

# IOBG-DISTRICT 7

A publication of Past Commodores

IOBG—District 7  
March, 2025

**President  
Ronn Murphy**  
216-702-6785



**Boating Season  
Is Almost Here!**

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**Upcoming Events**

- Blue Blazer Social—March 23rd**  
Forest City Yacht Club
- I-LYA Spring Meeting—Wyndham Gardens—April 4th-5th**
- IOBGA Brunch Cruise on Lady Caroline—April 27th**
- GCBA Memorial Day Ceremony On the USS Cod—May 26th**
- GCBA Rendezvous—Huron Boat Basin—June 20-22**
- IOBG Cocktail Social—Huron Boat Basin—June 21**
- IOBG Wine Tour—Sept. 18th-20th**

Ahoy Members,

Welcome back to the 2025 season of the IOBG along Lake Erie. We are delighted that you can join us. I'm honor and delighted to be the President for 2025 and have put together an awesome list of wonderful events. Each Yacht Club please share the dates with us for your COW and Ball for 2025.

Greeting from all the Officer's of District 7. The northeast is cold and overcast most days, far from the sunny days of summer at Put-in-Bay, Regatta. I would like to say, "Hello" to all the yacht club members in District 7 along the shores of Lake Erie, come out and have fun. Please make time to review all the dates for the events in 2025, this is one of the large benefits of being a member, see the calendar included in this chatter. I would like to meet all of you at each of the awesome events this year; IOBG District 7, which is the largest in the world, thank you for being a member.

On March 23rd, the Blue Blazer event at Forest Yacht Club to obligate new member including drinks and food and April 27th is the Lady Caroline Bunch Event, cruise on Lake Erie with the officers. <AMAZING >

I'm also the Hospitality Chairman for Blue Gavel sponsored events, my hand shake is always there to say, "Hello".

The details are out about the **winery** trip in September 19th and 20th, not to be missed.

Blue Gavel Commodores please ask a fellow commodore to join IOBG-District 7 and spread the word.

Pay your Dues, because it's a new year.

Remember we are linked to (3) three other awesome associations in the area, GCBA, I-LYA and AYC, which all enjoy the water and boating to the full-est.

Please share your ideas with me to improve the AWESOME FUN.

AHOY! Ronn Murphy, President 2025

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



Greetings, it seems like winter has been sticking around forever. Not to panic, events around District 7 are about to get busy. Our Blue Blazer social event will be March 23rd at the Forest City Yacht Club. It's always a good time to host prospective members into the Blue Gavel.

April will also be a busy month with the I-LYA spring meeting on the 4th and 5th in Westlake. I am really looking forward to the Lady's Auxiliary brunch cruise on the Lady Caroline, as last year had to be canceled due to the boat not getting ready for the season. We always have a great turnout for this event. While April is busy, it's also time to get the boats ready for the upcoming season.

Coming up in May the IOBG District 7 service will be held at the USS Cod in downtown Cleveland. As I indicated there is also a lot going on during the summer, please plan to attend our gatherings to meet old and new friends.

I look forward to helping our fine group of officers this year. Again this year District 7 will be raffling off a wagon full of spirits. This is one of our largest fund raisers we have, and it helps fund the many projects we support throughout the year. Again, please let us know what your club is doing, so we may have an officer attend. We also would like to add what your club is doing so it may be put into the newsletter. May your boating season get off to a great start, and hope to meet many new and old friends. Please contact me if there is anything I can help with. I may not have all the answers, but I am positive one of our officers can. Thank you and have a great year on the lake.

Sincerely,  
Larry Uebbing  
President Elect



**First Vice President**  
**Myroslav Silecky**  
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msilecky@yahoo.com



The Ground hog has seen his shadow but It's time to start thinking about the upcoming boating season and the many events coming up in Blue Gavel.

March 23rd is our annual Blue Blazer; it will be at the Forest City Yacht Club starting at 11 am. Come and welcome new candidates into Blue Gavel.

April 4-5th is I-LYA's spring meeting in Westlake. Always having fun seeing old friends and meeting new ones.

April 27th, the Ladies Auxiliary will again be hosting the ever-popular brunch cruise on the Lady Caroline, make your reservations early as last year we sold out. Please mention to your club members as it is always great to see and meet new people.

On May 26th, Memorial services will be held at the USS Cod starting at 10 AM.

Just a few things your Blue Gavel District 7 has planned for the upcoming months. Put them on your calendars and make reservations early.

Many of your clubs, Blue Gavel Chapters are doing events that support Blue Gavel. Please let us know what events are happening so we can attend and make sure they get into our newsletter. Our district again, continues to be the largest and "BEST" in the country. I hope to see many more of you at our upcoming events, as there's always room for more members and their friends.

**Treasurer—Kathryn McCarthy**

**216-470-2857**

**kmccarthy725@yahoo.com**



As Treasurer of District 7, I am pleased to say that we are well on our way to maintaining our position as being the largest District in the IOBG International. I will say that District 9 is giving us a close chase. If you have not yet paid your 2025 dues, I kindly ask that you do so now so we can maintain our position. If you need a copy of the invoice, let me know. Otherwise, a generic copy is included in this "Chatter".

I also can promise you a quick turn around on receiving your membership cards as I am preparing membership cards for the entire International membership. Send me your dues if you have not yet done so and I can promise you will have your card within the week.

The next couple of IOBG events are our Blue Blazer event on March 23rd at Forest City Yacht Club and the IOBGA Brunch Cruise on the Lady Caroline on April 27th. The COD ceremony is held on May 26th. June 21st in the IOBG Cocktail Social at the Huron Boat Basin as part of the GCBA Rendezvous. Followed by the IOBG Cocktail Social July 27th at Put-in-Bay Yacht Club as part of the I-LYA Power Boat Regatta. We also have our annual wine tour September 18-20th. Hope to see many of you at these events.

I know most of you know I wear many hats as I am also Commander of GCBA this year. We just completed our Winter Rendezvous with 32 teams bowling three Sundays in January at Wickliffe Lanes, followed by a banquet held at the American Croation Hall with 110 guests attending. We'd like to increase those numbers next year. I am finding that we are not getting the word out to many of our clubs about some of the events held by affiliated organizations such as GCBA and I-LYA. GCBA publishes a Who's Who Book in Boating every year, but it seems clubs are choosing to be protective in giving us contact information. I am taking the liberty of using this "Chatter" as my platform to say that the only reason we ask for this information is to be able to spread the word about events. I have been told by a few people from other clubs that they had no idea of certain events. If a club does not provide any contact information or appoint a Delegate to take the information back to their membership, we don't know how to keep people informed.

I'd like to share a little story about a member from my own club who recently branched out from our club's events to participate in a GCBA event. She indicated that she enjoyed herself tremendously, met some very nice new people, who also invited her to attend an event at their club, as she was so excited. This is what all this is about. Networking! Whether you are a member of your own club and participate in their activities, but broaden your connection through the other affiliated boating organizations, there is a whole other world out there for you to be afforded many new opportunities. I hope you will take the opportunity to experience some of these if you haven't already.

**Treasurer—Kathryn McCarthy—continued**

**216-470-2857**

**kmccarthy725@yahoo.com**

On a personal level, I'd like to share a little event that has been happening at my club, River's Edge Yacht Club and two other clubs on the Grand River; Western Reserve Yacht Club and Fairport Harbor Yacht Club. About five years ago, in order to create more comradery among the clubs on the Grand River, we started the "**Battle of the River**". Members from each of these three clubs get together for friendly competition in June for a fishing tournament, then again in August for a cornhole tournament, and then once again in February for a one day Bowling tournament at the local Rich's Lanes in Fairport. Then in April, we host a little banquet usually at REYC and announce the winners and give out traveling trophies. The winners are awarded trophies and "Bragging" rights for one year. This year, Fairport Harbor Yacht Club was the winner of the fishing tournament, and Western Reserve Yacht Club was the winner of the cornhole and the bowling tournament. This has been a lot of fun and has lead to new friendships and more socialization between the clubs. Sorry to say, "My" club was in the looser bracket this year. There is always next year!

I've rambled too long. Think Spring. Before you know it, we will be getting boats ready for a spring launch.





**Cleveland West**  
**Vice President**  
**Janice Bostic**  
**419-685-1431**  
**jabostic1@frontier.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

I would like to include information about some of the clubs in my Cleveland West area. As I mentioned in my previous article, Lorain Harbor Boat Club resulted from the merger of the Lorain Sailing and Yacht Club and the Westlake Yacht Club in 2019. They have a 56-slip marina and an active sailing fleet.

Beaver Park Yacht Club has a variety of activities, including guest bartenders, Bloody Mary brunches and Power Squadron boating safety classes.

My club, the Huron Yacht Club, had a very busy holiday season. Some highlights were Christmas with Santa for the children, Holiday Dinner with entertainment by the Sandusky Bell Choir, a euchre tournament, Ugly Sweater party, and an “early” New Year’s Eve party.

The Vermilion Boat Club is a boating and yachting club with over a century of history. It was started on June 27, 1913, by F. W. Wakefield and Tom Ball serving as its first Commodore. Dues were set at \$1.00 per year and the club grew to 50 members in its first year. It has been going strong ever since.

The Vermilion Yacht Club is a beautiful club with dockage for up to 50 member vessels. Their club house has a private dining area for members and guests with a fully equipped kitchen for their members’ use.

Vermilion Harbor Yacht Club had a major event this fall at Valley Harbor Marina. They helped raise over \$30,000 for the Make a Wish Foundation annual event called Wishes by the Water.

Have a great new year and an even better upcoming boating season!

Janice Bostic

**Cleveland Central VP—Thomas “Rock” Adams**

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- 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
- Whiskey Island Yacht Club
- Wildwood Yacht Club

Greetings. IOBG, Spring is near and I hope everyone is well. Looking forward to getting back out on the water and enjoying the many events that will be happening this year with IOBG, GCBA and ILYA as well as individual yacht club events. Please monitor our website for the latest events and or changes. Look forward to seeing everyone this summer. Stay safe.

On a more personal side Intercity Yacht Club will not be hosting their brunch after the COD this year due to catastrophic damage to our facilities during the storm surge last year. We do expect to fully recover, however, we're not exactly sure when that will be. We will keep everyone updated and hope everyone will be able to come by and visit the reopening when we are ready. Thanks everyone for the support they have given to the brunch, we will surely continue next year.

**CLEVELAND EAST VP—ROBERT KOLAR**

440-742-0007

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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.

It's been years since the Chagrin River froze. As the thawing starts, the ice begins to crack and break apart. As the ice chunks turn, it stirs up mud and silt and naturally "scrubs out" the riverbed. Ice jams often happen and can cause flooding in the area. And sometimes, the ice just works its way out to the lake without any trouble. Now, we can only wait to see what will happen along the river as the temperature warms.

Hopefully spring weather will arrive quickly, so we can get the boats out of storage. We are all anxious for the warmer weather. Looking forward to getting the boats dropped in the water and trying out the new boating toys purchased over the winter.

Anchors away,  
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 Boaters

Happy New Boating Year! I am going to post below the Fairport Harbor Yacht club's Entertainment Calendar for 2025. I have posted our calendar in years past (Because it's hard to come up with new articles, I'm A boater not a writer Lol) Anyways I am going to post the calendar but take it to the next level. FHYC entertainment parties has the camaraderie of the boating community, Great food great people great music great themes. Now I am inviting all who read this article to come and enjoy. Please call me if you care to join us for one of these fun functions. My cell number is 440-376-4511 I will help you get your reservations. I will help you with a dock if you want to come by sea instead of a land yacht. I will open up my dock area as a home base for relaxing, cooler storage and parking. FHYC has three different buildings that have bathrooms with showers. Even if you have never met me or set foot on FHYC soil, call me. I will hook you up. Let's push ourselves to support all the yacht club functions in your area. Call me for details for any of the functions below 440-376-4511

Thank You and safe boating.

Saturday March 8th Casino Night

Saturday March 22nd St Patrick's Day Party

Friday April 11th Beers Bingo and Pizza

Saturday May 3rd Night at the races Kentucky Derby

Saturday May 24th Memorial Day Summer Kickoff Progressive dinner

Monday May 26 Memorial day Breakfast

Saturday June 7th Fairport community Garage sale and FHYC Garage Sale

Saturday June 21st Summer Solstice Party- Afternoon Float Evening DJ and Pavilion Party

Thursday July 3rd MardiGra Parade FHYC Mardi Gra parade float and golf carts. ( This will probably be the last MardiGra)

Saturday July 5th Old fashioned 4th of July Family Picnic/Games/Bonfire

Friday & Saturday July 18th and 19th Regatta Weekend Drive In Weekend-Band-Boat races-Booze raffle

Saturday August 2nd Dock Crawl

Saturday August 30th End of summer party

Monday September 1st Labor day breakfast

Saturday September 20th Pig Roast Cornhole Tournament

Saturday October 25th Adult Halloween Party

Saturday November 1st Commodores Ball

Saturday November 8th Friendsgiving Dinner Left Right Center Tournament

Saturday December 6th Adult Christmas Party

**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



Now that we are in the middle of winter, many of us have planned trips to the sunny south for some warm weather and relaxation. My mom and dad as well as my grand parents lived in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Char and I went to the Villages this year and spent time in the hot weather of central Fla.

The Villages is a 55 and older complex extending into 3 counties and is the fastest growing area in Florida. Housing costs vary depending on one's circumstances. All areas can be visited by car or golf cart, with live bands from 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM and are all free! Bring a lawn chair and enjoy the many places to eat with all types of food.

We visited the many inland lakes, like Lake Dora, which has boats of all sizes, and canals connecting them to many other lakes in the area.

Wild life in that area has many types of birds, that live there all year round, turtles, lots of fish of all types. Baby cat fish is on every menu for lunch and dinner.

We stopped at the Yacht Club at Lake Dora and said Hello to all. Gave us a grand tour of their place just behind the welcome center.

I helped the Northeast VP, Pat Setele, bring in two Past Commodores to the IOBG.

If anyone from the Northwest area is having a special event I would like to come to your club. I also would like to talk about the mission of the International Order of the Blue Gavel and its purpose in recognizing Past Commodores of the yachting community and to unite them.

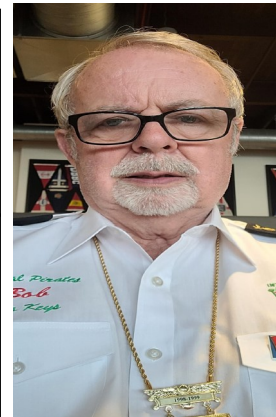
If you have had past Commodores that were sworn in by your local club, you now must have a Vice President from District 7 to do the oath.

Call me I will be glad to help or simply visit and enjoy boating camaraderie.

**Pennsylvania—Robert Stanley**

412-831-7878

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

With Winter upon us, Mother Nature has cast a deep freeze in Erie County. For the first time in years, Presque Isle Bay has frozen over enabling fishing on the frozen bay, but also allowing the ice sail boaters the opportunity to skim across the ice on their ice sail boats.

The 2025 District 7 Blue Blazer Social will be held on Sunday, March 23 at the Forest City Yacht Club.

On Sunday, April 27 our I.O.B.G.-A will be hosting their annual Lady Caroline Spring Buffet Cruise on Lake Erie.

Our Memorial Day U.S.S COD Ceremony will take place on Monday, May 26 at the Cleveland Harbor. District 7 joins with the G.C.B.A. each year to honor not only the U.S.S. COD but all veterans past and present.

Commodore Perry Yacht Club Change of Watch was held on Saturday, February 8, 2025 at their Clubhouse. That evening P/C Dave Runser installed Kevin Sinnott as the 2025 Commodore of the Commodore Perry Yacht Club.

Erie Yacht Club Thursday Trivia Night begins on January 23. Teams will consist of 6-8 players starting at 6:30 pm. This will be the twelfth season of this ever-popular Thursday night event. This event will test general knowledge of everything possible. Prizes will be awarded after each trivia session. Burgers and Brews will continue on Wednesday evenings, while Happy Hours will be held on every Friday and Saturday. In addition too, Valentine's weekend will have Valentine Dinners on Friday, February 14 and Saturday, February 15.

The Presque Isle Yacht Club held their Change of Watch on Sunday, January 12 at their Clubhouse. Commodore Jennifer Skolnik lowered her Commodore Burgee and 2025 Commodore Tracy Gustafson took command of the Bridge. The P.I.Y.C. Junior Members held their annual bowling party on Saturday, January 4. The ever popular First Friday Happy Hour will once again be held on Friday, February 7.

The Syria Shrine Yacht Club is looking forward to another successful boating season. Commodore Bill Woods will begin his second year as Commodore. The Mariners will be in attendance of the Shrines Valentine Day Dance on Saturday, February 15. On Saturday March 15, they will shake off their Winter Doldrums and will instead be present at the Annual Potentates Stag Dinner honoring their 2025 Potentate Thomas Prager.

The Zem Zem Sailors will be assisting their 2025 Potentate Andrew Acker in the upcoming year. The 2025 Bridge Officers are Commodore Tim Barnhart, Vice Commodore Gary Hepler, and Secretary-Treasurer P/C Dave Runser.

By the time you read this Pennsylvania Report, Spring should be right around the corner, bringing us longer days, warmer weather temperatures, and ice-free waters.

Think Spring

Bob Stanley

Pennsylvania V.P.

## **Pennsylvania—Robert Stanley-continued**

**412-831-7878**

**iasyc@comcast.net**

Mariners Log

By

Bob Stanley M.S.A.

With the arrival of March, the days are getting longer, the song birds are returning to Cleveland, and the daffodils and crocuses are emerging from the ground. It's also time for Shriners to start recruiting our Masonic Brothers, who are not a member of Al Koran Shrine. The Ceremonial crossing of the Hot Sands this year will be a statewide Ceremonial of all six Shrine Temples. It will be held at the Aladdin Shrine Center in the Oasis of Columbus. The date is Saturday, April 12. Let us, as Nobles of the Mystic Shrine do our part to help guide a large caravan of neophytes across the Hot Sands to the oasis of our Shrine Center.

Congratulations goes out to our own Mariner Rob Frankel who has been appointed to the position of Second Ceremonial Master of the Al Koran Shrine Divan for 2025.

At this writing (February 4), Sunshine Chairman P/C John Baker has informed me that several members and their ladies have come down with Winter colds. Hang in there, Spring is supposed to start on March 20.

The March Business meeting of Al Koran Shrine will be held on Monday, March 17. The location will be in the official call of the Potentate in the March's Al Koran Magazine on page 2.

The Mariners March meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 25 at the Edgewater Yacht Club. Chow and grog will commence at 1800 hours and our meeting will be rapper to order at 1900 hours.

Mark your calendar for the Mariners 2025 Brunch Cruise on Sunday, April 27. The Mariners along with Al Koran Shrine and the L.O.S.N.A. will be joining the International Order of the Blue Gavel (I.O.B.G.) for a Welcome Spring Brunch Cruise on the Lady Caraline. We will be boarding at 1230 hours with the cruise along Cleveland's shoreline commencing from 1300 hours to 1530 hours.

For information concerning membership or activities of the Al Koran Mariners Yacht Club, please contact Commodore Frank McEvoy P.M. at 614-377-1192

To all the Al Koran Shriners and their ladies, the Mariners and our ladies wish you a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

God's Speed



## Ohio River Waters Shed Vice President William Kutschbach, AMYC

[billkutschbach@gmail.com](mailto: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



Believe it or not, winter is practically over and spring is just weeks away. With that, most of the yacht clubs are gearing up for their spring activities. IOBG District 7 has quite a few Spring activities planned to include:

IOBG Blue Blazer event March 23rd

Lady Caroline cruise April 27th

IOBG Reception/cocktail party at the Huron Boat Basin June 21st

Please consider participating in some of these events this year. We are always looking for MORE ways for MORE people to have MORE fun.

In the Watershed District, Buckeye Lake Yacht Club will be holding their annual Commodore's Ball on April 12th. Several of our District Officers are planning to attend their event.

Aladdin Mariners Yacht Club have converted a boat and trailer into a parade float, and are planning on participating in 5 parades this year. They are in the process of planning an August outing and picnic as well.

Many other yacht and boat clubs will be having spring events including socials, picnics, poker runs, etc. that should provide a great kick-off to the 2025 boating season.

On a personal note, I am honored to be the Vice Commodore of the International Association of Shrine Yacht Clubs and look forward to becoming the International Commodore (if elected) this July.

Do yourself a favor....Contact other yacht clubs and research their itineraries for activities this year. You will enjoy participating in their activities and have the opportunity to meet other "BOATERS".

WHAT FUN!

HAVE A SAFE 2025 BOATING SEASON!

**District Director**  
**Lewie Kuhn**  
**440-823-0103**  
**kuhnfabinc@aol.com**



The IOBG's District 7 Blue Blazer event will take place on March 23, 2025 this year at 11 am Forest City Yacht Club.

This event is our main recruitment event for the year. We welcome Past Commodores who are not members and current Commodores to come see what we are all about.

Please wear your dress grays.

Blue Gavel is one of the most prestigious organizations in all of yachting. There is only one way in and that is to have served your club as Commodore. With the Blue Gavel membership card you are welcomed at yacht and boat clubs from all over the world. It is truly the golden ticket in yachting. If you know a past commodore that can not make it to the Blue Gavel have them contact current President Ronn Murphy, myself or one of the area VP's and we can arrange to get them sworn in.

Other events we have coming up are the ILYA Spring Meeting April 4-5 in Westlake, The IOBGA Brunch on the Lady Caroline, April 27, on the Cuyahoga River, and on May 26th the Memorial Day Service on The USS COD in Cleveland at 10 am. Arrive by 9:45am, Attire is Dress Whites. Check this edition of the Chatter for flyers with more information about each event.

Think Spring, It will not be long before the boats will be getting ready to go in the water.

**Advisor to the District Director****Christopher Aune****440-669-5599****cgaune12@oh.rr.com**

With spring just around the corner our thoughts are centered on all the projects that need to be addressed before our boats hit the water. Now is a good time to sit down with your favorite beverage and your calendar to start planning this year's IOBG events.

The first event for 2025 will be IOBGA'S Lady Caroline Brunch Cruise on April 27 at noon. Please look for the flyer for further information. IOBG has a Cocktail Social held at the Huron Boat Basin on June 21 at 1:00 p.m. under the pavilion. We ask you to provide a dish to share. This is a great time to catch up with other members of the IOBG along with those boaters attending GCBA's annual rendezvous that takes place at the same time. Many members drive up for the day and stay for the basket raffle and dinner held by the GCBA.

The highlight of the summer is IOBG'S Cocktail Social held at Put-in-Bay Yacht club on July 26 at 12:00 p.m. during I-LYA's Power Boat Regetta. Please remember that dress whites are required for this event. Looking forward to seeing you this summer!

**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 \$30.00 (plus \$5.00 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 Lou Barton

P/C Dominic "Nick" Romano

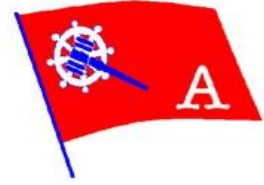
P/C Glen Fish

P/C Al Mighton

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](mailto:kmccarthy725@yahoo.com)



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



Thank you all who joined us for our annual Jingle & Mingle this past December hosted at the Chagrin Lagoons Yacht Club. Special thanks to P/C Patricia White for helping me organize this holiday event and Chef Anthony and crew for a wonderful dinner.

It's time to start planning our 2025 boating season, and I have a super fun event for you to put on your calendars. The first boat trip of the season aboard the Lady Caroline!

The IOBGA brunch cruise will be on Sunday April 27, 2025, with boarding starting at noon. The cruise is from 1:00pm – 3:30pm with a buffet brunch. Cost is \$55 per person which includes the cruise admission and the brunch. Cocktails can be purchased separately.

We have secured the entire ship for our event so please invite fellow yacht club members, family, and friends to join us. **Tickets are available to the first 200 people** who RSVP with their monies to Marianne Dempster.

During the cruise, the D7 IOBGA will be selling tickets for basket raffles. The proceeds from the basket sales helps us fund our “Books by Boaters” campaign as well as allow us the financial means to contribute to other organizations such as the International Order of the Blue Gavel, Inter-Lake Yachting Association, and the Greater Cleveland Boating Association.

If you or your club would like to donate a gift basket to contribute to our cause, please contact me at 440.669.5645 or [ginabling16@gmail.com](mailto:ginabling16@gmail.com).

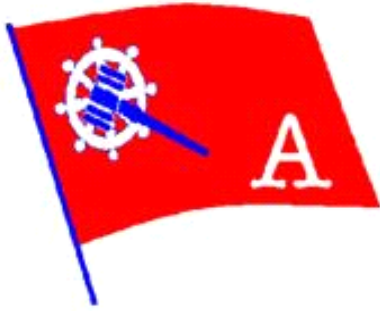
Come join us for our first lake cruise of the new boating season!

*See Flyer attached for more info and reservations.*



#### **THE SHIP 1153 Main Street Cleveland, OH**

Lady Caroline is a four-deck, 120-foot-long ship featuring more than 15,000 square feet for passengers to enjoy. Three of her decks are fully enclosed and climate controlled. The sky deck features a covered bar and open views for sweeping panoramic sightseeing.



**Please join IOBGA District 7 for a Brunch Cruise on The Lady Caroline.**

**Sunday April 27, 2025 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

Boarding time is 12:00 p.m.

Adults \$55.00 per person

:

Plated Salad  
Assorted Sweet Rolls  
Danishes and Croissants with Butter & Jam  
Chef's Choice of Carving - Beef, Ham or Turkey  
Breast of Chicken du jour  
Pasta du jour  
Fluffy Scrambled Eggs  
Grilled Bacon & Sausage  
Home-Fried Potatoes  
French Toast or Waffles with Syrup  
Blintzes with Fruit Toppings  
Selection of Juices, Coffee, Hot or Iced Tea\  
Cash Bar

For reservations contact Marianne Dempster at [marianne.dempster@yahoo.com](mailto:marianne.dempster@yahoo.com) or

440-289-1216 Please reserve early.

Reservations and payment due by **April 13, 2025**

May pay with Venmo@marriannedempster

or

Send checks payable to **IOBGA District 7** to:

Marianne Dempster

12045 Concord Hambden Rd., Concord Twp., Ohio 44077

You will receive your tickets at the Boat the day of the cruise.

*For the 2025 Lady Caroline Brunch Cruise invite your friends and family for a great afternoon!*



**Inter-Lake Yachting Association  
2025 SPRING MEETING**



**April 4 - 5, 2025  
Wyndham Gardens Westlake  
1100 Crocker Rd., Westlake, Ohio 44145  
440-871-6000**

**Please make your room reservation by March 19, 2025**

The I-LYA room rate should be requested when making reservations.  
\$112 Standard room per night plus taxes and includes two breakfast buffets  
Book online directly at [bit.ly/ilyaspring2025](http://bit.ly/ilyaspring2025)

Or call the Hotel and ask for in-house reservations to get the I-LYA rate using group code: 040325INT

*Join us Friday evening in our Hospitality Rooms to socialize and network  
and Saturday for the Organizational Meetings to help us plan the 2025 Regattas*

---

**\*\*Ladies Luncheon \*\***

**Saturday April 5, 2025, at 12:00 Noon**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_ # Attending \_\_\_\_\_

**Price: \$26 pp** – Menu: Half Salad, Cup of Soup, Half Club Wrap, Strawberry Short Cake & Mimosas  
(Vegetable Wrap available on request)

**\*\*Spring Dinner & Awards\*\***

**Saturday April 5, 2025**

Cocktails (Cash Bar) 6:00 pm ---- Dinner 7:00 pm ---- **Price: \$65 pp**

Menu: House Salad, Beef Tenderloin, Chicken on a Bed of Rice, Green Beans, Chef's Dessert & Coffee  
(Vegetarian Option Available on Request)

**Dinner Attire: Blues and Greys**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_ # Attending \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Reservations Required\*\***

RESERVE and PAY ONLINE at <http://www.i-lya.org/reserve>

**\*\*Deadline for Dinner and Luncheon Reservations\*\* is Friday, 3/28/25**

**Please Make Checks Out To: I-LYA 2025**

Send to Lady Teresa Vanderford 3112 6<sup>th</sup> St., Monroe, MI 48162

Phone 419-367-4171 (For Questions)



# MEMORIAL DAY



Join us for a special ceremony as we remember those who have served and sacrificed for our country aboard the historic USS COD.

Parade line up will begin at Burke Lake Airport at approximately 9:30am. Together we will march to the USS COD. Anyone wishing to have a family member honored during the service must please send a notice to Flag Lieutenant Nick Hostottle at [nickhostottle@yahoo.com](mailto:nickhostottle@yahoo.com) by May 17, 2025. Please include the full name of family member, name of club membership, and/or branch of office. Any deceased members names provided before March 1, 2025 will be added to the "Who's Who" book. We look forward to seeing many of you on May 26, 2025!



## **SAVE THE DATE**

**2025 GCBA SUMMER RENDEZVOUS AT THE**

**HURON BOAT BASIN**

**JUNE 20 – 22**

**THIS YEAR'S THEME WILL BE**

**“SUPERHERO’S”**

**JOIN US FOR A WEEKEND FULL OF FUN,**

**FOOD & FELLOWSHIP**

**DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN THE COMING**

**MONTHS**



Attendees from the 2024 IOBG District 7, 9, and 25 Wine Tour.

Everyone had a blast.

Don't miss out on the 2025 Wine Tour, details below.

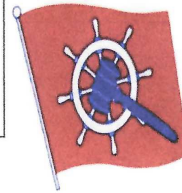
## SAVE THE DATE

### 10th Annual IOBG District 7, 9 & 25 Wine Tour

September 18<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> 2025

@

Holiday Inn Express & Suites  
Madison, Ohio



#### Saturday Bus Wine Tour

*\*Price approx. \$35/PP*

**LOAD BUS @ 10:45**

**4 Winery Stops**

**28 Wineries within 8 miles**

**Food & Entertainment @ most Wineries along tour**

ARRIVE BACK AT HOTEL @ 6pm

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHT HOSPITALITY ROOM**

**“OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS & FRIENDS”**

**Room Rates \$160.00/night + tax- “IHG” group Hotel**

**Reservation Deadline 08/19/2025**

**For reservations call 1-440-307-4449**

**FOR BUS RESERVATION EMAIL [lloydboque@windstream.net](mailto:lloydboque@windstream.net)**

## International Order of Blue Gavel D-7 - Events for 2025

November 8-9, 2024, GCBA Commanders Ball, Double Tree Hilton, Westlake, OH

December 6-7, 2024, I-LYA Fall Meeting, Commodores Ball, and Change of Watch, Double Tree Hilton, Westlake, OH

December 14, 2024, IOBGA District 7 Holiday Party, Chagrin Lagoons Yacht Club 2025

January 16-19, 2025: Cleveland Boat Show at the IX Center

February 1, 2025: IOBG D7 E Board Meeting 10:00am, Edgewater Yacht Club

March 23, 2025: IOBG D7 Blue Blazer Social, 11:00am, Forest City Yacht Club.

**Dress Grays** (Cocktail party for new members) \*\*\*\*

April 4-5, 2025: I-LYA Spring Meeting, Westlake, OH

April 26, 2025: IOBG D7 E Board Meeting, 10:00am, Huron Yacht Club

April 27, 2025: IOBGA D7 Auxiliary, Brunch Cruise on The Lady Caroline 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm

May 26, 2025: IOBG D7 USS COD Service 10:00 am Cleveland, OH. Arrive by 9:45 am. **Dress Whites**

June 21, 2025: IOBG D7 Cocktail Social @ Huron Boat Basin 12 to 2:30 pm. **Dress in casual whites (shorts).** \*\*\*\*

July 27, 2025: IOBG D7 / I-LYA Cocktail Social @ Put in Bay Yacht Club 1:00 pm District 9 to host \*\*\*\* Booze Extravaganza

August (Saturday) TBD, 2025: IOBG D7 E Board Meeting 10:00am, TBD

September 18-20, 2025: IOBG D7 Wine Tour Geneva

September 28, 2025: IOBG D7 Change of Watch, noon, Forest City Yacht Club.

**Dress Grays** \*\*\*\*

October 2025: IOBG International Meeting. Date, location TBD

November 7-8, 2025, GCBA Commanders Ball, Westlake, OH

December 5-6, 2025 – I-LYA Fall Meeting, Commodores Ball and COW.

December 2025 – IOBGA D7 Holiday Party, Date, Location TBD

\*\*\*\* Important meeting to attend

Websites to find out more information about the events above:

IOBG: [www. https://iobg.org](https://iobg.org)

IOBG District 7: [www. https://www.iobgdistrict7.com](https://www.iobgdistrict7.com)

GCBA: [www.gcba.us](http://www.gcba.us)

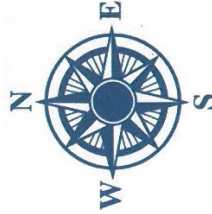
I-LYA: [www.i-lya.org](http://www.i-lya.org)

AYC: [www.associatedyachtclubs.com](http://www.associatedyachtclubs.com)

*The calendar is subject to change. Notification will be sent out of any changes as they occur*

## What Is Our Humanitarian Foundation?

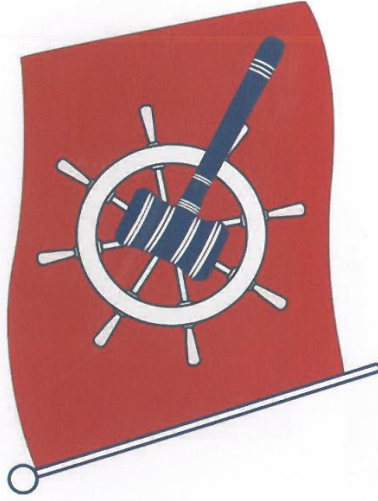
- It is a United States 501(c)(3) charitable organization
- It benefits communities by helping to fund boating activities and marine education
- Some programs the grants have helped fund:
  - \* Youth sailing scholarships
  - \* Safety equipment for special needs boaters
  - \* Support for veterans'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



## INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

3517 Camino del Rio S.,  
Suite 208  
San Diego, CA 92108  
888-378-2211  
[www.iobg.org](http://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



## 2025 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: \_\_\_\_\_

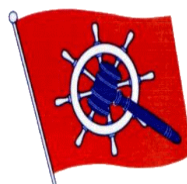
State: \_\_\_\_\_

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 Murphy, or any District 7 officer.

www.iobgdistrict7.com

## D7 Officers

### President

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

### President Elect

Larry Uebbing, VBC  
216-644-5547  
luebbingcuebbing@gmail.com

### First Vice President

Mickey Silecky, VBC  
330-398-6202  
msilecky@yahoo.com

### Secretary

Kevin Mousty, FCYC  
216-571-0479  
kmousty@yahoo.com

### Treasurer

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

### District Director

Lewie Kuhn, VBC  
440-823-0103  
kuhnfabinc@aol.com

### Advisor to District Director

Christopher Aune, CRYC  
440-440-669-5599  
cgaune12@oh.rr.com

### Auxiliary President

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

### Supply Officer

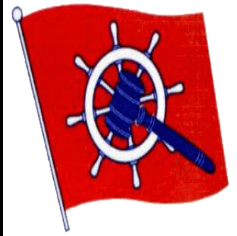
Kathryn McCarthy, REYC  
216-470-2857  
kmccarthy725@yahoo.com

### Webmaster

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

### Chatter Editor

P/C Kathryn McCarthy  
8577 Hilltop Drive  
Mentor, Ohio 44060  
216-470-2857  
kmccarthy725@yahoo.com



## D7 Area Vice Presidents

### Cleveland East

Robert Kolar, AKMYC  
440-742-0007  
ksi97@icloud.com

### Cleveland West

Janice Bostic, HYC  
419-685-1431  
jabostic1@frontier.com

### Cleveland Central

Thomas "Rock" Adams, IYC  
216-254-1056  
thomasadams162@gmail.com

### Northwest

Richard Langer, FHYC  
440-257-2998  
rclanger@oh.rr.com

### Northeast

Patrick Setele, FHYC  
440-376-4511  
Patrick@blinksigns.com

### Ohio River Watershed

William Kutschbach, AMYC  
216-789-5465  
billkutschbach@gmail.com

### Pennsylvania

Robert Stanley, AKMYC  
412-831-7878  
iasyc825@comcast.net