

THE BLUE GAVEL LOG

Of The
INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

An Association of Past Commodores

Volume 37 No. 2

May 2016

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.

Mark Your Calendars for these Upcoming Meetings



*Spring Regional Meeting
Portland, Oregon
June 9-11, 2016*



*Summer Regional Meeting
Buffalo, New York
August 18-20, 2016*



*Annual Meeting Marina del Rey, California
October 20-22, 2016*

2016 IOBG DIRECTORY

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Reflects Updates Received
as of May 1, 2016

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INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL IOBG Spring Regional Meeting

June 9 - 11, 2016

Thursday, June 9, 2014

Dress of the Day: Summer Uniform

*Blue Blazer, White Shirt, White Pants, White Socks & Shoes, IOBG Tie, Black or Dark Blue
Transportation on your own.*

Portland Yacht Club

1241 NE Marine Drive Portland, OR 97211
503 285 1922

8:30 AM – 12:00 AM	IOBG OPEN Executive Committee / General Meeting		
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM	IOBGA Executive Committee / Auxiliary Meeting		
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch _____ @ \$20.00 per person	Total	\$ _____
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	IOBG & IOBGA General Meetings (Continued)		

IOBG Humanitarian Foundation meeting will follow general meetings.

Friday, June 10, 2014

10:00 AM Royal Rosarians Knighting Ceremony in Washington Park

Columbia River Yacht Club

37 N Tomahawk Island Dr. Portland, OR 97217 *Dress of the Afternoon: Casual*

3:00 – 5:00 PM	Boat Rides from CRYC dock. How many _____		
5:00 PM	Cocktails		
6:00 PM	Dinner _____ @ \$35.00 per person	Total	\$ _____

Menu: Prime Rib, Turkey, baked potatoes, vegetables, dinner roll, green salad, dessert

Preference: _____ Beef _____ Turkey _____ Both _____

Saturday June 11, 2016 Enjoy the day at the Rose Festival Parade and the Grand Ball in the evening.

***Please refer to Royal Rosarians Activities Schedule
Transportation on your own.***

TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED: \$ _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **“IOBG District 5”**
MAIL THIS REGISTRATION FORM TO: Blue Gavel District 5, 865 NE Tomahawk Island Dr. #334, Portland, OR 97217

Deadline: May 26, 2016

Event Contacts: Mike Kondrat, 503 819 2775 Email: mike@kondrats.com
Bill McKinney, 503 539 8748 Email: billmckinney3@gmail.com
Ron Timmerman, 503-297-1030 Email: rontimmerman@msn.com

District Number _____ Club _____ Office Held _____

NAME _____ SPOUSE/GUEST _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY/ST _____

ZIP CODE _____ PHONE _____ EMAIL _____



HOSPITALITY WEEKEND EVENT REGISTRATION
2016 Royal Rosarian Rose Festival Hospitality Weekend
June 9th -12TH ----- DoubleTree by Hilton – Portland, Oregon



Full Registration discount is available through Friday, May 20th, 2016.
 Registration deadline is May 31st, 2016.

ONLINE Registration and Payment is available at:
www.RoyalRosarians.com, Hospitality

Or complete this registration sheet and mail with payment to: Royal Rosarians 2016 Hospitality
 5005 SE 68th Avenue
 Portland, OR 97206
 Phone: 503-312-8381 (Amy Arasmith)

(1) SELECT

FULL REGISTRATION

This option includes the Hospitality Suite (Thurs-Fri-Sat), Fun Night - "Rockin' into Orbit", Grand Floral Ball* - "Over the Moon," Farewell Breakfast.
 (Note: The Queens' Garden Party, Queen's Coronation & Parade Tickets are not included in the full registration).

Couple.....	\$320 per couple	x _____ couple/s = \$ _____
Couple (after May 20).....	\$340 per couple	x _____ couple/s = \$ _____
Single.....	\$160 per person	= \$ _____
Single (after May 20).....	\$170 per person	= \$ _____

ALA CARTE EVENT REGISTRATION

Individual event tickets can also be purchased:

Hospitality Suite for 3 Days.....	\$55 per person	x _____ tickets = \$ _____
Hospitality Suite for 1 Day Indicate Day: Thurs Fri Sat (please circle)....	\$29 per person	x _____ tickets = \$ _____
Queens' Garden Party (Friday) Meat or Vegetarian meal (please circle).....	\$35 per person	x _____ tickets = \$ _____
Fun Night – "Rockin' into Orbit" (Friday).....	\$65 per person	x _____ tickets = \$ _____
Grand Floral Parade/Coronation Preferred Seating (Saturday) **.....	\$29 per person	x _____ tickets = \$ _____
Grand Floral Ball* – "Over the Moon" (Saturday).....	\$85 per person	x _____ tickets = \$ _____
Farewell Breakfast (Sunday).....	\$27 per person	x _____ tickets = \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: **(US \$) = \$ _____**

*Indicate meal choice for the Grand Floral Ball on the back of this registration sheet. ***Ala carte tickets to the Grand Floral Ball include complimentary access to the Pajama Jam in the reopened Hospitality Suite on Saturday evening.***

** Coronation/Grand Floral Parade Preferred Seating tickets are available until May 27th, 2016. Parade tickets can be purchased after May 27th, 2016 by calling 877-789-7673 subject to availability and handling charges. Tickets for the Coronation/Grand Floral Parade Preferred Seating are non-Refundable.

(2) PAYMENT

My Check for \$ _____ is enclosed made payable to Royal Rosarians **OR** Please bill my: ___VISA___Mastercard
 Amount Authorized: \$ _____ Account #: _____ Expiration: _____ / _____
 Name: _____ Spouse/Guest: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip: _____
 Telephone: _____ Email:(for confirmation): _____
 Organization (if any): _____ Title: _____



HOSPITALITY WEEKEND EVENT REGISTRATION

2016 Royal Rosarian Rose Festival Hospitality Weekend

June 9th -12th ----- DoubleTree by Hilton – Portland, Oregon



Grand Floral Ball meal selection -- please indicate each attendee's selection:

NAME: _____ ___ Meat ___ Fish ___ Vegetarian

NAME: _____ ___ Meat ___ Fish ___ Vegetarian

NAME: _____ ___ Meat ___ Fish ___ Vegetarian

NAME: _____ ___ Meat ___ Fish ___ Vegetarian

NAME: _____ ___ Meat ___ Fish ___ Vegetarian

NAME: _____ ___ Meat ___ Fish ___ Vegetarian

NAME: _____ ___ Meat ___ Fish ___ Vegetarian

NAME: _____ ___ Meat ___ Fish ___ Vegetarian

Please contact the hotel for any special needs due to physical disability or dietary restrictions.

Hospitality Weekend Silent Auction - Items available for bidding are on display, 15th floor. To Contribute Items - Contact: **Korrie Hoeckendorf** at 503-953-5901 or hoecken@frontier.com.

Hospitality Suite Food or Cash Donations - contact **Patti Nielsen** at 503-257-0367 or pattinielsen24@msn.com.

Event Registration Assistance - if you need ANY assistance with online or mailed registration and payment, please contact **Amy Arasmith** at 503-312-8381 or amyarasmith@gmail.com

Hospitality 2016 Questions - please contact:
 ✓ Chairwoman, and Council liaison for Hospitality- **Korrie Hoeckendorf** at 503-953-5901 or hoecken@frontier.com
 ✓ Garden Party Chair-**Tom Hofmann** at 503-781-4427 or T.Hofmann@comcast.net

HOTEL RESERVATIONS ARE MADE SEPARATELY

The DoubleTree by Hilton Portland is the host hotel.
 1000 NE Multnomah Street, Portland, OR 97232

The room discount code is **RR6** for a special room rate of \$135 & \$145 plus tax per night through May 11th. On-site covered parking is included with reservations made using this discount code. Book **accommodations** online using a link on the Royal Rosarians website or call the hotel directly at 503-281-6111 or 800-996-0510. **Hotel discount cutoff is May 11th, 2016.**

2015 HOSPITALITY WEEKEND SCHEDULE

THURSDAY JUNE 9

3 – 8 pm Registration - Lobby
 3 – 8 pm Hospitality Suite - 15th Floor Presidential Suite

FRIDAY JUNE 10

8 am - 5 pm Registration - Lobby
 9:30 - 11:00 am Royal Rosarian Knighting Ceremony -
 Rose Garden Amphitheater
 12:00 - 2:00 pm Queens' Garden Party - Ballroom
 (Tickets are ala carte, includes luncheon)
 1 - 4 pm Hospitality Suite - 15th Floor Presidential Suite
 5:30 - 10 pm Fun Night - "Rockin" into Orbit" Ballroom

SATURDAY JUNE 11

8 am Tri-Met MAX Light Rail from the hotel to
 Memorial Coliseum for Float Viewing, Queen's
 Coronation, and Grand Floral Parade
 8:30 am Coronation of the 2016 Rose Festival Queen
 (Preferred seating available with an ala carte
 ticket)
 10 am Grand Floral Parade
 (Preferred seating available with an ala carte
 ticket or view the parade from any vantage
 point along its route)
 1 - 4 pm Hospitality Suite - 15th Floor Presidential Suite
 5:30 pm Grand Floral Ball - "Over the Moon"
 Ballroom
 8:30 pm Pajama Jam-15th Floor Presidential Suite

SUNDAY JUNE 12

8:30 am Farewell Breakfast - Ballroom
 11 am Queen's Plaque Laying-Washington Park-
 International Rose Garden

Attire Guidelines:

Knighting Ceremony – RR Dress Whites (women wear pants), or Business attire
 Queens' Garden Party – RR Dress Whites (women wear day skirts), or
 Business attire
 Fun Night – Casual, 50's or 60's style, or Festival Casual
 Coronation/Grand Floral Parade – RR Dress Whites (women wear pants), or
 Casual
 Grand Floral Ball –Festival Formal, Evening Gowns, Tux or Dinner Jackets
 Farewell Breakfast/Queen's Plaque Ceremony – RR Dress Whites (women
 wear pants), RR Greens if not attending Queen's Plaque Laying, or Festival
 Casual



President Joe Dowdell

The Executive Committee has been meeting in monthly conference calls to administer the affairs of organization between meetings of the Board of Directors. All of our actions are of course subject to approval of the Board of Directors at the next annual meeting.

One of our first actions was to agree that our informational brochure that has been used for many years needed to be updated. President-Elect Rosalie Green has been leading that effort and we have been diligently working toward that end. Over the past several telephone conference meetings, she has brought back revised drafts mirroring the committee's consensus, Paragraph by Paragraph and Picture by Picture. Hopefully we will have approved the final version and have it ready to distribute at the next regional meeting in Portland.

Another decision that was made pertained to the frequency of publication of the LOG newsletter. The Policy Manual states that there will be a minimum of four issues per year, and that was the practice when we had four regional meetings a year. But now we have only three meetings per year and in the years following that change, the publication schedule also changed to provide corresponding meeting content coverage. After consideration and discussion of all the relevant factors pro and con, including expense, difficulty getting content and the importance of regular communication - the Executive Committee agreed to go back to four LOG issues per year. Hence this issue without a preceding winter regional meeting

The committee approved the study and implementation on a trial basis, of an electronic survey of selected members and past members. These simple surveys have become increasingly popular as a means of gathering opinions and preferences on a wide variety of subjects. The compiled answers to these survey questions contribute to informed decision making especially when struggling with limited resources or budgetary restraints.

Another project the committee approved in principal was the creation of a membership category and dues structure for Non-North American members. This will entail a by-law change but will have far reaching potential to increase the interest and participation overseas.

Reminder - any IOBG member in good standing who wishes to be considered for an elected office is required to submit his or her request in writing to each member of the Nominating Committee in time for consideration by the Portland Regional Meeting on June 11, 2016. See the Notice from past President Joel Kay in this issue

Also, please be aware of the difference between elected office and appointed office. Members wishing to serve in an appointed office for 2017 should send their request for consideration to President Elect Rosalie Davis-Green.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the Spring Regional Meeting in Portland in June and also the Summer Regional Meeting at Niagara Falls, NY in August. For more information see the articles regarding them in this issue of The LOG.



International Order of the Blue Gavel Summer Regional Meeting

August 18-20, 2016

**Hosted by District #3
Western New York**

Thursday, August 18

3:00 PM Four Points by Sheraton check-in
5:00 – 7:00 PM Registration at LaSalle Yacht Club, Niagara Falls, NY
(Complimentary wine and beer)
7:30 PM Dinner on your own

Friday, August 19

9:00 AM Both IOBG Executive Committee and the Auxiliary Executive
Committee will meet at the hotel (Summer Whites)
Noon Lunch on your own
2:30 PM Depart hotel for Maid of the Mist Boat Tour
3:00 – 4:00 PM Maid of the Mist Boat Tour—experience the power of the Falls
5:30 PM Depart hotel for Buffalo Launch Club, Grand Island, NY
6:00 PM Cocktails - Cash Bar (Yacht Club Casual)
7:00 PM Buffet Dinner (Includes sliced beef, turkey and ham, salad and dessert)
9:00 PM Return to hotel

Saturday, August 20

9:00 AM Summer regional IOBG meeting and IOBGA regional meeting at
the hotel (Summer Whites)
Noon Lunch on your own
1:00 – 3:00 PM Humanitarian Foundation meeting at the hotel
6:00 PM Lobster Bake at LaSalle Yacht Club (Yacht Club Casual)

Sunday, August 21

11:00 AM Departure

The International Order of the Blue Gavel Summer Regional Meeting, August 18 -20, will be held in Niagara Falls, NY.



The Four Points by Sheraton offers stylish guest rooms and meeting space, as well as a full service dining room.

Four Points by Sheraton
7001 Buffalo Avenue
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

**Call for Reservations at:
716-299-0344
Rooms & Blue Gavel rates will be held
until July 15, 2016.**

\$149.00 (2 Queen Beds) City View
\$169.00 (2 Queen Beds) River View



Explore the Fashion Outlets, the Seneca Niagara Casino, the mighty Falls and everything else our area has to offer.

Daily dinners will be hosted by area yacht clubs and a ride on the Maid of the Mist is on the schedule.

LaSalle Yacht Club (4 minute walk from the hotel)
73 S. 68th Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Buffalo Launch Club
503 East River Road
Grand Island, NY

Check out our area restaurants online: [The 10 Best Niagara Falls Restaurants](#)

Our Schedule of Events is now available. Registration forms will be coming soon... Watch the IOBG web site and your email for more information.



President - Elect
Rosalie Davis-Green

It is not too early to plan ahead for the Annual Meeting, October 20-22, 2016. We are very pleased & excited to host the 2016 Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held in Marina del Rey, CA at the beautiful Del Rey Yacht Club located in Santa Monica Bay, 5.7 miles north of Los Angeles International Airport.

Your hosts, District 11 (Santa Monica Bay) and District 10 (Long Beach/Los Angeles Harbor), are working hard to prepare for the festivities. You can expect to visit two Marina del Rey yacht clubs and the world renown J. Paul Getty Museum. In Long Beach there will be a tour of Los Angeles Harbor, a visit to the Aquarium of the Pacific and dinner at the elegant Long Beach Yacht Club. In Marina del Rey, meetings will be at the Del Rey Yacht Club as well as Saturday lunch and the installation of Officers dinner dance. There is sufficient space for IOGBA, HF and IOBG to meet at the same time. After the Getty museum visit, we will have a “down home” Friday night dinner at one of the less formal yacht clubs.



The official Annual Meeting Hotel is the Custom Hotel, located between Los Angeles International Airport and the marina itself. It is a boutique style hotel, with a room rate of \$129.00/night plus taxes and fees. Valet parking is available at the discounted rate. Amenities included in the room rate are: TV and phone in the room, wifi, business center, heated outdoor swimming pool, complimentary airport transportation between 5:00am and 2:00am. There is a coffee bar in the lobby serving coffee, tea and sweet rolls. The hotel restaurant opens at 5:00pm for dinner.

If you are not planning to spend extra time in Los Angeles before and after the meeting, there is no need to rent a car. Within walking distance of the hotel there are two super markets and several restaurants. Across the street is a park with nine hole golf course, a putting range, a tennis center and a library. Otis Art Institute is one block away with an art gallery open to the public.

Continued on next page...



Marina del Rey is an unincorporated seaside community in Los Angeles County, CA. Its total area is 1.455 sq. mi. of which .860 is land and .595 is water, with a pop. 8,866. The harbor is the world's largest manmade small boat recreational harbor created in 1960 from reclaimed swamps and oil drilling sites. There are 5300 slips and additional dry storage for 1500 small boats, dinghies and kayaks. The air temp in October averages a high of 77 and a low of 57. This is a densely populated residential and resort area. The marina was dedicated April 10, 1965. The marina has been hugely successful recreationally and financially for the county.

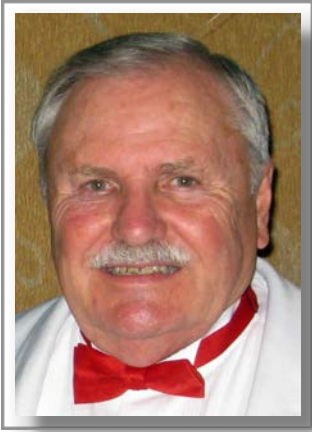


Prior to its development as a small craft harbor, the land occupied by Marina del Rey was a salt marsh fed by fresh water from Ballona Creek and home to the Tongva Native Americans. By the late 19th century, the Tongva were gone and developers were interested in developing a deep water commercial port here. However after many fits and starts and support from the Army Corps of Engineers the deep water commercial port went to San Pedro/LA Harbor.

In the meantime, Los Angeles was looking for revenue and sold oil drilling leases all along the water's edge in the 1930s. It was lucrative for the oil companies and the city.

Oil drilling wound down by the early 1960s. This is partly due to vociferous complaints from nearby residents about the negative effect the ugly, noisy, smelly drilling operations had on their quality of life and property values. Developers began eyeing the area for a harbor, residential and resort development which has evolved into the Marina del Rey of today.

Please put October 20-22, 2016, Marina del Rey, California on your calendar. More specific information will be provided by the June 9th -11th regional meeting in Portland, Oregon.



First Vice President
Tony Durieux

This report is about how the Blue Gavel prospered during the winter of 2016. The East Coast of the U.S. got hammered this winter and the spring has been peppered with strong storms and flooding. Chapters and districts have been putting together their plans for the summer while trying to finish up the winter months that found many, if not all planned activities, put on hold.

We expect the weather to dictate or limit boating activities. In the winter, districts and chapters maintain interest by planning social activities that include every member of the gavel family. Bringing family members into the IOBG social and educational functions serves the Gavel at its most vulnerable point, retention. We are an organization that works in an environment that is a family activity. Educational and social activities geared toward our spouses, children and grandchildren are critical to the future growth of the Blue Gavel or better known as Recruitment.

If we look at how our yacht clubs grow in membership, one can understand the process. Remember what you looked for when you joined your yacht club? If we keep that thought in mind when planning chapter and district activities, our chapters and districts will grow now and in the future.

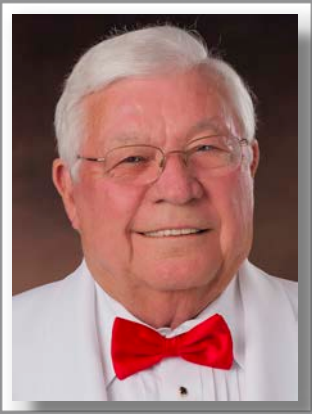
District 8 is experiencing an explosion in membership. We thank all those who helped get the message out. Hard work and a plan with all on the same page are paying big dividends in District 8.

I have found, when talking with other chapters and districts, that the sharing of information from district to district and chapter to chapter saves many hours and time in recruitment and retention. Hearing and reading what others have done to solve the universal problem of retention and recruitment is a great way to look at the problem from a different perspective and in the process you get the option of using the idea, improving on it or rejecting it.

My point, take the time to read what others are doing and if you have an idea that is working, share that information with your fellow districts. We grow and prosper working as a team.

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.



Second Vice President
Bud Higginson

Prior to becoming a member of the Executive Committee, I did not realize how much activity was going on between Regional Meetings. I was pleasantly surprised to find that the Executive Committee has a teleconference meeting on the third Tuesday of each month. During these meetings, a variety of issues are discussed and action taken when appropriate.

In January, I attended a District 8 regional meeting at the St Augustine Yacht Club in St Augustine, FL. District 8 is exploring an addition to the regular Saturday afternoon business meeting to have a guest speaker from a local organization to talk about subjects of interest to the IOBG. The first of these sessions was an archaeologist from local Flagler College who spoke on the history of sailing and the study of ship wrecks around the St Augustine area. While in St Augustine, I was able to meet with Southeastern Vice President Buzz Bisanz and District 8 Director Karen Shea to review some of the projects that were underway in my previous positions and turn over the rest of my files. An interesting side note that the St Augustine Yacht Club was the first yacht club established in the State of Florida.

At a meeting in February, the Venice Yacht Club chapter planned a Saturday night fundraising event with dinner and dancing. The fundraising, 50/50 ticket sales, will benefit the Venice Youth Boating Association Scholarship Fund.

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



775-782-3380
800-315-7485
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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.

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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: _____

Call for Nominations...
Past President Joel Kay

As chairman of the Nominating Committee, I am asking all members who may be interested in being considered for an office, whether one is currently open or not, please let the Nominating Committee know so that the Executive Committee of the International IOBG could begin consideration at the June Regional Meeting in Portland.

I can be reached by email at: seawind@stratos.net, or by telephone at: 216-382-7123.

The committee member from the West is: Eileen Van Winkle; her telephone number is: 858-571-5256.

The committee member from the East is: Roger Isphording; his telephone number is: 941-966-1518.

The offices are:

- 2nd Vice President
- Northeast Area Vice President
- Southeast Area Vice President
- Northwest Area Vice President
- Southwest Area Vice President
- North Central Area Vice President

Past President, Joel Kay

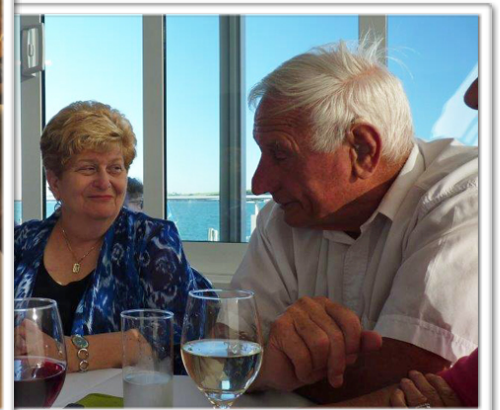


Before Nancy and I left for a tour in Australia & New Zealand, I emailed Christine Conn & Keith Wardell of District 75 giving them our itinerary in New Zealand. After considerable emailing back & forth, an evening at the Devonport Yacht Club in Auckland, NZ was planned. Two days earlier, the cruise ship docked in Wellington, and we spent the morning on a guided tour of the city of Wellington.

Upon returning to the cruise ship for lunch, we noticed a big sign with our names telling us to stop & see the Port Authority. Of course, everyone else from the ship saw the sign also. I then met with the person in charge of the port, who directed me to a waiting security van. I wondered if I was being kidnapped!! Instead, I was transported to a car driven by Past District 75 President Chris McAllen with whom I spent a wonderful afternoon taking in sights that no tour bus could. I am very appreciative that Chris took the time to tour parts of Wellington and for us to get to know one another.

As planned, Chris Conn, Secretary/Treasurer District 75, met us at our hotel with Yvonne and Russell Wiklund who drove to the Devonport Yacht Club for dinner with members of IOBG District 75. We had a terrific time meeting all the people, dining with them & sharing discussions about living in New Zealand & the US, boating, etc.

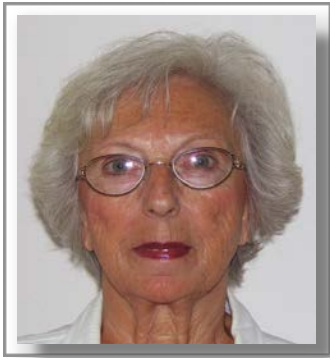
In addition to our hosts were: Bill Mitchinson, 2016 President District 75 and his wife, Myrna; Peter Dallimore, Vice President and his wife Barbara; Val and Ron Evans; Andrew and Janet Geddes; Jim and Jenni McGlashan; Harry and Gay Sutcliffe; Ralph and Jenny Roberts; Dennis Payne and Evelyn Johnson. Being at this event was a most memorable experience for us - one I shall cherish always.



More
Pictures
on the
Next
Page...







N.B.F. Representative Marlene Barrington

Meet the new NBF Representative:

Marlene D. Barrington is a National Boating Federation Past President and Grants Administrator. Mrs. Barrington served 3 years as the NBF President and has been an NBF officer since 2001. Previously, she had served as Commodore of the Delta Airlines Sailing Club (1991); Secretary of the Viking Yacht Club of Tacoma, WA 1997-1998; Trustee of the Northwestern Boating Council 1998-03; NBC Delegate to NBF (2000-2011); and Secretary, Vice President and President of NBF 2001-2008.

Marlene and her husband, William "Hill" Barrington, are members of IOBG District 1 (Washington State) and were awarded Life Membership status in the Viking Yacht Club of Tacoma, WA on October 2, 2010 in honor of her volunteer work in all of her boating organizations.

WHAT IS NBF?

Founded in 1966, the National Boating Federation (NBF) is the largest non-profit, nationwide alliance of recreational boating organizations. The Federation is composed of boating and yacht clubs and their associations representing over 2,000,000 of America's recreational boaters.

NBF promotes safe boating through education, acts as a legislative watchdog and advocates for favorable boating legislation, regulations and best management practices.

The membership represents no commercial interests and sells no products. The Officers and Directors are all volunteers with strong backgrounds in all aspects of recreational boating. Our membership spans the continent from Canada to Mexico and from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans.

You can count on YOUR National Boating Federation's continuing commitment to the wise and direct use of YOUR boat tax dollars for YOUR benefit ... be it adequate access to our ocean waterways, lakes and rivers, right of passage and of anchoring, or promotion of our prudent exercise of those rights. NBF works to avoid onerous legislation and promotes good legislation.

Visit the NBF Web Site at www.n-b-f.org for the latest information from Earl Woesche, NBF Legislative Director, working in Washington D.C. His monthly reports and other important issues/articles are posted to the NBF site and also communicated to the membership via our eBulletin. Would you like to receive all the latest news about boating issues on a national basis? Go to the link "Sign-up for NBF eBulletin" or better yet click on the "Renew/Join/Donate" link to join the NBF via our online forms. It is safe, quick and easy.

The National Boating Federation thanks you for your support..with your help we can continue to "Represent America's Boaters".

Continued on next page...

Earl Waesche, NBF Legislative Director - May 2016

National Recreational Boating Safety Coalition (NRBSC) Meeting: The last meeting of the NRBSC, was held in Washington DC, on 23 March, 2016. Handed out were the latest RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY REQUIREMENTS and LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY Nationwide.

Some highlights of the meeting are as follows: Vann Burgess of the USCG, reported \$2.2 million more in grant funding is available this year. The Boating Safety Advisory Council (BSAC), meets April 21-23, in Arlington, VA, the meeting times and agenda are in the Federal Register and meetings are open to the public. The new Chairman of BSAC is Dan Maxin. The latest CG report indicates boating fatalities are at a record low.

Steve Blackistone, NTSB, Director of Government Affairs, reported more on the investigation of the sinking of the El Faro. The first expedition found the top two decks, but still have not found the Voice Data Recorder. The second expedition will be leaving from Norfolk, Virginia, the middle of April, to continue the investigation. Also, the Houston shipping channel has been a major problem area, with two significant accidents. NTSB was going to conduct a Shared Waterway Forum, but the Board decided not to hold a forum, but rather to produce a study or special investigation report that would address the issues.

It was also reported that in the Aids to Navigation (ATON) upgrade "the current plan is not to remove ATONs, but beacons will be added." In this regard, NBF Resolution 2015-1, stated we are "**in Opposition to the Replacement of Visual Aids to Navigation with Electronic Aids to Navigation.**" The Resolution further stated that "It is recognized that Electronic Aids to Navigation serve a valid purpose, and are a valuable asset to the nation's navigable waterways, but the Visual Aids to Navigation System should never be considered obsolete."

Libby Yranski of NMMA, stated that if boats in Florida have an EPIRB installed, the cost of registration is reduced. The next NRBSC meeting will be on June 15th.

New York Petitions the EPA to Declare the St. Lawrence River a NDZ: As reported by Trade Only, the U.S. EPA determined that a no-discharge zone can be established for the NY portion of the river. The NY Dept. of Environmental Conservation petitioned the EPA to take action to prohibit sewage discharge from boats. The U.S. EPA determined that a NDZ can be established for the NY portion of the river, which is 114 miles long. The state and federal agencies determined that the St. Lawrence has enough pump out facilities to remove waste from all types of vessels.

The question is, whether a NDZ is required at all. As stated by Donna Morrow of the Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources: "It has been illegal to dump raw sewage anywhere inside three nautical miles of the coast since 1972, per the Clean Water Act." Since this is the case and all recreational boats are equipped with either Type 1 or Type 2 Marine Sanitation Devices, which treats the waste, or a holding tank, which must be evacuated at a pump out facility and no raw sewage is dumped into the waterways, a NDZ is not required.

Virginia Legislation for Ethanol Free Gas at Marinas: As reported last month, SB557, that would seek an exemption at qualifying marinas from the EPA's ethanol mandates and allow ethanol free gasoline to be sold at marinas passed by unanimous votes, was approved by the Governor and will be effective 7/1/2016. We do not know if the exemption has been approved by the EPA yet, but hopefully more states will take this initiative and seek exemption from the ethanol mandates.

Cheaper Gas Prices, More Ethanol & Politics: As reported by Trade Only, gas prices were the lowest in 12 years during the January-March quarter of 2016 and because of this boats will see much more running time during this boating season. Meanwhile, ethanol continues to be a curse on boating and we might just be losing the war against it. While experts concede the average price could rise up to 25 cents per gallon by Memorial Day, overall prices will remain low compared to recent years. Specifically, the national average according to AAA, as of March 31 was \$2.06 for a gallon of regular gas, which was the lowest average price going into April since 2009. The recent rise in gas prices is mainly due to higher oil costs, increased demand, refinery maintenance and the change to summer-blend gasoline. What it isn't attributable to is ethanol. While industry continues to push for revisions of the Renewable Fuel Standard that mandates ethanol be blended into our gas supplies in increasing amounts, we see more and more E15 hitting the market, increasing the political difficulty of getting justifiable revisions.

Northwestern V.P.
Lani Lightle



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

We are always looking for ways to maintain and increase membership in our organization. I have been told that Blue Gavel is just a social organization. The camaraderie of those with similar backgrounds in our clubs is great too. It also allows us to communicate with different clubs and find what they have been doing. We can then relate this information to our own clubs and act as a go-between.

Then we have important news from the National Boating Federation, US Sailing, and a variety of other boating related organizations. In Washington State we have the Recreational Boaters Association of Washington (RBAW) which works to fight for boaters rights. If our chapters do not have a representative for these organizations we can and should pass along this information to the members of our chapters.

The IOBG Humanitarian Foundation adds another dimension and as a new HF director I am impressed with what it does to help our communities. They are now restructuring to improve communication and transparency so the public and IOBG members will better understand what the HF is accomplishing.

Now District 5, located in the Portland, Oregon area, has formed the IOBG Nautical Safety Foundation. They now have 501(c)3 tax-exempt nonprofit organization status. Because of the number of unnecessary drownings and the fact that 9 out of 10 people who drown were not wearing life preservers, a need was found to distribute loaner PFD's at kiosks at many locations in District 5. Now they are doing just that in a very organized way.

Many districts, if not all, contribute to needy causes but District 5 has gone way beyond donations. They've become very involved with an important cause. This is a great example for other districts to follow and another reason to be proud to be a member of Blue Gavel.

District 1
Submitted by Lani Lightle, NWAVP

District 1 had its spring meeting on April 15-17, 2016 in Yakima, WA. Yakima is located 145 miles SE of Seattle. It has been advertised as the Palm Springs of the Northwest which it arguably can be. It is located in the Yakima Valley which has many fine wineries.



During the summer a picnic is planned for La Conner, WA. It is a popular stop for boaters during the summer months. It is a scenic and beautiful location.

District 5

Submitted by Mike Kondrat, President
& Ron Timmerman, District Director

Our District board is honored to host the 2016 Spring Regional Meeting on June 9th in Portland, Oregon. We welcome everyone to our lovely city. Our District has some fun events planned as well as the annual Rose Festival knighting ceremony. More details are in the flyer announcement.



Mike Kondrat and Jen Tonneson (VP District 5) with new life jackets ready to be delivered

We kicked off our Save-A-Life Give-A-Jacket campaign at this year's Portland Boat Show with a booth donated to us by the show. This program encourages people to donate their lightly used life jackets, such as the ones the kids out grew, and bring them to us to redistribute to various Safe Kids life jacket kiosks. This program will help us stretch our donation and grant dollars. We already collected and delivered over 60 usable life jackets to one of our partners. We anticipate more jackets will be recycled with us as the weather turns to Spring and people clean out garages and boat houses.

Promoting water safety is a major priority for District 5.

Membership renewals for District 5 are underway with new members signing up as well. This is very encouraging to the executive board. We have been focused on improving communications with our boating community.

Have a safe and enjoyable boating summer.

It has been an exciting six months for District 5. We finally established our IOBG Nautical Safety Foundation which is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. The reason we did the Foundation was to localize the activity which allowed us to participate in specific grants and allow our broad boating community to participate. We applied for and won a grant from the Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) to help us purchase almost 500 brand new life jackets to be distributed by our Foundation. These new life jackets are being delivered to life jacket kiosks on the Columbia, Willamette and Rogue rivers and lakes where boating and other water activity occurs.



IOBG Nautical Safety Foundation booth at Portland's Boat Show



Storm Smith from Washington County is a very happy recipient of new life jackets

Southwestern *V.P.*

Sherry Barone



Districts

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

The New Year started with our quarterly Southwestern brunch at Del Rey Yacht Club (DRYC) on 17 January 2016. The next brunch will be held in San Diego and this is an opportunity for District Directors, Presidents and Vice Presidents to meet and share ideas. I met with District 6 Director William DeRego in Hawaii to discuss membership and events. I began attending many opening days in Marina Del Rey 12 and 13 March 2016 enjoying the kickoff of the yachting season which never really closes in California.

Here is a brief summary of what has been happening at the Districts:

District 14 submitted a request to the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation for the Educational Tall Ship Foundation. <http://educationaltallship.org/> helping at risk youth. The project will provide on the water and shore-based experiential education for students of all ages, on their existing vessel, The Seaward that services 5000 youth per year. There is also a new ship under construction, a complete Tall Ship from scratch - the 100' Mathew Turner. What a great program that Marge Bottari and Susie West want to sponsor for at risk kids with the help of IOBG.

District 10: Installation Dinner at Long Beach Yacht Club (LBYC) was held on March 16th.

District 11 held its annual wine tasting event at Port Royal Yacht Club raising money for the King Harbor Youth foundation.

District 19 is planning past commodore appreciation BBQ on 13-14 May 2016 at Delta Marina Yacht Harbor, Rio Vista

District 16 had their change of watch 31 January 2016.

District 15 sponsored and held their annual Race management course.

District 6 continues to grow its membership and enjoy sailing races.

District 21 continues to grow membership and will be sponsoring a weekend at Lake Arrowhead for District Directors and Presidents to get together for Memorial weekend.

I had an opportunity to visit Melbourne, Australia yacht clubs to try to grow our IOBG international affiliations on 3 February 2016. I had planned on sailing at the Wednesday night races but they were cancelled due to severe weather. The Australia yacht clubs are very welcoming and I look forward to continuing to develop our relationship with them.

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

Check out the pictures on the next page from several Opening Days, District 11's Membership Appreciation Luau and the District 10 Golf Event...



SWVP
 Sherry
 Barone
 Report
 Continued



North Central V.P.
Mark Vadaj



Districts
7, 9, 23 & 25

Spring has already arrived in the North Central Region and it is most apparent in our Districts of 7, 9, 23 and 25. As you can read for yourself our District Directors have much to report in the way of Membership Activity as well as Events and Announcements. The reason for such success in this area is not only because of the outstanding efforts and talents of the District Officers but also the Chapter Officers and each and every member. Your commitment as well as contribution is greatly valued and most certainly appreciated from the International President to the New Inductee and everyone in between. A Sincere, Thank You.

Please take a moment to become acquainted with the Events and Members in each of our Districts by viewing each of the Districts web sites and Facebook pages for additional information.

- District 23, Please Note that we are attempting to assemble a Membership Meeting this Spring to address the interest in re-energizing the District membership. Although we are relatively small in numbers compared to other Districts, the quality of membership is rich in talent and steeped in tradition. I invite any legacy IOBG Members and potential new members to contact me directly to coordinate this event.
- District 25, www.iobg25.org Thank you District Director Jim Cyrowski for outstanding support and participation within D25. See D25 Report...
- District 9, Thank you District Director Larry Inguagiato for outstanding support and participation within D9 See D9 Report...
- District 7, www.iobgdistrict7.com Thank you District Director Warren Dempster for outstanding support and participation within D7. See D7 Report...



I am very happy to announce that I was invited to the Lake County Yacht Club, Commodore's Ball where I was able to present a \$500.00 check from the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation to their Chapter in support of the Len Anderson / Dean Palmer Day.

This is an annual event that provides a fun filled day for the mentally and physically challenged citizens of Lake County, Ohio. This day includes transportation by Lake Tran to the yacht club for a breakfast to start the day, social activities on the club grounds with the LCYC members, a cruise on Lake Erie provided by the members and their boats, a special cookout with burgers, hotdogs, salads, fruit, beverages and dessert while a live band provides the entertainment encouraging all attendees to participate. At the end of the day, each guest is presented with a gift to take home.

NCVP Report Continued...

This event has gone on for decades and with the generous support of the Humanitarian Foundation. The members of LCYC can not only continue this effort but reach out to all those in need so that nobody is left out. I cannot think of a more noble effort by a Chapter or a more deserving recipient than these individuals, many of which are wheelchair restricted.

Thank you to all those who contributed to the H.F. and to the support and cooperation of the H.F. Executive Board. Thank you to this IOBG Chapter and the members of Lake County Yacht Club for your efforts, kindness and generosity to such a worthy cause.

On a sad note I regret to inform you that on March 9th Hildegard Gebhardt passed away from a recently diagnosed illness. Hildegard was a member of Lake County Yacht Club and one of our biggest Humanitarian Foundation supporters and contributors. She will be missed greatly. Thank you to Districts 7, 9 and 25 who honored her with a formal IOBGA Memorial Service.

I encourage any and all of our members to contact me for support of your efforts and or to enhance your membership privileges. I am open to all suggestions.

District 7
Warren Dempster, District Director

District 7 kicks off a busy start to the 2016 season beginning in March as we march in the Cleveland St. Patrick's Day parade, followed by a hospitality suite in the historic Cleveland Hyatt Arcade. We are joined by members of districts 9 and 25 for this event. Next, on March 20th, we will be traveling to Sandusky Yacht Club for a Sunday brunch which has always been well attended due to the great food and hospitality of that club.

The following week is our annual Blue Blazer which will be held at Northeast Yacht Club in Cleveland. This event is our membership drive in which we invite the district chapter's current Commodores and immediate Past Commodores to spend an evening being introduced to the IOBG and what membership in the IOBG involves. This has been a successful event for the district for many years in the past.

The Auxiliary of D-7 hosted their annual brunch cruise aboard the Nautica Queen in Cleveland on April 24th. Last year they had 101 people attend and for many of us, this was our first trip on Lake Erie for the boating season.

On Memorial Day, our District President Rich Mckee has been invited to speak at the Greater Cleveland Boating Association's Memorial Day ceremony aboard the USS Cod, which is a WWII submarine docked here in Cleveland harbor. That day, a wreath will be cast into Cleveland Harbor in honor of the passing of District 7 members during the previous year. District 7 member, Lloyd Bogue leads that organization as Commander for 2016.

As summer begins, we will be participating in both the Greater Cleveland Boating Association's annual rendezvous in the Huron Boat Basin and along with districts 9 and 25 at the Inter-Lake Yachting Association's regatta held on Put in Bay in the Lake Erie islands area.

District 7 cannot be successful without the support of our IOBGA. President Mary Romano leads the Auxiliary again this year and has a very dedicated bridge to assist her. District 7 was honored to attend a memorial service the Auxiliary performed for the recent passing of District 7's IOBGA 1999 Past President, Hildegard Gebhardt. I would like to thank the members of Districts 9 and 25 who attended as well.

We look forward to seeing everyone back in Cleveland in October of 2017 for the Annual meeting and Ball.

Please have a safe and enjoyable boating season.

District 9
Larry Inguagiato, Dist

The boating season is fast approaching for our clubs in the Southeast Michigan and Northwest Ohio areas. It has been a mild winter and unlike recent years, there was little ice and boats are now being readied for launch.

The BG chapters in our District plan many of their activities around the boating season during their respective regattas. There are steak roasts, Mexican dinners, roast beef and pork chop dinners to name a few. Since most of these fundraising efforts help support projects at their own clubs, please keep your District officers aware of your event so we can help communicate your efforts and increase participation at these events.

The International Order of the Blue Gavel Humanitarian Fund is another method that individual District members may elect to make 501(c3) tax-exempt contributions. The Humanitarian Fund uses its funds to make contributions to individual clubs to help support boating related activities via its local area grant program. If you wish further information on this program, visit the HF's website at <http://www.iobg-hf.org> to learn more about how to submit a grant for your project.

The BG Auxiliary hosted a trip last December to the Toledo Zoo for the annual Lights Before Christmas. After viewing the lights, we went to the Toledo Sailing Club for refreshments. A special thank you to TSC for their hospitality.

Districts 7, 9 and 25 have hosted for over 40 years a cocktail and appetizer reception at the I-LYA's Power Boat Regatta. The event this year will be held at Put-In-Bay on Saturday, August 13th from 3:00 to 4:00 pm. The reception is open to all BG members and the current bridge officers of our clubs. We hope to see many of you at this event. The I-LYA Commodore being honored this year is Chris Amlin from District 25.

Since we are just beginning our planning for the upcoming year, please let me know what ideas you may have for any social activities you would like to see your District undertake. A date for the Spring Meeting as of this writing has not yet been set but each member will receive an email with meeting details.

Due to the relatively close proximity of the D7, D9 & D25 clubs, there has been some initial discussions to explore a joint social function for all of our members. If you have any ideas for such a gathering, please send me an email to voice your ideas.

Thanks to all D9 members who have renewed for the 2016 membership year. As of now, we have about 150 members and dues are still being sent to Rob Wolas, D9 Treasurer. Hopefully everyone has received their membership card. If you have paid and did not receive a card, please send an email and a replacement will be mailed. If you know of a past commodore who would like to rejoin the IOBG, please let us know and we will have an area vice president reach out to him or her.

District 25
Jim Cyrowski, District Director
Bill Woods, President

As we begin 2016 I can say District 25 is progressing nicely. We have a great core of PC's that have remained active and will continue to help us along. One of our initiatives is to encourage our V/P's to ensure the most current PC's from clubs are aware of the Blue Gavel, and its benefits to each club.

For 2016 District 25 is hosting a commodore 200 draw along with a chicken dinner on Saturday, April 09 at 5:30 pm followed by our reception/cocktail party on Sunday, June 26 at 2:00 pm. We also have a wine tour planned from Sun Parlour Boat Club on Saturday, September 24th.

Some items of interest were Grey Haven Sail was awarded the Sloan Award for most improved sail education. Their efforts were greatly aided by a grant from national. Also recognition to Sun Seekers Boat Club for hosting a fundraiser for the Pennybacker family. Ralph Pennybacker was a driving force for District 25.

District 25 Report Continued...

Along with the above we have also launched a challenge to our members:

District 25 is challenging each chapter of the International Order of the Blue Gavel to raise \$100.00 to be donated to the I.O.B.G. Humanitarian Foundation before the next annual meeting in October 2016.

I am very proud to see a PC from Sun Parlour BC, Chris Amlin, has risen to Commodore of ILYA. Also from District 25 from Wyandotte Yacht Club P/C John Dalessandro, is currently the VC of AYC. These people work very hard for the boating community, and represent their clubs and the IOBG very well. I must mention Past International President Steve Willing, and his wife Shirley, Past President of the IOBG Auxiliary. These friends have travelled extensively for quite a long time, representing SPBC, Windsor YC, and the BG. This District owes them a great big thanks.

District 50
Mark A. Vadaj, District Director

IOBG 2016 Spring District 50 Report

District 50 is proud to claim that there is a great deal of new interest and discussions which may include several existing Past Commodore Organizations joining the ranks of the I.O.B.G. Although I started this effort almost 2 years ago, it has only been recently where we have made progress of regular dialog and information sharing. In the following months I hope to increase our membership both organically as well as through merging of other organizations.

District 50 is an At-Large District, chartered for East of the Mississippi River to the east coast and from the South to the Northeast. District 50 is intended to not only support our members where there are no active Districts or Chapters but also to develop Chapters and Districts where we have no active members.

I am planning multiple trips both east and west of my location in the next month and encourage Past Commodores, Past Commodore Clubs, Yacht Clubs and Yachting Organizations to contact me directly to learn how the International Order of The Blue Gavel can serve you and other Past Commodores. We respect other yachting fraternity's traditions and invite you to embrace the I.O.B.G. while preserving your legacy.

See why thousands of Past Commodores have already joined the ranks of Yachting's Most Prestigious Fraternity – The International Order of The Blue Gavel.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank You.

Mark A. Vadaj – Director, District 50.

mvadaj@att.net

440-479-0064 Mobile

Southeastern V.P.
“Buzz” Bisanz



Districts
8 & 18

The IOBG Southeast area consists of District 8 (Florida) and District 18 (Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina).

I attended the District 8 Winter meeting in St. Augustine, FL at the end of January and this was the first official District meeting for the fiscal year. Since the District Change of Watch, District Treasurer, PC Bob Pease resigned after 7 years of service in that position. Named to the position of Treasurer was Dennis Bosi of the Dunedin Yacht Club. Dennis jumped in with both feet and was able to conduct the annual membership drive with great success. The District now has a complete accountability of all members with detailed information including cross referencing their personal information with their yacht club affiliation including their last date of contact by an officer in the District. The Excel spreadsheets are being shared amongst the district leadership team and further contact with the membership continues which it is hoped to strengthen the members bond to Blue Gavel.

Another change has taken place on the leadership team with the resignation of Second VP PC Len Tower. Len has successfully and proficiently served the District for many years and he felt it was time to allow another Past Commodore to take his place on the leadership team. Len will be missed. To replace Len the nomination of Bob Pease, the District's former Treasurer was approved and the membership approved his place as Second Vice President of District 8.

Congratulations to PC Len Tower, PC Bob Pease and PC Dennis Bosi.

The Spring District 8 meeting is scheduled for the end of May at the Gulf Harbor Yacht Club in New Port Richey, FL.

District 18 President, PC Dave Kowert, is hard at work to recruit members to the District. Any membership updates or questions can be sent to me at the following:

PC Robert P. Buzz Bisanz, CPM
Southeast Vice President
International Order of the Blue Gavel
529 Victoria Road
Woodstock, GA 30189
Cell: 770-337-8701 Email: buzz8521@comcast.net

Please remember to support the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation. See web site at IOBG-HF.org

District 8
Karen Shea, District Director

As President Elect Rosalie Davis-Green stated at our October 2015 Annual meeting, it is a challenge to maintain membership and to grow our organization. It requires regular and timely communication. The concepts identified in the IOBG reference material for the past 10 years are: Retention, Recruitment, Recognition and Support. It is very important to focus on recruitment and retention and I'll try my best to increase the number of new IOBG chapters and members at large along with working with non-participating chapters to renew their memberships.

To date, in order to identify yacht clubs for recruitment, I have compiled a spreadsheet with 59 Florida yacht clubs using an IOBG list of Chartered Yacht Club's (24 are active IOBG Chapters). I've added address, phone number, charter date, if it's an active yacht club, Active IOBG, last contact, website, email and whether they are a member of Yachting Clubs of America (YCA), Florida Council of Yacht Clubs (FCYC) or Florida Commodores Association (FCA). I also plan to add those FCYC members who have never had an IOBG Chapter to this list. Then I will continue to add Florida yacht club's from the YCA book.

This will be a list D8 members can use to visit a yacht club who does not have an IOBG Chapter, so they can ask to speak to a Past Commodore or ask for a name, an email and phone number, so I can follow up. Then I can annotate on our list when the last contact was made. This way we can all help in the continued growth of the Florida D8 IOBG.

Just like Second Vice President Bud Higginson did in 2013, I have started by sending a personalized letter to inactive IOBG Chapters, asking them to rejoin. In addition, I also asked for a meeting or to attend one of their functions, and invited them to attend any D8 meeting or D8 IOBG yacht club chapters. I look forward to enclosing a new IOBG brochure.

Chapters that are new renewals are Landings YC in Ft Myers and Charlotte Harbor YC in Port Charlotte. San Jose YC in Jacksonville no longer has any IOBG members. It's my understanding they have lost access to the water and they are mostly a golf and tennis club. We also no longer have any members from Palm Coast YC. I intend to reach out to these past chapters to see if there are members who would like to join at large. This leaves a total of 24 active IOBG D8 Chapters.

District 18
Dave Kowert, President

Since the IOBG Meeting in Marathon last October, the activity here in the Greater Charleston Area has been slower than we expected. I planned an Oyster Roast for early November, but had to cancel due to a lack of participation. Ended up working out okay as the weather that weekend was terrible and we probably would have had people cancel at the last minute.

We decided to pass on the SAYRA annual meeting this year since we had done the meetings there last year without gathering any real additional membership. Instead, we are looking to have an IOBG hosted event at Hobcaw Yacht Club either right before or right after Charleston Race Week in April.




It has become obvious that rebuilding the membership base in the Greater Charleston Area is going to require finding a meaningful cause for the Past Commodores in the area to support. I am working with several possible new members to identify such a cause. Right now, youth sailing seems to be the "hot button" with all the clubs both in Charleston and all the way down past Hilton Head.

If we can find a way to meaningfully impact that landscape, we will certainly build our membership program around that.

Our goal here is to build our District to six permanent members by the summer season... and then make some meaningful impact where others can see that the IOBG actually DOES something in and around the various Summer Regattas at the area yacht clubs. This is where we normally meet the Past Commodores from each club and have the chance to invite them to get to know the organization.

Once we have our spring plan firmly in place, I will provide updates with dates and activities so we can share that with others in the District and perhaps you can personally arrange to participate in one or more as well.

**2019-2020
 EXECUTIVE
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	<p style="text-align: center;">Treasurer</p>	<p>Audrey Hall - Dist. 15 2063 Grandview St. Oceanside, CA 92054</p> <p>Home: 760-757-6796 Email: hulakai2@cox.net</p>



International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary

President Sandi Durieux

Hello fellow Auxiliary members,

Here it is April all ready....time to start getting ready for all our spring activities. It is also the time for our dues to be paid. It is important to get them into your district treasurer so they can be sent to our International Treasurer Audrey Hall.

She can then get our membership cards sent out as quickly as possible. There are two ways to pay your dues-pay directly to your district or the Gavel member can add our dues to their forms.

I would love to be able to share with other areas what the Auxiliaries around the country are doing. Send information and/or pictures about your social or philanthropic endeavors to your District Directors and they will share them with me.

On a sad note....A dear friend of mine and a Past President of District 7, Hildegard Gephardt, has passed away. She was known to a great many of you. Hildegard was a lovely, kind & funny person who was always impeccably dressed and welcomed with open arms everywhere she went. She and her husband, Al, have been active in boating organizations for many years not only IOBG but ILYA (Inter-Lake Yachting Association) and GCBA (Greater Cleveland Boating Association). She will be missed by everyone who knew her. Please keep Al, her children and grandchildren in your thoughts.





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.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We welcomed P/C LaVon Plumlee, P/C Robert "Buzz" Bisanz, P/C Larry Inguagiato and P/C Lani Lightle to the Humanitarian Foundation Board of Directors this year. They are great additions who bring talent and experience to our board. The board meets monthly by conference call.

Please visit our website at www.iobg-hf.org for information about the Foundation, our Mission and how to get involved. Please contact any member of the board with your comments and questions.



Humanitarian Foundation 2016 Officers & Board

Joan Marsh	jmarsh6607@yahoo.com	Pittsburg, CA	President & CEO
Carol Promessi	cpromessi@att.net	Pittsburg, CA	Vice President
Jackie Evans Rudd	jerry10jackie8@gmail.com	Auburn, WA	Treasurer & CFO
Dr. Julie Albright	recherche2@gmail.com	Los Angeles, CA	Secretary
Joel Newman	Not Available	Cleveland, OH	Legal Officer
Jerry Rudd	jerry10jackie8@gmail.com	Auburn, WA	Supply Officer
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LaVon Plumlee	lavon@nyclb.com	Westminster, CA	Director
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Harold Weaver	thphotos@aol.com	Detroit, MI	Ambassador
David Welles	Not Available	Staten Island, NY	Ambassador

Welcome Aboard

A message from long-time board member, dedicated volunteer and former IOBGA President Jerry Key:

Who are we? The Humanitarian Foundation, the IOBG philanthropy!

We are your Foundation! Founded in 1992 in San Diego. What have we done? Boating Education for Youth Sailing programs, Life Jackets for Safety, Sail Ability programs in San Diego and in Florida. How can we find out how to write a Grant program? It is on the web site and Officers can answer any questions. Districts, Chapters and Yacht Clubs should be supportive of this boating foundation. The Officers who serve donate their time and expense to serve. We need your support!

From President Joan Marsh

2016 is well underway, here is an update on your Humanitarian Foundation. What have we funded recently?

- Life jackets on the Columbia River, a project being carried forward by District 5.
- A fund raising effort by District 16 to expand the Channel Islands Maritime Museum for youth education.
- Summer scholarships for youth sailing in Huntington Harbor, District 10.
- Funds for the annual Len Anderson Dean Palmer Day, a boating event for physically or mentally disabled by Lake County Yacht Club, District 7.

Newest Local Area Project Applications pending:

- Scholarship request to support the youth sailing program at Gulf Harbors Yacht Club, District 8.
- Project to provide scholarships for maritime education for young people, District 14.

SUPPORTING THESE PROJECTS DEPENDS ON SUPPORT FROM YOU. We look forward to providing seed money and additional funding for boating related projects all over the United States. In order for us to do this we need your financial support, too.

The IOBG HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION MEMORIAL FUND is a fitting way to honor the memory of those who are no longer with us as well as to honor those today who deserve special recognition for their work in boating on behalf of their yacht clubs, communities, districts, the IOBG, and others.

The Memorial Fund has received recent donations in Memory of:

Chieko Kawamoto, mother of Mary Nye Meyers

Lorraine Meyers, mother of Mike Meyers

Estella McGrath, wife of Gary McGrath

Hildegard Gebhardt, wife of Al Gebhardt

Memorial gifts are used to promote sailing and boating programs in local communities like yours. All gifts are acknowledged to you, the donor, and notification is sent based on the contact information you provide.

Send donations to:

IOBG Humanitarian Foundation Memorial Program

37834 43rd Ave. S.

Auburn, WA 98001

We would also like to acknowledge contributions received at the Annual Meeting and subsequently from:

IOBG Auxiliary

District 1

District 5

District 7

District 7 Auxiliary

District 10

District 19

Contributions received from individuals are acknowledged personally to them.

2016 DISTRICT OFFICERS & AREAS SERVED

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Return Service Requested