



IOBG District 7 Northcoast Chatter—February 2014

A publication of Past
Commodores

Volume 2, Issue 6
February 2014

President Gene McKeown



Without a doubt we have had the coldest January that I can remember. In the Island area, Lake Erie is solid ice. But the Mid America Boat Show starts this week, "Pitchers and Catchers" report in 45 days, and its 56 days till St Patrick's Day. That means Spring and boat launching is just around the corner. However you keep track of time, there is "light at the end of the tunnel". District 7 has a pretty good calendar set up and we hope you'll take advantage of it and get together with your fellow Commodores.

There are two Sunday brunches set up, one in Erie and one in Sandusky. Drive yourself or car pool. Erie Yacht Club and Sandusky Yacht club put out a really nice spread. Please see the flyer.

We will march in the St Patrick's Day Parade again this year and following the parade we will meet at the Hyatt Arcade. We have a room there which will be stocked with corn beef, Irish Whiskey, Irish Coffee and beer. Please see the flyer.

The Nautica Queen Brunch Cruise, put on by the ladies of the Auxiliary, closes out our Spring. Marianne Dempster does a great job of organizing this Sunday afternoon event. Please see the flyer.

As you know Lou Key was president of the International Order of the Blue Gavel in 2000. Joining him in holding that lofty position is Joel Kay, who will be sworn as president of IOBG in October. The convention will be held at the Double Tree in Beachwood. More information about the convention will available early this summer. All members of District 7 are welcome to attend.

District 7 is sponsoring a fund raiser to help offset the cost of running the October IOBG Convention. Tickets for the "Cooler of Spirits" fund raiser are \$5.00 and can be bought from any one on District 7's E-Board. Please see the flyer.

Finally, our membership renewal drive is under way and the good news is we are well ahead of last year at this time. An invoice is attached and if you haven't renewed yet, please take a few minutes and do it now. This is a big year for District 7 and we are anxious to show our International guest how "we roll" on the North Coast.

President Elect Warren Dempster

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable holiday season. As the new year begins, District 7, lead by President Gene Mckeown has been very busy putting together a calendar of events and meetings for 2014. Our first executive board meeting was held January 4th at Northeast Yacht Club. We would like to thank Northeast Y.C. for allowing us to use their facilities. One of our first goals this year is to complete the renewal process of our current members and prepare for our annual Blue Blazer in which we invite the current Commodores and the immediate Past Commodores of our area clubs. At this event, we will intro-

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Special points of interest:

- 2014 Dues are due and payable by 12/31/13
- February 9 Sunday Brunch
Erie Yacht Club
- March 9 Sunday Brunch
Sandusky YC
- March 17, 2014 St. Patricks
Day Parade Downtown
Cleveland
- March 20, 2014 Blue Blazer
Social
- April 4-5 ILYA Spring Meet-
ing
- April 27 Sunday Nautica
Queen Brunch



President Elect Warren Dempster(continued)

duce them to the IOBG and hopefully answer any questions they may have regarding this organization. An invitation will be sent out in February, so if you see you're club's Past Commodore or Commodore, please encourage them to attend.

I would like to Congratulate the Greater Cleveland Boating Association's Commander, Anthony Caruso and the Inter-lake Yachting Association's Commodore, Steve Harris. Both are members of District 7 and we look forward to working along with them throughout 2014. Also, congratulations to the District 7 Auxiliary President, Marianne Dempster and the 2014 Bridge. The Auxiliary has always been there to support us in District 7, and we look forward to their Nautica Queen brunch cruise in April.

Our own Past President Joel Kay will be installed as President of the International Order of the Blue Gavel at the annual meeting and ball that will be held in Cleveland in October. This event will be held one week after District 7's change of watch. We invite all of our members to attend both events. District 7 will be sponsoring a fundraiser for Joel and Nancy Kay for their ball. Please check out the flyer in this Chatter for details. If anyone needs any IOBG supplies or clothing, I will be assisting Supply Officer Lou Key this winter. Please e-mail or call me with what you would like.

Our Bridge and Vice Presidents will continue to work on maintaining District 7 as not only the largest again, but hopefully the most active district in the IOBG. If any member has an idea or a concern, please contact one of us on the board and we will address it immediately. Thank you and hope to see everyone at the Cleveland St. Patrick's Day parade.

First Vice President Rich McKee



.I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! The beginning of a new year brings new experiences and another boating season right around the corner.

I would like to give a quick recognition to South Shore Cruising Club, which just happens to be my home club. SSCC swore in their 3rd Female Commodore, Doreen Badaczewski, for 2014. I am sure that Doreen will do a great job, as she follows right behind her husband Joe. We also have a female Vice Commodore, Kathy Valliere, who will be Commodore in 2015.



I would like to personally invite everyone to try and attend an event sponsored by IOBG this year. There are a wide variety of events planned that should interest everyone



District Director Pat McIlwee

Happy New Year to all current and future members of IOBG District 7!
I hope that everyone enjoyed their holiday season.
It is exciting to see an energized, focused and fun bridge of District 7. I can honestly say that it has been a pleasure to work with all of the members of District 7.

We are excited to have some new chapters that have formed in our district.
A big welcome to the following clubs:
Commodores Cruising Club—Sandusky, Ohio
Lakefront Yacht Club—Port Clinton, Ohio
Laguna Yacht Club—Huron, Ohio
Vermilion Yacht Club—Vermilion, Ohio
Please remember that we are here to help and assist in any way possible.

We have a very big year in 2014. There are many functions that should add significant value to your membership. I would encourage everyone to attend as many as possible and get involved.

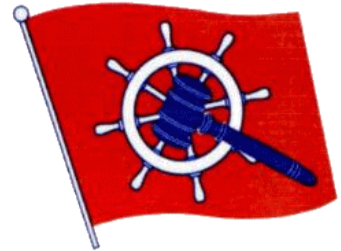
Joel Kaye will be installed as International President in October of 2014. This is a time to showcase our District and really be proud. We are selling raffle tickets for the cooler of spirits to help in our support of Joel. Please make sure that you buy some tickets to support our District.

I realize that it has been a very cold harsh winter but it is not too early to start thinking of summer. I will be running 2 golf outings again for GCBA. If you would like to play please let me know as the spots fill up pretty quickly.

June 21 is the GCBA Rendezvous Golf Outing at Thunderbird Hills in Huron
September 26 is the GCBA Club Championship at Coppertop at Cherokee Hills in Valley City.
The format for both events is a scramble and just a fun day out golfing.

I am also pledging my support to the following District 7 members that have moved up in other organizations. Former Central Ohio VP Steve Harris is Commodore of the Inter-Lake Yachting Association. Former President of District 7 Tony Caruso is the Commander for the Greater Cleveland Boating Association. It is very nice to see your friends flourish in other organizations!

Keep warm as spring will be here shortly!

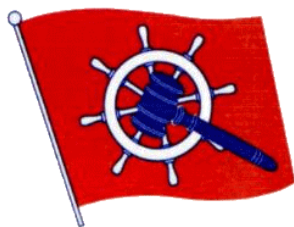


Northwest VP Debbie Light

Greetings Everyone! I hope the New Year finds everybody well and surviving the winter months! Soon it will be time to prepare for launch. The clubs within my region, please send me your 2014 "Schedule of Events" so we can get them posted on the district's website. This will enable everyone the opportunity to attend your functions. I also encourage you to attend our District 7 events and meetings which you can find on our website. A reminder if you would like me to share any information in the Chatter newsletter; please send me an email at dlightful759@sbcglobal.net. Please keep up the Chatter, there are many opportunities to get to know other IOBG members and create new memories. As a closing reminder to pay your dues to keep District 7 on target this year.

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



International President Elect Joel Kay

Thanks to District 7 for the ongoing support for my upcoming International Presidential Ball. The 2014 International Annual Meeting will take place this coming October 16, 17 and 18. All Gavel members are welcome to attend all open meetings, whether a delegate or not. We have planned a dinner Thursday, October 16 at Lakeside YC and Friday, October 17 at Edgewater YC; all are welcome. Afternoon events on Friday and Saturday are in the planning stages.



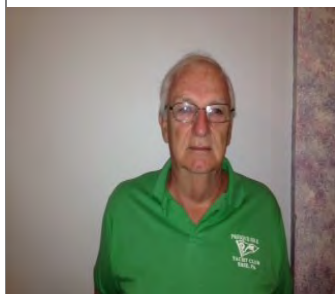
The event will be held at the Hilton Double Tree, 3663 Park East, Beachwood on Saturday, October 18. We are planning for an outstanding event, including the weekend. I will keep everyone informed about coming events that weekend in future publications.

I hope everyone stays well and enjoys the rest of the winter.

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

Pennsylvania VP Charles Miller

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



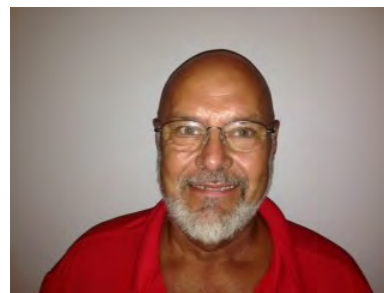
Cleveland Central Bob Sefcovic

Well Commodore's, January is upon us. By the time this edition is out, the Mid-America boat show will have come and gone. It's the mid winter excursion to look at the many water related goodies to add to your wish list.

There are several outings planned over the next few months. Brunches in Erie and Sandusky as well as The Nautica cruise. Dates and times can be found on the District 7 web page. Also, let this serve as a reminder, that 2014 dues were due on January first. Please remit at your earliest convenience.

By now, you should have heard, that Joel Kay of District 7 Will be sworn in as President of the International at the convention here in Cleveland, this October. District 7 has put together a cooler of "CHEER" as a fund raiser to help Joel offset expenses. It consists of a 150 quart cooler, filled with premium spirits. A flyer, with details is on the website.

Robert 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

2013 was a busy year for the IOBGA District 7. We began the year with a raffle for a beautiful afghan crocheted by our own Hildegard Gephard. It was raffled off during the Nautica Cruise which we hosted in April. In March we supported IOBG for the Blue Blazer at Bratenahl Place. In March, IOBGA marched along with the IOBG in the Cleveland St. Patrick's Day Parade. On Memorial Day in May, many of the Auxiliary bridge and members participated in the ceremony at the USS Cod. In June the Auxiliary assisted the IOBG during a cocktail party at Huron Boat Basin at the GCBA Rendezvous.



In August several of the bridge and Auxiliary members attended the IOBG cocktail party on Put-in-Bay along with Districts 9 & 25. IOBG hosted a wine tour through Geneva in September, several Auxiliary members attended and a fun time was had by all. October was the change of watch and while myself, the Vice President and Treasurer remained the same, we welcomed Debbie Yearick as our 2014 Secretary. Debbie and her husband Tim belong to Northeast Yacht Club.

With the fund raising we did this year, we were able to donate to the IOBG Humanitarian fund and also the Diabetes Association in support of a diabetic child attending Camp Ho Mita Koda in Auburn, OH.

I encourage the members and friends of IOBGA and IOBGA to attend the Nautica Queen Cruise on April 27. Please e-mail me at marianne.dempster@yahoo.com for information.

The Auxiliary looks forward to working with IOBG President Gene McKeown and his bridge and members. Thank you for the continued support as I serve as your 2014 President.

Ohio River VP—Pat Waitkus

Good day all! I did not have the opportunity to introduce myself in the last chatter, so here goes!

I have been an avid boater since 1995. I am harbored at Lakefront Marina in Port Clinton OH, enjoying Lakefront Yacht Club. I had the good fortune, and interesting education of helping to establish the club in a public marina in 2006, and serving as the first Commodore, and then very thankfully, the first Past Commodore! I have shipped out of Four Seasons Yacht Club in Cincinnati, and Whiskey Island in Cleveland. I am presently in year four of refitting a first model year Searay 270 Sundancer, and yes it will leave the dock this year for destinations other than the lift out. I'm not kidding! I have more tall tales to tell, but will save those for next month



Cleveland West VP Nick Romano

I would first like to Thank all my friends from District “7” for their cards, visits, phone calls and “Get Well” wishes during my recent hospital stays and my recovery.

It was very reassuring to know that even on my worst days I had prayers of support.

This is truly why we are called a “Boating Family”.

2014 is going to be a very busy and exciting year for our District “7” members. President Gene McKeown has scheduled many events, beginning with the Sunday Brunch at Erie Yacht Club; then on to another great Brunch at Sandusky Yacht Club. Whether you live on the East or West side, do try to join us for one of these great Buffets. There are many events during the summer months; but I am looking forward to the “Wine Tour and Presidents Reception” at the Geneva Lodge on September 20th.

October 16-19th our District will be hosting the IOBG International Fall meeting here in Cleveland. Our Past President, Joel Kay will be sworn in as the International President at the Dinner on Saturday night. Scheduled meetings and dinner information will become available as the date draws closer. Please check our website often.

If you are a Past Commodore of your Yacht Club and have not joined the “Gavel”, please take a moment to complete our application and join your friends. We are all

Past Commodores – join our Brotherhood!

If you have questions about IOBG or any of our upcoming events, please contact me.

P/C Nick Romano
440-564-5638

dmromano@roadrunner.com

*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*



“OK lads, this is no laughing matter...!”



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*

I was Commodore of Mentor Lagoons Yacht Club in 2005. We have been members at M.L.Y.C. for fifteen (15) years. I chair both the Budget Committee and our Blue Gavel Chapter. I am proud of Marilyn, my wife and First Mate, who presides as President/Treasurer of the Nautilettes (Ladies Auxiliary). She is also Vice-President of District 7's Auxiliary.

This will be our fourth year of involvement on the District 7 bridge and we look forward again to working with the Past Commodore's of Yacht Clubs in the Mentor Lagoons and Grand River. Our interest is to support you in establishing strong Blue Gavel Chapters within your organizations.

District 7 has more members than any other District in the International. And the reason is we have more neat activities than any other District. I highly recommend, if you enjoy meeting new friends and having a good time, you need to join us at our next function. On February 2nd we will be going to Erie Yacht Club in Erie, PA for a Brunch. Also, if you like to gamble, Presque Isle Downs & Casino are close by.

When you finalize your Clubs Schedule of Events for 2014, we ask that you supply us with a copy, so we can list them on the Districts website. This will enable everyone the opportunity to take part in your functions. Again, we encourage you to attend our events and meetings which you can find on our website. In the mean time, I will do my best to keep you informed of upcoming events.

If I can be of help in any way, please give me a call.

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*

Hello and Happy New Year!! My name is Pat White and I am the East Vice President Of District & IOBG. This is my third year serving. I have met and made many new friends and look forward to meeting many more this year. I am a member at Chagrin Lagoons Yacht Club in Eastlake. Please feel free to stop by for a visit.

I would like to Congratulate President Gene McKeown for serving District 7 for 2014. Also, Congratulations to Joe Kay, President Elect for International Order of Blue Gavel District 7. Wishing you both much success.

Dues were due December 31, 2013. If you haven't paid yet, please get them in ASAP. Thank you!

Please feel free to contact me at 440-256-9714 or my email is ronpat-date@roadrunner.com

Treasurer Dave Zmek



Secretary Dominique Sorbo



Central OH VP Open



*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*

Help Wanted

We are looking for a member in the Central Ohio area to become a Vice President for District 7.

The pay is great, the food is good and the benefits are priceless!!!!

2014 IOBG Dues Notice

Dues are due and payable 01/01/2014

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: _____

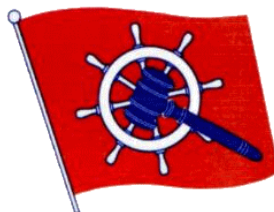
State: _____

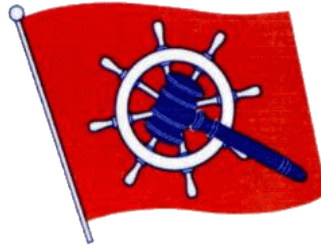
Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

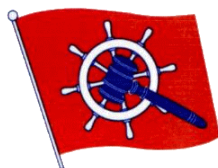
Any changes from prior year: _____





IOBG D7 Calendar

<u>Event</u>	<u>2013 Date</u>	<u>2014 Date</u>
E-board (Huron)	Oct. 30 (Chatter due Nov 8)	
GCBA	Nov. 8-10	
I-LYA Fall Meeting	Dec. 6-7	
Christmas Party	Dec. 8	
E-Board (Northeast Y C)		Jan. 4
D7 Sunday Brunch Tour Erie		Feb. 9
AYC Commodore's Ball		Feb. 14-16
D7 Sunday Brunch Tour Sandusky Yacht Club		March 9
E-Board (TBA)		March 8
St Patrick's Parade		March 17
Blue Blazer		March 20
I-LYA Spring Meeting		April 4-5
Nautica Queen Brunch		April 27
Memorial Day @Cod		May 26
E-Board (TBA)		June 5
GCBA Rendezvous Huron		June 20-22
I-LYA Regatta PIB		Aug. 9
E-Board (TBA)		Sept. 4
Vineyard Tour		Sept. 20
Change of Watch D7		Oct. 11
International Annual Meeting		Oct. 16-19



International Order of Blue Gavel District 7 St. Patrick's Day Parade information

When: Monday March 17, 2014

Where: Downtown Cleveland

Cost: \$20/per person

Parade starts at 1:04pm

We will be gathering in the staging area between East 18th Street and East 21st on Superior at approximately 1:30pm

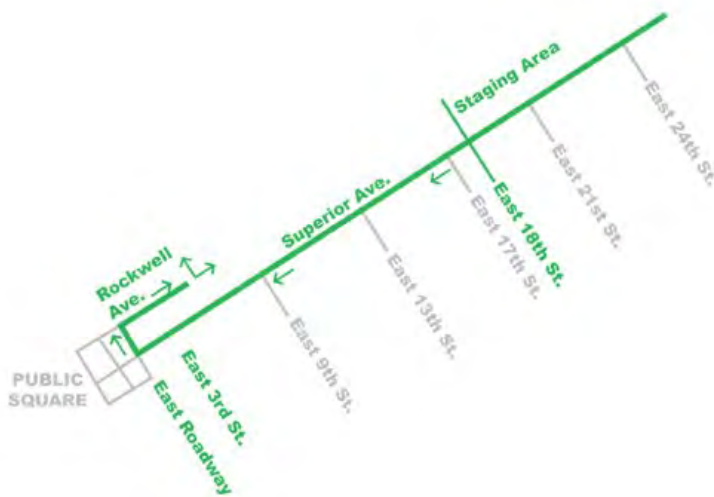
Please see the parade route below

Dress: Winter uniform—Blue Blazer/Gray slacks/White Shirt/Tie

All members of International Order of Blue Gavel and Auxiliary are invited to march in the parade. We will be making a donation to the St. Patrick's Day Parade committee. Join us before and after the parade at the Hyatt Regency at the Arcade for Corned Beef and some fine Irish Hospitality!!!!

RSVP:

**Gene McKeown at genemckeown@oh.rr.com or 440-452-3815
prior to 2/14/14**



Happy St.Patrick's Day !



Please join IOBGA District 7 for a **Brunch Cruise on The Nautica Queen.**

Sunday April 27, 2014 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Boarding time is 12:00 p.m.

Adults \$33.00 per person

Buffet includes:

Fresh Fruit Compote

Mixed Greens with Dressing

Assorted Sweet Rolls, Danish and

Croissants with Butter and Jam

Side Salads

Chef's Choice of Carving - Beef, Ham, or Turkey

French Toast or Waffles with Maple Syrup

Grilled Bacon and Sausage

Blintzes with Fruit Toppings

Home Fried Potatoes

Fluffy Scrambled Eggs

Pasta du jour

Breast of Chicken du jour

Dessert

Choice of Coffee, Tea or Iced Tea

For reservations contact Marianne Dempster at marianne.dempster@yahoo.com 440-289-1216

Seating is limited, please reserve early. Reservations and payment due by March 25, 2013.

Please make checks payable to IOBGA District 7

Payment may be sent to: M. Dempster 33545 Lori Ann Dr., Eastlake, OH 44095

Thank you

President Marianne Dempster



IOBG DISTRICT 7

SUNDAY BRUNCH TOUR ERIE YACHT CLUB

Sunday February 9th 12:00

Champagne Brunch \$20/person*

Ravine Drive (off 6th St.), Erie 16512

You might want to take a side trip to the Tom Ridge
Center on Presque Isle after the brunch.

SANDUSKY YACHT CLUB

Sunday March 9th 12:00 - \$23/person*

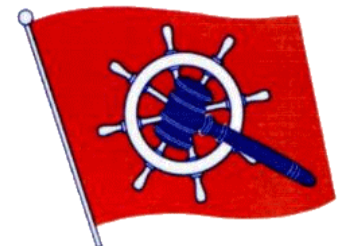
529 E. Water St., Sandusky, 44870

You might want to visit the Maritime Museum in
Sandusky after the brunch.



RSVP to Gene McKeown at 440-452-3815 or genemckeown@oh.rr.com

*includes tax and gratuity – cash bar





District 7
International Order of the Blue Gavel
2014 Annual Convention & Ball Fundraiser
Benefitting President Joel Kay & Lady Nancy



Anyone Can Enter or Donate

\$5.00 per Ticket – Cooler Full of Premium Spirits

A \$700.00 + Value

\$100.00 Prize to seller of Winning Ticket!!!

See any District 7 Board member for tickets or call:

Gene Mckeown 440-452-3815 or Warren Dempster 440-725-7731

The Winning Ticket will be drawn publicly during the IOBG Cocktail Party at the GCBA Rendezvous June 21st, 2014

News and Notes



New Cleveland Marina Downtown

Read all about it

http://www.cleveland.com/architecture/index.ssf/2013/06/new_marina_at_north_coast_harb.html

**Look out for next issue and information on the new public
docks at Put In Bay**



Inter-Lake Yachting Association

www.i-lya.org

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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

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E-mail: patmcilwee@cox.net

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330-606-5660

Central Ohio

Open

Southern Ohio / Ohio River

V.P Patrick Waitkus
pwaitkus@yahoo.com
216.701.2989

Cleveland East

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ronpatdale@roadrunner.com
440-256-9714

Northeast

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Pennsylvania

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814-833-9098

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440-350-1488

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Mary Ann Dempster, TCYC
wcy40@yahoo.com
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