INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

Past Commodore's Club
District 9

District 9 Newsletter – Fall 2026

PRESIDENT REPORT
DIANE WRIGHT

SWAN BOAT CLUB

I hope everyone had a fantastic summer boating season! As the cool autumn air moves in, our focus turns to the upcoming Fall Meeting with nominations, elections and change of watch. As I reflect over the past year, I am proud to say the Executive Board has all worked very hard to ensure the continued growth and success of District 9. To date, we currently have 266 paid members and anticipate additional members in 2027. As IOBG members, we are grateful that since 2022, our International dues were reduced to $25 and we have kept our local dues to $10. I feel this has also been a contributing factor to our growth.

We all owe a huge thank you to International Order of the Blue Gavel Past President, Steve Hyder, for his accomplishment in relocating the Financial Dept to the Cleveland Area. By doing so, we get our IOBG cards expediently thanks to the diligence of Kathy McCarthy and D9 Treasurer, Stan Ziemkiewicz.

An additional thank you to everyone that supported our IOBG District 9 Fundraiser Football Pool! If you have any additional suggestions for future fundraisers, please contact the Executive Board. We are always looking for fresh ideas.

At the I-LYA Spring and Fall Meetings, there is time set aside for Districts 7, 9 & 25 to have an informal roundtable discussion. If you are attending either one or both of those meetings, please look at the itinerary for the time slot set aside to meet with the other Districts.

We would love to see you there to share your ideas and thoughts, together with the other Blue Gavel members.

In conclusion, I would like to say that I am both honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve IOBG District 9 as President for 2026. It was a great experience and I pledge to continue my support to IOBG District 9.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Diane Wright
President
IOBG District 9

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL

THE ASSOCIATION OF PAST COMMODORES

IOBG & IOBGA 2026

District 9 Officers

cordially invite you to attend our

2026 FALL MEETING &

BLUE BLAZER EVENT*

SUNDAY October 11,2026

LOCATION: HVYC

General Information:

Registration: 11:30am

Lunch: Noon

Meeting: 1pm

Dress Code: Blues and Grays

***All current Commodores and Vice Commodores are invited to attend the Blue Blazer Event held immediately after the Annual Fall Meeting.**

TREASURERS REPORT

STAN ZIEMKIEWICZ

RIVER VIEW YACHT CLUB

The football Pool boards are complete. Please see the person who sold you your square or me for a copy. I am working with PC Dale Vanderford to set up the D9 website. In it, you will find information on what we have been doing, such as the Voyage for Veterans, and upcoming functions including meeting announcements.

One thing PC Dale and I are working on is allowing the members to pay their dues through the website, More on that at the fall meeting.

Stan Ziemkiewicz

5528 Birch Hollow Ct

Sylvania, Ohio 43560

Questions? 419-708-7886

PRESIDENT-ELECT REPORT

STAN ZIEMKIEWICZ

RIVER VIEW YACHT CLUB

I want to thank our board for entrusting me with this position after PC Peter Watkin was unable to complete his term due to work requirements. I look forward to working very closely with our board now and as president next year. If at any time you have a question or concern feel free to contact me or any member of the board and we will get you an answer to your question

LAKE ERIE SOUTH

V.P. PAT SLEE

PERRYSBURG BOAT CLUB

Nugents Canal Yacht Club
Jeff Endslow stated that on Saturday September 5th that their Blue Gavel was putting on a chicken dinner from 12:00 to 3:00. All proceeds from the event are going towards the purchase and installation costs for a new flooring in the clubhouse.
Also they will be hosting a OSU/MICH football game party on November 28th starting at noon at the club.
Patrick
No reports back from PIBYC or Port Clinton yet, at this time.

MAUMEE RIVER AREA

V.P. CHARLIE SHEETS

INDIAN HILL BOAT CLUB

IOBG District 9 Maumee River Area
By Charlie Sheets
cisheetspe@gmail.com

Attended Voyages for Veterans Event at CIC on August 19. Wonderful time, got to know Horst Kunhne, 91 years old, an Army veteran of Korea and Vietnam.



July 11 - Conducted a boating safety event for **The Program**. This is an organization that helps young men and families without fathers in their lives. PBC participated along with IHBC. MRYC and TSC were invited to participate but couldn't provide anyone.



Captains (l to r) Charlie Sheets (IHBC), Tramain Rayford (CEO of The Program with his daughter), Paul Gunther (IHBC), Gary Justen (IHBC), Carl Swanson (PBC), and Greg Straub (IHBC). Not pictured, David Brooks (PBC 2026 Commodore, using Willard Buttner's boat).





Smiles tell the best stories.

Local Chapters

Indian Hill Boat Club

Primary Contact: Charlie Sheets

Approx IOBG Member Count: 10

Friday May 15 Bourbon and Cigar night for our PCs.

Tuesday September 1 Brats and Burgers night (rescheduled)

Maumee River Yacht Club
Primary Contact: Craig Stead
Approx IOBG Member Count: 9
Nothing new to report.

Perrysburg Boat Club
Primary Contact: Willard Buttner
Approx IOBG Member Count: 9
Nothing new to report.

Toledo Sailing Club
Primary Contact: Scott Spencer
Approx IOBG Member Count: 18
Nothing new to report.

MICHIGAN SOUTH

V.P. GARY BAKER

SWAN BOAT CLUB

Swan BG had its last Rib roast 8/21, still accepting applications for our $500 scholarship until the end of September. Open to kids and grandkids of Swan members.

MBC: Burger nights throughout July, Chicken dinners at regatta were very successful . Chapter President Dan Thomas went to CIC Voyage for Vets as a Veteran. Change of watch 11/1/2026.

DBBC: Blue Gavel will do their "dirty fries" and famous Brandy Alexanders at regatta 9/11-12.

SANDUSKY BAY AREA

V.P. DAVID MEAD

CATAWBA ISLAND CLUB

On August 19, 2026, the Catawba Island Club Blue Gavel hosted the Voyage-For-Veterans event. Over 100 local Veterans attended, enjoying a day of gratitude and celebration at the CIC and on Lake Erie!

The Blue Gavel, host of the Voyage-For-Veterans event, is an International Organization of Past Commodores, dedicated to preserving the traditions and ideals of Yachting, while at the same time focusing on humanitarian missions.

We honored and thanked all Veterans for their profound courage, self-less service, and immense sacrifice. They left families, protected our freedom and defended our nation with Honor. We are forever grateful for their bravery and dedication.

The day included a meet-and-greet breakfast, patriotic music from the Northcoast Tempo Mixed Barbershop Chorus, a Northcoast Veterans Museum display arranged by Rex Postlethwait, branch of service recognition, and an informative speech by retired Brigadier General Mark E. Scheid.

Veterans and attendees were treated to a luncheon in CIC's lakefront pavilion, followed by a Port Clinton VFW Post 2480 Honor-Guard walk along the lake boardwalk.

Veterans then traveled to the Miller Ferry, where they boarded and took a Voyage around some of the Lake Erie Islands, while listening to music from Hayden James.

It was a proud day for Veterans and attendees. The CIC membership, and the Blue Gavel, were delighted to host the event, enabling us to express our gratitude towards the Veterans and their service to our country.







WEST LAKE ERIE NORTH

STAN ZIEMKIEWICZ

RIVERVIEW YACHT CLUB

RVYC BG/PC just completed our homecoming. The BG/PC steak roast was a huge success. RVYC is heading to Kelly's Island for Labor Day weekend, then we will be getting ready for elections.

JRSC BG is working to honor their Commodore with their Commodores Ball

ORYC BG has no report

PPBC they are getting ready to have nominations and elections this October. They purchased and installed new sun shades in the kitchen. Many PC's went on the clubs MBI cruise and had an enjoyable time.

WEST LAKE ERIE SOUTH

WILLARD BUTTNER

PERRYSBURG BOAT CLUB

I attended Catawba Island Club's Voyage for Veterans event again this year. They did an excellent job with the program and I encourage you to attend next year.

CCYC BG hosts their Pork Chop Dinner along with the Cooler of Cheer.

HVYC BG hosts Burger nights on the third Wednesday of the month.

Nominating Committee Report

Article VIII, Section 2: The Nominating Committee shall consist of the two (2) immediate Past Presidents, the President, who shall act at Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

The Nominating Committee would like to direct the focus on the Executive Board positions and openings for the October 11, 2026 Fall Meeting that will be presented for Nominations and Elections . There are three Vice President Board positions that are open: Lake Erie South, West Lake Erie North and West Lake Erie South.

If you are interested in serving on the Executive Board for 2027, please submit an email indicating intent to seek the position you are interested in to:

President Diane Wright DLWright328@aol.com

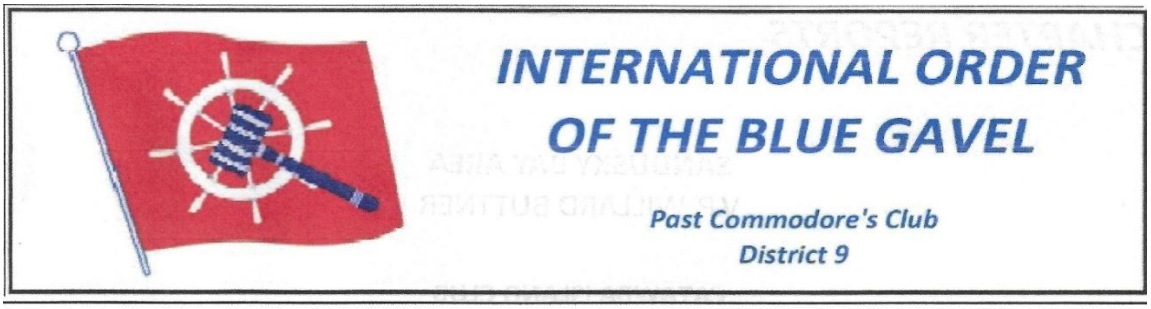
We will also be accepting nominations from the floor. If you have any questions, please contact me at 734-735-4616.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Diane Wright

Nominating Committee Chairman



Here are the nominations for the 2027 Executive Board positions and openings for October 11, 2026 IOBG District 9 Fall Meeting, Nominations and Elections:

President	Stan Ziemkiewicz
District Director	Diane Wright
President-Elect	Dave Mead
Alternate District Director	Dean Reamsnyder
Secretary	Lynne Shoup
Treasurer	Stan Ziemkiewicz
Supply Officer	Pat Slee
Vice President Lake Erie South	**open**
Vice President Maumee River Area	Charlie Sheets
Vice President Michigan South	Gary Baker
Vice President West Lake Erie North	**open**
Vice President West Lake Erie South	**open**

Vice President Sandusky Bay Area clubs transferred to Lake Erie South

We will accept nominations from the floor for the open positions. If you are interested, please consider submitting your name.