

IOBG-DISTRICT 7

A publication of Past
Commodores

IOBG—District 7
December, 2023

**President
Lewis Kuhn
440-823-0103**



I want to start out by saying what an honor it is to serve as your President of IOBG District 7. I will do my best to continue in the traditions and in the direction that the past presidents have shown us. We had our first Executive Board Meeting November 18th at Vermilion Boat Club. A big thank you to VBC and the staff for having us. You can always find information and minutes of the meetings on our web site www.iobgdistrict7.com or www.iobg.org and go to the district 7 link. There is a lot of good information available to you on the web site, with dates and upcoming events. We try to keep it up to date.

I am happy to report that District 7 is the top district in the IOBG again this year with 258 members, 27 of which are new members. Keep up the good work and continue to recruit past commodores from your club to join the Blue Gavel. We have our Blue Blazer Social March 24, 2024 at North East Yacht Club. This event is to welcome Past Commodores who are eligible to join Blue Gavel and also for the present 2024 Commodores to come see what we are all about. Invitations will be going out in Early February. Let your area VP know of any prospective members you may have.

The International Order of Blue Gavel is one of the most prestigious organizations in yachting. We are known all over the world. With your Blue Gavel membership card you can get into almost any yacht club in the world. You are one of a select group of individuals that was chosen to lead your particular club, so be proud of that.

Past Commodores can only be sworn into the Blue Gavel after filling out and sending in the application, along with payment to the District Treasurer. A Past Commodore joining Blue Gavel can only be sworn in by an area VP or someone in a higher office. Please contact your area VP or myself to arrange a time and place to swear in your new members. We can come out to one of your meetings or you can bring them to one of ours. We can do it at your clubs Change of Watch, Commodores Ball or any other meeting you may be having.

**Boating Season
Is Over!
Still Fun to be had!**

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Upcoming Events

I-LYA Fall Meeting
Dec. 1—3, Westlake Doubletree

IOBGA—Jingle & Mingle
Dec. 9, Chagrin Lagoons YC

GCBA Winter Rendezvous
Bowling—Jan. 7 & 21
Banaquet Feb. 24

Cleveland Boat Show at IX Center
Jan. 18—21

IOBG Blue Blazer Social
Mar. 24, North East YC
More info to follow

President
Lewis Kuhn—continued
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I would like to welcome new Executive Board Members: P/C Kevin Mousty, Secretary and Cleveland West VP, P/C Mickey Silecky.

I am looking forward to this coming year and hope to meet a lot of new friends along the way.

Remember to send in your dues for the upcoming year to keep District 7 number one!!!

On another note Blue Gavel is having a raffle to help us raise some money and keep all of our dues down. We will be raffling off a Yeti Cooler full of Cheer. See any VP or Executive Board Member for tickets. We will have the Yeti cooler of cheer at most of our events. The drawing will be at the end of July. More information to follow.

Don't forget to send your club events and happenings to us so we can include them in the next edition of the Chatter.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and Great Holiday Season.

P/C Lewie Kuhn

**President Elect -
Ronn Murphy**
216-702-6785
murphyrm2361@gmail.com



Ahoy, Members:

The Officers and I certainly hope that you are well and healthy. Together we are IOBG DISTRICT 7 and only through your support are we able to continue with the programs and furthering the mission of assisting the Blue Gavel. Fall is here and the leaves are dropping and the nights are getting longer; the year is coming to an end and the Mingle Jingle party is coming up. Taking the boats out of the water, cleaning off the bottom and place the covers on them for winter storage, always a very sad day for me.

There is a District 7 officer or past officer in the area that would like to come to your yacht club and share the details and understanding of the Benefits' with you. Join me and share the fellowship and friendship with the other IOBG members. Past Commodores, please ask a fellow Commodore to join IOBG and spread the word.

Thank you to all the Auxiliary members, we could not do it without you.

Congratulations Thomas "Rock" Adams, PC, VP IOBG and Commander of GCBA, 2024 year and the other Officers. Congratulations Dale Vanderford, Commodore of I-LYA, 2024 year and the Bridge Officers.

We provide an updated website: www.iobgdistrict7.com go and review all the details and information about IOBG District 7 and at the International level.

Pay your 2024 dues using the form in this chatter. (See the back pages)

Please share your ideas with me to improve the FUN.

Happy Thanksgiving, which is now passed, but Happy Christmas and Happy New Years. See you new 2024.

Hospitality Officer: Kindly inform me of a name brand beer, or wine, or alcohol; we will possibly try have it and particular events.

AHOY! Ronn Murphy, PRESIDENT-ELECT
murphyrm2361@gmail.com

**First Vice President****Larry Uebbing****luebbingcuebbing@gmail.com****216-644-5547**

Almost all the boats are put away for this year. I would like to thank Chris Aune and the officers for a great year in District 7. I'd also like to welcome our new President, Lewie Kuhn and the newly elected officers for 2024.

The I-LYA Fall meeting is coming December 1st and 2nd at the Westlake Doubletree. The Jingle and Mingle Holiday Party is December 9th at the Chagrin Lagoons Yacht Club. It is always a fun get together every year to kick off the holiday season. District 7 has a meeting at the Vermilion Boat Club on November 18th at 11:00 o'clock. The club will be open for lunch for those wishing to stay.

VBC just had their Change of Watch and there were numerous items on the docket. VBC membership voted to approve a one time assessment to finance the replacement of the bulkhead. VBC also just completed their Annual Commodore's Clambake sponsored by Blue Gavel.

I would also like to welcome Mickey Silecky as our new VP for Cleveland West. I know there are many clubs in the District that are doing many things, so please send the information to your VP's so we may get them in our Chatter newsletter.

Gina Aune and the Auxiliary are currently working on the spring cruise. More information to come as they confirm the date and costs this year.

A reminder that your dues for 2024 are now due. Please plan to attend some of the listed events for District 7, always a good time. Please contact me or any other officer if there is anything we can do for your club. Let's keep making District 7 the largest and best in the country.

Treasurer—Kathryn McCarthy**216-470-2857 kmccarthy725@yahoo.com**

I am pleased to report that District 7 remains in first place in the International for being the District with the highest membership, best retention, and most new members. (we came in with 258 paid members and 27 new members). I would like to thank all of you for it is all our District 7 members that made it happen. As always, if you know of a past commodore that has not already joined IOBG, please encourage them to do so. You can refer them to me or any of our District 7 officers. IOBG has a publication outlining “Why You Should Join IOBG”. I am including a copy in this publication. Please feel free to share it with any prospective members.

Invoices for the 2024 dues were sent out in October and I am pleased with the number of members who have already paid their dues. (about 150 members have already paid – thank you!) Please, keep them coming. If you did not receive your invoice, let me know and I will resend, or you can use the generic copy attached in this publication. I can guarantee you a quicker turn around with receiving your membership cards as the International has recruited me to prepare and mail out the cards for the entire International membership (not just District 7 but about 1500 members)! So please send your dues in as soon as possible and I will have your new card in your hands almost immediately!

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to our IOBG-D7 newest members for 2024:

Cliff Simonson, Vermilion Boat Club

Jan R. Holmes, Harbor Bay Yacht Club

Russell Marcks, Harbor Bay Yacht Club

Mohamed Maaraba, Catawba West Harbor Yacht Club

I would like to welcome and thank Kevin Mousty from Forest City Yacht Club for joining our District 7 E-board as secretary. I also want to extend a huge thank you to Christine Kolar who filled in for us as secretary. Also, a huge shout out to Mickey Silecky from Vermilion Boat Club, who joined D-7 as our new Cleveland West Vice President.

For those of you who do not know, the roll of our District 7 Vice Presidents is to be a liaison between IOBG and your club. We provide their contact information in the Chatter. If your club has a special event that you would like published in our “Chatter”, feel free to reach out to your area VP or to me. I publish the “Chatter” quarterly (Dec. 1, Mar. 1, June 1, and Sept. 1). I do my best to keep up on email addresses for our members, but if you know someone who says they are not getting the “Chatter” or any other correspondence we send out, please have them contact me to verify email addresses.

Treasurer—Kathryn McCarthy—**continued****216-470-2857 kmccarthy725@yahoo.com**

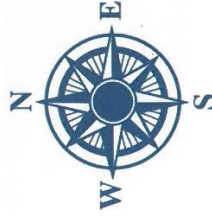
Enough business stuff, time to enjoy the holidays with the IOBGA Jingle Mingle Holiday Party being held December 9th, 2023 at Chagrin Lagoons Yacht Club. (flyer included). This event does require reservation and is open to IOBG members and yacht club members. I will be there and I hope to see many of you there. Come join the holiday spirit with fellow boater friends.

Also, please join us for the annual GCBA Winter Rendezvous with bowling January 7th and January 21st at Wickliffe Lanes, followed by a great banquet on February 24th at the American Croation Hall. You do not need to be a great bowler to come and join in the fun. A flyer is attached for advance reservation.

In closing, I hope you all have a blessed Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year. And after that, the countdown to the 2024 boating season can begin!

What Is Our Humanitarian Foundation?

- It is a United States 501(c)(3) charitable organization
- It benefits communities by helping to fund boating activities and marine education
- Some programs the grants have helped fund:
 - * Youth sailing scholarships
 - * Safety equipment for special needs boaters
 - * Support for veterans' programs
 - * Maritime museum fund raising
- Our projects depend on your donations



INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

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www.iobg.org

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL



The mission of the International Order of the Blue Gavel is to recognize Past Commodores of the international yachting community and to unite them in order to promote the highest ideals of yachting and preserve its customs and traditions through social, educational and humanitarian programs.

Who Are We?

- We are an international organization made up of Past Commodores of qualified yacht clubs
- We are proven leaders and innovative problem solvers
- Membership is by invitation



Why Join?

- To associate with past commodores for worthwhile yachting activities worldwide
- To help preserve yachting traditions, customs, ethics & etiquette
- To encourage, promote and develop knowledgeable yachting persons
- Enjoy expanded reciprocal privileges with yacht clubs worldwide



What Do We Do?

- Meet locally, nationally and internationally in the true spirit of camaraderie as Past Commodores
- Share information related to recreational boating for our areas
- Officiate at special functions & ceremonies
- Recognize outstanding service to recreational yachting
- Support the activities of local yacht clubs: cruising, predicted log & sail racing

Do We Have An Auxiliary?

- Yes. It works to support the IOBG in its endeavors.
- It has its own Officers, Insignia and Bylaws
- Meets Regionally, Nationally and Internationally
- Works to promote camaraderie at all levels
- Raises funds for the Humanitarian Foundation and other charities
- Is an integral part of the success of the IOBG Chapters and Districts

How Are We Governed?

- Local Chapters
- Regional Districts
- International Board of Directors
 - * Each District is represented on the board





Cleveland West
Vice President
Myroslav Silecky
440-244-4201
msilecky@yahoo.com



Beaver Creek Boat Club
 Beaver Park Yacht Club
 Huron Yacht Club
 Laguna Yacht Club
 Lorain Sailing & Yacht Club
 Vermilion Boat Club
 Vermilion Harbor Yacht Club
 Vermilion Power Boat Club
 Vermilion Yacht Club
 Westlake Yachting Club

As I am writing this first submission to the news letter, I would like to start it off with a thank you to our Past President Chris Aune for all the time and efforts he has put into the IOBG. Thank you!

With that said, I also would like to congratulate Lewis Kuhn on being our Newly appointed President and I wish him calm winds and smooth waters on his year to come.

This is my first term as Vice President of Cleveland West, and I look forward in meeting all our P/C Commodores in the various clubs. Please keep my email and phone number handy as I would like to have as much information about your club and activities to share with all of our members. My home club is the Vermilion Boat Club, and our Blue gavel chapter has been working hard to promote our values and bring more information and education to our members.

The VBC chapter of Blue Gavel holds two fundraisers each year to help us fund these activities. This year we held an Oktoberfest in September and a Clam Bake in October. All who attended had a great time with good food and friends.

I wish all of our members a great Holiday season.

Thank you,

Myroslav "Mickey" Silecky



Cleveland Central VP—Thomas “Rock” Adams**216-254-1046****thomasadams162@gmail.com**

Cleveland Yachting Club
 East Light Yacht Club
 Edgewater Marina Boat Club
 Edgewater Yacht Club
 Forest City Yacht Club
 Inter-City Yacht Club
 Lakeside Yacht Club
 North Coast Sailing Singles
 Northeast Yacht Club
 Wildwood Yacht Club

Greetings to District 7

I extend my warmest congratulations to Lewie Kuhn on assuming the role of President for IOBG District 7 in 2024, along with all the officers. Though the summer felt fleeting, I trust everyone had a safe and enjoyable time.

As we move forward, there are numerous upcoming events for GCBA, I-LYA, AYC, IOBG and IOBGA., details of which can be found in this publication. Your support for these events is highly encouraged.

I am delighted to announce my reinstatement as IOBG District 7 Central Vice President. Furthermore, it was an immense honor to be installed as the GCBA Commander for 2024 during the GCBA Commander's Ball held November 11, 2023. Special thanks go to GCBA Past Commander Dave Richards for masterfully emceeding the event. My gratitude extends to my home club, Intercity Yacht Club, and to everyone who contributed to the success of the occasion.

Lastly, congratulations to the GCBA 2024 Bridge, and sincere thank you to the outgoing Commander, Don Young.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season and a prosperous New Year!

Best regards,

Thomas “Rock” Adams

IOBG District 7 Central VP

CLEVELAND EAST VP—ROBERT KOLAR**440-742-0007 ksi97@icloud.com**

Al Koran Mariners Yacht Club
Chagrin Lagoons Yacht Club
Chagrin River Yacht Club
Island West Yacht Club
Lake County Yacht Club
West Channel Yacht Club



Hello Members:

Another boating season is coming to an end. Many boaters are still out on the water enjoying the last of the warm fall days, while others have begun winterizing their boats.

Here are a few winterizing points, that if overlooked, could be costly come spring.

Don't forget to add a fuel stabilizer to your tank and run it through the engine. Avoid leaving old fuel in the tank, 1/4, 1/2 or 3/4 full, allowing room for condensation to form. It's best to leave the tank almost empty to start with fresh fuel in the spring.

Take the time to do an oil change before storage. Changing the oil in the fall helps preserve engine life as oil breaks down over time causing acids to build and dirt to increase and viscosity to change. Acid can pit the bearings sitting over the winter months and the dirt and metal shaving become abrasives in the engine. Also, it's an easier job in the fall after the last run when the engine is warmed up.

Make sure to drain all the water from all the boat's components and be sure not to hastily leave a damp rag or life jacket or the like on the boat to breed mold and mildew during storage.

And lastly, don't forget to remove the drain plug in the hull of the boat and raise the bow slightly so any water can drain properly over the long winter months.

For an easy reference guide to winterizing, BoatU.S. has a free downloadable guide on their website that includes a 2-page checklist. Reviewing the checklist prior to storing your boat may save costly mistakes come spring. To download the guide, go to <https://www.boatus.com/-/media/files/boatus/the-boaters-guide-to-winterizing.ashx>.

Now switch to your land cruisers and get out and enjoy the holiday season with family and friends.

Happy Holidays. See you at the Cleveland Boat Show January 18-21 as we look towards the 2024 boating season.

For now, at home port,

Robert T. Kolar

Cleveland East V.P.

Northeast VP—Patrick Setele**440-376-4511 Patrick@blinksigns.com**

*Ashtabula Yacht Club
Fairport Harbor Yacht Club
Grand River Yacht Club
Mentor Harbor Yachting Club
Mentor Lagoons Yacht Club
River's Edge Yacht Club
Western Reserve Yacht Club*



Hello Fellow Blue Gavel Members,

As we finished winterizing our boats and put away the last of the outdoor furniture, we have the holidays upon us with New Years right around the corner. I want to take a moment to think about how lucky we are to be in the boating community. We go away on vacation for five months of the year. We boat, fish, stay at the beach, grill, parties and there are to many great functions to list. We have a camaraderie with all boaters. We are a lucky community. I would like to wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving! Merry Christmas!! And a Happy New Year !! One final note when we are in the middle of a February snow storm, just think your five month summer vacation is right around the corner.

Northwest VP—Richard Langer**216-389-9546** rclanger@oh.rr.com

All Ports Yacht Club
Bay Point Yacht Club
Catawba West Harbor Yacht Club
Commodores Cruising Club
Dock of the Bay Yacht Club
Harbor Bay Yacht Club
Middle Bass Island Yacht Club
Point Yacht Club
Sandusky Yacht Club
South Shore Cruising Club



The past boating season has been great with many days in a row with calm waters and sunny skies. We, being retired, took advantage of the great weather and did some travel in the boat with family to near by ports of Geneva State Park for over night and ate at Eddie's Grill, a must stop with the grand kids. We walked the strip and just enjoyed our time together. Char and I went to hear the Lee Greenwood concert held in Geneva. It was a great show with a lot of great songs with no rain and cool nights. It was great!

We had a very good summer. In September Char and I took a trip to Spokane, WA, for 13 days and followed the Lewis and Clark trail down the Snake River to the Columbia River to Portland Oregon on the American Empress river boat. Many of the largest locks are in the West, many of dropping 85 foot to 135 foot to get to the next pool stage. We got to see all the small towns on the way going west and got to see the salmon running north heading for their spawning grounds. The day we were there 17,000 had gone up the fish ladders. What a sight! Many other species also do their run at early times of the year and all these fish are counted by hand with 3 people on 4 hour shifts 24 / 7 for weeks and months .

Hope to see everyone at the Jingle and Mingle in December.

I want to thank all the IOBG members this year for sending in their dues for the next year of IOBG District 7. We are the largest district in the world.

If you need any help from the Blue Gavel International call or text me and I will be glad to help your club.

If you would please e-mail your club news and program dates and times to rclanger@oh.rr.com

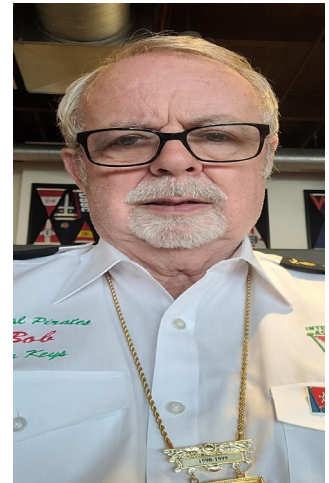
Stay safe and have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Pennsylvania—Robert Stanley

412-831-7878

iasyc@comcast.net

Commodore Perry Yacht Club
Erie Yacht Club
Presque Isle Yacht Club
Sea Rangers Boat Club
Syria Shrine Mariner
Zem Zem Sailors Yacht Club



With the Holiday Season upon us, let us look back on the final months of the 2023 boating season. A hardy thank you to President Chris Aune and I.O.B.G.A. President Gina Aune for a well prepared and great boating year that we enjoyed.

To our I.L.Y.A. Commodore Lloyd Bogue and Lady Rhonda, thanks for another fantabulous wine weekend. They get bigger and better each year.

For our new District 7 President Lewie Kuhn, good luck and be it known, we are all behind you.

Commodore Perry Yacht Club enjoyed a great boating season. On September 9, they celebrated it's 50th year of its founding. The gala event was held at the Polish Falcons with original to new members in attendance. During the Summer, it was visited by frequent transient boaters from various yacht clubs along the shores of Lake Erie. C.P.Y.C. Change of Watch will be in February.

Erie Yacht Club will hold its Annual Meeting and Election of their 2024 Bridge Officers and Board of Directors on Friday, November 17. They will host a "Dickens Christmas Evening" of Holiday Cheer on December 2. The Annual Breakfast with Santa will be on Saturday, December 9. December 31 will bring two New Years Eve Partys to E.Y.C. A Family Friendly New Years Eve Party will be from 11am-2pm. Then the traditional New Years Eve Dinner and Dance Party will commence at 6:30pm.

Presque Isle Yacht Club Annual Haul Out Awards Party was held on Saturday, November 4. The P.I.Y.C. Festive Christmas party is scheduled for Saturday, December 16. January will be their Change of Watch. They along with the other Bay Yacht Clubs are hoping for a quick and long freeze on Presque Isle Bay, so they can launch their ice boats and enjoy skimming (sailing if you prefer) across a frozen Presque Isle Bay.

The Syria Mariners Yacht Club will be participating with the Annual Childrens Christmas Party at the Syria Shrine Center. On December 16, you will find the Mariners at the Shrine Center, enjoying the Shriners First Rock and Roll Christmas Twist Concert. This evening brings the Jaggerz, Johnny Angel and the Halos, and the New Pure Gold to Pittsburgh for a Holiday Concert. As always, the Mariners will hold their Change of Watch in January.

During September, the Zem Zem Sailors were working the Zem Zem Shrine Sportsman's Spectacular. With their boats put away and wintered, the Zem Zem Sailors are anxiously awaiting the 2024 boating season.

A reminder over here in Pennsylvania, that a mandatory cold weather life jacket law is now in effect, for those boats less than 16 foot in length on any kayak, canoe, or paddleboat.

December is right around the corner and so is our Jingle and Mingle Holiday Party. This year our port of call will be the Chagrin Lagoon Yacht Club on Saturday, December 9. Hope to see everyone there.

And finally: May the Spirit of Christmas with its Peace

May the Joy of Christmas with its Hope

May the Glory of Christmas with it's Love

Be with you always.

Wishing all the families in I.O.B.G. District 7 a Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Joyous New Year

Mariners Log
By
Bob Stanley M.S.A.

Al Koran Shrine Annual Children's Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 9. Santa Claus will be arriving at the Diamond Event Center in Brunswick, Ohio to meet and greet all the children.

The Mariners would like to thank our fellow Mariner III. Sir Terry Hamilton P.P., First Lady Angie, and Miss Mary for their friendship, leadership, and guidance of Al Koran Shrine during 2023.

Congratulations to P/C Mark Cain who has been elected Southeastern Vice President of the International Order Blue Gavel (I.O.B.G.). The Southeastern I.O.B.G. are consists of District #8 in Florida and District #18 in South Carolina. Good luck Mark!

Sunshine Chairman P/C John Baker has informed me at this writing (November 1), that sick bay is empty. Remember to get your flu shot and try to stay healthy this winter.

As in past years, our Magical Holiday Party is truly enjoyed by all who attend. This year will be no exception. It will be held at Cleveland Yacht Club in beautiful Rocky River, Ohio coinciding with the Mariners Change of Watch. It is always great to see our friends once again before the hectic Christmas season begins.

The following 2024 Al Koran Mariners Bridge Officers will be installed on Sunday, December 17.

Commodore	P/C Ronn Murphy P.P.
Vice Commodore	P/C Bob Kolar
Rear Commodore	Robert Frankel
Fleet Captain	Frank McEvoy
Treasurer	James Dettmer
Secretary	P/C Bob Stanley
Directors	P/C Mark Cain
	P/C Bob Stanley

The December Business Meeting of Al Kora Shrine will be held on Monday, December 18. This is our annual meeting. The location will be in the Official Call of the Potentate in the December Al Koran Magazine on page 2.

For any information concerning Mariner meeting dates, membership, or activities, contact Commodore Ronn Murphy P.P. AT 216-702-6785. Come aboard in '24.

We close this message from the Mariners by wishing all Al Koran Shriners and their families a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and a Joyous and Healthy New Year. Remember to fly your flag on Pearl Harbor Day. Let us never forget that 'Day of Infamy'.

God's Speed



Ohio River Waters Shed Vice President William Kutschbach, AMYC

billkutschbach@gmail.com

216-789-5465

Aladdin Mariners Yacht Club
Alum Creek Sailing Club
Atwood Yacht Club
Buckeye Lake Yacht Club
Earlville Yacht Club
Lake Milton Boat Club
Scioto Boat Club



It seems as though the Holiday season is here. What a great summer we had! Many of the Ohio watershed district yacht / boat clubs had a number of autumn activities that benefited greatly from the extended warm weather we enjoyed.

Aladdin Mariners yacht club had a wonderful time on a noon luncheon cruise on the Lady Caroline on Lake Erie in late August. They also purchased a parade boat from the Al Koran Mariners to be displayed in the Shrine parades and are in the process of a major revision to the signage.

Change of Watch proceedings, Commodore Balls, and Holiday parties are not imminent and provide late fall and Winter activities.

On another note, I was recently honored to be elected as the Fleet Captain for the International Association of Shrine Yacht Clubs and look forward to my journey toward ultimately assuming the office of International Commodore!

To you and yours, HAPPY HOLIDAYS....

Yours in faith,

Bill Kutschbach

Vice President

Ohio River Waters Shed

Christopher Aune
District Director
440-669-5599
cgaune12@oh.rr.com



I would like to thank district 7 for the honor of holding the Office of President for 2023. We worked diligently on increasing the membership to 255 this year, making District 7 still number 1 in the World!

On October 8th of this year District 7 held the Change of Watch at Forest City Yacht Club, it was my honor to pass the office of President to **Lewie Kuhn** from Vermillion Boat Club. I believe President Kuhn will have a great year and will continue to lead our District to new membership levels. President Kuhn has already put together his Calendar for 2024, and scheduled meeting places and event listings for the coming year. Also, I would like to thank **Christine Mantush** for her work during the past two years serving as our secretary when we were in need. As the new IOBG board gets started I would encourage them to get in touch with those clubs they represent to find out who are their new Officers for 2024 along with their contact information and what activities they have planned for the upcoming year.

I would also like to congratulate **Marsha Landreth** on her new office as IOBG International President and the all the Officers of her Board, I wish them a strong year leading our organization.

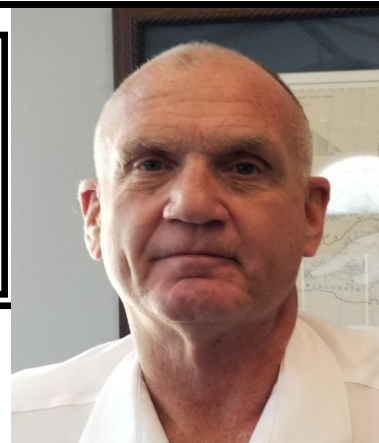
As I moved to the District Director position, the membership voted to allow me to attend the IOBG National Convention in Charleston, South Carolina on October 15-18. It was voted on to cast District 7's 10 votes for the slate as presented by the International. I must say the showing this year was quite small, there were only a hand full of Districts there to cast votes! I'm pleased to say that our District was well represented by **Mark Vadaj** 2021 Past International President, **Mark Cain** as the Advisor to the Director and **myself**. Congratulations to **Mark Cain**, he was appointed to the Southeast District 8 VP. **Mark Cain** has been living part time in Lakeland Florida over the past three years and is looking to help out wherever he can.

The International was looking for some ideas to promote the IOBG name. I suggested that the International help member Yacht Clubs obtain an AED (**Automatic Electronic Defibrillator**) for their respective clubs. My Yacht Club Chapter of the IOBG, through fund raising events, donated \$1000.00 towards the purchase and the Club paid the balance. Let's face it the average age is well above 55 years old, and many have experienced or know someone that has had a Heart Attack. This one simple piece of equipment can save a life! It was well received, and I look forward to helping to set the guidelines so member clubs with the assistance of the IOBG International, along with their club's donation they can obtain one.

I also made a motion to have plastic membership cards made for the IOBGA members. These folks do a lot of work and donate their time for the good of the IOBG and should be able to present a respectable membership card when visiting member clubs and not just a paper card they now receive. That motion was passed unanimously by those attending the Convention.



IOBG National Convention 2024 in Charleston, South Carolina. L-R Steve Hyder, Marsha Landreth, Mark Vajda, Mark Cain, & Christopher Aune

Advisor to the District Director**Mark Cain****440-220-2000****lakevu4u@aol.com**

Happy Holidays, brrr winters coming, time to start preparing for next year's boating season. We only have a few months before we'll be getting ready to get back in water.

Just a couple of weeks ago, Past IOBG President, Mark Vadaj District #7 Director Chris Aune and myself attended the International order of Blue Gavel Convention in Charleston, South Carolina. It was a great way to represent District 7. We were once again awarded with being the biggest District of all in the International. We were all very proud to be there to represent all the hard work our officers and Commodores have achieved in past years in making District 7 one of the strongest in the world. What an honor to be part of such a great organization.

While we had fun and a great time, we also got to meet up with all the various districts from all over the world. It was great to know we have ports almost everywhere in the world, that we can be welcomed into being partners in IOBG. Yet there is much home-work we all need to volunteer to keep our great organization viable.

We all need to reach out to fellow commodores and Yacht Clubs to extend an invitation with open arms in order to network and grow the spirit and communications between ourselves and our clubs in order to better serve each other's needs and objectives.

Hoping to see everyone at the Mingle and Jingle Party sponsored by IOBGA.

God Bless Merry Christmas and Happy New Years!

Mark Cain

Kathryn McCarthy**Supply Officer****216-470-2857****kmccarthy725@yahoo.com**

If anyone IOBG member would like a burgee to fly on their boat, please send me \$25.00 (plus \$2.00 if I have to mail). **Display your membership proudly!**

We also have arm patches for your Blue Blazer for \$15 and window decals for your car for \$2.00. I also can take orders for ties, shirts, etc. If interested, let me know what you would like.

FINAL VOYAGE**P/C Mark Kubik—CRYC****Thomas O'Conner—LCYC**

If anyone has any members who have passed away and you would like to have their names published in the next "Chatter" please email me at kmccarthy725@yahoo.com

President IOBGA Auxiliary – Gina Aune
440-669-5645 ginabling@oh.rr.com



Wow it's hard to believe that our boats are out of the water and winterized.

What a great time it has been attending IOBG, I-LYA, AYC, and GCBA events this past year. So many good times with good friends!

We still have a few more events coming up. The I-LYA Fall meeting will be on December 1 and 2nd at the Doubletree in Westlake. If you can't make the ball on Saturday night, you can still come on Friday night and enjoy several hospitality rooms filled with cocktails, food, and fun boaters. Bring an appetizer and come on out – the hospitality rooms open at 6:00pm.

Our IOBGA Annual Jingle & Mingle will be on Saturday December 9th at a new location – the Chagrin Lagoons Yacht Club, in Eastlake, Ohio. I want to thank P/C Pat White for arranging a meeting with chef Anthony at CLYC to schedule this event and plan our dinner menu. Chagrin Lagoons is a beautiful club right on the shores of Lakes Erie.

We will be having cocktails from 6:00 – 7:00pm with dinner immediately following. Our dinner menu will be buffet style with Chicken Marsala, Roast Beef, Roasted Potatoes, Vegetable, Salad, Roll & Butter. For dessert will have our traditional almond cake with raspberry filling and chocolate buttercream frosting.

The cost for the dinner and dessert is \$35.00 per person. There will be a cash bar for cocktails.

Dress code is holiday casual – No uniforms.

Please RSVP by December 1, 2023.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out me at 440.669.5645 or ginabling@oh.rr.com.

Change of Watch @ Forest City Yacht Club



International Order of Blue Gavel D-7

Events for 2024

2023 October 8th Change of Watch @ Forest City Yacht Club 12:30- 3:30 Meeting starts promptly at 1pm****

October 12-15th IOBG National Convention in Charleston S.C. (Mark Cain, and Chris Aune, attending)

November 18th IOBG E Board Meeting 11 am Vermilion Boat Club. Stay for lunch after meeting at the VBC ****

December 1-2nd ILYA Fall Meeting @ DoubleTree Westlake, Oh.

December 1st is the Hospitality rooms open to all members from 7 pm to 11 pm

December 9th Jingle & Mingle IOBGA Christmas Social Chagrin Lagoons Yacht Club

2024 January 18-21st Cleveland Boat Show at the IX Center

February 7-21 GCBA Bowling Tournament @ Wickliffe Lanes

February 24th GCBA Bowling Banquet @ Croatian Lodge Eastlake, Oh.

February 10th IOBG E Board Meeting InterCity Yacht Club 11 am

March 24th IOBG Blue Blazer Social at North East Yacht Club (Cocktail party for recruiting new members) ****

April 5-6th ILYA Spring Meeting T.B.A.

April 17th IOBG E Board Meeting 7 PM Sandusky Yacht Club, Dinner at 5:30 if you are available ****

May 27th USS COD Service 10 am Cleveland, OH

June 15th IOBG Cocktail Social @ Huron Boat Basin 12 noon to 3 pm ****

July 27th IOBG Cocktail Social @ Put in Bay Yacht Club 1 pm District 9 to host ****

September T.B.A. IOBG Wine Tour Geneva

September 21st IOBG E Board Meeting T.B.A. ****

October IOBG Change of Watch T.B.A. **** (**** Indicates Important meetings to attend)



*Join us for the International Order of the
Blue Gavel Auxiliary*



Saturday December 9, 2023

Cocktails at 6:00pm / Dinner at 7:00pm

Chagrin Lagoons Yacht Club

35111 Halsey Drive Eastlake, OH

Buffet Menu at \$35.00 p/p.

Cash bar for cocktails - credit cards only accepted

***MENU: Chicken Marsala, Roast Beef, Roasted Potatoes,
Vegetable, House Salad, Roll & Butter, & Dessert***

Deadline for dinner reservation is Friday Dec 1st 2023



Name(s) _____ Phone # _____

Club Affiliation _____ Email _____

Of Dinners @ \$35 _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to IOBGA District 7 and mail to IOBGA Treasurer
Mary Romano at: 4372 Bobwhite Trace Powell, OH 43065.

Questions, please call Gina Aune at 440.669.5645 or Mary Romano at 216.870.0529



PRIZE LIST

Handicap Team Events

Mens 1st Place

Womens 1st Place

Mixed 1st Place

Individual Events

Single Hi-Game Handicap

Hi-Three Game Series-Handicap

Single Hi-Game-Actual

Hi-Three Game Series-Actual

Hi-Six Game Series-Actual

**SPECIAL AWARD TO MEMBER CLUB WITH
MOST TEAMS ENTERED**

*Note: Individual trophies only will be awarded to all teams. Only one trophy
will be awarded per individual.*



61st Annual Greater
Cleveland Boating
Association Winter
Bowling Rendezvous
2024

To be held at:

Wickliffe Lanes

30315 Euclid Ave., Wickliffe, OH

440-585-3505

Sunday January 7th

Sunday January 21st

One shift only

2:00 – 5:30 p.m.

40 Lanes

****ALL FEES MUST ACCOMPANY
ENTRY FORM****

Bowling, prizes and Banquet:

Per Person.... \$70.00

Total Per team...\$350.00

Extra Banquet Tickets \$50.00 each

Bowling Only.... \$25.00 each

Banquet and Presentation of Trophies

Saturday February 24th, 2024

American Croation Lodge

34900 Lake Shore Blvd.

Eastlake, Ohio 44095

including bottled beer, music and
dancing.

RULES

- 1) Handicap will be established based on games bowled at this event. Average above 200 will be scratch, no handicap.
- 2) Handicap based on 90% of 200 for individual score.
- 3) Men will use a blind of 140 and women will use a blind of 120.
- 4) Deadline for entries is January 1st, 2024
- 5) Captains, please fill out the entry form clearly and completely. (Please type or print).
- 6) Please remit tournament fees with this entry form. Make Check Payable to:

Greater Cleveland Boating Assoc.

Mail to:

Kathryn McCarthy

8577 Hilltop Drive

Mentor, Ohio 44060

(216) 470-2857

E-Mail
Team Members on reverse side.

PLEASE INDICATE IF REGISTERING
FOR MENS / WOMENS / OR MIXED
TEAMS

TEAM REGISTRATION
CLASSIFICATION

	Team Members (Full Name)	Bowling Only - \$25 pp	Banquet Only - \$50 pp	Bowling and Banquet - \$70 pp
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
Alt				
	Total Paid:	\$	\$	\$

2024 IOBG Dues Notice

IOBG Dues \$43.00 \$ _____
IOBGA Dues \$10.00 \$ _____
Humanitarian Fund Donation (Optional) \$ _____
Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Remit To:**Treasurer IOBG District 7****Kathryn McCarthy****8577 Hilltop Drive****Mentor, Ohio 44060**

Please list all of the following for Roster Information:

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

P/C of which Yacht Club: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Spouse email address: _____





International Order of the Blue Gavel



INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I hereby apply for membership in the International Order of the Blue Gavel.

Chapter: _____ District: _____

Name: _____

Spouse or Companion: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____

Country: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Telephone: Home: _____ Business: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Yacht Club where you were Commodore: _____ Year: _____

I agree to abide by the Bylaws and Rules of my Chapter, District, and the International Order of the Blue Gavel.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Enclosed is my check for: _____ U.S.

Approved: Chapter: _____

District: _____

Note: District Members-at-Large should so indicate in the "Chapter" space.

Distribution: Original to International Treasurer, copies for Chapter and District

NEW MEMBER PROCEDURES

Often it is asked what the correct procedure is for joining Blue Gavel. We have put together this summary to aid in the clarification.

1. You must be a past commodore of a recognized club
2. You must complete a new member application

Chapter is the club you were a past commodore of

District is District 7 (Erie to Sandusky area)

Applicant must sign the application

Approvals: **Chapter Signature** – must be signed by an authorized

Officer from the Chapter club, acknowledging the applicant is a past commodore and member in good standing.

District Approval Signature will be by our District 7 Treasurer

Appropriate Dues must be submitted with application

Completed Application with payment of dues to be sent to Treasurer:

IOBG-D7

c/o Kathryn McCarthy

8577 Hilltop Drive

Mentor, Ohio 44060

3. Upon receipt of application and dues, Treasurer will notify D-7 President or D-7 Area Vice President. They will make arrangements to officially swear applicant in. **ONLY A D-7 OFFICER IS AUTHORIZED TO PERFORM SWEARING IN.** If this can not successfully be arranged, applicant is invited to join us at the Blue Blazer Social in March where they can be sworn in.
4. Dues payment will be distributed to International by Treasurer and a membership card will be generated and sent to applicant. (currently, Kathryn McCarthy is preparing cards).

Hope this helps clarify any concerns in the future. If you have any questions, you may contact President Kuhn, or any District 7 officer.

www.iobgdistrict7.com

D7 Officers

President

Lewie Kuhn
440-823-0103
cgaune12@oh.rr.com

President Elect

Ronn Murphy, AKMYC
216-702-6785
murphyrm2361@gmail.com

First Vice President

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216-7346-2420
luebbingcuebbing@gmail.com

Secretary

Kevin Mousty, FCYC
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Treasurer

Kathryn McCarthy
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kmccarthy725@yahoo.com

District Director

Christopher Aune, CRYC
440-669-5599
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Advisor to District Director

Mark Cain, AKMYC
440-220-2000
lakevu4u@aol.com

Auxiliary President

Gina Aune, CRYC
440-669-5645
ginabling@oh.rr.com

Supply Officer

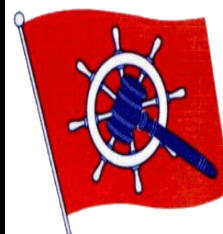
Kathryn McCarthy
216-470-2857
kmccarthy725@yahoo.com

Webmaster

Kristina Truthan, APYC
614- 946-9589
truthank@gmail.com

Chatter Editor

P/C Kathryn McCarthy
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D7 Area Vice Presidents

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440-742-0007
ksi97@icloud.com

Cleveland West

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440-244-4201
msilecky@yahoo.com

Cleveland Central

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Northeast

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Patrick@blinksigns.com

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iasyc825@comcast.net