



IOBG District 7 Northcoast Chatter—September 2013

A publication of Past
Commodores

Volume 1, Issue 4
September 2013

President Pat McIlwee

patmcilwee@cox.net

It is hard to believe that it is September already! We have had a remarkable year at District 7. The GCBA rendezvous in June was a huge success. We inducted 5 new members into IOBG. District 7 had the honor of hosting a cocktail party for Commodore Kris Miller at ILYA Regatta in early August. We have 3 new potential chapters ready to be formed. They are Commodores Cruising Club of Sandusky, Laguna Yacht Club of Huron and Lakefront Yacht Club of Port Clinton. We are in the final stages of planning the Change of Watch to be held at Forest City Yacht Club on Saturday October 12, 2013 at noon.

Included in this Chatter is the Slate of Officers for 2014 for D7.

The International meeting is October 17-20 in Concord California. District 7 will be well represented with Joel Kay moving to President Elect. Mark Vadaj is District Director of District 7 and 50 and Tony Durieux is North Central Vice President. The 2014 meeting will be in Cleveland and I know the Joel is requesting "all hands on deck". District 7 finished 2013 with the most members in International Order of Blue Gavel. I would like to really thank all of the members of D7 for their continued membership and to all the Vice Presidents that have continued to work tirelessly. We have a 90% plus retention rate of our members and there is momentum building.

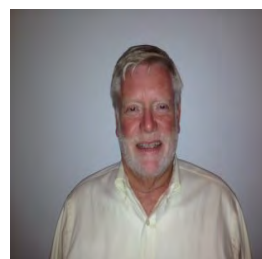
We are working on revising the by-laws of District 7 to mirror the International more. It has been a couple years since this was last addressed. In Closing I would really like to thank all of the members of District 7 for their confidence in me to be in this position. A big Thank you goes out to IOBG auxiliary members for their support all the time, Marianne Dempster and her crew had an incredible year of support. I also would like to thank my wife Barb and daughters Liz and Maggie for their endless support. It has been an honor and privilege to serve in the position of President and I look forward to serving as District Director.



President Elect Gene McKeown

By the time you read this, the re-enactment of the Battle of Lake Erie will be history. The boundaries of District 7 include where Commodore Perry built his ships, Erie PA, and to the west, where the battle was fought in Lake Erie. Late in the battle, the two largest British ships got their rigging entwined, due to a wind shift, and Commodore Perry destroyed them in less than 30 minutes and forced their surrender. I hope that some of you will get to see this great re-enactment and will share your experience with the rest of us.

Continued on Page 2

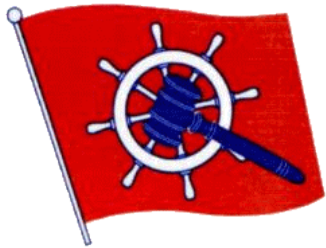


Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
President Elect	1-2
First Vice President	2
District Director	3
Area VP's	4-6
IOBG Auxiliary	5
Dues Notice	7

Special points of interest:

- 2014 Dues are due and payable by 12/31/13
- September 21, 2013 Wine Bus Tour
- September 27, 2013 GCBA Club Championship Golf Outing
- October 12, 2013 Change of Watch—Forest City Yacht Club, Cleveland, OH



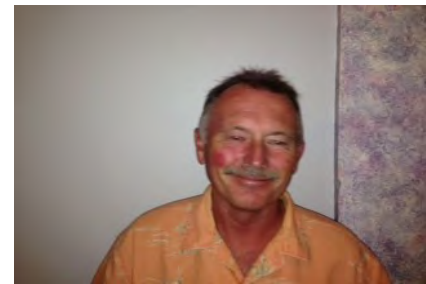
President Elect Gene McKeown (continued)

Our 2013 membership drive is closed and in the book. We had another strong showing with a total membership of 228. This includes new members as well as the renewal of our faithful past members. Our retention rate is 89%. District 7 Area Vice Presidents have done a good job of working with their clubs throughout the year. My congratulations go out to them for a job well done.

The Change of Watch for District 7 will be held at Forest City Yacht Club on Saturday October 12th starting at 1:00. Following the meeting, lunch will be available and, of course, the District 7 bar will be open



First Vice President Warren Dempster



I hope everyone has had a safe and enjoyable boating season so far. District 7 has been very busy this year both in social and membership affairs. The Vice Presidents have been busy recruiting new members of club chapters and also in the renewal of current members. We are very happy to welcome 14 new members to District 7 this year. Our social events at the GCBA Rendezvous and I-LYA Power Regatta were well attended by our membership. We would like to thank district 7 members, Commander Bob Sefcovic of the GCBA and Commodore Kris Miller of the I-LYA for allowing us to participate in their events. If you haven't been to either event in the past, please plan on attending next year. Plans are underway for our change of watch in October. We would like to see as many members attend as possible. One important event that will be held in October of 2014 in Cleveland will be the IOBG annual meeting in which our own Past President Joel Kay will be installed as the 2015 International President. I would like to thank the Auxiliary of District 7 for all their help this year. Please check our website for upcoming events and plan on attending as many as possible. Thank you for allowing me to serve as the 1st Vice President of District 7 for 2013.

District Director Mark Vadaj

IOBG District 7 Director, September 2013

It has been an outstanding year once again for District 7. Thanks to you the Individual Member which is our most valued asset. Because of your continued support and commitment to Yachting's Most Prestigious Fraternity we are able to continue to enhance our Membership Privileges and Amenities. This year at the International Change of Watch and Annual Meeting I will be presenting several suggestions to enhance your Membership.

A few Notable events this season include the IOBG Hosted Cocktail Party at the GCBA Huron Rendezvous in June. The turnout was spectacular as we Saluted GCBA Commander Bob Sefcovic and Lady Barb. Special Thanks to Rear Commander Lloyd Bogue and Lady Rhonda for their extraordinary efforts to make this event one of the most successful ever. Special Thanks to the participation of District 7 Members in the Tall Ship Festival in Cleveland during the July 4th Celebration where D7 Members escorted the Tall Ships into the Cleveland Harbor and also the 1812 Battle reenactment at Put-In-Bay in September. Together D7 help make the events a Spectacular Occasion. In August, Special thanks to the Members and Officers of D7, D9 and D25 who joined together to salute and toast the New ILYA Commodore Kris Miller and Lady Reni. A Plaque commemorating the event and honor was presented to Commodore Kris for his dedication and contribution to boating across the Great Lakes area. Although summer / Boating Season are coming to an end here on the North Coast & District 7, the year for The International Order of the Blue Gavel is just ramping up for the Start of a New Year From our own Chapter Level Change of Watch to the District Level and our International Level. As a District Officer I highly recommend and extend a personal invitation for all IOBG Members to become more involved whether it is at the Chapter Level to the District Level and even the International Level. Please see the District 7 Website for a Calendar of Events and Details at www.iobgdistrict7.com

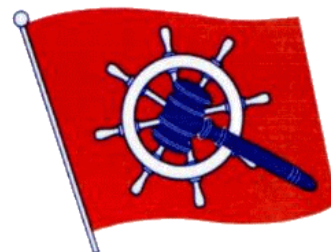
Without you and your participation we are just ordinary boaters.

I also recommend viewing our I.O.B.G. International Site at www.iobg.org for details on International Events and additional information Especially The International, Annual Meeting October 17th – 20th in Concord California. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. I hope to see you there.

Congratulations D7 President Pat McIlwee and the D7 IOBG & IOBG-A Officers for an outstanding year. Earlier in the year I spoke about the Humanitarian Foundation which is part of the IOBG (A 501-C-3 IRS Charitable Designation) Organization. Through your most generous contributions we are able to support much needed and well deserved Humanitarian Hardships. On behalf of IOBG District 7 I offer my humble appreciation and sincere thank you to all that supported this effort.

On a sad note, it is with deep regret that I inform you on the passing of The Humanitarian Foundation CEO Robert Howe on July 1st. Bob was a retired Army Colonel an accomplished Sailor and Member of The IOBG. Bob was buried in Arlington National Cemetery with Military Honors. He will be missed greatly.

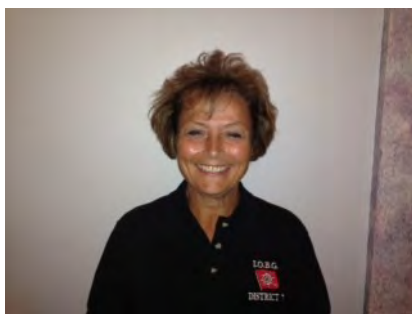
Thank you once again for renewing your commitment to The I.O.B.G. - Yachting's Most Prestigious Fraternity. I look forward to seeing you at our next event.



Northwest VP Debbie Light

Wow I can't believe that it is the beginning of September, the boating season is winding down. Soon it will be time to store our boats for the winter. I hope we all created many lasting memories to help get through the winter months. Please review our District 7 website for events during the colder months to bridge us to our spring launch.

As always, please keep up the Chatter, there are many opportunities to get to know other IOBG members and create new memories. I hope everyone had a great boating season as I have.



Northwest

V.P. Debbie Light, APYC

dlightful759@sbcglobal.net

216-973-1076

All Ports Yacht Club

Catawba West Harbor Yacht Club

Dock of the Bay Yacht Club

Harbor Bay Yacht Club

Huron Yacht Club

Middle Bass Island Yacht Club

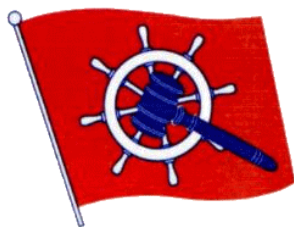
Point Yacht Club

Sandusky Yacht Club

Vermilion Boat Club

Vermilion Harbor Yacht Club

Vermilion Yacht Club



Southern Ohio VP Nick Romano

Once again – we approach the end of our boating season. In just a few short weeks our boats will be out of the water and covered for yet another long Ohio winter.

My own boating season was cut short this year due to some health issues. I missed our annual cocktail party at “I-LYA Regatta” in August. This is always a great opportunity for IOBG members from “Districts 5, 9 and 7” to meet new members and renew old friendships.

It has been very difficult to contact Yacht Clubs and their past commodores in the “Southern Ohio/Ohio River” region to invite them to join our membership. I hope that this article will reach out to potential members for District 7. Please feel free to contact me.

A reminder: next year, Past President District 7, Joel Kay will serve as International President of IOBG. Please mark your calendar now for his event – October 16-19, 2014 at Hilton Doubletree in Beachwood, Ohio.

Have a nice winter and hope for an early spring!

P/C Nick Romano

Director Southern Ohio/Ohio River

440-564-5638



Cleveland Central Bob Sefcovic

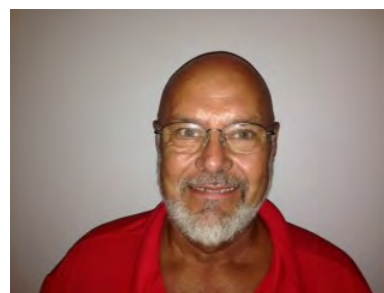
IOBG District 7 , Cleveland Central,

Let me take the opportunity to reintroduce myself Robert Sefcovic. I am the former V.P. of Cleveland Central , IOBG, D 7. I'm a Past Commodore of the Westlake Yachting Club, and am the current Commander of GCBA. I have decided to once again become more active in IOBG, as my duties as Commander are in the waning stages. In the past I tried to visit each club in my area , and plan to do so once again.

Sincerely

Robert R. Sefcovic

V.P. Cleveland Central



V.P. Bob Sefcovic

mrsef@aol.com

330-606-5660

*Dugway Creek Yacht Club
Edgewater Marina Boat Club
Edgewater Yacht Club
Four Seasons Boat club
Gordon Shore Boat Club
Inter-City Yacht Club
Lakeside Yacht Club
Members-at-Large*



President IOBGA Auxiliary – Marianne Dempster

President—Marianne Dempster

Vice President Marilyn Gabriel

Secretary Cindy Wierczchowski

Treasurer Mary Romano

District Director Robin Vadaj

Advisor P/P Sue Van Um

Advisor International P/P Jerry Key

I would like to take this opportunity to Thank all who attended the Nautica Cruise in April, we had 89 people attend and fun was had by all. The Auxiliary supported IOBG in June at the GCBA Rendezvous in Huron. In August several of the Auxiliary bridge and members attended the IOBG cocktail party held at Put-In-Bay Yacht Club for the I-LYA Regatta which was supported by not only District 7, but also Districts 9 & 25. It has been a busy and exciting summer.

Nominations for the District 7 Auxiliary Bridge for 2014 are as follows:

President Marianne Dempster

Vice President Marilyn Gabriel

Treasurer Mary Romano

Secretary: position is open

The Secretary position is open, if anyone is interested, please contact myself at 440-289-1216 or maretemp@oh.rr.com

I would like to Thank the membership for allowing me the opportunity to serve as the 2013 Auxiliary President. I have met many people and made many new friends.

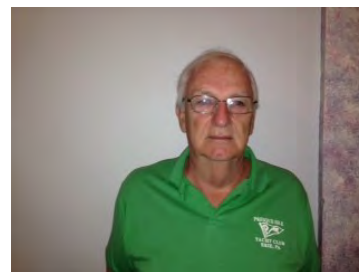


Pennsylvania VP Charles Miller

Weekend of Sept 5-8 the Tall Ships Festival was held here in Erie. Great show on the 5th. The Brig Niagara led the parade through the channel and circled the bay. What a great sight - 9 ships, wood, steel, long up to 150' short as low as 65' all dressed to their nines. Several even gave a cannonade salute as they passed the public dock, oops its now Dobbins Landing, guess I've been here too long, still use the old terminology. My bad. Got great pictures from the middle of the bay as each passed in review. Thursday night one of the best fireworks displays we've seen in a long time capped the evening.

The ships were docked along the bay front until Monday. 2 of the smaller ships sold 90 minute day sails and had waiting lines. All the others had many visitors tour their ships. Paper said it looked like we had around 60,000 visitors. We had 9 of the original 10 that were scheduled show up. I had mechanical problems and was stuck somewhere west. I saw almost every District 7 member out there on Thursday. We could participate in the next one scheduled for 2016. We might want to think about that.

Over all a very enjoyable event even though there was no battle to be fought here, unless you consider parking.



V.P Charles Miller
ncms@neohio.twcabc.com
 814-833-9098

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

Cleveland East VP Pat White



V.P. Pat White, CLYC

*Chagrin Lagoons Yacht Club
Chagrin River Yacht Club
East Light Yacht Club
Forest City Yacht Club
Island West Yacht Club
Lake County Yacht Club
Northeast Yacht Club
West Channel Yacht Club
Wildwood Yacht Club*

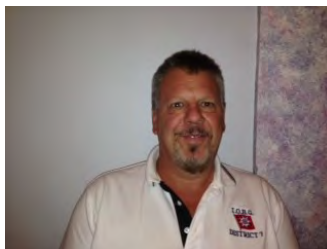
Ohio River VP—Pat Waitkus



Cleveland West VP Rich McKee

As summer comes to an end, I hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer. I hope everyone got a chance to go out and see the tall ships over Labor Day Weekend.

All of our clubs will be holding their Fall Events over the next couple months and I hope everyone will be able to participate. I encourage all current Blue Gavel members to talk to their Past Commodores and old members to come back to District 7. The more members we get will make us stronger as there is strength in numbers and changes can be made.



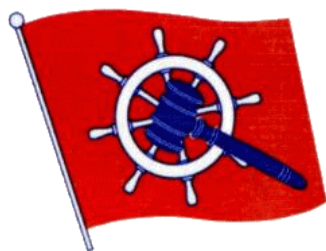
Rich McKee Jr., SSSC

bethelou2@aol.com

440-353-3494

*Al Koran Mariners Yacht Club
Beaver Creek Boat Club
Beaver Park Yacht Club
Cleveland Yachting Club
Lorain Sailing & Yacht Club
Westlake Yachting Club
South Shore Cruising Club*

Northeast VP Cliff Gabriel



V.P. Cliff Gabriel, MLYC

cmgabriel@roadrunner.com

440-306-2379

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

Secretary Dominique Sorbo



Central OH VP Steve Harris



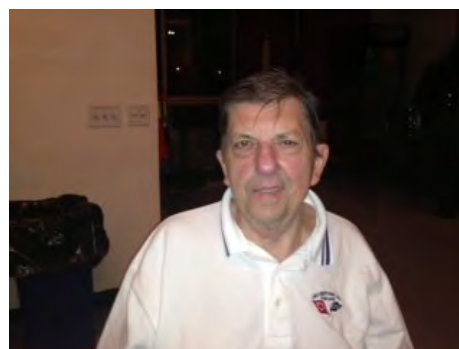
V.P. Steve Harris

sgharris2@gmail.com

740-304-8950

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

Treasurer Dave Zmek



2014 IOBG Dues Notice

Dues are due and payable 12/15/2013

IOBG Dues \$58.00

IOBGA Dues \$10.00

Total \$ 68.00

Optional Humanitarian Fund Donation available

Mail to

IOBG District 7 Treasurer

P/C Dave Zmek

18705 Mt Pleasant Drive

Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44023

Please list all of the following for Roster Information:

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

P/C of which Yacht Club: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

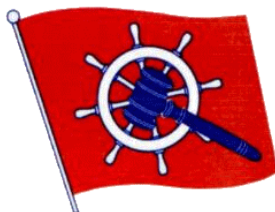
State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Any changes from prior year: _____



2014 Proposed Slate of Officers

President—Gene McKeown

President Elect—Warren Dempster

1st Vice President—Election (Rich McKee or Nick Romano)

Secretary—Dominique Sorbo

Treasurer—Dave Zmek

District Director—Pat McIlwee

Advisor to District Director—Mark Vadaj

Cleveland East Vice President—Pat White

Cleveland West Vice President—Open

Cleveland Central Vice President—Bob Sefcovic

Northeast Vice President—Cliff Gabriel

Northwest Vice President—Debbie Light

Ohio River/Southern Ohio—Pat Waitkus

Pennsylvania Vice President—Charlie Miller

South Central Vice President—Open

Central Ohio Vice President—Open

Supply Officer—Lou Key

Webmaster—John Wierzchowski

Chatter Editor—Pat McIlwee



International Order of the Blue Gavel

The Association of Past Commodores

Notice of Annual Meeting of IOBG District 7

Saturday October 12th, 2013 @ Forest City Yacht Club

5301 North Marginal Rd., Cleveland

Doors open @ 12:30p.m. Annual Meeting @1:00p.m. Lunch @ 2:30p.m.

Dress will be Winter Uniform (blue blazer/grey pants)

Slate of 2014 Officers

President—Gene McKeown

President Elect—Warren Dempster

1st Vice President—Election (Rich McKee or Nick Romano)

Secretary—Dominique Sorbo

Treasurer—Dave Zmek

District Director—Pat McIlwee

Advisor to District Director—Mark Vadaj

Cleveland East Vice President—Pat White

Cleveland West Vice President—Open

Cleveland Central Vice President—Bob Sefcovic

Northeast Vice President—Cliff Gabriel

Northwest Vice President—Debbie Light

Ohio River/Southern Ohio—Pat Waitkus

Pennsylvania Vice President—Charlie Miller

South Central Vice President—Open

Central Ohio Vice President—Open

Supply Officer—Lou Key

The following positions are either automatic by previous office held or appointed

District Director- Pat McIlwee – South Shore Cruising Club

Advisor to District Director- Mark Vadaj, Chagrins Lagoons Y.C.

Webmaster-John Wierzchowski

Chatter Editor—Pat McIlwee

In order to assure that we have the proper amount of food and beverages, please RSVP to 1st VP Warren Dempster wyc40@yahoo.com or 440-953-0248 by October 5, 2013 **THANK YOU**

2014 Proposed By-law Changes

Please refer to the By-laws as the By-laws committee recommends the following changes.

Pg. 7 - Section 2 Item (C) - Requirement from 75 members to read like the International By-Laws "enough members to sustain itself".

Currently:

Section 2. Recognized Yacht Club Charters shall be issued if said applicant club meets the following standards and conditions:

(c) The club must have at least seventy five (75) members.

Pg. 14 - Section 3 - Add "or via e-mail"

Section 3. At any meeting of the members, notice of such meeting shall be placed in the United States Mail to each member at least ten days prior to the date set by the President or Executive Board for such a meeting.

Pg. 16 - Section 1 - Our By-Laws require dues be in by first day of October which puts it prior to the change of watch. We need to change this to "the first day of January".

Section 1. District Dues

The annual dues for the District shall be set, revised and/or raised by the Executive Board each year at the annual meeting.

The By-Laws indicate that the officers serve their positions from the first day of October until the 30th day of September. Since our annual meetings take place in the month of October we could change that requirement to read "from change of watch to following change of watch".

“GCBA CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP”

Golf Outing and Dinner

September 27, 2013

@



5740 Center Road Valley City, Ohio 44230

Proceeds To Help our Ongoing Political Action & Humanitarian Causes

Start: 9:00 am Shotgun start

4 man scramble, Individuals are welcome and will be placed on a team

\$300.00 per foursome, \$75.00 per individual:

includes dinner, bag lunch and beer with dinner.

Dead line for registration is September 1, 2013

For more information, or to find out how you can help or sponsor a hole contact

Pat McIlwee 216-214-6111

Team Information / Team per signup sheet

Club or organization: _____

Contact Person:

Name: _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

I-LYA Regatta Cocktail Party in conjunction with District 9 and 25

8/10/13





News and Notes

APYC P/C Kermit Ruegamer and his Lady Katherine made the Great Loop trip.....they left last year and just got back. This is a great readyou can follow their trip on <http://goodkarmaloopin.blogspot.com/>

CLEVELAND– City leaders are breaking ground on a new transient marina, one boaters are sure to enjoy. It'll sit right behind the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame at North Coast Harbor in downtown Cleveland.

Many hope the addition help attracts more people to the area. "We want to make this a destination not only for boaters from Ohio, but Pennsylvania and Michigan to come enjoy it," said Rodger Norcross with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

The marina will cost nearly \$2 million and will house more than 50 slips, plus bathrooms and other amenities. "This is just part of an ongoing continuous investment by the city into not just North Coast Harbor, but into our master plan of developing the lakefront," said Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson.

Commander Robert Sefcovic with the Greater Cleveland Boating Association believes the marina is going to make a big difference. "There is nothing else on Lake Erie that will even match up to this, so we will take this back to our people and make sure that they'll be welcomed here in Cleveland for years to come," he said.

City leaders hope to have the project finished by next spring.



Inter-Lake Yachting Association

www.i-lya.org

BOARD of TRUSTEES

Jay Onacila, *President*

Ron Soka, *Vice-President*

Allen Ashley, *Executive Secretary*

Chris Amlin, *Trustee*

John D. Stewart, *Trustee*

John Dalessandro, *Trustee*

Bill Pribe, *Trustee*

John Rose, *Trustee*

Bob Lang, *Trustee*

John Hopper, *Trustee*

To All Historical Enthusiasts,

August 15, 2013

We have sent this letter today asking for your help with the restoration effort of our I-LYA Memorial Monument located at DeRivera Park in Put-In-Bay, Ohio. Over the years our monument has suffered from harsh winters, wet weather, pollution and a general lack of maintenance. This has taken its toll on the condition of this important piece of Inter-Lake Yacht Club's history and tradition. The bronze plaques are in need of restoration, the sand stone needs to be cleaned, de-scaled and sealed, and all the masonry joints are in need of re-pointing. There will be a substantial cost to bring this

important piece of I-LYA history back to its original state and glory, but it cannot be done without your support. The last time the monument had any work done was well over 10 years ago, and it was through the generosity of our I-LYA's Past Commodores that this task was completed. Today the cost of the restoration is \$21,000.00.

At this time we have had (2) detailed quotations submitted for the work and it is our hope that we can have this work completed by the end of this calendar year. We are asking that you find it in your hearts to donate the funds to help with the effort. We know that times are hard and that every dollar is difficult to come by, but without your support, the I-LYA Memorial Monument will only continue to degrade further, and the cost will only increase. What we are hoping for are donations of \$200.00, or any amount that you feel that you could contribute. If you should have any questions concerning the monument or the restoration effort, please feel free to contact me by phone at 780-713-1066 or by email at spbc2005@cogeco.ca

We thank-you for your consideration with the above request, and look forward to answering any questions that you may have, and hope to see you at the Bay this year.

Sincerely,

Chris Amlin

Chris Amlin - I-LYA Trustee

Chairman - I-LYA Monument Restoration Fund

Jay Onacila - I-LYA Trustee President

Send contributions to:

I-LYA Memorial Fund

Executive Secretary Allen Ashley

2200 Grand Boulevard, Monroe, MI 48162

International Order of Blue Gavel District 7

Chatter Editor
Pat McIlwee
2272 Emily Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
Phone: 216-214-6111
E-mail: patmcilwee@cox.net

www.iobgdistrict7.com

D7 Area Vice Presidents

Cleveland West

Rich McKee Jr., SSCC
bethelou2@aol.com
440-353-3494

Northwest

V.P. Debbie Light, APYC
dlightful759@sbcglobal.net
216-973-1076

Cleveland Central

V.P. Bob Sefcovic
mrsef@aol.com
330-606-5660

Central Ohio

V.P. Steve Harris
sgharris2@gmail.com
740-304-8950

Southern Ohio / Ohio River

V.P Nick Romano
dmromano@adelphia.net
440-564-5638

Cleveland East

V.P. Pat White, CLYC
ronpatdale@roadrunner.com
440-256-9714

Northeast

V.P. Cliff Gabriel, MLYC
cmgabriel@roadrunner.com
440-306-2379

Pennsylvania

V.P Charles Miller
ncms@neohio.twcbc.com
814-833-9098

www.iobgdistrict7.com

D7 Officers

President Elect
Gene McKeown, CWHYC
GeneMcKeown@oh.rr.com
440-452-3815

1st Vice President
Warren Dempster, TCYC
wcyc40@yahoo.com
440-725-7731

Secretary
Dominique Sorbo, HYC
radfsorbo@roadrunner.com
419-370-3484

Treasurer
Dave Zmek, LCYC
akbote96@aol.com
440-543-5008

District Director
Mark Vadaj, CLYC
mvadaj@metatechsales.com
440-350-1488

Advisor to District Director
Tony Durieux, CWHYC
agent@alink.com
740-345-9696

Auxiliary President
Mary Ann Dempster, TCYC
wcyc40@yahoo.com
440-725-7731

Supply Officer
Lou Key, CRYC
jobg99@aol.com
440-944-6200

Webmaster
John Wierzchowski, MBIYC
mysticflight@windstream.net
330-995-6088
216-702-0247

