Saturday lunch for all race participants.



District 15
Linda Loftis, Dist. Director

District 15 has been a little quiet this season. A lot of people are traveling, myself included, and several of our clubs are starting new construction. We do however, have 6 additional paid members and one new member from my home club Santa Margarita.

We have a calendar set for the rest of this year and next and are looking forward to our Change of Watch and Raffle in October. We are asking Coronado Cays Yacht Club if anyone there is interested in being on the IOBG board starting as Secretary. Oceanside Yacht Club will be next. The Annual IOBG meeting will be in Seattle the end of October, and then our annual Yacht Club Seminar in January.

District 15 San Diego has offered to host the February Winter Regional meeting and plans are underway for that event.

We currently have 103 paid members of those, 3 are Past Presidents and 13 are new members. As of July we have had no deleted members.



District 19
Gary McGrath, Dist. Director

District 19 held their annual membership appreciation day at the Benicia Yacht Club on July 25th. It was a well attended function with 38 people in attendance. The Girl Sea Scouts were in attendance and each girl gave a description of the duties assigned to them aboard ship. After the presentation, they were seated in pairs at each table to answer any further questions the members might ask them. The two girls at our table were very well spoken and fit right in with our group. When you consider the age difference and the knowledge difference, we were all amazed that they were as well spoken on current events as well as boating events. It speaks well for the schools where they are getting their education.

The dinner was excellent and Benicia YC provided a very nice band that played during dinner and after dinner dancing...of course Pittsburg YC members were the last people on the dance floor.

On August 16th, District 19 held their first Wine Tasting Tour and meeting combined. It was well attended and there were members there that we haven't seen in awhile. Everyone enjoyed the tour and lunch and the meeting that followed. A letter was given to me by Phil Promessi that entailed the gist of the summer meeting along with the information concerning what needs to be voted on at the Annual meeting

Our next meeting will be in September at the California Maritime Academy where we will have lunch and vote for Officers for 2009.



North Central

Districts 7, 9, 23 & 25

Francis D. Ramsey

N.C. Vice President

District 23

Robert Sapita, President

Met with Commodore Bob Kubasik from Saugatuck Yacht Club. We spent 1-1/2 hours discussing the IOBG and other pertinent topics. Bob is going champion the effort at his club. He also meets with several Commodores from other clubs in the area

I have been asked by our club to do a presentation on flag etiquette. I'm going to put some serious energy into developing the PowerPoint presentation for our club's winter rendezvous. I'm planning on having the IOBG flag and Tower Harbour Yacht Club burgee discreetly shown on the format of each presentation slide. I have mentioned this planned presentation to the Commodores from other clubs that I have spoken to and it's likely that I will be invited to do the presentation at their clubs sometime in the future. It's a good way to promote the IOBG and to demonstrate by example our mission statement: "to promote yachting traditions."

District 25

Tom Lyon, Dist. Director

President Lois and I did present the Great Lakes Cruising Club with the new charter at a dedication ceremony for their new build in Port Huron, held on August 17,2008. The ceremony was a outstanding event attended by numerous dignitaries and members. Great Lakes Cruising Club has over 1500 members and now have 9 current members in the IOBG. P/C James Acheson will be the first President of the chapter. To see the new chapter go to www.glcclub.com. Once again what a great chapter to have in District 25.

Telephone numbers and addresses of members are protected by the Privacy Act of 1974. As a matter of policy, rosters of names, addresses and telephone numbers shall not be made available to the general public or any outside organization. Privacy of all rosters shall be safeguarded and the page clearly labeled.

The publication of these rosters, addresses and telephone numbers on any computer on-line service including the Internet is prohibited by the 1974 Privacy Act.



Northeastern

Districts 3, 12, 20, 26, 27

Marc Connelly

N.E. Vice President

Marketing of IOBG continues to be a challenge for all AVP's and District directors. To aid in our marketing efforts three letters have been developed for use in contacting prospective members. These letters will soon be posted on the IOBG web page for use in your contact efforts. These letters will be in word format so they may be adapted to your personal use and taste.

The August regional meeting was a real treat. "Thank You" to all of District 26 for a well thought out and planned weekend. I do not know who your perfect weather contact is but it was outstanding.

EXCALIBUR LEISURE SKILLS, INC.

A WESTERN NEW YORK PROGRAM

Through the combined efforts of Western New York Niagara District 3 and I.O.B.G. Humanitarian Foundation, the Excalibur "project" has been culminated with the launching of a new 30 ft. power motor vessel, the RICHARD A. SMITH, named after an Environmentalist, former New York State Assemblyman, and a man known for his integrity, diplomacy and dedicated spirit. The boat is now complete with all facilities making it capable of accommodating disabled and disadvantaged persons of all ages.

Programs include sight seeing boating and/or fishing on Lake Erie out of Buffalo, N. Y., seven days a week from dawn to dusk.

For the past year, members of the District, the Chapters and the Auxiliary have held fund raising events publicized and advertised as being for the benefit of this program. The District and the Auxiliary each raised \$1000 toward the benefit. Combined, their \$2000 was presented to the Humanitarian Foundation requesting a "matching" fund. Upon approval and receiving the Humanitarian Fund, the Excalibur Leisure Skills organization was given \$4,000 at the District Holiday Dinner, December 11, 2007. Although the original purchase contributions were made by state, government and local donors, we were able to support to the safety and communication equipment necessary to qualify and meet U.S. Coast Guard requirements and licensing.

Several operating Captains and crew members of the vessel are IOBG members. Their time is volunteer when conducting a trip for the handicapped. Knowing the expense of operating the vessel with fuel cost on the rise, we plan to make further contributions to these expenses. Watch for reports in the future on the success of the Excalibur's RICHARD A. SMITH, a vessel dedicated to serving the underprivileged of our community.





District 12

On August 14th, District 12 co-sponsored a highly successful fund raising event for the benefit of the Southern Regional Sailing program. Held at the Spray Beach Yacht Club of District 12 (Long Beach Island, NJ), over 100 supporters attended and were treated to an open raw bar and more food than could possibly be consumed. Over \$2000 was realized to support an unfunded and competitively successful sailing program enjoyed by many local high school sailors. To members of District 12 and the Friends of Southern Sailing, congratulations on a job well done.

District 26
Ernie Odierna, President

A good percentage of the time spent by our delegates and Past Commodores this past year has been devoted to the planning and preparation for the Regional Meeting in our District - August 7-10, 2008.

We have attempted to present, in the time available, as much about our affiliated Clubs and our District which encompasses all of Long Island including Nassau and Suffolk Counties, as well as, Long Island Sounds, from The Bronx Eastward, including Westchester County and Connecticut presents logistical challenges for our regular meetings, as well as, planning for the Regional Event. The "Island" and its Sound are approximately 100 miles long.

We are in discussion with several potentially new clubs that have expressed some interest in The Blue Gavel. The challenges when talking to new clubs is "What will it do for my club, and why should we pay dues to some distant body?" While the Past Commodores are pretty much all in agreement that there should be a meaningful role for them in their clubs, it is not an "easy sell" that each year they need to collect dues and send them off to the I.O.B.G.

We have been focusing on ways to help clean up The Sound and our other waterways, as well as, keeping available for public access as many harbors and as much waterfront as possible. We are trying to help our affiliated clubs "Go Green" so as to protect our waterways and planet and hopefully save them some monies at the same time

District 27
Chuck Browning, District Director

We have received many good comments as we traveled around the Chesapeake Bay this year. We attended several Commodore's Balls and Yacht Club Openings and we will continue to do so each year.

One of the big things that we accomplished this year was to get our web site up and running, www.iobg27.org. We also added another Chapter to our District (Middle River Yacht Club). This yacht club is very excited about becoming a member of the IOBG and we will hear a lot from them in the future.

We are very proud of the fact that although we lost 24 members when the dues were raised, we are still growing and adding new members and Chapters.

We started a drive to get more members/Chapters to join our District and I have contacted 16 new Yacht Clubs in the Northern part of the Chesapeake Bay. I do expect to hear from them soon. My term as District Director is running out shortly but, I will be assisting the new District Director to keep the IOBG on the Chesapeake Bay growing.

BRYC hosted a Charity Raffle at the **Bush River Yacht Club** to raise funds for an Organization called "**Vet's on the Bay**". Where wounded soldiers recuperating at Walter Reed and Bethesda Military Hospitals are taken out with their families and given a day of recreation, (food, relaxation, Sailing/Boating on the Chesapeake Bay).



Donation was presented to LTC. USA (Ret.), Executive director of the US Navy Sailing Association by IOBG Chapter Secretary/Treasurer P/C Frank Abbott of Bush River Yacht Club.



Middle River Yacht Club received their International Order of the Blue Gavel Chapter Charter from Chuck Browning, District 27 Director. Congratulations to Middle River Yacht Club.



Southeastern

Districts 8 & 18

Tom Sullivan

S.E. Vice President

As of August 26, 2008, the District 8 Treasurer's Records and recent Incoming Membership Dues show a grand total of 514 members as compared with 464 members for the same period last year. 21 Chapters showed a gain of 67 new members. A loss of 17 members was witnessed for a total increase of 50 members as I had predicted earlier this year.

Late Arrivals were Coral Ridge YC (Ft. Lauderdale) and San Jose YC (Jacksonville). Yacht Club Chapters who are in the process of merging are also coming back with new identities. The 21 Chapters showing increases are to be complimented...they are:

ROYAL PALM	EAU GALLIE	GULF HARBORS	PENSACOLA
ST. AUGUSTINE	PLATINUM PT.	STUART YC	BAY PT.
HALIFAX RIVER	VENICE	SARASOTA	ST. ANDREWS BAY
BIRD KEY	ISLES	PALM COAST	QUEENS HARBOR
OLD PORT	VERO BEACH	LIGHTHOUSE PT.	
PALM BEACH SAILING	NAVY YC PENSACOLA		

I sorry to see Old Port fold. It seem its management decided to go out of the Yacht Club business and enter the Health & Fitness business; the Marina however, has been greatly expanded and continues to be vibrant.

District 8 leadership was at the International's Regional Membership Meeting on Long Island, this past August 7 - 10, 2008 and presented its recommendations for revising the voting process. These recommendations have been recorded and locked in for a vote at the Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA. on October 22 - 26, 2008. District 8 leadership will be there to follow up.

The Regional Meeting on Long Island turned out well and Mt. Sinai YC went all out to get things started. Trips to New York Athletic Club YC (Pelham, NY) and Harlem YC (City Island, NY) and Huntington YC with Past Commodore Joseph and Judy Verderber supplying their 92 ft. Luxury Motor Yacht equipped with Captain and Crew made for a great visit to New York Harbor and dinner later in Chinatown.



District 8
Jack Kennedy, District Director

The following is a mid year report on the state of Florida. The International dues increase has had an effect on our membership for 2008. After a historic meeting at Palm Coast Yacht Club in February, our Board has worked hard and long hours to advise the International Board on ways to stop the loss of membership we have experienced nation wide over the past few years. Decisions made by the International Board this year will determine the Past Commodores of the North America fraternity in the future. Palm Coast Yacht Club's meeting also let the IOBG District 8 Board know that by a quorum vote the membership supports their efforts to change the voting rules we now abide by District. Just as in any business, District 8 members think that it is time the International Board cut expenses and reorganizes the voting procedure. This is what we are doing in District 8.

My travels this year include the District 8 meeting at Palm Coast Yacht Club, 12 Chapter IOBG meetings at various clubs, a Gulf Yachting Race and a IOBG social for members at Pensacola Yacht Club, and a wonderful IOBG Picnic held at Fort Walton Yacht Club. I have made three prospect calls to Fairhope Yacht Club, Buccaneer Yacht Club, and met with a Past Commodore from Southern Yacht Club that wants to join our District when their club construction is finished.

Congratulations to Pensacola Yacht Club on their 100 year anniversary this year! To help celebrate their anniversary, the IOBG Chapter held their first Sundowner's Ceremony and I was proud to be there. Several clubs are adopting and using the IOBG Sundowner's Ceremony. Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club's IOBG Chapter has used this ceremony monthly for many years. It is a moving tribute to our country and its heroes.

I want to ask all of you to visit our web site: <http://www.iobgd8.org>. Mary Kennedy has added a couple of nice features where you can click on the photos and they will enlarge. You can download the next meeting form, fill it out, and mail or fax it to the host club. Since 1/2007 we have had over 2,400 hits on our website. This is a valuable tool to use to communicate within District 8.

I just sent out 100 emails to our members from our directory and 30 of them were returned. So please update your email address with us if you wish to receive District 8 news via email.

I would like to thank the District 8 IOBG Board for the positive attitude and resolve you have shown this year.

Your leadership has encouraged other Past Commodores to state to me, as I have traveled around, that they would like to be on the Board for next year. We have some great prospects for the future in people and clubs. Keep up the good work. You are "Keepers of the Flame".

See you at Halifax River Yacht Club in August.



District 18

Kudos to PC Robert P. "Buzz" Bisanz and the 14 new members of Allatoona Yacht Club in Cartersville, GA. Their Charter is being readied even though Allatoona has had 2 - 3 AT-LARGE Members over the years.

Allatoona Yacht Club is on a beautiful 350 mile shoreline lake, maintained by the Army Corps. of Engineers and is north of Atlanta.

Buzz was elected President of the Chapter and was the 'quarterback' who got things going. A meeting and swearing in of members took place on Saturday, July 26, 2008.

Welcome Allatoona Yacht Club and a BRAVO ZULO to Buzz Bisanz.

Remember, there is nothing harder to stop than a trend. Lets keep working together.



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International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary



From the President by Pat Janiszewski

I cannot believe that my term as your IOBGA President is almost over and shortly we will be heading to Seattle, Washington for the Annual Meeting and "Change of Watch" for our International officers. Although the year had its frustrations, more importantly it was filled with an abundance of fun and camaraderie. Hopefully the Auxiliary members who attended the Annual Meeting, and/or Regional Meetings, and those who met within their own Chapters and Districts also found that the pleasure afforded to them far outweighed any temporary frustrations.

Speaking of "Change of Watch," please consider sending in a request to fill any position listed below (not listed as automatic) as many jobs do not require travel/attendance at meetings, can be done from home, and your participation would be a great help to the IOBGA. The nominations for 2009 Officers are as follows with the formal election of Officers to be held at the Annual Meeting in October. In order to vote in October, your membership must be current.

2009 Auxiliary Nominations

PRESIDENT

Audrey Hall (Position automatic from President Elect)

PRESIDENT ELECT

Lucille Anthony (Previous Board Position Required)

VICE PRESIDENT

Chris Snedaker

VICE PRESIDENT

Ann Knies

TREASURER

Susan Sullivan

SECRETARY

Lucille Anthony (Secretary needed, as Lucille would have to wear two hats)

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Pat Janiszewski (Automatic from President)

SENIOR PAST PRESIDENT (Automatic from Immediate Past President)

AUXILIARY LOG EDITOR (Volunteer Needed)

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Auxiliary to thank District 26 for hosting August's Regional Meeting. District 26 is a relatively new Chapter and both Dick and I appreciated them coming forth to organize an outstanding Regional Meeting. District 26 must be a very powerful group, as they arranged for great weather, and relatively light traffic for the New York area!! One of the many social highlights of the trip was an incredible cruise across Long Island Sound and down the East River on a 100+ foot yacht past many of the famous New York sites. Thank you Past Commodore Richard Verderber for providing this marvelous opportunity for us, and thank you to the many Past Commodores, spouses, and committees for making it all possible. It was a truly memorable Regional Meeting.

In the last LOG newsletter, I discussed the \$15 charge for the LOG for widows. The matter was again brought before the IOBG Executive Committee and unfortunately it was decided (although not unanimously) to keep the cost of the LOG at \$15. The Executive Committee of the IOBGA recommended that the cost of the LOG be addressed at a Chapter/District level, and that perhaps a District/Chapter would be willing to either pay for the "widow" LOG in its entirety or at least pick up the extra \$5. It was felt by the IOBG Executive Committee that although the cost of the LOG is presently under \$10, because of rising costs, the present rate will not remain there for long. I am sorry I do not have better news to report; however, the IOBGA did listen to your concerns and tried to help.

Membership within the IOBGA has decreased over the last two years, so, in case you have forgotten, please send your dues to Richard Hardy. Or, if you have let your membership lapse, you can return to the fold by sending this year's membership to Richard. Again, if you have concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact any of the IOBGA officers. Our membership dues are \$5. I am sure you want to know how your dues are spent.

Last year \$800 was given to the IOBG to help defray the cost of printing for the Auxiliary pages in the LOG (although this amount does not cover the entire cost); this year the IOBGA voted and agreed to supply each District with a copy of a safety manual for youth, "Water Smart From the Start", and at the last Regional Meeting it was voted upon and agreed to give an Auxiliary donation to the Humanitarian Foundation so the Auxiliary will have an auction item at the Annual Meeting. Of course, there are the routine expenses of office supplies, and the printing, laminating, and mailing of membership cards and a yearly fee for having a web page. In essence, this is how your \$5 is spent. A little does go a long way. So, if you have not renewed your membership, please consider doing so. Purchases of clothing through our new vendors can only be done if your membership is current.

It has certainly been my honor to serve as your President, and I can't believe the year passed by so quickly. I am looking forward to seeing as many as possible in Seattle.

Meanwhile, hope you have fair winds and smooth sailing in all your endeavors.



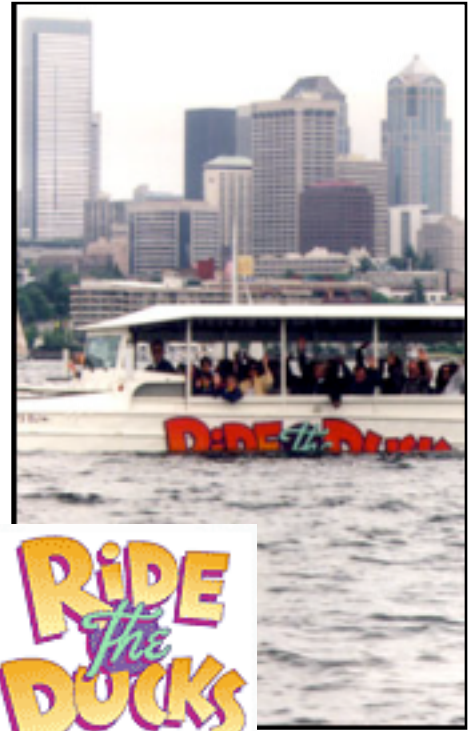
Northwest Regional Report
District 1

District 1 is looking forward to seeing you at the Annual meeting and having you participate in this exciting 'extended' weekend. There are many activities planned, including a "Duck Boat" ride, time for visitation to museums, an auction to benefit the Humanitarian Foundation, and, of course, the Grand Ball. Please see the sign-up sheet in this LOG or go online to www.iobg.org to make your reservations.

Welcome to Seattle



October 22-26, 2008



IOBGA District 1 will hold their Change of Watch on Sept 20th. Next Spring we will have a Joint meeting with District 5 in Hood River, Oregon

Southwest Regional Report
District 19

Last month District 19 held an appreciation day for its members. The focal point for IOBGA was having the Girl Sea Scouts in attendance. Even though they were invited guests, they pitched in with serving and clearing tables. The girls broke up into pairs and sat at members' tables to share their experiences with their boat. They are such poised young ladies and were smartly turned out in uniform. District 19 IOBGA had made it their mission to support this deserving group of young ladies. We will be hearing more about them in the future.



Northeast Region
District 26

Although District 26 has had no new activities, they were extremely active in helping with the Summer Regional Meeting in Long Island, New York. The IOBGA will be meeting in September to plan their future activities for the year. I am sure we will be hearing more from them after their planning meeting. Again, as IOBGA President, I wish to thank District 26 for hosting such an outstanding Summer Regional meeting.

Northeast Regional Report
District 3

The District 3 IOBGA Executive Board held a meeting in July. Unfortunately, due to poor health, President Judy Middleton sent in her resignation. We wish Judy all the best and are sorry to see her leave. Gerry Pilkington is taking over until the annual meeting in September which will be held at the Buffalo Launch Club with a celebration brunch.

A "social event" was held at the Buffalo Launch Club in August with short rides on the newly launched "Excalibur," the boat built to accommodate the handicapped for which we donated funds for last year.

The IOBGA is planning a raffle for a dinner/overnight package for two with a Continental breakfast the next morning, along with a dinner, and a Jacuzzi suite in the hotel. The drawing for the package will take place at our Holiday Party later in the year. Proceeds will be given to the Humanitarian Foundation with the hope they will match our gift for the charity of our choice.

Southeast Regional Report
District 8

Our newest Chapter, Ft. Walton Beach, is very active. They have decided to have several fundraisers to support their local Chapter of IOBG and their yacht club. They had a bake sale for one of the races at their club. They packaged items in single servings so the racers could grab and take them on their boats. Many positive responses were received.

During the club's 4th of July celebration, they held a three day celebration with a Country Hoe Down. They had a family day with old fashioned country fair booths and games. The Auxiliary sponsored a country store filled with crafts, baked good, canned jams and pickles, etc. They enjoyed running this successful endeavor.

In September they assisted the Blue Gavel in celebrating their 20th anniversary by co-hosting a cocktail party for the Flag Officers, Board of Directors, and guests. Also in September they will host a fundraiser fashion show. The monies raised will go to help pay for the annual Blue Gavel gift to the yacht club and start a fund for their annual meritorious trophy award. They are certainly a great group, off to a good start, with lots of spirit.

The Palm Coast Auxiliary met during the summer to discuss their part in their annual "Hammer Ball (benefit Habitat for Humanity). It is a dinner/dance combined with a silent auction. The Auxiliary takes responsibility for decorating and helping wherever needed. In November, they will be trying for a brand new event-Palm Coast has "adopted" two islands close by which are part of the Florida State Park System. So far, member/volunteers have cleared some camping space, cooking areas and a nature trail. The Auxiliary is working with the IOBG and other interested members to discover whether they might have a cookout/picnic to benefit IOBG.

Halifax River Yacht Club hosted District 8's summer meeting at their club.



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

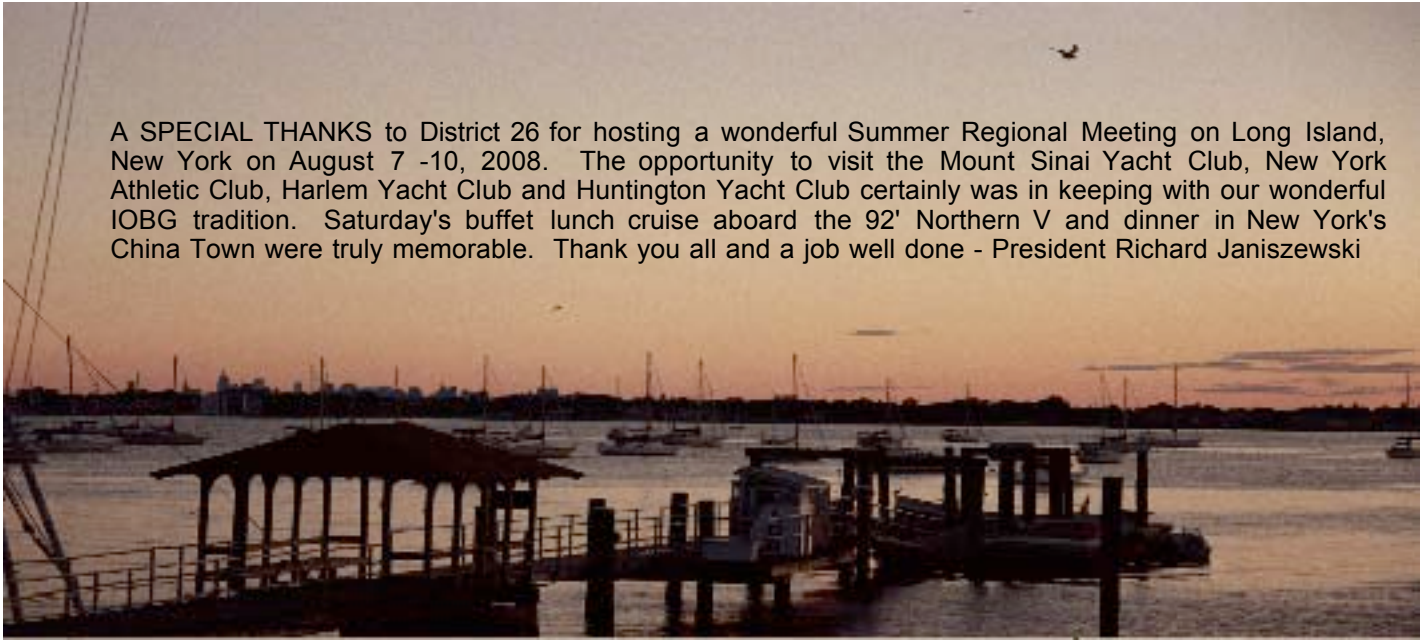
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A SPECIAL THANKS to District 26 for hosting a wonderful Summer Regional Meeting on Long Island, New York on August 7 -10, 2008. The opportunity to visit the Mount Sinai Yacht Club, New York Athletic Club, Harlem Yacht Club and Huntington Yacht Club certainly was in keeping with our wonderful IOBG tradition. Saturday's buffet lunch cruise aboard the 92' Northern V and dinner in New York's China Town were truly memorable. Thank you all and a job well done - President Richard Janiszewski



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