

THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

Of The
INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

An Association of Past Commodores

Volume 36 No. 2

July 2015

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.



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Reflects Updates Received
as of XXXXX, 2015

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President Joel Kay



Here we are Spring has come and gone and Summer is here!

I had the honor to speak to the boating community of greater Cleveland from the deck of a World War II submarine, USS Cod, having been invited by the sponsor of the event, the Greater Cleveland Boating Association. The event was a most meaningful one as each of the speakers, including me, spoke about their personal experiences having to do with Memorial Day. None of us who spoke had a clue that all of us had our personal thoughts and experiences in mind. As a member of IOBG, I have been attending this event since 2004. This time, I spoke as President of the IOBG. Nearly all the people involved were yacht club past commodores and members of IOBG, except for the military and State and Local Dignitaries.

I hope everyone has read their issues of the "Log" and the "Lighthouse." They are wonderful instruments of communication from districts, members and the International level, informing us of what is going on around the Blue Gavel community.

We will be discussing increasing chapters and membership in the New England and Eastern Canadian Provinces. There are lots of yacht clubs and boating organizations in these areas that have not been approached about joining the Blue Gavel. We are constantly looking for more interest and involvement from members from these areas.

We will also be discussing the reorganization and the management and operation of the Humanitarian Foundation to increase its effectiveness.

Recently, I learned about a new fuel additive - biobutanol. It does not have any of the harmful effects that ethanol has. The information about this can be found in the website of the National Boating Federation at www.n-b-f.org/newsletter.html

Have a safe summer and hope to see everyone in October at the Fall Annual Meeting in Florida.





President - Elect
Joe Dowdell



The Annual meeting in 2015 will be held in Marathon Florida on October 22, 23 and 24. Activities will be centered at my home club, Marathon Yacht Club. Marathon is located in the Florida Keys, a string of islands stretching from Florida's southern mainland tip 165 miles into the Florida Straits and Gulf of Mexico. Marathon is the Heart of the Florida Keys, 110 miles from Miami and 50 miles north of Key West. Air Transportation into Miami or Ft Lauderdale is best, although there is an airport in Key West,

We Are Looking Forward to Seeing You at the 2015 Annual Meeting in Florida...

Joe Dowdell's Fundraising Story:

The waters surrounding the Florida Keys teem with Spiny Lobster and each year hundreds of tons of the succulent crustaceans are trapped and sold to be served at seafood restaurants throughout the United States and the rest of the world. For over fifty years it has been a Dowdell family tradition to dive recreationally to capture a few for their own personal dining room table use.

So when he was thinking of a fundraiser to defray some of the cost of holding the IOBG Annual Meeting in Marathon, Florida, it was only natural he would utilize this source coupled with his acquired knowledge over the years, to offer to supply and cook lobsters for four people at the weekly Friday Night Cookout at the Marathon Yacht Club.



His IOBG Chapter agreed to support the idea by selling raffle tickets and holding the drawings and the yacht club agreed to provide the salad and vegetable bar. It was decided to offer Lobster Dinners for Four People, once a month for 7 months during lobster season. This was expected to raise approximately \$ 2,100 - \$2,700 for the meeting.



Joe has grilled lobster for raffle winners in August, October, November, December 2014 and January, February & March of 2015.

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

2015 ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 22 – 24, 2015

Hyatt's Faro Blanco Resort & Yacht Club
1996 Overseas Highway, Marathon, FL

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, October 21

Registration FOR EARLY ARRIVALS	Hyatt Place Foyer	3:30 – 8:30 pm
Lunch	Keys Fisheries (open menu) 3502 Gulfview Ave, Marathon	12:00 – 1:30 pm
Adventure Activity	Aquarium Encounters 11710 Overseas Hwy, Marathon (open all day)	9:00 - 5:00 pm
Hospitality Suite Dinner	Hyatt Meeting Room 1 On Your Own – Suggest Lazy Days Restaurant 725 11th Street, Oceanside	4:00 – 8:00 pm

Thursday, October 22

	Uniform for all meetings – Summer Whites, No Jacket, No Tie	
Registration	Hyatt Place Foyer	8:00 – 10:00 am
IOBG Executive Committee	Hyatt Meeting Room 3	9:00 – 11:45 am
IOBGA Executive Committee	Marathon Yacht Club 825 33 rd Street, Marathon	9:00 – 11:45 am
Humanitarian Foundation	Hyatt Meeting Room 2	9:00 – 11:45 am
Lunch (Dress is casual)	Sunset Grill, 7 Knights Key Blvd, Marathon	12:00 – 1:30 pm
Adventure Activity	Dolphin Research Center 58901 Overseas Hwy, Grassy Key	2:00 - 5:00 pm
Hospitality Suite	Hyatt Meeting Room 1	5:30 – 7:00 pm
No Host Cocktails	Marathon Yacht Club 825 33 rd Street, Marathon	6:00 – 7:00 pm
Dinner (Dress – Yacht Club Casual)	Marathon Yacht Club	7:00 – 10:00 pm
Hospitality Suite	Hyatt Meeting Room 1	9:30 – 11:00 pm

Friday, October 23

	Uniform for all meetings – Summer Whites, No Jacket, No Tie	
Registration	Hyatt Meeting Room 1	8:00 – 11:00 am
IOBG meeting	Hyatt Meeting Room 3	9:00 – 11:45 am
IOBGA meeting	Marathon Yacht Club	9:00 – 11:45 am
Humanitarian Foundation	Hyatt Meeting Room 2	9:00 – 11:45 am
Adventure Activity (Dress-casual)	Pigeon Key – Boat from Faro Blanco Docks	12: 00 – 5:30 pm
No Host Cocktails	Marathon Yacht Club - Pool Side	6:00 – 7:00 pm
Dinner (Dress – Yacht Club Casual)	Marathon Yacht Club	7:00 -- 10:00 pm
Hospitality Suite	Hyatt Place Meeting Room 1	9:30 – 11:00 pm

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

2015 ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 22 – 24, 2015

Hyatt's Faro Blanco Resort & Yacht Club
1996 Overseas Highway, Marathon, FL

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**Continued...Page 2****Saturday, October 24**

Uniform for all meetings – Summer Whites, No Jacket, No Tie

Registration	Hyatt Meeting Room 1	8:00 – 11:00 am
IOBG meeting	Hyatt Meeting Room 3	9:00 – 11:45 am
IOBGA meeting	Hyatt Meeting Room 1	9:00 – 11:45 am
Humanitarian Foundation	Hyatt Meeting Room 2	9:00 – 11:45 am
Lunch	Faro Blanco Lighthouse Grill	12:00 – 1:30 pm
Adventure Activity #1	Tour Turtle Hospital	2:00 – 4:00 pm
Adventure Activity #2	½-Day Deep Sea Fishing Aboard Marathon Lady Party Boat	8:30 am OR 1:30 pm
Adventure Activity #3	½-Day Deep Sea Fishing Aboard Sea Dog Charter Boat	8:00 am or 1:00 pm
IOBG meeting continues	Hyatt Meeting Room 3	1:30 – 3:00 pm
Fall Regional Meeting	Hyatt Meeting Room 3	3:00 – 3:30 pm
Hospitality Suite	Hyatt Meeting Room 1	3:30 – 5:00 pm
Installation Dinner Dance	Marathon Yacht Club (Dress – Blue Gavel Formal/Black Tie) 825 33 rd Street Gulf, Marathon	
No Host Cocktails		6:00 – 7:00 pm
Dinner		7:00 – 10:00 pm
Hospitality Suite	Hyatt Meeting Room 1	10:00 -11:30 pm

Sunday, October 25

FOR THOSE STAYING LONGER

Tour Key West	TBA
Boat to Fort Jefferson	TBD

IOBG 2015 ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, October 21 - Sunday, October 25, 2015

Hyatt's Faro Blanco Resort & Yacht Club

1996 Overseas Highway, Marathon, FL

MAIL-IN REGISTRATION FORM

(Deadline is September 30, 2015)

	<u># of PERSONS</u>		<u>COST per person</u>	<u>TOTAL COST</u>
Wednesday, October 21				
Lunch – Keys Fisheries (open menu)	_____			
Aquarium Encounters	_____	@	\$ 18	\$ _____
Thursday, October 22				
Lunch - Sunset Grill	_____	@	\$ 20	\$ _____
Dolphin Research Center (DRC)	_____	@	\$ 20 All-Day pass	\$ _____
DRC Meet with Dolphin	_____	@	\$ 25 (12 spots avail)	\$ _____
DRC Play with Dolphin	_____	@	\$ 60 (6 spaces avail)	\$ _____
Dinner - Marathon Yacht Club	_____	@	\$ 45	\$ _____
(Butlered Hors d'ouevres, Raw Bar, Seafood, Carving Station)				
Friday, October 23				
Tour Historic Pigeon Key & Boat Ride (Box Lunch)	_____	@	\$ 45	\$ _____
Dinner - Marathon Yacht Club	_____	@	\$ 28	\$ _____
(Island Party with a Buffet, Slow Roasted Pork, Fresh Fish)				
Saturday, October 24				
Lunch – Faro Blanco Grill (open menu)	_____			
Guest Event – Tour Turtle Hospital	_____	@	\$ 12	\$ _____
2396 Overseas Hwy				
Alternate Event – 1/2 Day Deep Sea Fishing-Marathon Lady Party Boat, 11711 Overseas Hwy	_____	@	\$ 45	\$ _____
OR Sea Dog Charters, 1248 Overseas Hwy	_____	@	\$ 65	\$ _____
Installation Dinner & Dance - Marathon YC	_____	@	\$ 75	\$ _____
(Butlered Hors d'ouevres , Stone Crab Bisque, Surf & Turf, Keylime Napoleon)				
(Please inform us of any food allergies or any special diet needs)				

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Name _____ Office Held _____ District # _____

Spouse/Guest name _____ Member of IOBG? ___ Member of IOBGA? ___

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone (____) _____ Email Address _____

Please make checks payable to Joe Dowdell and send this entire page
(Keep a copy for your records) with Payment to:

JUNE THACKER
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**International Order of the Blue Gavel
ANNUAL MEETING**

October 22 - 24, 2015



HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

**Hyatt Place
855-546-0338**

**1996 Overseas Highway
Marathon, FL 33050**



PLEASE CALL THE HOTEL DIRECTLY AT **855-546-0338**
Refer to Group Code: **G-IOBG** and the International Order of the Blue Gavel

HOTEL RATES: \$163.00 plus 12.5% Tax Single/Double Occupancy
Rate includes complimentary Kitchen Skillet breakfast for all hotel guests, wi-fi throughout the property, parking and newspaper delivery to guest room, as well as, access to the fitness center and 2 heated pools.

Reservation Deadline: September 21, 2015



YOU'LL REMAIN INSPIRED LONG
AFTER YOUR MEETING HAS ADJOURNED.



PUT A GETAWAY ON THE HORIZON.

More From President - Elect Joe Dowdell

Blue Gavel History...

In anticipation of attending the last Winter Regional Meeting in San Diego, I was doing a little research on prior meetings held in San Diego and found a copy of the June 1986 *Blue Gavel LOG* which indicated that the annual meeting in 1986 was to be held at the Southwestern Yacht Club and the Headquarters Hotel was to be the Bay Club Hotel, the same Yacht Club and the same Hotel headquarters being used at our regional meeting some 30 years later. The photos of the Yacht Club, Hotel and registration forms accompanying the article indicated that the only major change was in prices!

This Issue of the LOG newsletter pointed me toward articles in other LOGs, and I learned some interesting history that I would like to repeat here:

First, Ira and Leona Nies were Log Editors in 1987- 91.

Secondly, Executive Board Actions were briefed and published in the LOG, as well as meeting minutes.

Third, I learned about **Baron Ralph von Kohorn**:

“Baron Ralph von Kohorn of Wellington, New Zealand visited Florida in October 1977. He was invited to attend a luncheon at the Sarasota Yacht Club and was introduced to our organization and its aims. He contacted the then President Bill Angel and subsequently Fred Roth and requested permission to create a district of Past Commodores in New Zealand. Once this was approved he founded IOBG New Zealand and traveled all over the country creating chapters and signing up members. He attended the annual meeting in Cleveland in 1978 and headed the New Zealand district until 1983. He also was elected Blue Gavel Vice President in the Pan Pacific area and hosted the 1981 visit of Blue Gavelers on their first Pacific Pilgrimage under the leadership of President McCurdy.

After establishing Blue Gavel Districts in Australia, Singapore and other areas he was elected International Vice President and continued his drive for internationalization of our organization. On one of his many visits to the USA he was instrumental in signing up the first San Diego chapters and created the Hawaii district by inviting every local past commodore to a meeting in Honolulu. Assisted by legal officer Bill Bortwick and past presidents McCurdy and Bertram he presented his plans at the annual meetings in 1988 in Honolulu and in 1990 in Portland. Blue Gavel has honored Baron Ralph over the years with several awards for outstanding service since 1978 climaxing in 1989 with presentation by President Caveat of the first honorary life membership, previously reserved exclusively for past presidents” - **(The Blue Gavel Log Vol XI number III, December 91 at page 29)**





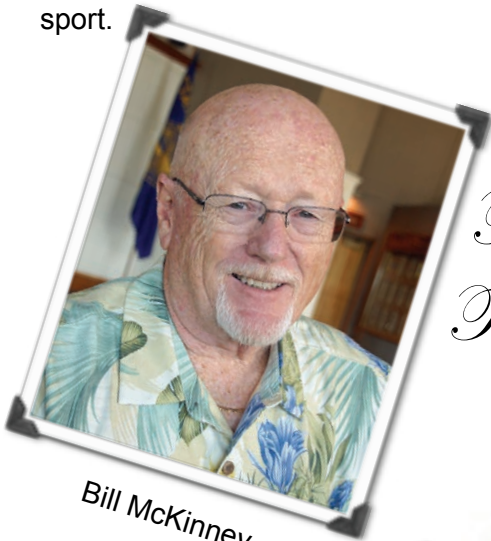
*First Vice President
Rosalie Davis-Green*

I commend all the districts that have community service projects and encourage those that don't to explore opportunities in your boating community. It appears that districts that have community service activities thrive. The projects give the members an opportunity to contribute something positive to their local community. Past commodores are doers and like making positive contributions to their local community.

If your district has nothing in mind for a project, consider supporting youth boating activities. Volunteer your time to assist with community sailing programs e.g. Boys & Girls clubs, volunteer your time to clean and repair a community group's boating equipment at the beginning of the summer season, volunteer your boats to take youths on a boating outing planned by a community youth group, provide scholarships for needy sailors to attend sailing summer camps, provide the funds for US sailing instructor certification to ensure the quality of instruction meets standards.

It is important that people are exposed to boating at a young age and learn how boating can be enjoyed throughout their lifetime There are boating activities and yacht clubs for most income brackets. As past commodores it behooves us to be proactive in encouraging youngsters interest in boating in order to grow our sport.

*To Our Photographers
Thanks for the memories...*



Bill McKinney



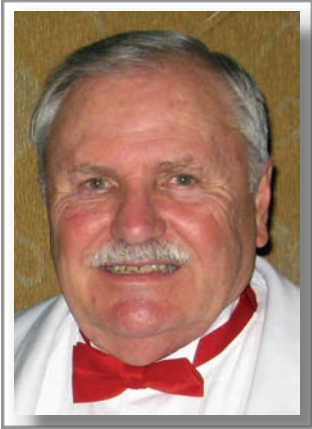
Mary Nye Meyers



Roxanne Parish

Marybeth Thayer





Second Vice President Tony Durieux

One of my duties as your 2nd Vice President is to work directly with our LOG Editor and Communications Director Mary Nye Meyers. If needed, we discuss concerns and solutions to various problems regarding the LOG newsletter or other aspects of her job. Mary is your first and best source to receive important and helpful IOBG information yet we still are having difficulties with communication amongst our membership and ourselves.

We need your help! We must make a more concerted effort to turn in our articles in a timelier manner. Once an article is received there is still the extra time it takes to edit, reformat and sometimes add a picture or two before it can be posted to the LOG. Having to delay publishing the newsletter, because we had to hold articles, runs the risk of publishing "yesterday's news". The timeline to **remember** is...All LOG articles are due to the editor (via embedded email or email attachments) within **2 weeks AFTER the last meeting**. Remember...giving your article to the Recording Secretary IS NOT the same as getting it to the LOG Editor.

District Directors; please send your district reports to your Area Vice Presidents as soon as possible or at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Your AVP will distribute your report to the proper people and please, make two copies.

It's been a very interesting year as your second vice president. I have observed that we as Blue Gavel members need to talk the talk. We already walk the walk. When I think of the membership of the Gavel nothing but smiles and pride comes to mind.

Now, with this thought in mind, let me say, we need to spruce up our persona our image or brand. Members of the gavel are the most talented, knowledgeable doer's that it has been my honor to know. We need to let the world know, who we are. When a project is proposed and acted on by a district or gavel chapter, include other boating organizations in your planning. Those that immediately come to mind are the Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Power Squadron and ILYA, as well as every club represented by a blue gavel commodore in your district, then spread the word through the media.

We grow as an organization by being known and respected for what we stand for and what we do. **We are not a secret organization**. When I boat into a marina, flying my burgee, walk down the dock in my whites or enter a club in my blues and grays, I want people to notice I'm a member of the Blue Gavel and as such a Past Commodore. We fly our burgee and take pride in that blue gavel patch we where on our sleeve. Boaters recognize us. We need to let the world know who we are. Please pass on these thoughts to your district and your chapters.



Treasurer Marshall Nemoy



Financial Results: At our Regional Meeting in Portland, Oregon I presented the financial results for the four months ended April 30, 2015. IOBG had a net income of \$48,775 which was \$716 greater than last year. Our total paid members as of June 1, 2015 is 1,546 which is 32 less than last year at the same date. Based on past experience, the variance is smaller than last year on June 1 and should be considered “normal” for this time of year. It appears the increase in dues has had little, if any, effect on the membership.

Our total assets increased by \$1,672 primarily by a small increase in our cash balances and the reduction of liabilities. Our high net worth indicates continued financial strength and stability. It should also be noted that while revenues only \$237 greater than budget, our total expenses are \$6,992 lower than budget.

Dues Payments: This year processing dues payments has gone quite smoothly. Remember, the most important items of information is the email address and the correctly spelled chapter name. The email address is important because The Blue Gavel Log and the Lighthouse are delivered via email and the chapter name must be spelled out for the membership card. Initials will not work.

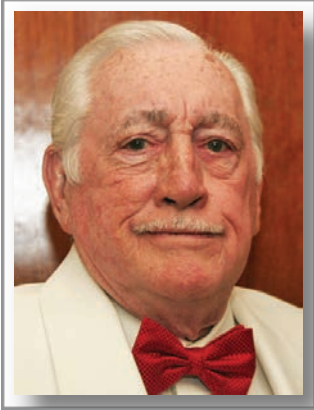
Requests for District Rosters: We have been receiving a number of requests lists of paid members for a district. Some have requested the information in an electronic format. We can produce a PDF version of a membership list easily and email it to you - not a problem. The so-called “electronic format” normally means a file that can be opened with software that allows the user to manipulate the data or prepare mailing labels or a mail merge a letter. This request requires us to select certain fields from our database and convert it into a file that is compatible with MS Excel. Then we have to perform some procedures to make the file readable to the user such as formatting columns.

The districts should be responsible to maintain basic name and address information for the members of their district. Because of the additional time required to prepare a list in the “electronic format” we will quote a price to the requestor based on the information requested and the time required. Lists in the PDF format will remain free.

From the “It is Never to Early” Department: The IOC is again soliciting photos to be used on the 2016 membership card. Send us your photos in the JPEG (.jpg) format. Remember the photo must lend itself to use on the membership card. That means we have to overlay all the necessary membership information.

Dues Reminder: The number of paid members on August 1, 2015 will determine the number of votes allotted to a district. To be counted as of August 1 all dues transmittals must be postmarked not later than July 31, 2015.

Have a wonderful and safe summer.



Past President Gary McGrath

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT 2015 - 2016

The IOBG Nominating Committee has made the following nominations for Officers for the year 2015 -2016.

There will be no nominating from the floor. Nominating from the floor does not give the membership an opportunity to advise their Chapter Presidents and District Directors of their choice for each office. At the Summer Regional meeting the Nominating Committee announced the slate of officers for the following year.

If anyone wants to run for an office he/she will have 30 days in which to send the IOBG Secretary a petition for the office. That person's name shall appear on the ballot with the Nominating Committee's recommendations. This will give all members of the IOBG a chance to see all the candidates for each office and let their Directors know who to vote for.

The Nominations Are:

President	Joe Dowdell, District 8 (automatic as per bylaws)
President Elect	Rosalie Davis-Green, District 11
First Vice President	Tony Durieux, District 7
Second Vice President	B.E. "Bud" Higginson, District 8
Immediate Past President	Joel Kay, District 7
Treasurer	Marshall Nemoy, District 15
Executive Secretary	Mary Eiffert, District 1
Northeastern Vice President	Ernie Odierna, District 26
Northwestern Vice President	Lani Lightle, District 1
North Central Vice President	Mark Vadaj, District 7
Southwestern Vice President	Sherry Barone, District 11
Southeastern Vice President	Robert "Buzz" Bisanz, District 18
District 50 Director (East of Mississippi River)	OPEN
District 51 Director (West of Mississippi River)	Walt Kadyk District 51

Respectfully Submitted:

Gary McGrath, Past President & Chairman

Joel Kay, President

Roger Isphording, Eastside Member & Eileen Van Winkle, Westside Member



Education Officer

Phil Promessi

At the annual meeting in Cleveland, Ohio we did not have enough time to have a round table discussion. During these discussions many questions are discussed. The following are some of the subjects that need to be addressed.

- 1 Review of year-end duties to facilitate a smooth transition.
- 2 What steps can we take to communicate to the members that will facilitate more participation?
- 3 Has your district sent out a questionnaire as to what the membership wants and feels should be done?
- 4 What can each district do to enhance communication?
- 5 What would you like to see changed or implemented next year?
- 6 What do you feel the Area Vice President should convey to the International what suggestions you would like to see implemented?

These are some of the issues that constantly arise. I know that they have been discussed before, but they need to be reminded so that each district knows what they are talking about. I highly recommend that each district conduct round table discussions with their chapters. It is a great tool to find out what your district needs and to answer their questions.

Since we were not able to have a round table discussion in Cleveland I suggest that each District Director e-mail me with their questions and suggestions and maybe we can come up with some answers.

My e-mail address is: ppromessi@att.net





US Sailing Representative
Bill Thayer



US Sailing is proud to announce a new partnership with 11th Hour Racing, a program established by the Schmidt Family Foundation that specializes in fostering strategic partnerships within the sailing and marine communities to promote collaborative systemic change for the health of our marine environment.

US Sailing is honored to receive a \$100,000 grant that will directly fund its efforts to grow sailing as an educational platform for youth through the Reach initiative and bring more awareness to environmental and ocean stewardship. US Sailing's Reach program is a pioneer and leader in the integration of STEM education with sailing. US Sailing's Reach Educator Workshop for STEM Education was presented at the Tall Ships America Conference in Philadelphia on Saturday, February 7.

In Honor of our First Sail initiative, we have started #FirstSailFriday. We all have a First Sail story and we want to hear yours. Please share Your First Sail Photos on Instagram with #FirstSailFriday.

In an effort to dramatically improve the Olympic youth development system for sailing in the United States, US Sailing and the AmericaOne Foundation are excited to announce a historic new initiative: Project Pipeline. With the extraordinary commitment of \$5 Million from AmericaOne Foundation, we are in position to launch a long-term initiative that will transform the way our young sailors train in the U.S.

Project Pipeline is the strategy behind a new-look Olympic Development Program, which aims to better serve young sailors, lead them into high-performance boats earlier in their development, and build well rounded sailors with complete skill sets. Providing training/racing opportunities with world class coaching and the highest level of technical standards are the core principles of the initiative. Project Pipeline is a necessary ingredient in US Olympic Sailing and it is our hope that others will follow our lead in supporting America's youth. Project Pipeline has commenced the 10-year plan as of February 1, 2015

US Sailing moves forward with offshore strategic plan for improving services to offshore sailors. Jay Hansen has joined US Sailing's Offshore Department staff and will lead in the implementation.

The following is a statement from US Sailing, the governing body for sailing, on the recent update from the International Sailing Federation (ISF) regarding the decision by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) to not include sailing at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. We are highly disappointed to hear that the IPC has confirmed their decision.

The motto of a group of sailors that race in the Long Island Sound every Sunday from October thru April in Dyer Dinghys, off the Riverside Yacht Club docks in Riverside, Conn is "Just remember when it is snowing you can see the wind shifts".

US Sailing is assisting in the investigation of the April 25 Dauphin Island Regatta tragedy off the coast of Alabama in Mobile Bay.

The Sailing Leadership Symposium for 2016 is again in San Diego, CA, at the Hilton San Diego Resort on Mission Bay February 4-6, 2016

Northwestern V.P.
Mary Nye Meyers



Districts

1 & 5
2, 4 & 24
Blue Gavel Canada

It is hard to believe that this is my last report as Northwest Vice President. It has been an honor and pleasure to have worked with such dedicated and innovative members of Districts 1 & 5.

District 1's officers & board continues to motivate their members to stay involved with their District as witnessed by the 54 people (out of 89 members) who attended the Spring Regional Meeting in April. Their numbers are even higher during the annual Fall Change of Watch meeting. Even when the meetings are rotated from one side of the state to the other or from one state to another, the members follow to show their support of their District and IOBG.

District 5's Officers, Board and membership have instituted several community service projects that impress all of us in the IOBG. Their Life Jacket Loaner program and their annual clean up of Hadley Landing are just a few of the accomplishments that have taken the District 5 to new heights.

I could go on about the incredible members of both Districts but I wouldn't want to reiterate any of their reports that follow. It has been a great experience and I thank you all for the privilege of being your Northwest Area Vice President.



District 1

Lani Lightle, District Director

District #1 held its Spring Regional Meeting on April 17-18, 2015 this year at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho and was hosted by the Spokane Yacht Club. Spokane Yacht Club is actually located in Idaho on the Spokane river a short distance from Lake Coeur d'Alene, a very popular tourist and boating site during the summer. With summer like weather and a great turnout of our members it was a huge success.

Opening Day, the official opening of Seattle's boating season sponsored by the Seattle Yacht Club, had its opening day parade on May 2, 2015 with the theme of "Myths and Monsters". Representing IOBG District 1 was our president Bob Lee on the Seattle Yacht Club lawn. Also attending this year was IOBG Legal Officer Gary Green as a dignitary representing Pacific Coast Yachting Association and accompanied by his wife, Rosalie Davis-Green, First Vice President, IOBG. District 1 was again in the parade of boats seen by many thousands of spectators with our IOBG banners on both sides of our parade boat.

Our Fall change of watch will be in Tacoma, Washington on September 18 & 19, 2015. It will be hosted by Tacoma Outboard Association.

I am looking forward to the future for District 1. Our membership has dropped in recent years but I am looking forward to seeing this trend reverse with potential of our current and future officers.

Submitted by District 5:
Duane Westfall, District Director
Mike Kondrat, President

Our District Leadership was honored to host the 2015 Spring Regionals in Portland Oregon. We welcome everyone to our lovely city. Our District had some fun events planned as well as the annual Rose Festival knighting ceremony for our IOBG President-Elect Joe Dowdell.

Overall membership for District 5 has grown by 50% this year over 2014. This is very encouraging to the executive board. We have been focused on improving communications as well as making sure we are delivering the message of how we are relevant to each and every yacht club in the Portland area. We believe our membership drive is working as we begin to meet and invite current Commodores to join IOBG when their term is up.

Our annual Hadley's Landing Cruise and Clean-up occurred this quarter as well. We had 10 participants helping to clean up the public dock and picnic areas. Everyone then enjoyed the sunshine and comradery on the dock with an early potluck as well.

Over 300 new life jackets are being delivered to over 25 different life jacket kiosks this quarter on the Columbia, Willamette and Rogue rivers. District 5 in combination with IOBG Humanitarian Fund provided the funds for the new jackets. The kiosks are managed by the Safe Kids Columbia River, Boy Scouts of America and the US Army Corps of Engineers. Promoting water safety is a major priority for IOBG District 5.

This summer, we plan to apply for a grant with the Oregon State Marine Board to help us expand our life jacket programs. We also are hopeful that we can expand our program to include the Safe Kids organizations in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties. All three county organizations cover the Portland Metro Boating and Water Recreational Areas.



Southwestern *V.P.*

Sherry Barone



Districts

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

I attended many opening days from Pittsburg Yacht Club with District 19 Director Estella McGrath to American Legion Yacht Club with Leo Vortouni, District 21 enjoying the kickoff of the yachting season which never closes in California and Hawaii.

Each of our Districts is working hard growing membership and raising money for local charities as well as having fun. It is a privilege getting to know district directors and supporting the district.

Wine tasting, membership appreciation lunch and youth sailing scholarship fundraising events were a few of the quarter highlights.

Kathy Smith District 15 Director did an amazing job at the winter regional meeting and raised funds for Make a Wish foundation competitions in the Amazing Race . Marge Bottari District 14 Director hosted a speaker series at Golden Gate Yacht Club with commodore Norbert Bajurn discussing defending the America Cup in Bermuda raising funds for sailing scholarship. Leo Vortouni District 21 Director is helping plan a kickoff event for Transpac in Newport and has grown membership by 90 percent with the help of President Richard Price. Estella Mc Grath District 19 is getting ready for a event raising funds for the Make a Wish foundation and help a membership appreciation event. LaVon Plumlee District 10 hosted a membership appreciation lunch and planning a fashion show event for the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation. Susana Hernández Araico District 11 held visit to the tall ship Lady Washington a replica of the first American ship to round Cape Horn and land in the Pacific Northwest and planning a membership appreciation dinner with music by local jazz artist Roberto Cordario. Clark Owens District 16 is growing membership and planning an event with the Maritime Museum . Richard Denton, District 6 Director is helping host events for the IOBG Southwestern TransPac Race - Visit to Honolulu, Hawaii 25-30 July 2015.

Come and be a part of the TransPacific race in Hawaii with friends from IOBG and IOBG District 6

Sailing the TransPac stirs a variety of emotions and lifelong memories. For some it's the rush of danger, for others a beautiful adventure, and for many it's both. Russell Coutts, an Olympic gold medalist and three-time America's Cup winner, said "This is one of the best offshore races I have done . . . very strategic for the navigators mixed with some fantastic downwind rides. Definitely a race not to be missed." A traditional sendoff party and competitors meetings were held on the weekend prior to the first start on 13 July 2015. Aloha Send-off Party, Long Beach was held on 11 July 2015.



I attended the Portland spring regional meeting on 4 June 2015. The IOBG policy manual will be updated, reported were given, financial statement reviewed and IOBG currently has 1,546 paid members. District 5 hosted the spring regional IOBG meeting and did a great job as usual. Many of the members enjoyed the hospitality of District 5, activities of Portland and the Portland Rose festival.

District 6
Richard Denton, District Director



Transpac - July, 2015

We will be greeting the crew of Horizon upon arrival in Honolulu for the Transpac 2015. Also, members of the Southwest/Northwest Region of the IOBG will be arriving in Honolulu to participate in the Transpac events.

Election Meeting - Wednesday, October 7, 2015

We will have our elections for officers at the Kaneohe Yacht Club during our barbecue from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Installation and Induction dinner - Thursday, November 5, 2015

We will have our 2015 Officers Installed and Induction of new members at the Waikiki Yacht Club, Thursday, November 5th, 6:00 p.m.

HCA/IOBG Christmas Party - Thursday, December 3, 2015

Our IOBG/HCA Christmas Party will be at Hawaii Yacht Club, Thursday, December 3rd, 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. We will be conducting our traditional IOBG gift exchange and serving our Christmas buffet. There is no charge for the meal.

District 10
LaVon Plumlee, District Director

It is my pleasure to report that District 10 members have a lengthy list of both socials, sailing and educational activities, plus charity events for the participation of members. Our Treasurer, P/C Steve Saracco, reports that we presently have 76 IOBG members, and renewal checks continue to be received. We have again inducted eight new Past Commodores at their Opening Day ceremonies this year. At these induction ceremonies, IOBG members are asked to stand and take part in the ceremony. It is always wonderful to see so many of our members take part in these ceremonies. Following our annual membership drive, District 10 hosted another very successful “Meet our New Members” BBQ – it was a fun and enjoyable day for all.

Auxiliary: Our IOBG Auxiliary President, P/C Marsha Saracco, continues to enhance our district’s activities. It has been said that every successful district has an active Auxiliary, and District 10 supports this. We have 18 Auxiliary members. In the past, our Auxiliary hosted a very successful Fashion Show with the proceeds benefitting the Humanitarian Foundation. Plans are going forward for our 2015 Fashion Show, and we hope to duplicate our efforts.

Communication: District 10 continues to stress communications as is a vital factor for our success. P/C Jon Fults has retired as our long-time newsletter editor, and I have been tasked with the job. Our newsletter now has both a new look and a new name: “The Gavel” for our members to enjoy. Members are encouraged to submit articles of interest to the yacht clubs and yachting community. Additionally, we will be featuring an article each month highlighting one of our star Past Commodores. Our website (www.IOBG-District10.org) is updated monthly by P/C Bill Plumlee.

Monthly Socials: District 10 enjoys several monthly events including but not limited to the following: CPR Class at Huntington Harbour YC, Father’s Day BBQ, July 4th Fireworks at NYCLB, Charity Regatta Brunch, Luau, Cruise to Bahia Corinthian YC, BBQ at Barney’s Beach House, Fashion Show, Grill your Own at our member yacht clubs, and other events.

We’re looking forward to our upcoming 2015 activities and endeavors.

District 11
Susana Hernandez Araico
President & District Director

On February 14, District 11 organized a visit to the tall ship Lady Washington (a faithful replica of the first American ship to round Cape Horn and land in the Pacific Northwest) followed by lunch at PCCYC on Channel Islands Harbor with an optional sail on the Lady Washington afterwards.

In March and April, Director and President Susana Hernández Araico and Vice President Shelia Anderson participated in induction ceremonies for both Marina del Rey and King Harbor Opening Days.

On Saturday, March 7, at Marina del Rey we inducted junior staff commodores at Santa Monica Wind Jammers and Marina Venice Yacht Clubs, and on Sunday, March 8 at South Coast Corinthian and Del Rey Yacht Clubs. The following weekend, Wilma Rosenberg inducted the new junior staff commodore at Westlake Yacht Club. On Sunday, April 12, Director and President Susana and Vice President Shelia did the induction at King Harbor Yacht Club.

Membership renewals have been coming in and we will be sending out another reminder for the late comers. We are currently planning our special member-appreciation event for Tuesday, June 23 which will include food and music at the Del Rey Yacht Club patio. This will be followed a month later on July 22, by a Hollywood Bowl concert where District 11 will enjoy the Frank Sinatra birthday concert preceded by a picnic dinner. We are also looking forward to a Marina del Rey picnic dinner in connection with the Chase Park concert series on August 20th.

We are supporting plans for the 2016 annual national meeting, have made a financial contribution for 2015 and will hold an event in August to raise additional funds.

Since Lisa Falk resigned as Secretary early due to personal reasons Vice President Sheila Anderson has been most helpful with publicity and sending out announcements for our various events. Our web site has been updated, with some corrections still needed and our Newsletter is in preparation.

District 14
Marge Bottari, District Director

Marge Bottari District 14 Director hosted a speaker series at Golden Gate Yacht Club with commodore Norbert Bajurn discussing defending the America Cup in Bermuda. A charity event raised money for two sailing scholarships for youth sailing in the San Francisco Bay.



District 15
Kathy Smith, District Director

District 15 started 2015 with our annual Yacht Club Management Seminar. Open to all the clubs, the YCMS provides informative speakers to club bridges and other club members interested in learning more about how their club is run. There are seminars on legal, financial, protocol, yachting organizations, and, new this year, employer/employee issues. The seminar was very well attended, and attendees left with a packet of valuable reference materials.

In February, District 15 was very proud to host the IOBG Winter Regional Meeting. We were very happy with the amenities, cooperation and service from the host hotel, The Bay Club. With more than 70 in attendance, all events were well attended. Attendees spanned the U.S., from Hawaii, to Florida.

The weekend began with a Welcome Reception at San Diego Yacht Club. Many stayed for dinner at this renowned club.

Dinner Thursday night was at Silver Gate Yacht Club. On Friday, IOBG had their business meeting, with lunch, at Southwestern Yacht Club.



On Saturday, Members boarded Club Yachts and cruised San Diego Bay to Coronado Yacht Club, for lunch. Saturday evening found members back at Southwestern Yacht Club for a Farewell Dinner.

Appreciation Plaques were presented to Commodores of Southwestern Yacht Club, Silver Gate Yacht Club, and Coronado Yacht Club, by District 15 Director Kathy Smith, at the May San Diego Association of Yachts Clubs Dinner meeting, on behalf of IOBG, and President Joel Kay.



In May, IOBG/IOBG District 15 fielded a bicycle team for the 3 Yacht Clubs Amazing Race event. Our team raised over \$2000, and the total event raised over \$125,000. It is admirable that Make A Wish San Diego has no wait list for wishes. Thanks to all those who organized, participated, and worked hard to make this event an annual success.



Our Member Appreciation Bar B Q and Bocce Ball Tournament was held at the Coronado Cays Yacht Club on June 13, starting at 2pm. IOBG provided drink tickets to our members to thank them for their continued support.

District 15 Report Continued...



Our President Jim Jenkins, Vice President Bill Edwards, and Secretary Ned Knight are planning our first annual IOBG Charity Regatta. More details will follow as plans gel. We are excited about the possibilities, and look forward to this becoming a "Must" for local boaters.

District 16
Clark Owens, District Director
Sheldon Berger, President

District 16 continues to move forward planning an event with the Maritime Museum located in the Channel Islands harbor in Oxnard. While it is still in the formative stages a lot of work has gone into organizing and reaching out to our local clubs and potential sponsors. The event is tentatively set for August, and to date the interest has been extremely encouraging.

Our District continues to try to increase membership. We have had some success but face the challenges that all districts seem to have. Ideally, each local yacht club would have a robust I.O.B.G. group who would then join in with District events, but that has not been the case. We are pleased to have members from every club in both of our harbors, and will continue to market membership through their interest. We have enjoyed excellent attendance at our events by inviting interesting speakers.

We look forward to our annual BBQ at VYC in September. This year we are looking forward to a "Fiesta" theme. This is one of our most popular evenings, and this year will be no exception.

District 19
M. Estella McGrath, District Director

District 19 is alive and doing well. At this point we have 153 paid members in IOBG and 50 members in IOBGA.

On February 22, 2015 we had our induction of new members at Pittsburg Yacht Club, which was very well attended. On a sad note I have to advise that the newest inductee from Pittsburg Yacht Club, Doris Bedford, passed away last month in Hawaii. Doris was a very active member not only of Pittsburg Yacht Club, but also in her local community. We will miss her greatly but have many good memories of her.

On May 16, 2015 we held our annual Commodores Appreciation Day outing at Delta Marina Yacht Harbor. This event is free to all Commodores, from District 19, in good standing, with a \$10.00 charge for guests. The menu was barbecue tri tip and chicken with all the fixings, along with a free bar. Free dockage was provided by the Board for anyone who cruised in. The Board also provided donations for a drawing so almost everyone could go home with a gift.

On August 22, 2015 we will be hosting our annual Meyer Haven Memorial Barbecue along with nominations for the 2016 Board of Directors. This will be held at Village West Yacht Club.

The IOBGA hosted a trip to Richmond to visit the Rosie the Riveter National Historical Park, which from all reports I got made for a great and wonderful outing. Unfortunately I was out of town and unable to attend which was my loss. They had on hand not 1, not 2 but 3 original Rosie's as their hosts and found out that one of the Rosie's is the Aunt of IOBG member Lou Erickson. Also Eddie Jo and James Mack said their parents both worked at the shipyard during the War, so it turned out to be a family affair!!!

I want to thank Sherry Barone, Southwestern VP for attending Pittsburg Yacht Clubs' Opening Day, and thank her for her support of District 19.

District 21
Leo Vortouni, District Director

District 21 Membership:

We have 54 members as of May 16, 2015. New membership inductions have been a primary goal of District 21 and District President Richard Price.

District 21 Inductions in 2015:

ALYC S/C Hans Witten from American Legion Yacht Club was inducted by Leo Vortouni.

LIYC S/C Jim Ciucki was inducted by DP Richard Price on May 2, 2015 at the LIYC Opening Day ceremonies.

SSYC S/C Matt Steele was inducted by DP Richard Price on May 2, 2015 at the SSYC Opening Day ceremonies.

SSYC S/C John Marshall was inducted by DD Leo Vortouni on May 3, 2015.

DPYC S/C Dave Griffin will be inducted by DP Richard Price on May 16, 2015, at the DPYC Opening Day ceremonies.

Club of the Year Award:

Lake Arrowhead Yacht Club was awarded the Club of the Year Award for 2014 because of their support and involvement with District 21 events.

The Log Delivery:

District 21 Board of Directors has voted to have all remaining 2015 Log newsletters to be delivered to all active 2015 members.

District By-Laws under development:

In order to improve the operations within District 21, new District By- Laws are under discussion. We hope to have new by-laws in place by the end of 2015.



District 21 2015 Events:

Old Glory Boat Parade: July 4, 2015

S/C Tim Bercovitz has offered his classic all wood ketch, "Fairwind", a 1969 Mariner 40, hull #44 for IOBG District 21's entry in the Old Glory Boat Parade sponsored by the American Legion Yacht Club.

A new ten foot, custom designed, IOBG District 21 banner will fly above the deck of Fairwind during the Old Glory Boat Parade.

Transpac Celebration:

July 25-30, 2015, Honolulu District 6 has extended an invitation to District 21 to be a part of the TransPacific race celebration to greet

transpac racers as they arrive. Events include sailing and snorkling, tours of the island and the USS Arizona, and multiple dinners and parties.

Lake Arrowhead Yacht Club Party: August 21-23, 2015

The theme party's name is based on "Fly Me to the Moon", a song originally titled "In Other Words" and written in 1954 by Bart Howard. Frank Sinatra's version, recorded in 1964, is closely associated with the Apollo missions to the Moon. Events will include Friday night events, yachting events on Saturday, with the Theme Party on Saturday night, and Sunday events.

Annual Dinner Party: Last Quarter of 2015

During the last quarter of 2015, District 21 holds a full membership dinner party event. The details of the event are still under discussion. Elections for 2016 BOD are typically held at that time.

North Central V.P.
Mark Vadaj



Districts
 7, 9, 23 & 25

No Articles Submitted to LOG Editor...

Northeastern V.P.
Ernie Odierna



Districts
 3, 12, 20,
 26 & 27

No Articles Submitted to LOG Editor...

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 \$21.95 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
	IOBG Blazer Emblem					
	Auxiliary Blazer Emblem					

Please Print

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

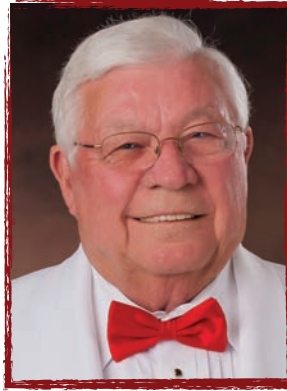
Signature _____ Ship to: _____

The above will be verified. Member will be billed for emblems when shipped. _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Email Addresses: _____

Southeastern V.P.
Bud Higginson



Districts
8 & 18

District 8 seems to be running very smoothly with a lot of activities going on. The goal of have an Executive Committee member visit with each of our 24 chapters of going quite well 8 visited so far this year. District meeting have been well attended and nominations are well underway for the election of Executive Committee members in October.

I have contacted the Southwest Florida Yacht Club, which was established by a group of the former Royal Palm Yacht Club members, who are considering the establishment of their own IOBG Chapter. All information has been given to them and we are awaiting their response.

We are in the final stages of reactivating the Key Biscayne Yacht Club Chapter. They now have all the information needed to reactivate their chapter and we should begin receiving their application and dues at any time. I attended the District 8 Spring meeting on 5/29-30/2015 meeting at the Dunedin Boat Club for which their Chapter did an outstanding job of hosting this event. Congratulations to President Bosi and his crew for a job well done.

District 18 District Director Buzz Bisanz and President Dave Kowert are working hard in recruiting new members and rebuilding the District. The addition of a Treasurer and Vice President and establishing a bank account goes a long way to help in this effort. Many activities are planned as a recruiting tool in the near future and we all look forward to seeing great results.

District 8 held its Spring meeting on May 30, 2015 at the Dunedin Boat Club in Dunedin, FL. On Friday evening, District 8 members joined with Dunedin Chapter members for cocktails and informal Bayou dinner, enjoyed their sailboat races, breathtaking sunset. It was an enjoyable evening with wonderful hospitality of our newly added Chapter.

District 8
Bud Higginson, District Director

On the 30th, a brief meeting of the Nominating Committee was held and selected candidates for all Executive Committee members except for the positions of District Director and Alt District Director. Several candidates were identified and contact will be made with them. At 11:30 lunch was served and the business meeting started at 12:30 pm.

At 6:30 pm, cocktails and dinner was served at the nearby Clearwater Yacht Club whereby a plaque was presented to the Dunedin Boat Club in appreciation of hosting the District 8 Spring meeting. On Sunday, a brunch was served at the nearby Tarpon Spring Yacht for all to enjoy.

During the meeting at Dunedin, Secretary Wood reported that she has been working with Treasurer Bob Pease to identify members who do not have access to computers so that she may send them hard copies of information and she is also identifying small yacht club Chapters that she is encouraging to meet with other larger nearby Chapters to keep them informed of District 8 and International activities.

Continued...

District 8 Report Continued...

Treasurer Bob Pease reported that our beginning balance was \$7,298 with income of \$3,345 and expenses of \$3,582 giving and ending balance of \$7,061. Bob added that we have a total of 221 members with 24 chapters.

SEVP Bud Higginson gave a report along with a program to initiate new chapters. This program contained many ways of reaching out to the various venues to recruit more chapters along with actions that should be taken by District 8 to accomplish this initiative.

President Bill Pittman presented a report of District goals and activities. He had sent a letter to all our members advising them of our goals and objectives along with introducing our new Executive Committee members. He also outlined the need to improve communications as less than 50% responded in previous correspondences. President Pittman then reported that our goal of the Executive Committee as a whole is to visit each of our 24 chapters during this year. Approximately 8 chapters have been visited so far this year.

Contact has been made with the Southwestern Florida Club as a candidate for a Blue Gavel Chapter and Key Biscayne Yacht Club for a possible reactivation of existing chapter.

District 18 Robert 'Buzz' Bisanz, District Director Dave Kowert, President
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Since our last report, District 18 continues to go through transition and on the positive side, we are close to having a formal Vice President and Secretary for the District. Once the Board positions fill out, the work load can be distributed and our formal work can begin in earnest. In the 1st quarter of this year the district opened its bank account and has a business process in place to take in and spend IOBG funds.





Growth in the District has been slow, but that appears to be due largely in part to the amount of other activity (Charleston Race Week and others) that has been quite consuming to the leadership in the District. The District did have a strong presence at the South Atlantic Yacht Racing Association Annual Meeting in Hilton Head and hosted two events there including a Bourbon Tasting for all attending past commodores. 17 people attended and District President Dave Kowert is working to bring them into the IOBG.

Several Charleston Area Past Commodores volunteered to work Charleston Race Week Security (checking passes) as a team. That was a very positive step forward in bringing that group back together. District 18 is planning to do several social summer events starting with a pig roast at The Hobcaw Yacht Club to try and build Blue Gavel membership.

Unfortunately, Mike Brabow, a Past President of Blue Gavel in District 18, and a group of IOBG members from the Ft. Loudoun Yacht Club have decided NOT to continue as members of IOBG within District 18. They submitted a list of complaints which Bud Higginson, Buzz Bisanz and Dave Kowert all addressed, however it appeared as though their mind was made up and they have parted with the organization. We will be looking to re-establish a foothold in that normally very steadfast area of the country in the Fall.

Beyond that, the summer season is upon us, and all of our area yacht clubs have many exciting activities planned. Each of those is an opportunity for District 18 to grow, and we will be promoting IOBG as often as possible.

2015-2016 AGBOA Executive Board

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	<p style="text-align: center;">President- Elect</p>	<p>Sandi Durieux - Dist. 7 13804 Crescent Cove Ave NE Thornville, OH 43076 Tel: 740-242-4001 Cell: 740-334-7675 Email: ssdurieux@columbus.rr.com</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Vice President</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">OPEN</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Secretary</p>	<p>Nancy Kay - Dist. 7 2112 Campus Drive South Euclid, OH 44121 Home: 216-382-7123 Email: seawind@stratos.net</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Treasurer</p>	<p>Audrey Hall - Dist. 15 2063 Grandview St. Oceanside, CA 92054 Home: 760-757-6796 Email: hulakai2@cox.net</p>



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.

IOBF President Joan Marsh

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

Our Mission Statement: 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 exiting charities and benefits communities through initiatives involving boating activities and education.

We recently funded a \$3,300 project on the Columbia River to provide life jackets for a program brought to us by District 5. Currently we are working on a request to support a community sailing program from the Huntington Beach Sailing Foundation in District 10 as well as a renowned LifeSail program brought to us from District 11. As this goes to press, we understand that there is a new local area project (LAP) coming to us from District 7. We are looking forward to receiving it and moving ahead.

So, we not only seek your financial support for the Foundation, we seek to provide you with our support for programs in your area that benefit the boating community including those that provide access to the boating experience for those who might not otherwise have it.

Organizationally, the Humanitarian Foundation has recently had an early change of watch effective with the Spring meeting in Portland. The officers of the Foundation now are Joan Marsh, President and CEO; P/P Carol Promessi, Vice President; Jackie Evans Rudd, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer; Estella McGrath, Secretary; Directors, Jerry Key and Dr. Julie Albright; as well as Chief Legal Officer Joel Newman and Supply Officer P/P Jerry Rudd. We have other committed volunteers whom we call Ambassadors and they include Gary and Audrey Hall, Harold Weaver and David Welles.

Continued...

Our website is up and running with future improvements planned. The website is the quickest way for you to find all of the contact information for our Board and Ambassadors plus information about contributing funds, donating your time and seeking support for a local program in your area.

Our thanks go to P/P Ira Nies for all of his efforts on behalf of the Humanitarian Foundation and to Mary Nye Meyers for her work on our website.

There will be much more information coming to you from the Humanitarian Foundation in the months ahead. Please look for our updates in the Lighthouse and in The Log. We also look forward to meeting many of you at the annual meeting in Florida in October.



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Joel Newman	Not Available	Cleveland, OH	Legal Officer
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Gary & Audrey Hall	hulakai2@cox.net	Oceanside, CA	Ambassador
Harold Weaver	thphotos@aol.com	Detroit, MI	Ambassador
David Welles	Not Available	Staten Island, NY	Ambassador

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Return Service Requested.

