

# THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

Of The  
INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

An Association of Past Commodores



*Volume 39 No. 1*

*January 2018*

*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.



# 2018 IOBG DIRECTORY

## APPOINTED OFFICERS

**Protocol Officer**  
Marsha Landreth  
Tel: 805-889-0054  
mlrs4742@gmail.com

**Recording Secretary**  
Marsha Landreth  
Tel: 805-889-0054  
mlrs4742@gmail.com

**Communications Director**  
Mary Nye Meyers (Michael)  
Tel: 253-224-8592  
fire\_n\_ice104@hotmail.com

**Education Officer**  
Phil Promessi (Carol)  
Tel: 918-378-6582  
Cell: 925-864-1585  
ppromessi@att.net

**Legal Officer**  
Joe Dowdell (June Thacker)  
Tel: 305-304-1208  
joedowdell@bellsouth.net

**Historian**  
Carol Promessi (Phil)  
Tel: 918-378-6582  
Cell: 925-864-1585  
cpromessi@att.net

**Past Pres. Liaison Officer**  
Stephen Willing (Shirley)  
Tel: 519-944-1397  
stevewilling12@gmail.com

**Supply Officer**  
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

## REPRESENTATIVES

**BOAT U.S.**  
Marshall Nemoy 888-378-2211

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

**AUXILIARY LIAISON**  
Robert "Buzz" Bisanz 770-337-8701

**HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION LIAISON**  
Vern Bendsen 707-422-3510

**MEMBERSHIP & PUBLIC RELATIONS**  
Sherry Barone (Membership) 310-720-9610  
Buzz Bisanz (Public Relations) 770-337-8701

**NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION**  
Marlene Barrington 928-759-7158

**US SAILING**  
Mark Hansen 310-601-0710

**U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**  
Open

**U.S. POWER SQUADRON**  
Audrey Rice 941-474-2426

## COMMITTEES

**AUDIT**  
Rosalie Davis-Green 310-684-1848  
Bud Higginson 941-966-7494  
Robert "Buzz" Bisanz 770-337-8701

**BY-LAWS & POLICY MANUAL**  
Vern Bendsen 707-422-3510

**FINANCE**  
Rosalie Davis-Green 310-684-1848  
Tony Durieux 740-242-4001  
Bud Higginson 941-966-7494  
Sherry Barone 310-720-9610  
Robert "Buzz" Bisanz 770-337-8701  
Marshall Nemoy 888-378-2211

**ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW**  
Rosalie Davis-Green 310-684-1848  
Tony Durieux 740-242-4001  
Robert "Buzz" Bisanz 770-337-8701  
Marshall Nemoy 888-378-2211

**ANNUAL MEETING 2018**  
Bud Higginson 941-966-7494

**ELECTIONS**  
Bud Higginson 941-966-7494

**NOMINATIONS**  
Rosalie Davis-Green 305-923-5550  
(Chairman)  
Joe Dowdell 305-923-5550  
Tony Durieux 740-242-4001  
Roger Ipsfording (East) 941-966-1518  
Linda Loftis (West) 760-803-9325

## ELECTED OFFICERS

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

**Northeastern Vice President**  
Stephen Tisack (Marie)  
5843 Buffalo St  
Sanborn, NY 14132  
Tel: 716-998-7938  
stephen.d.tisack@gmail.com

**Northwestern Vice President**  
Lani Lightle (Lee)  
10704 - 35<sup>th</sup> Ave SW  
Seattle, WA 98146-1726  
Tel: 206-243-8186  
lanilightle44@gmail.com

**Southwestern Vice President**  
Kathleen Jo Smith (Gary)  
815 Ethel Place  
National City, CA 91950  
Tel: 619-479-6292  
kathyswyc@aol.com

**North Central Vice President**  
Mark Vadaj (Robin)  
7505 Thatchum Lane  
Concord, OH 44060  
Tel: 440-350-1488  
Cell: 440-479-0064  
markvadaj@gmail.com

**Southeastern Vice President**  
Karen E. Shea (Spencer Ferrey)  
5027 Herring Ct  
New Port Richey, FL 34652  
Tel: 727-264-6118  
Cell: 727-389-0675  
LTCSheaK@gmail.com

Reflects Updates Received  
as of January 15, 2018

## DISTRICT DIRECTORS

**District 1**  
Charles Havens (Pat)  
2889 Grandview Dr  
Clarkston, WA 99403-2918  
Tel: 509-758-6482  
pathavens5963@msn.com

**District 2**  
Don Fisher (Rita)  
1080 Iris Avenue  
Victoria, BC V8Z 2N7  
Canada  
Tel: 250-479-5516  
dritscher@shaw.ca

**District 3**  
Lewis W. Smith (Margot)  
135 Paul Drive  
Amherst, NY 14228  
Tel: 716-691-7626  
margots135@gmail.com

**District 4**  
Ron Defieux\* (Linda)  
641 Blueridge Ave.  
N. Vancouver, BC V7R 2J4  
Canada  
Tel: 604-987-7425  
rdefieux@shaw.ca

**District 5**  
Open

**District 6**  
Ron Dodini (Becky)  
44-128 Keaalau Place  
Kaneohe, HI 96744  
Tel: 808-235-2470  
Tel: 808-294-0135  
huiana808@gmail.com

**District 7**  
Deborah Light  
2480 Dorset Dr  
Seven Hills, OH 44131  
Tel: 216-973-1076  
dlightful759@sbcglobal.net

**District 8**  
Karen E. Shea (Spencer Ferrey)  
5027 Herring Ct  
New Port Richey, FL 34652  
Tel: 727-264-6118  
Cell: 727-389-0675  
LTCSheaK@gmail.com

**District 9**  
Larry Inguagiato (Mary Kay)  
c/o Monroe Boat Club  
7932 N Harbor Drive  
Monroe, MI 48161  
Cell: 419-819-0484  
larry.inguagiato@mac.com

**District 10**  
Joyce Jackson  
4380 Johanna Ave  
Lakewood, CA 90713  
Tel: 562-377-0056  
joyceevelyn@verizon.net

**District 11**  
Sheila Anderson  
5606 Downey Avenue  
Lakewood, CA 90712  
Cell: 626-484-7822  
toymaker56@yahoo.com

**District 12**  
Open

**District 14**  
Liz Allison  
1700 San Carlos Ave #302  
San Carlos, CA 94070  
Tel: 650-593-4649  
chocho2479@aol.com

**District 15**  
Bill Edwards (Ernestine)  
2056 Wind River Road  
El Cato, CA 92019  
Tel: 619-593-8252  
cdredwards@cox.net

**District 16**  
Richard Olsen (Georgean)  
109 San Fernando Ave  
Oxnard, CA 93035  
Tel: 805-985-1732  
Cell: 805-218-4641  
glogreen143@gmail.com

**District 18**  
Robert (Buzz) Bisanz (Nancy)  
529 Victoria Rd  
Woodstock, GA 30189  
Tel: 770-337-8701  
buzz8521@comcast.net

**District 19**  
David Breninger (Linda)  
425 Websters Court  
Roseville, CA 95747  
Tel: 916-771-5685  
Cell: 916-798-3980  
dbreninger@surewest.net

**District 20**  
(Alternate Director)  
Stephen Tisack (Marie)  
5843 Buffalo St  
Sanborn, NY 14132  
Tel: 716-998-7938  
stephen.d.tisack@gmail.com

**District 21**  
Leo Vortouni  
4308 Patrice Rd.  
Newport Beach, CA 92663  
Tel: 949-722-1153  
Cell: 949-933-4308  
lvortouni@aol.com

**District 22**  
(Alternate Director)  
Stephen Tisack (Marie)  
5843 Buffalo St  
Sanborn, NY 14132  
Tel: 716-998-7938  
stephen.d.tisack@gmail.com

**District 23**  
Open

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

**District 25**  
Betty Tyson  
504 Chestnut St  
Wyandotte, MI 48192  
Cell: 313-510-0311  
bhppy777@yahoo.com

**District 26**  
(Alternate Director)  
Stephen Tisack (Marie)  
5843 Buffalo St  
Sanborn, NY 14132  
Tel: 716-998-7938  
stephen.d.tisack@gmail.com

**District 27**  
(Alternate Director)  
Stephen Tisack (Marie)  
5843 Buffalo St  
Sanborn, NY 14132  
Tel: 716-998-7938  
stephen.d.tisack@gmail.com

**District 50**  
Mark Vadaj (Robin)  
7505 Thatchum Lane  
Concord, OH 44060  
Tel: 440-350-1488  
Cell: 440-479-0064  
mvadaj@att.net

**District 51**  
Walt Kadyk (Marti)  
5072 Pensier Street  
Las Vegas, NV 89135  
Tel: 9702-790-1195  
Cell: 310-629-0987  
wskadyk@gmail.com

**District 70**  
Open

**District 75**  
Keith Wardell (Patsy)  
4 Glendovey Road  
Fendalton, Christchurch  
New Zealand 0852  
Tel: 0064-35516046  
Cell: 0064-274438465  
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**

**TONY DURIEX (SANDRA)**  
13804 Crescent Cove Ave NE  
Thornville, OH 43076

Tel: 740-242-4001  
Cell: 740-334-7669  
agent@alink.com



**PRESIDENT  
ELECT**

**B.E. "BUD" HIGGINSON (DEE)**  
124 Tina Island Drive  
Osprey, FL 34229

Tel: 941-966-7494  
Cell: 941-320-9063  
higgo2@aol.com



**FIRST  
VICE  
PRESIDENT**

**SHERRY BARONE (PAT REGAN)**  
204 Washington Ave #101  
Santa Monica, CA 90403

Tel: 310-458-9610  
Cell: 310-720-9610  
seasidecon@aol.com



**SECOND  
VICE  
PRESIDENT**

**ROBERT "BUZZ" BISANZ (NANCY)**  
529 Victoria Road  
Woodstock, GA 30189

Tel: 770-337-8701  
buzz8521@comcast.net



**PAST  
PRESIDENT**

**ROSALIE DAVIS-GREEN (GARY)**  
1445 Stonewood Court  
San Pedro, CA 90732

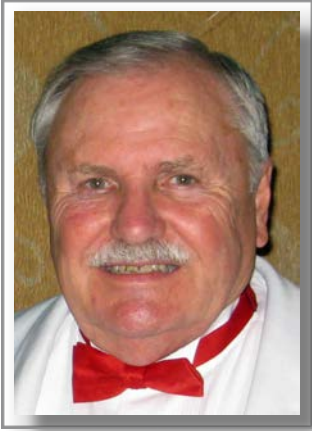
Tel: 310-684-1848  
rgreen@ca.rr.com



**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 Tony Durieux*

It is a new year with new challenges, hopes and dreams. It feels like a breath of fresh air.

The International of Blue Gavel has as its challenge a concerted effort to work on retention and growth for the New Year. Please note that retention of our Past Commodore members is our most important goal.

How do we do that? Each district is unique and needs to build on its strengths. President-Elect Bud Higginson did a survey that included all parts of the country. It is an excellent read and might lead to that spark that gives your E-board an idea that leads to a higher retention rate. Higher retention will lead to more and stronger growth. This year's District Achievement Award (DAA) is geared and weighted in favor of retention with growth rounding out the districts overall DAA score.

The key to retention is making your district a fun and desirable place to be. Let us make this a year of a big increase in the retention of our members. Put another way; let us make sure our brother/sister Past Commodores feel welcome. We know Past Commodores like associating with other Past Commodores and the IOBG family figures strongly in that equation.

With all that being said be sure you include your district Auxiliary. This makes for a win, win situation. The Auxiliary will help and be as committed to the project or social activity as the district and, in most cases, will add a little something that will bring everyone closer as friends.



Therefore, our goals are to retain our members and grow with dignity. The district Achievement Award is a way of gauging how well your district goals are in harmony with your district members.

Where do we look for new members? District members talking and associating with other commodores is one way. The other way is to look at the number of chapters in your district. Your first goal is to look at and make your new commodores aware that the district knows whom he/she is and make contact with them during their commodore year. Think a year in advance. If your district has 25 chapters, your goal should be close to 25 new members.



## CLEVELAND SHOWN BRIGHT FOR THE 2018 IOBG CONVENTION

The weather Gods were with us in October for the IOBG Annual Convention. No one, even the Florida people, had a complaint.

Thanks to Warren and Maryann Dempster for having an inviting Hospitality Room. Everyone enjoyed having the Hospitality Room available to just sit and chat whenever they wanted to.

Thursday we had great steak roast overlooking Lake Erie put on by Beaver Park Yacht Club. Who would complain about a 2# steak dinner and the soothing sounds of a steel drum not to mention the yummy cupcakes.

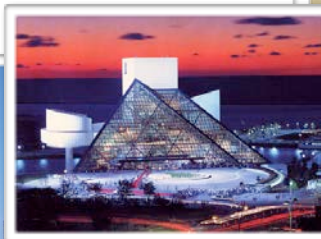
Thanks to Shari and Bill Brello for handling the wine tasting event at John Christ Winery.

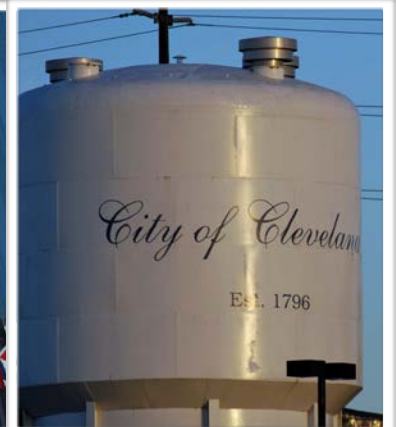
It was then off to Lakeside Yacht Club for their popular Pasta Buffet.

A big thanks goes out to John and Rosemary Sukis for multiple reasons. John was our treasurer for this event and assisted Rosemary in packing the Welcome bags. They both set up the participating stores for the Crocker Park Poker Run benefitting the IOBGHF. We raised a total of \$404.00 with half going to the fund.

I hope everyone went home to their respective districts and talked about how a District is only as strong as its members. Great job District 7 for all the volunteer hours that went into this event - we shined!!!!

Submitted by  
Trish Graven  
IOBGA President 2007





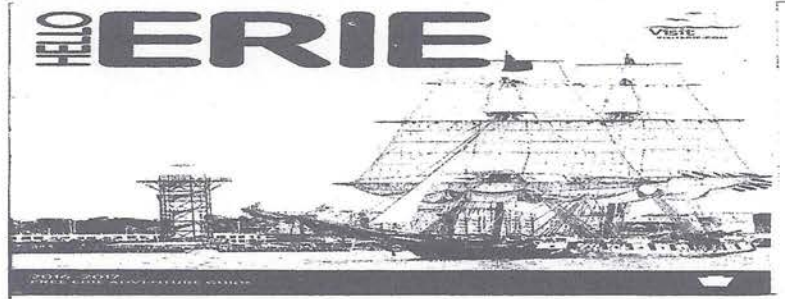












**International Order of the Blue Gavel**

**Summer Regional Meeting**

**August 16-18, 2018**

**@**

**ERIE, PA**

**FUN FUN TIMES!!**

**PARTY ON THE BAY AT BEAUTIFUL  
ERIE YACHT CLUB**

**DINNER CRUISE**

**TOUR OF THE BRIG NIAGARA  
MUSEUM**

**ACCOMMODATIONS AT  
THE SHERATON BAYFRONT HOTEL**

**SAVE THE DATES**



## *President - Elect Bud Higginson*

Congratulations to Tony Durieux as our new IOBG President and thank you to Past President Rosalie- Davis Green for her outstanding service this past year.

During this past year there was much discussion about recruiting new members, retention of members and establishment of new programs. We must continue this effort in the future as other activities continue to compete for our members time. We must implement new and exciting programs to further the cause of the Blue Gavel.

The amount and location of regional meetings should periodically be reviewed to determine their effectiveness. A reduction in regional meetings for cost savings purposes should again be reviewed as it may have had a negative effect.

One of the programs implemented last year included the membership retention survey which was completed earlier this year. The results of this survey were published and mailed to the District Directors by the Area Vice Presidents to determine if any of the results could be used by local districts and or chapters to assist in their own membership retention programs. In order to determine if this program was successful, I would like to get feedback from the district/chapters as to whether any of the results were implemented and were they effective. Your responses can be emailed to me for consolidation and reporting.

At the District 8 annual meeting held at Vero Beach Yacht Club on October 6 & 7, 2017 it was reported that they still maintain the largest membership of any district in IOBG. It was also announced at the meeting that Buzz Bisanz was nominated as the Second Vice President of IOBG and District 8 Director Karen Shea was nominated as Southeastern Area Vice President of IOBG.

## *Thank You for the Memories...*

### *Contributing Photographers*

*Sherry Barone*

*Phil Promessi*

*Sandi Durieux*

*Dale Reed*

*Pell Photography*

*Karen Shea*





*First Vice President*  
*Sherry Barone*

The key to continued membership retention and growth of IOBG has been addressed at various meetings this year. A method for membership retention both domestic and a concentrated effort to grow the international membership has been focused and discussed with Area Vice Presidents and committee.

Mark Vadaj, North Central AVP, has been studying the value, branding and benefit of IOBG and how to retain membership. Some of the items studied and addressed this year was an IOBG credit card with card fees going to support IOBG, discounts with IOBG membership from Best Buys, Lowes, Target, restaurants, hotels, and auto rentals. Both Past Presidents Stephen Willing and Vern Bendsen have reviewed and supported the committee on branding and membership growth and continue to be innovative leaders with the history of IOBG to guide us.

District 11 Director Sheila Anderson lead a pilot program for online dues renewal with the help of Communications Director Mary Nye Meyers who created the online forms. 25% of District 11 membership elected to renew online.

There has been an effort for IOBG to support local sailing races and associations such as the Association of Santa Monica Bay Sailing for the homeport regatta teaching people to race with clinics held. Our membership is diverse and there is a value to joining IOBG and being active in this prestigious organization. With our updated IOBG web site lead by Mary Nye Meyers and our new brochure our message continues to get out.

I look forward to continued growth and sharing with members our passion for boating and sailing. Rosalie Davis-Green did a tremendous job leading us this past year creating our new membership brochure. Mary Nye Meyers created and updated the IOBG web site for better communication and enhanced features such as online membership renewals. Tony Durieux will guide us next year as he created the District Achievement Award this past year.





*Second Vice President*  
*Robert "Buzz" Bisanz*

I would like to take this opportunity thank everyone who supported my candidacy for the position of International 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Thank you very much. I look forward to serving you as a member of IOBG.

The following is a brief summary of my IOBG background. I have been a member of IOBG since 2005. I served as a District Officer as Vice President (2 years), President (2 years) District Director (4 years) in addition to 2 years as Southeast Area Vice President. I hosted two Regional IOBG meetings (2014 in Charleston, SC and 2017 in Clearwater Beach, FL) and attended other Regional meetings in San Diego, CA & Buffalo, NY. I attended the past four Annual Meetings in Cleveland, OH; Marathon, FL; Marina Del Ray, CA and Westlake, OH.

One of the priorities I have embraced in the past that I plan on continuing to promote and grow is communication with Blue Gavel members. This priority along with offering support for yacht club traditions will be my primary focus.

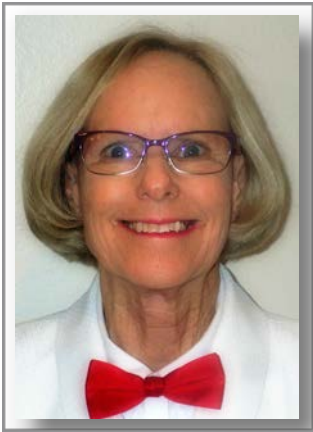
As part of our communications with members, while I served as an Area VP for the past two years we established in District 8 the assignment of each of the District Officers with up to 5 active Chapters. The purpose was established for the contacting of each Chapter 2-3 times per year by that officer. The message delivered and received to/from the Chapters included information on District activity and the general update on what is going on within the Chapter. It is important for the contact to continue each year as it assists in Chapter retention by giving each Chapter the feeling of belonging to IOBG.

Another important part of our communication effort includes the utilization of our web sites including our International site - IOBG.org. I strongly suggest that the membership include "Links" on their own District web site to other District sites and to the IOBG.org site to allow the easy sharing of information between IOBG Chapters. It would greatly enhance the general communication between the District leadership and our membership. Having the feeling that you are "part of the whole" is a communication success factor that is powerful and will aide in the growth of the IOBG membership.

Information that will enhance the communication to perspective members and chapters includes our new IOBG Outreach Initiative for Personal Contact at Non-Member Clubs. The IOBG Executive Committee has recently voted to fund a travel budget for District Directors personal travel to non-member clubs in their District. The intent is to physically contact a prospective yacht club with this contact coordinated with the IOBG Area VP. More information will be forthcoming through your Area Vice President.

Summary: It has been my pleasure to serve as the IOBG Southeast Area Vice President for the past two years and I look forward to continuing my journey within IOBG as the International 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.

\*\*\*\* Please continue your support of the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation. Website: [www.IOBG-HF.org](http://www.IOBG-HF.org)  
To apply for Humanitarian Foundation funding of a local project access the web site and complete the LAP (Local Area Project) application form.



*Past President*  
*Rosalie Davis Green*

It was an honor to serve as IOBG International President in 2017. It is often said "Time flies when you are having fun". Indeed, time flew by. Change of Watch in Cleveland, orchestrated by 2018 President Tony Durieux and his team was delightful. Congratulations to President Tony Durieux and the newly elected officers.

We, your Executive Committee, are continuing to work on several initiatives begun last year including: relevance, membership retention and membership growth in North America as well as worldwide. The non-north American dues proposal is in the process of being rethought due to feedback received from the membership.

I am pleased to report, although our membership numbers are still trending downward, the loss was only 15 members in 2017 vs 50 members/year on average in the last several years. We are very close to reversing the trend. We can do it. We all need to do our part to participate in the new District Achievement Award program. Remind your past commodore friends to rejoin and be an active member of your district.

The new community service page on the IOBG website was created for you the members. Here you highlight your district or chapter's community involvement. It only requires a few short paragraphs and photos. Action pictures are best. Let us all know what your district does that makes you proud.

Send your information to Communication Director Mary Nye Meyers for posting.  
Email her at [fire\\_n\\_ice104@hotmail.com](mailto:fire_n_ice104@hotmail.com)

Best wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year!

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.



*Education Officer*  
*Phil Promessi*

All members of the IOBG knows (or should know) how to run an organization. Achieving the rank of Commodore means that you must have gone through the chairs to get to that position. A lot of IOBG members also go through the chairs of their District and achieve the rank of District Director.

Being appointed Education Officer it is my responsibility to inform those members that need more information about what IOBG is all about. So I will attempt to list some of the important facts that will shed some light on the subject.

Once you have been invited to join the IOBG you belong to the IOBG Chapter of your club and the District your Chapter belongs to. You are obligated to participate in the functions of your club and District according to the oath you took when you were inducted. If you decided to go through the chairs of your District and you reached the office of Director, you are now an International Officer of the International Order of the Blue Gavel.

The responsibilities of the District Director are:

- 1) Shall serve as the principal link through their Area Vice President, between his/her District Officers and membership and the International. He/she shall keep the District informed of the results of Annual Meetings and all policies and regulations established by the International.
- 2) The Director shall ensure that the District's membership dues and pertinent information are forwarded to the International Treasurer when due.
- 3) The District Director shall work with their District's Officers in promoting the recruitment of new members and chapters, completing Chapter applications and mailing them to the President Elect via the Area Vice President.
- 4) The District Director shall promote attendance at annual meetings by the District membership, especially the District Officers. The Directors shall attend annual meetings to vote on behalf of their Districts: to present a written report to the meeting summarizing their District's activities, recruiting results, successes and misses; and to communicate their District's position on matters before the Board.
- 5) District Directors shall prepare and submit seasonal reports to their Area Vice Presidents.
- 6) They shall maintain their District Director's Manual and ensure delivery to their successors

In 2007 then President Carol Promessi commissioned Mark Connelly to come up with a Marketing Program. He presented the completed program at the Annual Meeting and I must say he did a great job. All Directors and Area Vice Presidents should study this program. If you don't have a copy contact me at [ppromessi@att.com](mailto:ppromessi@att.com) and I will see that you receive one.



2017

## Past President's Award



The International Order of the Blue Gavel's Past President's Award was instituted to recognize members for exemplary service. These are members who usually work behind the scenes who have shown dedication and a willingness to assist the International President, the Executive Committee, District and Chapter Officers and members as well as the IOBG Auxiliary and the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation members to carry out their duties.

Each and every candidate brings their own special skills and abilities to help and assist wherever they can. In selecting a candidate, there is no one criteria that fits all because each candidate is unique. The value of this award is bolstered by the quality of the person receiving it.

Candidates should have shown dedication to the Blue Gavel over a period of years, rather than a one-time effort. Numerous small efforts over time should be given the same weight as a couple of large efforts. There shall be no requirement that a nomination for the award must be given and thus it not presented every year. In fact, this is the first time in the last three years that an individual has been selected to receive this prestigious award.

The recipient I selected as the Immediate Past President has the concurrence of all the current Past President members.

She became an IOBG member of District 15 in 2010 and was IOBG Santa Marguerita Yacht Club Chapter President in 2011. She was an IOBGA member of District 15 in 2001 and IOBGA District President in 2004, 2005, 2006, 2016 and 2017. She was IOBGA International President in 2009 and Treasurer 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017.

This year's recipient of the Past President's Award is:

**AUDREY HALL**



### The prior recipients of the Past Presidents Award:

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2015 & 2016 - Not Awarded | 2006 - Shirley Willing   |
| 2014 - George Knies       | 2005 - Norm Gallagher    |
| 2013 - Marsha Landreth    | 2004 - Steve Willing     |
| 2013 - Bill Thayer        | 2003 - Marshall Nemoy    |
| 2012 - Gary Hall          | 2002 - Ed Gregory        |
| 2011 - Jerry Rudd         | 2002 - Peggy Gregory     |
| 2010 - Marybeth Thayer    | 2001 - Norm Gallagher    |
| 2010 - Carol Promessi     | 2001 - Tom Elmer         |
| 2009 - Art Theobald       | 2000 - Phil Arms         |
| 2008 - De Ramsey          | 2000 - Sue Brauner       |
| 2008 - Mary Nye Meyers    | 1999 - Larry Foote       |
| 2007 - Mike Parish        | 1999 - Joe Zammit        |
| 2006 - Carol Garside      | 1998 - Robert Carter, UK |



*N.B.F. Representative Marlene Barrington*

NBF awards the Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla with the most educational hours at the annual NACON meeting. We also recognize the USPS Squadrons for their on-the-water training hours. We have now proposed that the Army Corps of Engineers advise us of candidates from 8 proposed Districts be awarded also. Pam Doty, National Water Safety Program Manager for USACE, is coordinating approval for us to proceed with these awards in 2018.

The Annual General Meeting has been proposed for Quincy, MA for April 13-14, 2018. Watch our website for hotel and travel suggestions: [www.n-b-f.org](http://www.n-b-f.org)

### **A Report From: Earl Waesche, NBF Legislative Director**

#### Notice of Funding Opportunity to Promote Boater Safety Education

The Coast Guard published a Notice of Funding Opportunity announcing that it may award up to \$5.1 million for cooperative agreements in support of the National Recreational Boating Safety Program. The deadline to apply is Jan. 26, 2018 at 11:59:59 PM EDT.

Through this program, the National Recreational Boating Safety Program's goal is to increase opportunities for boater education in order to reduce the number of accidents, injuries and deaths on America's waterways and provide a safe enjoyable experience for the boating public. The program also encourages greater non-profit organizations' participation and promotes uniformity of safety efforts across all types of boaters.

The Coast Guard is the lead agency in development and maintenance of the Strategic Plan of the National Recreational Boating Safety Program. The Coast Guard will work closely with each non-profit organization grantee to ensure the funded projects adhere to the Strategic Plan. The Coast Guard conducts joint meetings and conferences, serves on committees with individuals from non-profit organizations, and conducts many other activities that constitute substantial involvement with the National Recreational Boating Safety Program.

To submit a package under this Notice of Funding Opportunity, follow instructions found on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov), using opportunity number DHS-USCG-2018-001. For more information on the grants program, such as eligibility requirements, visit the National Recreational Boating Safety Program's website, or contact Ms. Cynthia Dudzinski at [Cynthia.M.Dudzinski@uscg.mil](mailto:Cynthia.M.Dudzinski@uscg.mil).

Continued...



## **National Boating Federation Report Continued...**

Interior Secretary Zinke, Announced the Establishment of the Recreation Advisory Committee.

The committee, which will meet about two times annually, will advise Secretary Zinke on public-private partnerships across all public lands, with the goal of expanding access to and improving infrastructure on public lands and waterways.

“The spirit of American innovation and ingenuity is what built our country, and the Interior Department wants that same spirit and energy to resonate within the realm of outdoor recreation on our public lands and waterways,” stated Secretary Zinke.

“We already have thousands of private partners who operate on federal lands,” Zinke added. “Whether it's the iconic Jammers in Glacier National Park, the historic El Tovar lodge at the Grand Canyon or the kayaks that you can rent on the Potomac River, American workers are at the heart of helping American families experience our great outdoors.”

Helping ensure our nation's public waterways and lands are not only accessible but enjoyable is a key step to ensuring Americans get outdoors, stated the National Boating Federation.

The National Boating Federation has joined the Ocean Conservancy. This is a major endeavor that everyone should consider, as it works diligently to preserve and protect our oceans.

Northwestern V.P.  
Lani Lightle



Districts  
1 & 5  
2, 4 & 24  
Blue Gavel Canada

I am happy to report that District 1 has a new chapter which was announced at the annual meeting. Port Ludlow Yacht Club has joined IOBG with the help of Butch Brown, District 1's 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. Thank you Butch for making this happen. I believe there are several opportunities to recruit other new chapters in the District 1 area and having Port Ludlow Yacht Club newly signed up should inspire us to pursue other clubs with this news. "Strike While the Iron is Hot" as they say. Recruitment and Retention is our drive and this should certainly help inspire us. Port Ludlow YC will be presented their new charter in the very near future.

On another note I would like to follow up on a report I gave a year ago. I firmly believe the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation is a great reason to be a member of The International Order of the Blue Gavel. We are an organization that is here because of our love of boating and the friendships we have acquired. The Humanitarian Foundation give us a way of giving back to what has been an important part of our lives. The foundation provides help to existing charities and benefits communities through new initiatives involving boating activities and education.

In last year's report I spoke of a way to donate to this wonderful cause for free by signing up to Amazon Smile. At the year's end IOBG-HF will be receiving its first check from Amazon representing that many of you signed up. Last year it was announced that Amazon had donated 32 million to a variety of charities. Now that figure has nearly doubled to 62 million.

Here's how it works; you must first have an Amazon.com account. Then log onto [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and create an AmazonSmile account. For your charity choose "The International Order of the Blue Gavel Humanitarian Foundation". Then 0.5% of the price of your purchases will be donated to IOBG-HF and it will not cost you anything. It may not be much but it adds up nicely if we can get enough members to do it. So sign up now and ask others to do the same.



District 1  
Mary McCollum, District President

I would like to start off by thanking our 2016-2017 Officers and Trustees and our International Officers for making 2017 a success and for your time and commitment to IOBG District 1. I know we all make sacrifices and try to balance both work and our personal lives to give to our District as well as the International level. I would like to thank our new 2018 Officers and Trustees for the same reason. I know there are some wonderful ideas and interests and I look forward to help make them all happen.

The Fall meeting and Change of Watch in Clarkston, Washington was very exciting and I thank all of you who traveled to the east side of the state for our meeting. We had a total of 48 people at the dinner on Saturday night which certainly pasted my expectations and am thrilled that all the events, the Pirate Party on Friday Night at HCBC, the IOBG and IOBGA meetings as well as the Dinner Saturday night, were all well attended and covered a great deal of material at the meetings.

I am looking forward to the coming year as your President and thank you so much for trusting that myself and the board will our best for IOBG District 1. Stay tuned for more information on upcoming meetings.

I would like to introduce our 2018 officers:

Mary McCollum	President	Hells Canyon Boat Club
Butch Brown	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Kingston Cove Y.C.
Thomas Aram	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Hells Canyon Boat Club
Jeanne Gordon	Recording Secretary	West Seattle Y.C.
Ullrich Marquardt	Treasurer	Spokane Y.C.
Mary Nye Meyers	Executive Secretary	Corinthian Y.C. of Tacoma
Paul oBeckman	Trustee (Eastside)	Hells Canyon Boat Club
Keith Younkers	Trustee ( Eastside)	Spokane Y.C.
Ken Quimby	Trustee (Eastside)	Spokane Y.C.
Charley Emerson	Trustee (Westside)	Tacoma Outboard Association
Wayne Weber	Trustee (Westside)	Des Moines Y.C.
Chris Heide	Trustee (Westside)	Kingston Cove Y.C.

Southwestern V.P.  
Kathleen Jo Smith



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

Districts in the Southwest Region continue to focus on Membership Retention and Community Involvement. As a brief overview:

District 11 held a Wine Tasting and a Member Appreciation Party.

District 15 holds an annual Membership Appreciation event and supports Make A Wish and ElderHelp of San Diego charities. In addition, they continue to hold the very successful Yacht Club Management Seminar.

District 16 again supplied volunteers for the Chowderfest 2017 benefitting the Channel Islands Maritime Museum. Over the last three years they had raised over \$120k to run the museum's educational programs.

District 19 holds an annual Nomination BBQ. The day also includes a Big Cat Poker Run sponsored by the Discovery Bay Lions Club which raises thousands for local charities.

District 6 held its Change of Watch ceremony and inducted a new chapter, Hawaii Kai Boat Club, on November 2. Gary and I were there to participate.

District 10  
Joyce Jackson-Coomber, Director  
Rodney Coomber, President



We have had a great year. Valentine's at Navy YC was a blast. Since then we have done fundraisers in support of several charities. A pancake breakfast with Marina YC and a custom omelette bar brunch with Navy YC for The Children's Clinics of Long Beach. A wine tasting for Fischer House and Houston Relief Fund.

We have had several social events. A dinner with speaker from Ocean Defenders at Long Beach YC, a B-B-Q day at the beach at Barney's Beach House on Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station and a cruise in to the long dock of Long Beach YC. Speaking of the cruise in, LaVon and Bill Plumlee did a fantastic job putting that together. The theme was Halloween and many in attendance wore costumes befitting the event. The competition was hot for the best costumes. There were 6 boats tied up to the long dock and more folks came by land. Breakfast Saturday morning was eggs and bacon and sausages and potatoes and fruit and muffins and pastries and juices and bloody marys and mimosas. If you came away hungry it was your own fault.



I waddled back to the boat for a short nap till it was time to go on the dinghy tour of Naples Islands. There were a couple of reports of equipment failure. So, a very kind and generous member, Ray Wilson, rented a duffy and took on passengers to do the tour. Thank you Ray and Betty. We all had a great time. After the tour it was time for another nap then time to dress in Halloween costumes and prepare for potluck dinner on the dock. Again, the food was delicious and plenty left over to take home. Yours truly did take home the award for my pirate costume. (Report continued on next page...)

Sunday brunch was the standard Long Beach YC buffet but what made it special was about 26 of us were seated outside on the rear patio at a long table and a round overflow table. Thank you LaVon and Bill for a first rate affair.

On October 19 - 22 Director Joyce and I attended the annual meeting and election of officers of the Blue Gavel in Cleveland, Ohio. Friday night we had dinner at Beaver Park Yacht Club. Saturday we visited a winery and then had dinner at Lakeside Yacht Club. It really was a working weekend meeting getting a lot of business nailed down. The event provided the perfect opportunity to meet up with our neighboring District 11 Director Sheila Anderson. As a result we have planned to conduct a joint District 10 & District 11 get together (B-B-Q? Potluck lunch?) sometime in the summertime after the opening days season has concluded. Tony Durieux was elected International President. One item of great concern to the International and a topic of much discussion was Membership Retention and Recruitment. An award has been established to inspire all districts to increase their membership roster.

The change of watch ceremony for officers will take place January 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon Huntington Harbor Yacht Club following Brunch at 11:00 am.

District 11  
Sheila Anderson, President/Director

District 11 was the trial district for the pilot program for the IOBG Online District Dues Renewal program. We are very pleased to report 25% of our renewals were through the online registration. We hope to increase this number by adding a link to the District 11 website in the renewal information packet.

Our annual Wine Tasting Event was held on Sunday June 25, 2017. This year for the first time local businesses will be donating the wine and the owner of Uncorked Wine Store in Hermosa Beach educated us on all the wine varietals. We donated \$285.00 to the King Harbor Youth Foundation.

Our Officer Installation Luncheon was held on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Moving into 2018, we have kept our board intact. We have struggled with communicating to our members. Second VP Eric Hardt will set up a Constant Contact account for quick and easy communicate through email.

We will offer better and more unique events. Our first event of 2018 will be a visit to the Peterson Automotive Museum followed by dinner on January 20, 2017. In April we will have our Member's Appreciation event at the home of Board Member and Alternate Director Susana Hernandez Araico. We will have one major event per quarter.

District 15  
Bill Edwards, District Director

A Yacht Club Managements Seminar was presented by the District 15 Board of Directors and Representative on January 21st to any Yacht Club board of directors or any persons who sought to increase their knowledge of Yacht Club Protocol, organization, finances, legal issues, alcohol beverage control and California labor laws. It was hosted by Mission Bay Yacht Club. It was very well attended and the Participation Trophy for the most members of a yacht club attending went to Silver Gate Yacht Club.



Continued on next page...

District 15 Report Continued...

Our annual membership appreciation event was held on March 11. It was a great turnout with approximately 40 of our 80 members attending. Food and beverage was provided to them as well as some fun raffle prizes which were provide at no charge to our members. This event brings some or our members together with their friends only at this event. We also seek contributions from those fortunate enough to contribute a little to our charitable organization of choice - Elderhelp of San Diego. We were able to raise \$137 at this event. ElderHelp provides personalized services and information that help seniors remain independent and live with dignity in their own homes.

We supported the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Amazing Race for Children's Wishes On May 7 which benefits Make-A-Wish of San Diego. The event raised \$140,000 and our district fielded a bike team which raised \$1,360 for the event. This brings significant attention to District 15 as I was the Vice Chair and the Donation Chair for this year's event. The mission of the organization the Amazing Race event supports is brightening the lives of children with life-threatening medical conditions. A WISH come true helps children feel stronger, more energetic, more willing and able to battle their life-threatening illness.

We approved the slate for our 2018 board of directors on June 5.

Our annual Race Your BOD Regatta Charity Regatta was held on September 23. It was sponsored by District 15 IOBG and hosted by the Point Loma Yacht Club. The regatta was well attended and the event proceeds of \$866, along with the proceeds from the annual membership appreciation event, will be presented to Elderhelp of San Diego at our annual change of watch which was conducted on November 3.

My cut on maintaining and increasing membership is to make our organization relevant to our local communities. I firmly believe that District 15 is making headway by our interaction with the yacht clubs in the San Diego Association and our community with the philanthropic contributions of both the Amazing Race and Race your BOD Regatta. I believe this template is one that can be emulated internationally.

I and our District President, or an alternate, attend the monthly San Diego Association of Yacht Clubs monthly dinners representing District 15 and address the need to contribute to our community for the Amazing Race, Race Your Board of Directors (BOD) Regatta to benefit Elder Help of San Diego, Christmas Parade of Light Picket Boats and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Picket boats which support the Big Bay Boom Fireworks display annually; which I coordinate. Without the aforementioned picket boats neither of these events would take place which would result in a financial loss to our community and disappointment to our community members.

It is important to note that the venues described above have given opportunities to our Auxiliary to effect the community by raising funds to support their charity of Choice- Elderhelp of San Diego. We work closely with them as we move through the year and they do a wonderful job supporting us.

District 16  
Richard Olsen, District Director

On July 18, 2017 we held a BBQ and party at Harbor Islands Yacht Club. This was catered by Bodacious BBQ in Ventura and was well attended.

P/C Carole LaPonte (2001 P.B.Y.C.) was inducted into IOBG by P/C Cary Vestrymen at this time.

District 16 elected to send to the Humanitarian Foundation \$400.00 with the hopes that they consider helping the program for disadvantage children in the sailing program administered at PCYC in Oxnard.

Our Annual Christmas Party was held on December 13 at Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club for good Cheer and also the election of the 2018 Board.

Continued on next page...

District 16 Report Continued...

Chowderfest 2017 at the Channel Islands Maritime Museum was for the third straight year a huge success. The International Order of the Blue Gavel (IOBG) working with local yachts clubs including Harbour Island Yacht Club, Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club, Channel Islands Yacht Club and Ventura Yacht Club with many museum volunteers supplied the worker power necessary to run the event. Over 1,400 visitors enjoyed the tastes of chowders and soups from local Ventura County restaurants. This year's proceeds to CIMM was over \$40,000 bringing a 3 year total of nearly \$100,000 being raised to run the museums educational programs.

Nonstop blues music was provided by Kelly's Lot. Kelly Zorbas arranged for musicians from her band and from other parts of the region to perform throughout the event.

The winners of this year events were: Sea Fresh for People's Choice and Judges Choice categories. Additional winners that placed were Rhomb Line of Ventura, The Lookout Bar and Grill for its miniature bread bowls topped with bacon and the Greek Mediterranean Steak and Seafood of Ventura. Judges Choice awards resulted in a 3 way tie between Kamala Seafood of Oxnard and Santa Barbara, The Greek of Ventura Harbor and Hook Line and Sinker of Oxnard. The River Ridge Golf Club won a non-category award for its unchowder of chicken and sweet corn chowder. Other participants included Sabra Fish and Grill at the Collection, Spencer McKenzies and Roxbury Deli. Delicious desserts were provided by Nothing Bundt Cakes, Dottie's Delights, Honey Cups and Missy's Cupcakes. 805 Brewery supplied several types of their beer and several local wineries participated with tastings.

Thanks to all that attended this year's event and we look forward to Chowderfest 2018.  
Sheldon Berger Co-Chair of Chowderfest.



As the successful 2017 year comes to an end, here is a summary of events and the plans for 2018.

- The annual August Nomination BBQ featured the Famous BBQ presented by Otis Brock and James Mack. The Discovery Bay Yacht Club hosted the BBQ preceded by a patio boat ride around the many bays (See Delta Rat Scrapbook article following this report) The day also included the start of the Big Cat Poker Run sponsored by the Discovery Bay Lions Club with over 50 BIG fast boats participating. After the Poker Run start and the return to the DBYC clubhouse, we were greeted with hors d'oeuvres and the bar was busy quenching our thirst with the day's temperature reaching over 100 degrees. The BBQ was again "to die for". Since it was so well attended we had only a few containers of Special BBQ Sauce to auction off.
- The final summer event was the 2018 Election luncheon held at Bridge Marina Yacht Club presented by the resident chef Julia. The weather was perfect, and we finally had some Delta days below 100 degrees. The membership confirmed the new officers for 2018:

IOBG Delta District 19 2018 Officers:

David Breninger - International District Director (& Immediate Past President)

Jack Michael - President; Paul Clausen – Vice President; Matt Smith - Secretary; Mike Billington – Treasurer

- Our 2018 year began on November 4, 2017 with the Change of Watch at the Stockton Yacht Club. Goals for 2018 will continue to be focusing on membership retention and participation. District 19 actively promotes at meetings to encourage members to be involved in and contribute to IOBG Humanitarian Foundation and the PICYA Foundation. We will continue to include District 14 in our events and future plans. Our new leadership is looking forward to another successful year.

### Delta Rat Scrapbook - October 2017

We attended the 19th District of the International Order of the Blue Gavel luncheon at Discovery Bay Yacht Club on August 12, 2017. Otis Brock and James Mack were the chefs and created an excellent BBQ of St. Louis ribs, chicken, and sausage links along with salad and dessert. Otis explained St. Louis ribs to this neophyte, they are basically spare ribs carefully trimmed keeping the best parts of the meat. When they are ready to cook, they are all one uniform size. These ribs were mouth-watering good. Of course, Otis and James had some secret barbeque sauce, which really enhanced the flavor and had all the guests raving about them.

After lunch, the new board for 2018 was introduced. For the coming year it includes: 2017 Secretary and 2018 Activities Director Karen Mann; 2018 incoming Secretary Scott Smith; 2017 and 2018 Supply Officer Don Dietz; 2017 Vice President and 2018 incoming President Jack Michael; 2017 & 2018 Treasurer Mike Billington; 2018 incoming Vice President Paul Clausen; 2017 International Director Roger Beebe and 2017 President and 2018 incoming International Director Dave Breninger.

We sat with the club Commodore Bruce and the lovely Maggie Hall and caught up with the happenings at the club. The clubhouse is one of the most beautiful in the Delta and all manner of events are held here. The club is involved in many charitable activities and is a good member of the Discovery Bay community.



Earlier in the day, the Big Cat Poker Run left from the yacht harbor. The Discovery Bay Lions Club presents the event. They raise thousands of dollars for local charities each year. For 2017, the theme was stop the Brown/Laird tunnels and most boats left the harbor flashing big signs saying, "stop the tunnels."

District 21  
Submitted by Richard Price

District 21 is the geographical area of Newport Harbor, Dana Point Harbor, and Arrowhead, California.

All of our District 21 clubs had a terrific sailing season this summer with great weather and warmer than usual water temperature.

The District 21 "Club of the Year" award goes to Dana Point Yacht Club. They have successfully renewed their long term lease with Orange County that ensures them a stable environment for the years to come. This year was the 18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of DPYC's "Richard Henry Dana Charity Regatta" benefiting the Dana Point Youth Sailing Foundation and was very successful. The DPYC Juniors have formed sailing teams at some South Orange County high schools focusing on the CFJ and 420 fleets and are home based at DPYC.

The Saga of Dana Point Harbor continues. The developer is a Newport Beach group that won the County contract and 66 year lease for the \$200 million Dana Point Harbor revitalization. The \$200 million overhaul of Dana Point Harbor is expected to include buildings with gabled standing seam metal roofs, open plazas, unique restaurants and shops, two hotels and possibly a surf museum.

The long-awaited plan, a proposal by the Dana Point Harbor Partners LLC development group, was unanimously approved by the Orange County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, Oct 17. It was a milestone in a harbor revitalization plan that has gone on for nearly two decades. Dana Point Harbor Partners is made up of Burnham-Ward Properties for retail and restaurants, Bellwether Financial Group for the Marinas, and R.D. Olson Development for hotels.

Both Dana Point Yacht Club and Dana West Yacht Club have its own long term land lease with Orange County and are not affected for the time being by this new development.

1380 Centerville Lane #32  
Gardnerville, NV 89410-9715  
Email: Comsignia@aol.com  
www.commodoreinsignia.com



775-782-3380  
800-315-7485  
Fax: 775-782-3380

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, black & navy background and the price is \$23.95 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		Black	White	Navy	Unit Price	Total
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	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. \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Addresses: \_\_\_\_\_

*North Central V.P.*  
*Mark Vadaj*



*Districts*  
*7, 9, 23 & 25*

Once again the North Central Region consisting of Districts 7, 9, 23 and 25 has enjoyed a very successful and enjoyable year. Unfortunately, the boating season for this part of the U.S. has come to a close as colder temperatures are upon us. This however does not stop the participation and activity level from each of our individual districts. Please take a moment to become acquainted with the District leadership and the calendar of events for each of the Districts and also the events that are sponsored by the combination of the Districts. (Please see individual reports to follow)

Each District President and District Director as well as the District Officers are working to provide the most of your membership. It is the member that must take advantage of what benefit and or amenity is offered. As the North Central Vice President, I can ensure that I have listened to your suggestions as well as concerns. I promise that your voice and opinion is appreciated and valued. That is why I, along with First V.P. Sherry Barone have been working to develop a Benefit /Amenity Program to add value to your membership.

I have some exciting news that I hope can be embraced by all Districts and executed within each District if not already. Within the District 7 area, I have been planning for 3 years an IOBG Exclusive Rendezvous and Social event for our IOBG Members. The progress of the planning includes a Boat Rendezvous in Cleveland Ohio on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> at the newly developed North Coast Harbor overlooking the Cleveland skyline and adjacent to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. There are a number of activities already planned ranging from a Cocktail Event to a Formal Dinner at an adjacent restaurant on the harbor to live entertainment, a discounted rate for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and also an optional cruise with a discounted fee aboard the Good Time III Cruise Ship for those arriving by car but wish to be on the water.



The intention of this event is to provide value to our members without asking them for money. The best part of the plan is how we fund this effort and event. That is why I have secured two corporate sponsors from the boating business community with more on the way. As the District 50 Director, I am also incorporating District 50 Members as a means of mainstreaming them into an active District. Look for additional information in the spring edition.

One of the biggest little secrets of success of any District is having the spouses involved. My wife Robin is currently First Vice President of the International Auxiliary as we each mirror each other in our planning and events which becomes an all-inclusive organization.

Thank you once again for your continued commitment to “Yachting’s Most Prestigious Fraternity”

District 7  
Lloyd Bogue, President

District 7 has once again had a busy year! Since our last report much has transpired. Unfortunately the district has had to perform three memorial services for our departed members. This is a very moving ceremony and it is a nice tribute to them.

With the summer months in full swing every chapter in our district has had many activities. The district also provided a cocktail party in conjunction with the Greater Cleveland Boating Association's annual Rendezvous event in Huron, Ohio in June. With 70 boats in attendance a good time was had by all, including our Blue Gavel members. This event culminated a year long fundraising activity for our very own D-7 International President Elect Tony Durieux. The grand prize of a "cooler of cheer" was awarded to 1 lucky recipient.

The IOBG Humanitarian Foundation was also a big winner as one half of the proceeds was given to them. A big Thank-You to our PP Warren Dempster for coordinating the fundraiser this past year. Right along with the fundraising activities the district has been very busy doing all of the necessary work to put on an International Meeting. Past International IOBGA President Trish Gravens headed up this responsibility along with many other chair people from the district. We thank all of them for their efforts and I know everyone enjoyed the fruits of their labors.

The District also put on another cocktail party for another one of our contributing boating organizations, The Inter-Lake Yachting Association. We along with District 9 & 25 provided a wonderful event for them as they concluded a week long powerboat regatta on Put in Bay.

The District also held our Change of Watch on October 14<sup>th</sup> and inducted our new officers for the coming year. They have already released their schedule for the upcoming year and it appears to be a very busy one. District 7 would also like to extend our congratulation to Sandi Durieux for serving for 2 years as the IOBGA International president. JOB WELL DONE!

District 9  
Dean Reamsnyder, District Director

District 9 had another year of positive changes. At our October 1<sup>st</sup> Fall Meeting, Steve Hyder was elected President. Vice President for the Chapters of Michigan South and Secretary were both filled by Don Teczynski. Don is also our new President Elect. Steve is a practicing Attorney and Don is an officer for Homeland Security working aboard ship in the Watercraft Division.

Moving from Director to Advisor/Alternate Director is Larry Inguagiato. Larry has been very instrumental in his tenure as District President 2015/2016 and also as 2017 Director. Larry has kept our District engaged and involved. A big Thank You to Larry.

I would also like to point out that our Advisor/Alternate Director Arne Hansen has been a major influence to me and to the success of District 9 maintaining its strong membership. His wife Marge and Mary Kay Inguagiato, of the IOBGA, have put together some fun events in 2017, with more to come in 2018. Two new officers have been elected into the Auxiliary. Pam Myers of Cooley Canal, First Mate of President Steve Hyder is the new IOBGA District President. Karla Reamsnyder, of Harbor View Yacht Club, wife and navigator of my universe, is the new District 9 IOBGA Vice-President.

Continued...

District 25  
Betty Tyson, District Director

It's hard to believe my year as President of District 25 is over and I'm moving on as District Director, but our Elections and Change of Watch were held at our Fall Membership Meeting on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations and best wishes for a great year to all our 2018 Officers:

Alternate District Director, P/C Steve Willing  
District Director, P/C Betty Tyson  
President, P/C John Robbins  
President Elect, P/C Mike Brown  
Secretary, P/C John Rose  
Treasurer, P/C Jack Berry  
Humanitarian, P/C Leonard Smollen  
Supply Officer, P/C Rick Kasza  
Auxiliary President, Lady Fran Rose

V/P Anchor Bay, P/C Brian Kaser  
V/P Clinton River, P/C Carl Melchior  
V/P Up North, P/C Carl Melchior  
V/P Lake St. Clair, P/C Harold Weaver  
V/P Detroit River Canada, P/C Bill Woods  
V/P Detroit River North, P/C Russell Skitch  
V/P Detroit River South, P/C Pete Duran  
Webmaster, P/C Jeff Upholzer

What a year it was in 2017, as we encouraged better attendance this year, by awarding a plaque donated by Alternate District Director P/C Steve Willing to the club with the most IOBG Members, Mates, and Auxiliary attending our membership meetings and events. The Attendance Award Plaque was awarded this year to Seaway Boat Club at our Fall Membership Meeting.

This year started out with a bus trip to Cadieux Café for the Belgian game of Featherbowling arranged by P/C Pete Duran, V/P Detroit River South, which was a different event for our district and enjoyed immensely, by all those attending. Next, we had a Spaghetti Dinner at Seaway Boat Club, which was a fun event organized by last year's V/P Up North, P/C Mike Brown. The Ladies Auxiliary then had a Bicycle Bar event downtown Detroit organized by our 2017 Auxiliary President Sharon Skitch and a great time was had by all who attended. Lastly, we had a 200 Club drawing. We are grateful to all those who made these events a great success, as monies made from these events help run District 25, support AYC and I-LYA, and allow us to make donations.

Thanks to Anchor Bay Yachting Association (ABYA) for inviting me to attend their meeting to make a presentation for the International Order of Blue Gavel (IOBG), as ABYA has approximately 25 clubs, which are in our district. We have been working with these clubs in the northern part of District 25 to encourage them to join, rejoin, and take part in our meetings and events.

Lastly, we are working with a few new clubs in ABYA and some on the southern end of our district, who would like to join IOBG in 2018.

Thanks to all for a great 2017 as District 25 President, and looking forward to a great year as District Director in 2018. I'm also looking forward to all the new ideas our 2018 District 25 President P/C John Robbins has for our organization!

District 50  
Mark A. Vadaj, District Director

As I have stated previously since 2012, District 50 is one of the largest Districts of IOBG. Geographically this District spans from the Great Mississippi River, East to the Great State of Maine and South to the Sunny State of Florida and everything in between with and without water.

The philosophy is to continue to add members whether it is organic growth when an IOBG member relocates to another part of the U.S. or when a member finds themselves without a District or Chapter of their own due to conditions beyond their choice or control or when there is a desire to join IOBG but there is no Chapter or District established yet.

This was the case in the greater Boston area where we successfully launched new membership. The philosophy of District 50 is to continually add members but the goal is not to grow District 50 but rather retain IOBG membership as a whole and to mainstream these members into an Active Chapter or District when possible. In the interim time period, all District 50 members can enjoy the benefits and privileges like any other IOBG member.

I can ensure that I have listened to your suggestions as well as concerns. I promise that your voice and opinion is appreciated and valued. That is why I, along with First V.P. Sherry Barone have been working to develop a Benefit/Amenity Program to add value to your membership.

Please read the details in the North Central Area regarding an invitation for District 50 members to participate in a District 7 event where it is geographically suitable for travel. Look for additional information in the spring edition.

One of the biggest little secrets of success of any District is having the spouses involved. My wife Robin is currently First Vice President of the International Auxiliary as we each mirror each other in our planning and events which becomes an all-inclusive organization.

Thank You Once Again for your continued commitment to "Yachting's Most Prestigious Fraternity"

Mark A. Vadaj – Director, District 50.

Email: [mvadaj@att.net](mailto:mvadaj@att.net)

Cell: 440-479-0064

Northeastern V.P.

Stephen Tisack



Districts

3, 12, 20, 22  
26 & 27

District 3 has experienced a substantial growth in membership this year. By reaching out and visiting chapters we have opened lines of communication. This has sparked interest in IOBG again. Two dormant chapters asked to have some of their PC's inducted into the IOBG.

It was a great honor to induct 5 new members. From these two events we have had several inter-club festivities that has promoted greater interest with future IOBG members. On December 6<sup>th</sup> district 3 hosted their annual Christmas Party at the Buffalo Launch Club. Anyone interested in attending please contact Steve at (716) 998-7938 for more information.

I had an opportunity to reach out and visit the chapters of District 12. I inquired about individuals that were aware of IOBG. I received some contact information as well as leaving mine. Some of the feedback I received was positive. They like the camaraderie, association with other PCs, learning of other yacht clubs functions and social programs. Others thought that with all the other sailing and racing associations there could pose a sense of redundancy and misunderstanding with IOBG and other yachting associations.

My focus now will be to educate individuals on the mission statement and the focus of IOBG. I will continue to contacting chapters and visiting those in my district. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

District 3

Lewis Smith, District Director

District 3 was chartered in the early 1950's. How the Blue Gavel jumped from Seattle, Washington to Western New York is a mystery. Unfortunately, none of our current members were around at that time. We do know that Buffalo is one of the oldest yachting communities in the country. Buffalo Yacht Club is regarded as the second or third oldest yacht club, founded in 1860.

The summer regattas of Buffalo Yacht Club and Buffalo Canoe Club are still large events. The Buffalo Sailing Club hosts weekly races with boats from all area yacht clubs participating.

Even though the sailing programs of our larger clubs remain strong, the yachting traditions and courtesies have diminished. Club memberships have stagnated and new members seem uninterested in becoming our leaders. In spite of this, President Steve Tisack and his crew have managed to increase our membership from 67 paid in 2015 to 103 paid in 2017.

District 3's summer sail toured the waters of the Buffalo River, Buffalo's grain milling district where many of the silo's still stand and are being up graded into bars and restaurants. After the city tour, the Grand Lady headed out to Lake Erie and all enjoyed the spectacular sight of 80 to 90 sailboats completing in their weekly race. We held our Fall district meeting after dinner. We are fortunate to have a strong slate of officers to lead us into another successful year.

Our Holiday Party was held at the Buffalo Launch Club, where the Boating Family of the Year award was presented. This will conclude our activities until spring.

*Southeastern V.P.*  
*Karen Shea*



*Districts*  
*8 & 18*

Submitted by  
Robert "Buzz" Bisanz  
Past Southeastern Vice President

Our current District 8 IOBG membership count stands at 230 which closes out our 2017 rank as the #1 District in IOBG membership. The 2<sup>nd</sup> ranking District with 223 members is District 7 (Ohio, East of Sandusky Bay) and our 3<sup>rd</sup> ranking District with 178 members is District 9 (Michigan, East and Ohio West). The total International membership is at 1,548. Congratulations to District 8 (Karen Shea, District Director and Doug Case, President) and also District 7 (Rich McKee Jr, District Director and Debora Light, President) and District 9 (Larry Inguagiato, District Director and Dean Reamsnyder, President)!

To retain our District 8 membership we needed to enhance the communication with our membership. Last year I requested District 8 President Shaun Graser to assign each of his District 8 Officers with up to 5 active Chapters for the purpose of contacting each Chapter 2-3 times per year. The message delivered and received to/from the Chapters includes information on District activity and the general update on what is going on within the Chapter. It is important for this contact to continue as it assists in the retention by giving each Chapter the feeling of belonging to IOBG.

Another important part of our communication effort includes the District 8 web site - [www.D8iobg.org](http://www.D8iobg.org) – and the International's web site – [www.IOBG.org](http://www.IOBG.org). I strongly suggest that the District consider fully utilizing the IOBG D8 Florida Facebook page which will allow easily sharing of information between D8 IOBG Chapters. It would also greatly enhance the general communication between the District leadership group and our District members. Having the feeling that you are "part of the whole" is a communication success factor that is powerful and will aid in the growth of the District membership.

During the District 8 Annual Meeting held on October 7<sup>th</sup> in Vero Beach, FL I announced the IOBG Outreach Initiative for Personal Contact at Non-Member Clubs. The IOBG Executive Committee has recently voted to fund a travel budget for District Directors personal travel to non-member clubs in their District. The intent is to physically contact a prospective Yacht Club with the scheduled contact coordinated with the IOBG Area VP.

The Change of the Watch for District 8 was held on October 7, 2017 and there I installed the newly elected District Leadership Team. District Director Karen Shea and President Doug Case will lead this team throughout 2018. Best wishes to the entire team which also includes President Elect, Joseph Drombowski; 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Hoyt Nichols; 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Heather Wood; Treasurer, Dennis Bosi and Legal Officer, Rosemary Kaley Krieger.

For District 18, we continue to support the rebuild of the District membership. President Dave Kowert has scheduled two events to be held prior to the end of the year. The first was a membership meeting in mid-November with a follow-up meeting in December. Support of youth sailing is a priority of the District in 2017-2018.

Summary: It has been my pleasure to serve as the IOBG Southeast Area Vice President for the past two years. On October 21, 2017 Karen Shea was installed as the Southeast Area Vice President. Congratulations to Karen and best wishes to her in her new position.



Congratulations for the second year in a row for the most District members out of 29 Districts. At our International Annual meeting on October 21, 2017 we have 230 paid members (234 including PP) as of August 1, 2017 compared to 228 last year. We are very successful at retention. We have dropped from 24 Chapters to 23 Chapters with 7 Chapters with 2 members or less. Lauderdale YC did not rejoin in 2017 even though President Doug Case, Secretary Heather Wood and myself called and sent letters this year along with our new brochures.

In conjunction with our Treasurer Bosi sending renewals on November 1<sup>st</sup>, I will again send out over 35 letters to all charters that are no longer active and 19 FCYC chapters. Our focus should be on those Yacht Clubs who already have charters, but have not rejoined. Some interesting statistics are there are now 36 FCYC chapters, of which we have 17 who have current IOBG Chapters, 10 Chapters who have charters who have not rejoined and 9 Chapters who have never had an IOBG charter. All this information is in the IOBG D8 Charters/Chapter information I have sent all executive committee members.

I feel the key to keeping members interested is to inform them via our website at [www.D8IOBG.ORG](http://www.D8IOBG.ORG), our newsletters, letters, emails and phone calls from our Executive Committee. Another tool which I think members enjoy is a roster of all the District members in a simple alphabetical format. I understand we have only 2 IOBG Districts that have a membership roster and ours is one of them. We sent our September D8 2017 Membership Directory out in September. If you did not receive one via email or you cannot print one out please contact me.

I will continue to share with the other District Directors what makes our District retain our members and maintain the highest membership. Please check your Yacht Club websites to make sure your IOBG info is on their site. On June 1, 2017 I checked our 23 Chapter websites and only 4 of 23 had links to their IOBG Chapter info to even acknowledge they had an IOBG Chapter! Those Chapters who have links are Dunedin Boat Club, Gulf Harbors Yacht Club, Isles Yacht Club and Pelican Isle Yacht Club.

This year has been very challenging for District 8 as our Annual October 2016 Change of Watch began during Hurricane Matthew at Pelican Isle YC. It was followed by April's meeting with a great celebration at Lighthouse Point Yacht Club's 50th Anniversary. Our June District meeting was at Isles Yacht Club, Punta Gorda where we participated in their Retreat Ceremony. Both SEVP Bisanz and I exchanged burgees from our yacht clubs with Isles Yacht Club.

Don't forget to bring a burgee with you to all meetings and whenever you travel. Make it a point to stop at least one yacht club to exchange a burgee and hand out a few IOBG brochures.

District 18  
Dave Kowert, President

This was an exceptionally busy summer for the major Yacht Clubs in Charleston. South Carolina's area wide sailing regattas and one hurricane kept everyone on their toes and focused on making certain the season was complete. The IOBG had TWO events before the end of the year. The first was an oyster roast at Hobcaw Yacht Club in mid-November and was hosted by JD Rosser and Dave Kowert. This was our membership drive for 2017.

In December, we had our first "meeting" at The Charleston Yacht Club. This was a strategy meeting with everyone who is willing to be part of IOBG after the November Oyster Roast.

The focus in District 18 for 2018 will be twofold. First we are looking for unique ways to support youth sailing in the greater Charleston Area. It is likely that the District 18 IOBG will take responsibility for the sailing committee boats. I am working with Charleston Race Week to see if they will buy a RIB that can be used at all the regattas. If that works, IOBG will take responsibility to maintain the RIB, and deliver and pick it up for each regatta held in Charleston throughout the year. This idea is getting IOBG exposure and has attracted the attention of about 6 different PCs who had never expressed interest in the past.

The second focus is aimed at supporting the training of Area Race Officials. JD Rosser has agreed to help us develop a plan where IOBG can help sponsor some of the training and probably make a few dollars for IOBG in the process.

I should have more to report on both these initiatives by late January. I am hoping that these initiatives and the social events in November will help District 18 round out its active leadership team.



## **INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL**

**District 75 - New Zealand**

**NEW ZEALAND Annual General Meeting**

**Held in NAPIER - The Art Deco of New Zealand**

**8-10 SEPTEMBER 2017**



A small turnout this year for various reasons. People started arriving in Napier on Friday afternoon. Most stay at the Anchorage Motor Motel and a few in their mobile homes.

Pre-dinner drinks and nibbles was held in the Secretary's room, before a short walk to Speights Ale House Restaurant where we had a lovely two course dinner.

Saturday most of us boarded a hired bus for a day's outing seeing the sights. The first stop was the old Prison in Napier, built in the 1800's. We were given an audio recorder, so as you went around, you pressed the number corresponding with what you were looking at. A very somber place.

Next we headed through the beautiful countryside to Birdwood Gardens. We had lunch in the gazebo in the lovely grounds. There was a lovely old English sweet shop in the grounds, which was visited by those with a sweet tooth. Also the main shop was frequented.

After lunch we drove through the beautiful town of Havelock North and Hastings and then back into Napier to the National Aquarium, where we had a guided tour. What an amazing place. The staff at the Aquarium put on a beautiful afternoon tea of scones, jam and cream, tea and coffee for us at no extra charge. From the aquarium a quick stop at the Art Deco Shop, then back to the motel to get ready for dinner.

Continued on next page...

Our formal dinner was held at the Napier Sailing Club where we had a lovely three course sit down meal. Between courses Graeme Robinson, a Past Commodore of the Club, gave a presentation on the history of the Club and surrounding area. A very interesting presentation.

President Bill Mitchinson presented Graeme with one of our Burgees for the Club.

Sunday morning we held our AGM at the Napier Sailing Club, followed by a farewell lunch at Café Ahuriri, before heading home.

Next year is our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, so we are heading back to Mana Cruising Club in Wellington, where Baron Ralph Von Kohorn first started the New Zealand Chapter of Blue Gavel.



Front Row, Left to Right  
President Bill Mitchinson, Secretary/Treasurer Christine Conn, PC Evelyn Johnson

Back Row, Left to Right  
Vice President Peter Dallimore, Guest Graeme Robinson, PC Russell Wiklund,  
PC Gary Swain, PC John Budden (hidden), PC Stuart Munro, PC Chris McCallum,  
PC Harry Sutcliffe, PC Ralph Roberts and PC Andrew Morrison

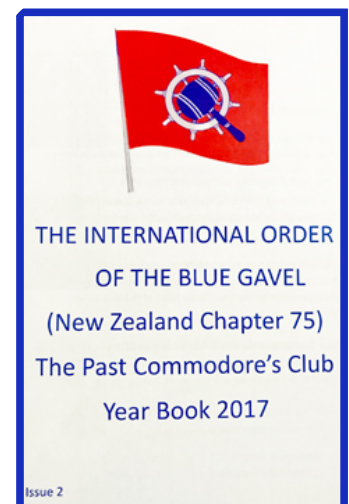
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From Mary Nye Meyers, Communications Director:

District 75 has their own yearbook. Thank you to Past President Joel Kay who shared his copy of the District 75 book with me.

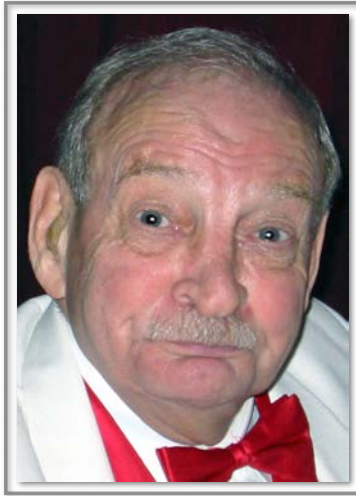
It not only contains names and contact information for the 56 members but also has IOBG New Zealand history, copy of the original charter, old photos from their archives and a section about Past President Joel Kay and Lady Nancy's visit to New Zealand and District 75.

I enjoyed the section about the 2003 launching of the boat "Blue Gavel" which was built by members of District 75 and donated to Paralympics NZ. The launch of the "Blue Gavel" was a proud moment for all IOBG members in attendance.



# In Memorium

Harvey Sussel



International Past President  
District 8

September 27, 2017

Harvey Sussel was born April 26, 1933 in Cleveland, Ohio and passed away peacefully with his family by his side on September 27, 2017 in Port St. Lucie, Florida.







Harvey graduated from Cleveland Heights High School and attended the Ohio State University. Together with his parents, Lil and Charlie Sussel, they built Mayland Lanes which became one of the most successful bowling centers in Ohio.

Harvey was an entrepreneur, adventurer, and leader throughout his life, owning Mayland Lanes, Eastgate Coliseum, and Campus Pizza while living in Cleveland and a video store and a medical transport company after relocating to Florida in 1996.

He was a licensed pilot and certified boat captain and a member of the Masonic Lodge No. 731, Chagrin River Yacht Club, Mentor Harbor Yacht Club and Captains Yacht Club.

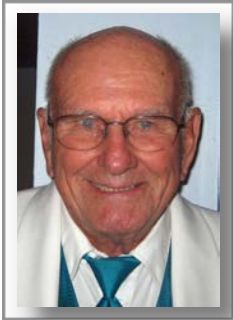
Harvey was President of the International Order of Blue Gavel in 2006.

# 2019-2020 Executive Board

	<p>President</p>	<p><b>Al Eiffert - Dist. 1</b>          39906 Black Mesa Lane          Palm Desert, CA 92260</p> <p>Tel/Cell: 206-819-5809          Home: 760-567-8824          Email: <a href="mailto:meiffert@earthlink.net">meiffert@earthlink.net</a></p>
	<p>President- Elect</p>	<p><b>Gary Smith - Dist. 15</b>          815 Ethel Pl          National City, CA 91950</p> <p>Tel: 619-479-6292          Email: <a href="mailto:gsaco@aol.com">gsaco@aol.com</a></p>
	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</p>	<p>7505 Thatchum Lane          Concord, OH 44060</p> <p>Cell: 440-637-6287          Email: <a href="mailto:robinvadaj@gmail.com">robinvadaj@gmail.com</a></p>
	<p>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</p>	<p>Open</p>
	<p>Secretary</p>	<p>Open</p>
	<p>Treasurer</p>	<p><b>Audrey Hall - Dist. 15</b>          2063 Grandview St.          Oceanside, CA 92054</p> <p>Home: 760-757-6796          Email: <a href="mailto:hulakai2@cox.net">hulakai2@cox.net</a></p>



## International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary



### *President Al Eiffert*

The fall meeting in Cleveland hosted by District 7 was well conducted and we owe them our thanks for a job well done. My wife Mary and I had a good time and met some new friends.

The new IOBGA Bridge was installed for the 2018 season. This International Bridge has an entirely different appearance from the past. The International President is a male (me)! District 1 Auxiliary had a male President, Mike Meyers, a couple of years ago! If girls can join the Boy Scouts, I guess males can lead the previously all female IOBGA group. The Auxiliary has been run smoothly for decades and I don't expect to cause any interruption to this.



The IOBGA is urging all spouses and significant others of IOBG members to join the Auxiliary. It's fun, friendly and worthwhile. The Auxiliary provides an opportunity to see old friends, make new friends, assist your club in charitable causes and fundraising. Visit our website ([IOBGA.org](http://IOBGA.org)) to learn what is going on.

The Auxiliary contributes cash to the Humanitarian Foundation and is working on a project to provide books to children, books these children would not have access to otherwise. A pilot program to this goal is being initiated. It's great to help others, come join us and help.

Our next meeting will be in Portland, Oregon, June 7-10, 2018. Please plan to attend. In addition to the meeting, IOBG President Elect Bud Higginson will be knighted. The Rosarians always make it fun, interesting and exciting.

District 15 IOBGA  
Audrey Hall, Past President

It has been a very busy time for us this year and we are not done yet. Members of our yacht clubs have been very generous with their donations of unloved or unused jewelry. This really has caught on. Everyone looks for us to either give us more donations of jewelry. We had an event along with the IOBG event. Beautiful day and had loads of fun as well as raised in a few hours almost \$600. We had one more event in November and we should go over the \$2000, I hoped for at the beginning of this year.

At our Change of Watch we were hoping for some new excited members to join with us, but no luck. We will keep trying for I know we can do it. Our 2018 board will be President Grace Hansen, Vice President Audrey Hall, Secretary Marybeth Thayer and Treasurer Dawn Schaffer Nemoy. We are looking forward to another exciting and rewarding year.

Before we know it our Opening Days will be here, Navy Yacht Club of San Diego is in March, Santa Margarita Yacht Club is either late March or second week in April. If you are in town please join with us to usher in the 2018 boating season.



## *Past President Sandi Durieux*

It has been my pleasure to serve the last two years as your International President. I have been to a lot of lovely places and met a lot of welcoming people at our regional meetings.

I would also like to thank my Executive Board and Regional Directors. This is not a solo job and their work, help and support has been invaluable.

We had a good meeting in Cleveland in October. The project to donate Books to Children, proved somewhat unwieldy at the International level, as we meet only three times a year. It was decided it would work better as a district project. District 7 stepped up and volunteered to head the pilot project and then report to the other districts. We hope this project will spread. It will give books to children and hopefully garner good publicity for IOBGA.

The elections to select our new board were held at the meeting. We are still in need of an International Secretary, Second Vice President and a Southwest Director. If anyone would wish to take one of these offices or can suggest someone who would we would be very interested and grateful.

On a personal note – my husband, Tony Durieux, was installed as the new International President of IOBG. The Change of Watch was held in Cleveland and the Wednesday thru Sunday events went beautifully. I can say this in all modesty because the work was done by an excellent committee led by our own Superwoman & Past International IOBGA President Trish Graven. District 7 couldn't have done more for us. They were perfect hosts and worked tirelessly to make everyone feel welcome. They are not only our district but our friends and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

I would also like to thank all who attended. It wouldn't have been much fun without all of you.

As I am now Past President this will be my last update. This task will be taken over by our very capable new president, Al Eiffert. I will continue to work with the new board and give them my full support. I wish them every success.



(Left to Right)

Jerry Key 1997; Audrey Hall 2009; Sandi Durieux 2016 & 2017; Shirley Willing 2002;  
Ethel Keith 2012; June Thacker 2014 & 2015



# IOBG Humanitarian Foundation

## PATRON OF THE FOUNDATION PROGRAM

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

"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.

## IOBG Humanitarian Foundation



Carol Promessi	cpromessi@gmail.com	Broken Arrow, OK	President
Jackie Evans Rudd	jer884488@gmail.com	Gig Harbor, WA	Vice President
Lani Lightle	lanilightle44@gmail.com	Seattle, WA	Treasurer & CFO
Joan Marsh	jmarsh6607@yahoo.com	Pittsburg, CA	Secretary
John Norman	jln@norman-law.net	Huntington Beach, CA	Legal Officer
Dr. Julie Albright	albright@usc.edu	Los Angeles, CA	Director
Audrey Hall	hulakai2@cox.net	Oceanside, CA	Director
Larry Inguagiato	larry.inguagiato@mac.com	Monroe, MI	Director
Gary McGrath	gmac6262@aol.com	Concord, CA	Director
Karen Shea	Ltcsheak@gmail.com	New Port Richey, FL	Director
Liz Allison	chocho2479@aol.com	San Carlos, CA	Ambassador
Nancy Bisanz	buzznan1111@yahoo.com	Woodstock, GA	Ambassador
David Breninger	dbreninger@surewest.net	Roseville, CA	Ambassador
Gary & Audrey Hall	hulakai2@cox.net	Oceanside, CA	Ambassador
Richard Hardy		Pittsburg, CA	Ambassador
Mary Kay Inguagiato	mkinguagiato@gmail.com	Monroe, MI	Ambassador
Lee Lightle	leelightle@gmail.com	Seattle, WA	Ambassador
Phil Promessi	ppromessi@tat.net	Pittsburg, CA	Ambassador
Harold Weaver	Not Available	Detroit, MI	Ambassador



What a stupendous job District #7 did for the Annual Meeting in Cleveland. My hats off for a job well done and how gracious the members were in the hospitality suite and during our stay in Cleveland. We had a blast! A special thanks to Trish Graven for her outstanding work with HF and making sure everything went smoothly for the meeting. The Poker Run was so much fun and what a way to see downtown, and such a great donation to the HF.

We want to thank the following for their generous donations, District #7, District #19, District #25, IOBG Auxiliary, IOBG District #25 Auxiliary, Sherry Barone, Gary & Audrey Hall, Bill Edwards and Phil & Carol Promessi. This was over whelming and we are very grateful. The total amount of donations were \$4,271.00, which we received during the HF Luncheon on Saturday.



Ev Henry, the founder of Blue Gavel wrote "The International Order of the Blue Gavel was born as a gesture to honor the thousands of Past Commodores who, after serving their respective clubs with dignity and perseverance. He outlined twelve essential requirements for the most exclusive club in the world.

1. We must grow
2. We must augment boating, but also do something for mankind in general
3. We must operate in harmony and fellowship
4. We must build prestige and pride of membership
5. We must cooperate with other boating organizations
6. We must keep abreast of the times
7. We must be governed by wisdom and tact
8. We must command the respect of our communities
9. We must keep members occupied and give them appreciation for their work
10. We must make meetings interesting
11. We must encourage suggestions
12. We must always be adaptable to meet the needs of our members

We all need to pay attention to these twelve requirements...whatever capacity you hold, whether it is with IOBG, IOBGA or IOBGHF. Remember, it's up to you. What Blue Gavel does for you is a direct result of what you put it. We all grow together!

The Humanitarian Foundation was incorporated in and filed in the State of California as of November 23, 1992. The first Foundation meeting was held on January 7, 1993.

We have 3 classes of membership in the Foundation. 1. Voting Member, which is the Executive Committee of IOBG, who are the Trustees and the voting members of the Foundation, who elect the Directors of the Foundation. 2. The regular members (which are all members of IOBG) and 3. Humanitarian Members (those who are not members of IOBG but who support the Foundation and its work. The Foundation is structured so as to provide for the support of multiple charitable causes and can provide tax deductible "shelters" to District and Chapter fundraising activities.

A community project that your District, Chapter or Yacht Club is interested in helping can apply to the Foundation for funds to implement their program. The individual contribution by members that are not tax deductible when the club collects them will be deductible when they are donated directly to the Foundation. We hope this sounds interesting to you and that you will want additional information.

There are still challenges ahead and the need for donations to continue. Please consider sending a contribution directly to the Humanitarian Foundation by using our easy and secure online donation link found on the HF web site's home page.

This year we have a strong and committed Board for 2018. They are: IOBG P/P Carol Promessi-President; IOBGA P/P Jackie Evans Rudd-Vice President; IOBGHF P/P Joan Marsh-Secretary; Northwestern VP Lani Lightle-Treasure & CFO; North Central Area P/C Larry Inguagiato-Director; Southwestern Area P/P Gary McGrath-Director; Southeastern VP Karen Shea-Director; Southwestern Area IOBGA Treasurer Audrey Hall-Director; P/P Vern Bendsen-Liaison to the IOBG Executive Committee; P/C John Norman-Legal Advisor.



Welcome, I look forward to working with all of you and getting some new ideas.

We wish all of you a prosperous New Year!

## 2018 DISTRICT OFFICERS & AREAS SERVED

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p><b>#1 PRESIDENT-Northwest</b><br/>Mary McCollum (Wes Vaughn)<br/>1920 13th Street<br/>Clarkston, WA 99403<br/>Cell: 208-724-6279<br/>sailinggrace62@gmail.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Jeanne Gordon (John)<br/>10906 SE 179<sup>th</sup> PL<br/>Renton, WA 98055-6561<br/>Tel: 425-226-8872<br/>Cell: 206-790-5421<br/>gordon5050@comcast.net</p>                                  | <p><b>#8 PRESIDENT - Southeast</b><br/>Douglas M. Case (Marilyn)<br/>501 Bay Drive<br/>Vero Beach, FL 32963<br/>Tel: 772-231-4599<br/>dcasejaw@bellsouth.net<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Open</p>  | <p><b>#16 PRESIDENT- Southwest</b><br/>Keith Moore (Mary Ann)<br/>277 Sunset Drive<br/>Oxnard, CA 93035<br/>Home: 805-985-5560<br/>Cell: 805-551-0983<br/>keith@castle-light.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Marsha Landreth<br/>2300 Chico Ct<br/>Oxnard, CA 93035<br/>Tel: 805-889-0054<br/>mlrs4742@gmail.com</p>                              | <p><b>#24 PRESIDENT- Northwest</b><br/>Carol Zumpano<br/>60 Calgary Ave.<br/>Penticton, BC V2A 2T6<br/>Canada<br/>Tel: 250-292-8750<br/>czumpano@vip.net<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Yvonne Crawford (Steven)<br/>1547 Klien Rd.<br/>Kelowna, BC V1Z 3H5<br/>Canada<br/>Tel: 250-769-7325<br/>skicondo@telus.net</p>   |
| <p><b>#2 PRESIDENT - Canada</b><br/>Ed Ackerman (Marilyn)<br/>308-10461 Resthaven Dr.<br/>Sidney, BC<br/>Canada V8L 3H6<br/>Tel: 250-656-7799<br/>Fax: 250-656-1242<br/>eimut88@shaw.ca<br/><b>SECRETARY/TREASURER</b><br/>John Biggs (Carole)<br/>6406 McKenzie Dr.<br/>Duncan, BC<br/>Canada V9L 5R9<br/>Tel: 250-746-4941<br/>Bus: 250-754-8435<br/>johncarole@shaw.com</p>         | <p><b>#9 PRESIDENT- North Central</b><br/>Dean Reamsnyder (Karla)<br/>1642 Grand Bay Dr<br/>Oregon, OH 43616<br/>Home: 419-690-5726<br/>Cell: 419-376-0536<br/>deanream@aol.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Don Teczynski (Kristin)<br/>6930 Forest Run<br/>Temperance, MI 48182<br/>Home: 419-360-0507<br/>dteczynski@gmail.com</p> | <p><b>#18 PRESIDENT- Southeast</b><br/>Dave Kowert (Christy)<br/>1236 Oak Hill Terrace<br/>Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466<br/>Tel: 843-412-0137<br/>davekowert@bellsouth.net<br/><b>SECRETARY/TREASURER</b><br/>Open</p>   | <p><b>#25 PRESIDENT- North Central</b><br/>John Robbins (Rita)<br/>2288 Paul St<br/>Monroe, MI 48162<br/>Cell: 734-341-3496<br/>jrobbin6@aol.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>John Rose (Fran)<br/>21667 Meridian<br/>Grosse Ile, MI 48183<br/>Tel: 734-904-9801<br/>glycrose06@hotmail.com</p>   |
| <p><b>#3 PRESIDENT- Northeast</b><br/>Stephen Tisack (Marie)<br/>5843 Buffalo St<br/>Sanborn, NY 14132<br/>Tel: 716-998-7938<br/>crew92fm@hotmail.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Gerald Hathaway (Arlene)<br/>28 Niagara Shore Dr<br/>Tonawanda, NY 14150<br/>Tel: 716-693-1739<br/>rleanjer@aol.com</p>   | <p><b>#10 PRESIDENT- Southwest</b><br/>Rodney Coomber<br/>11462 Pickney Way<br/>Cypress, CA 90630<br/>Tel: 714-891-0767<br/>Cell: 714-488-2064<br/>anzac1240@yahoo.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>William Anast (Lana)<br/>11236 Dover Way<br/>Stanton, CA 90680<br/>Tel: 714-235-4809<br/>AnastBill@yahoo.com</p>                  | <p><b>#19 PRESIDENT- Southwest</b><br/>David Breninger (Linda)<br/>425 Websters Court<br/>Roseville, CA 95747<br/>Tel: 916-771-5685<br/>Cell: 916-798-3980<br/>dbreninger@surewest.net<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Karen Mann (Scott)<br/>4815 Discovery Point<br/>Discovery Bay, CA 94505<br/>Cell: 510-612-5122<br/>karen@mannappraisal.com</p> | <p><b>#26 PRESIDENT- Northeast</b><br/>Open<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Open</p>   |
| <p><b>#4 PRESIDENT- Canada</b><br/>Ron Defieux (Linda)<br/>641 Blueridge Ave.<br/>N. Vancouver, BC V74 2J4<br/>Canada<br/>Tel: 604-987-7425<br/>Fax: 604-985-7263<br/>rdefieux@shaw.ca<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Betty Harris-Peake (Dennis)<br/>1078 English Bluff Rd.<br/>Delta, BC V4M 2N6 - Canada<br/>Tel: 604-943-4923<br/>Fax: 604-943-1205<br/>bettyharrispeake@hotmail.com</p> | <p><b>#11 PRESIDENT- Southwest</b><br/>Sheila Anderson<br/>5606 Downey Avenue<br/>Lakewood, CA 90712<br/>Cell: 626-484-7822<br/>toymaker56@yahoo.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Gisele Rebeiro (Craig)<br/>P.O. Box 882051<br/>Los Angeles, CA 90009<br/>Tel: 310-606-6912<br/>giselecb@icloud.com</p>                              | <p><b>#20 PRESIDENT- Northeast</b><br/>Open<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Open</p>  | <p><b>#27 PRESIDENT- Northeast</b><br/>Bill Fischbein<br/>1209 Gillia Court<br/>Pasadena, MD 21122<br/>Tel: 410-255-8650<br/>Bill@litehousearealty.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Frank Abbott (Peggy Adams)<br/>116 Jupiter Road<br/>Neward, DE 19711<br/>Tel: 302-593-8095<br/>fabbott102@aol.com</p>   |
| <p><b>#5 PRESIDENT-Northwest</b><br/>Open<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Open</p>  | <p><b>#12 PRESIDENT- Northeast</b><br/>Open<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Open</p>   | <p><b>#21 PRESIDENT- Southwest</b><br/>Richard Price<br/>P.O. Box 3451<br/>Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352<br/>Tel: 909-346-3870<br/>bluegavel21@gmail.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Open</p>  | <p><b>#70 PRESIDENT- England</b><br/>Open</p>   |
| <p><b>#6 PRESIDENT - Southwest</b><br/>Alfred Anderson, M.D.<br/>45-995 Waialele Rd. #12<br/>Kaneohe, HI 96744<br/>Tel: 808-236-2628<br/>Cell: 425-941-6121<br/>sailvega27@gmail.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Donna B. Salisbury (Ed)<br/>98-988 Palula Way<br/>Aiea, HI 96701<br/>Cell: 808-256-3731<br/>Tel: 808-485-0002<br/>donnaed@earthlink.net</p>                              | <p><b>#14 PRESIDENT- Southwest</b><br/>Charles Thome (David Weidner)<br/>920 Santa Clara Ave Apt. B<br/>Alameda, CA 94501<br/>Tel: 408-529-0896<br/>sfogjt@gmail.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Open</p>  | <p><b>#22 PRESIDENT- Northeast</b><br/>Open<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Open</p>  | <p><b>#75 PRESIDENT- New Zealand</b><br/>William G. (Bill) Mitchinson (Myrna)<br/>4 Bannockburn Lane<br/>Bethlehem<br/>Tauranga, New Zealand 3110<br/>Tel: 0064-75791098<br/>Cell: 0064-277173724<br/>bmmitchinson@clear.net.nz<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Christine Conn (Martin)<br/>65 Omokoroa Country Estate<br/>Private Bag 12026<br/>Tauranga, 3141 New Zealand<br/>Tel: 0064-75481400<br/>Bus: 0064-274791871<br/>bluegavel@gmail.com</p> |
| <p><b>#7 PRESIDENT - North Central</b><br/>Lloyd Bogue (Rhonda Rich)<br/>P.O. Box 681<br/>Geneva, Ohio 44041<br/>Cell: 440-812-4242<br/>lloydbogue@windstream.net<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Warren Dempster (Marianne)<br/>33545 Lori Ann Dr<br/>Eastlake, OH 44095<br/>Tel: 440-725-7731<br/>wcyc40@yahoo.com</p>  | <p><b>#15 PRESIDENT- Southwest</b><br/>Gregg Hansen (Grace)<br/>5434 Robinwood Rd<br/>Bonita, CA 91902<br/>Tel: 619-277-8526<br/>gregg@riskagent.net<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Roger Robinson (Marge)<br/>13526 Calle Colina<br/>Poway, CA 92064<br/>Tel: 858-485-0736<br/>Cell: 858-518-8262<br/>nycsd@att.net</p>                | <p><b>#23 PRESIDENT- North Central</b><br/>Robert F. Sapita (Kay)<br/>P.O. Box 581<br/>Douglas, MI 49406<br/>Tel: 269-857-2123<br/>Cell: 269-355-8508<br/>bksapita@frontier.com<br/><b>SECRETARY</b><br/>Don Schorffhaar (Sue)<br/>9829 High Banks Drive<br/>Cheboygan, MI 49721<br/>Tel: 231-627-2908<br/>dschorffhaar@earthlink.net</p>      |   |



International Order of the Blue Gavel  
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**Spring Regional Meeting**  
Held in conjunction with the  
Royal Rosarian Rose Festival Weekend

**Portland, Oregon**

**June 7 - 9, 2018**

**Summer Regional Meeting**

**Erie, Pennsylvania**  
Hosted by District 7

**August 16 - 18, 2018**



*Venice, Florida*



on the gulf

**PARADISE**

**2018 Annual Meeting & Change of Watch**

**Venice, Florida**  
Hosted by District 8 & Venice Yacht Club

**October 18 - 20, 2018**

