

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL
2007 ANNUAL MEETING
LONG BEACH ISLAND, NJ
OCTOBER 20, 2007

Shortcut to My Computer.lnk

The Annual Meeting was called to order by President Carol Promessi at 9:05 a.m. at the Spray Beach Yacht Club in Long Beach Island, NJ on Saturday, 20 October 2007.

President Carol Promessi welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Given by District 12 Director Vince Core

INVOCATION: Given by 2nd Vice President Ray Thompson

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Names read by President Carol Promessi

Robert Carter	District #70 Director – Jan. 28, 2007
Joe Zammit	District #18 Director – March 25, 2007
Sue Brauner	Retired Recording Secretary – May 15, 2007
Rudolf Bauer	District #3 – June 3, 2007
Bonnie Sussel	First VP Auxiliary – June 14, 2007- Wife of Harvey Sussel
Robert Graven	District #7 Director – July 16, 2007
Trooper David Brinkerhoff	Son of Sandy Beach YC Member Roy Brinkerhoff A N. Y. Police Officer Killed in the Line of Duty
Margaret Kennett	District #75 Secretary
Maria Froude	District #70 Founding Auxiliary Member
Pat Cleland	Past Auxiliary President
Bill Hickman	District #1 – Missing
Forrest Shaffer	Father of IOBGA Member Dawn Nemoy and Father-In Law of Marshall Nemoy – Oct. 4, 2007

ROLL CALL OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AREA VICE PRESIDENTS, and DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

Executive Committee

President	Carol Promessi
President- Elect	Richard Janiszewski
1 st Vice President	Jerry Rudd – Medical Excuse
2 nd Vice President	Ray Thompson
Treasurer	Marshall Nemoy
Immediate Past President	Harvey Sussel
Executive Secretary	Mary Eiffert

Area Vice Presidents

NCVP	Debbie Banks-Skellenger
NEVP	Marc D. Connelly
SEVP	Tom Sullivan
NWVP	Mike Parish
SWVP	George Knies

District Directors

District 1	Alt. Art Kovarnik	District 16	Absent
District 2	Absent	District 18	Alt. Phil Arms
District 3	Lewis Smith	District 19	Phil Promessi
District 4	Absent	District 20	David Meshulam
District 5	Alt. Mike Parish	District 21	Alt. Bill Thayer
District 6	Alt. Charles Stone	District 22	Absent
District 7	Alt. Anthony Caruso	District 23	Francis D. Ramsey
District 8	Louis D. Daniello	District 24	Absent
District 9	Alt. Art Garside	District 25	Alt. Art Garside
District 10	Absent	District 26	Hal Salyer
District 11	Alt. Gary McGrath	District 27	Chuck Browning
District 12	Vince Core	District 70	Alt. Tony Razzell
District 14	Alt. Larry Draper	District 75	Absent
District 15	Alt. Gary Hall	District 50	Alt. Art Garside
		District 51	Absent
		Japan	Absent

The Recording Secretary confirmed that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: President Carol Promessi distributed the agenda for this meeting and it was approval as submitted.

APPROVAL OF ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES HELD IN LONG BEACH, CA AT THE QUEEN MARY, OCTOBER 28, 2006: The minutes of the Annual Meeting on the Queen Mary in Long Beach, CA, October 28, 2006 were approved as submitted.

RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:
The motion was made and seconded to approve the ratification of actions of the Executive Committee during the past year. The motion passed.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

A. DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

District 1: Art Kovarnik reported retention and getting new members is still hard, but the last 3 events had very good turn outs and things are starting to look up. And the Marketing Plan will be a good tool to work with. Report submitted.

District 3: Lewis Smith reported that the District selected the Excalibur Foundation of Buffalo for their charity and thru the hard work of different Chapters and Auxiliary, raised over \$2000.00. NEVP Marc Connelly suggested asking IOBGHF for matching funds. That was approved. At their Annual Meeting, a discussion on the proposed dues increase was approved. Report submitted.

District 5: Mike Parish reported that the District held a Marina River Parkway Clean up with the Oregon State Marina Parks Assoc., which was a great success. The Membership is going up slow but sure. Report Submitted.

District 24: Mike Parish reported that the District held another successful Okanagan Invasion that was well attended. Everything is going smoothly and all events are well attended. Report submitted.

District 6: Charles Stone reported we have 59 members, down a little from past years. The members participated in a lot of activities in the general sailing events around the Island. An informal survey of our members showed strong support for a \$10.00 dues increase. Report submitted.

District 7: Anthony Caruso reported there are 275 members. This year we have gotten involved in the political side with the State Dept. of Natural Resources. We are very active in getting new and old members into the fold. Our charity in our Districts is with Cleveland Sight Center.

District 8: Louis J. Daniello reported that being such a large District that the Ambassador program is working quite well to keep old members and attract new ones. Also the Marketing program should work out very well.

District 9: Art Garside: No report.

District 11: Gary McGrath reported the district has 109 members. They publish a newsletter quarterly. They have different activities to get new and old members to attend. Report submitted.

District 12: Vince Core's report consists of 5 Yacht Clubs, which I think you all have visited on your visit here on the Island. We are having the same problems as most Yacht Clubs, keeping members. This year we are helping two groups, "Friends of Southern Regional High School" and have talked to IOBGHF about matching funds and "Re-Claim the Beach" in helping the local community. Report submitted.

District 14: SWVP George Knies reported District 14 would be in his SWVP report.

District 15: Alt. District Director Gary Hall reported for District Director Linda Loftis that everything is going quite well. Report submitted.

District 16: No report.

District 18: Alt. District Director Phil Arms reported that the District is a large group and held the Winter Meeting in Charleston, SC. SEVP Tom Sullivan will have a further report.

District 19: Phil Promessi reported on working to retain membership and attending IOBG District functions. District 19 now has a Website, it is IOBGdelta19.org. Report submitted.

District 20: David Meshulam reported that they are having problems keeping membership. Two things the District is doing is giving a plaque to each Chapters and they in turn give it to a member for their work in the Club and each new IOBG member gets a copy of Joe Tringali's "Customs and Courtesies"

District 21: No report.

District 22: No report.

District 23: Frank D. Ramsey reported that IOBG interest is going up and the District has completely filled all positions. It is looking good for District 23.

District 24: Report submitted.

District 25: No report.

District 26: No report.

District 27: Chuck Browning reported being the newest District and is working hard to get known and people are coming to us for information on IOBG. This 1st year we helped "Children of Fallen Soldiers Relief Fund" by donating \$5000.00 to it. This coming year we hope to help US Naval Sailing Assoc. (we plan to join the Assoc.) on their program "Vets on the Bay". Report submitted.

District 50 Alt. Art Garside reported for Damian Pflighaar that membership is lower than 3 years ago because the Chapters have opted to join Districts in their geographic area and that is a good thing. Report submitted.

District 51: President Carol Promessi gave the report for Vern Bendsen that District 51 is west of the Mississippi River, and that included Marshall Islands, the Philippines Island, Japan, Canada, and Mexico. Most communications is thru snail mail and have asked all

the District members for their Email addresses. So by next year we will have a quicker way to hear from our members. Report submitted.

District 70: Alt. Tony Razzell reported for Bill Young: The lost of Bob Carter, without his effort there would be no IOBG UK. RNLI asked me to thank you for the donation you made last year.

Tony Razzell thanked everyone for warm friendship and hospitality given to him for his stay. Thanks you to District 8 and 75 (New Zealand) for welcoming his family. Report submitted.

District 75: Marshall Nemoy read a letter from District Director Keith Waddell from New Zealand. He formally invited the U.S. IOBG to have a regional meeting in his area. We have been saddened by the death of our Secretary Margaret Kennett. Congratulations to the incoming President Richard Janiszewski.

B. AREA VICE PRESIDENTS AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

NWVP Mike Parish report: This is my last year as NWVP and the past 14 years have been a blast. I have enjoyed my time with IOBG and will still stay involved with Districts in Canada, as I have made many personal friends there. I would like to thank IOBG for the ride; good luck to all future ventures and you will always have my support. Report Submitted.

SWVP George Knies report: This year I have been conducting monthly lunch meeting with Directors and Presidents of D-14 and 19. District 6 in Hawaii has added a new Chapter for the SW Area. With the Memorandum of Understanding with USCGAUX and the USPS some of our Chapters have been conducting Vessel Safety Checks and Boating Safety Classes. The Executive Inn and Suites as the base of operations for the Winter Regional Meeting in Oakland, it is close to all activities. Report submitted.

LEGAL OFFICER George Knies report: Unfortunately there are former members of IOBG that have continued using our name, burgee, etc. for events at their clubs and elsewhere unlawfully. Such unauthorized activity may adversely affect IOBG's good name and financial standing (the full report will be in the next LOG). Be sure to read it fully and any questions in this regard please contact me at machbusters1@earthlink.net. Report submitted.

NCVP Debbie Banks-Skellenger report: All Districts are working very hard to communicate with their members and it is working. A special thanks to De Ramsey for all his hard work bring District 23 back into the fold and the great Summer Regional Meeting in Mackinac Island that he set up. There is so many activities in each area, that there is just so much time one can contribute to. A couple of notes, we are in direct competition for time and / or money with other organizations. I think many factors need to be noted: geographic closeness within the Chapter; economic status (club fees/dockage/income); other Boating Organizations. Bottom line – we need to get back to

the basics – grass roots level on how to make the Past Commodores of each Chapter want to join IOBG – Why are we Prestigious? Report submitted.

NEVP Marc D. Connelly report: The information on the Districts is in my report; but now I want to talk about Marketing Program, this is a work in progress with the District Directors having special assignments, contact 3 current chapters in 3 months (one a month) personal contact preferred, but any means that works for the District Directors like direct mail or E-mail. To let the Chapters know what IOBG is about and your Area Vice President is there to help and advise you. The International 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents will keep in contact with their Area Vice Presidents. The Executive Committee must provide support and guidance to the all the districts. A Marketing Program is available, it explains what IOBG is trying to do. Report submitted.

SEVP Tom Sullivan report: District 18 and 8 both are doing well, losing some members; but gaining in new Clubs coming in and soon will have 4 new Auxiliary Chapters. When IOBG loses members and with all that is being said. IOBG has to start thinking positively. Communication is the key, get on the phone talk to who is leaving and find out why, sometime it just take phone call or visit to keep the member. The Ambassador program is working very well for us. Report submitted.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Mary Eiffert report: Since the 2006 Annual Meeting we have added 6 new Chapters. Anyone is welcome to request a copy of the records that I have on file, please send me an E-mail or phone. Upon completion of my 14 years as Executive Secretary, I am looking forward to serving you again next year. Report submitted

C. APPOINTED OFFICERS

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT Phil Arms report: Had some good workshops this past year, particularly yesterday; but always looking for new ideas to further IOBG interest.

WEBMASTERS Marshall Nemoy / Mary Nye Meyers report: You can get the Log on website. The information on how to get it is in the LOG and IOBG website. Right now we are working on 3 lists trying to put together the names and addresses of all the Yacht Clubs. It takes time to get a good master list.

Mary Nye Meyers report: Marshall Nemoy does the home page and I do the updates as soon as I can get the list from Carol Promessi. I have started to use HTM, I think it will it will work better. Let me know.

LOG EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Mary Nye Meyers report: The deadline for the LOG is November 17, 2007.

PROTOCOL OFFICER George Knies: No report.

RECORDING SECRETARY Marybeth Thayer: No report.

SERGEANT AT ARMS Phil Promessi: No report.

D. APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES

BOAT U.S. Vern Bendsen: Absent.

HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION LIAISON Phil Arms report: The Executive Committee in the Bylaws is named as IOBGHF Trustees & Voting Members. They met this morning and elected the following people to a term to expire in 2009.

Art Garside
Carol Garside
Jim Hinckley
Marion Hughes
Bob Shogren

NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION Phil Arms/Art Garside report: NBF Earl Waesche, Legislative Director is working very hard to be sure laws put forward in the Congress will for Boaters. Like when the a bill was put forward to take NOAA weather reports and turn them over to a private company which would mean we would have to pay for it. NBF stopped it. Now a Circuit Court Ruling is trying for recreational vessels to have a water discharge permit. Right now there is HR 2550 bill that could exempt us from any discharge permit process. We are encouraging you all to write your Senators and request support for HR 2550.

US SAILING ASSOCIATION Bill Thayer report: US SAILING wrapped up the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic team trials in sailing sailed concurrently on both coasts. US SAILING has partnered with the Active Network and Regatta Network to deliver a comprehensive regatta registration and Management solution for yachts clubs. For additional information about US SAILING Regatta Network, contact: Ken Taylor at 866-987-2638 or by e-mail at taylor@regattanetwork.com. Report submitted.

U.S. POWER SQUADRON David Meshulam report for BJ Ursin: Have not had a lot of response on the USPS boating safety education courses. BJ Ursin would like to hear from you and set up a program for you. US Power Squadron has put together a book for children called "WaterSmart from the Start" Student Guide, it is a video game for kids. The cost is \$5.00 plus postage. Have some copies for the membership to look at. If interested let me know.

U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY Larry Draper report: We work like USPS on the safety education course (one day class) and if you need more information let me know. I work at Coast Guard Auxiliary office and I will get my name to Mary Nye Meyers to put in the LOG for further information from me.

MEMBER LEADERSHIP/PUBLIC RELATIONS Art Garside report: I have written over 40 articles to Marina Publications about IOBG, we need to get the word out about IOBG, so if anyone has any ideas how to get our name out, please let me know.

IOBG AUXILIARY PRESIDENT Pat Graven report: IOBGA will give \$800.00 for the publication of the LOG. Marc Connelly came and discussed the Marketing Program, which we all appreciate. IOBGA is a support group for IOBG. President Pat Graven introduced 2008 IOBGA President Pat Janiszewski. President Pat Janiszewski introduced her 2008 Board:

President-Elect Audrey Hall
1st Vice President Ann Knies
2nd Vice President Christine Snedaker
Secretary Lucille Anthony
Treasurer Richard Hardy

IOBG HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Marion Hughes report: Introduced the new Officers for 2008.

President Bob Shogren
Vice President Jim Hinckley
Secretary Carol Garside
Treasurer Jackie Evans Rudd
Chief Legal Officer J. Mark Mantobbio
Directors:
Marc Connelly
George Demos
Art Garside
Art Theobald

E. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Treasurer Marshall Nemo report: As of September 30, 2007 we are solvent; but at years end we will not be. The expenses of IOBG is sometimes hard to budget, prices go up which we have no control over. Are there any question? P/P Louis Key asked about District 18 funds in IOBG Liabilities & Equity. Answer: when District 18 collapsed, they sent over \$5,000.00 to IOC. IOC collects the dues for District 18 and charges a processing fee (mailing and billing) approved by the Executive Committee. When District 18 is ready to take it back, a check will be mailed to them. Their funds are in Current Liabilities on the Balance Sheet. Report submitted.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer report. Motion passed.

2nd Vice President Ray Thompson report: The Marketing Plan is aggressive and needs everyone hard work, effort, and hands-on involvement of all Officers. Without adopting that personal kind of interest, such a plan would suffer and likely fail. Report submitted.

President-Elect Richard Janiszewski report: President Carol Promessi provided leadership characterized by patience, compassion, and a clear vision of the needs of our organization. We one and all say “thank you” for a job well done.

We will build on the labors and successes of Carol Promessi and Harvey Sussel.

Regression and /or stagnation are not options.

My theme for 2008 will be “Yes we can—we are one”. Report submitted.

Immediate Past President Harvey Sussel report: I had two jobs this year. I was Chairman of the Nominating Committee and the selecting of the Past President’s Award for an outstanding member of IOBG. I have enjoyed my time serving IOBG and thank you for my 15 years.

President Carol Promessi introduced IOBG Past Presidents:

Phil Arms – 1997

Louis A. Key Jr. – 2000

Marion Hughes – 2002

Art Garside – 2003

Larry Foote – 2004

Harvey Sussel – 2006

President Carol Promessi report: Announced that P/P Art Theobald will be IOBG Historian. This has been a working year to formulate new ideas in creating interest by having workshops. The workshops have worked well. We need to work from all area in our Districts, communication upward & downward – newsletter – flyers – e-mails – Boating magazines, whatever it takes to help our membership. At the start of the year in Accounts Receivable we were owed \$651.23 owing and today we only have \$99.27 owed to us, which should be cleared up by the end of year.

It has been a pleasure working with all of you and I look forward to continue in 2008. Report submitted.

10. SUPPLY OFFICE

President Carol Promessi report: We are talking to another firm to do clothing and embroidery, COMMODORE INSIGNIA is not doing well in that department. We will have information at that next meeting about it. If you have someone you can recommend in that field, let me know.

11. OLD BUSINESS: None

12. NEW BUSINESS:

A. President Carol Promessi presented a check from IOBGHF to Tony Razzell for ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOATS INSTITUTE.

B. APPROVAL OF BUDGET FOR 2008

President-Elect Richard Janiszewski reported on the 2008 budget. Discussed quite thoroughly about the IOBG budget problems and the only revenue IOBG gets is from member dues. The dues increase of \$10.00 is needed. Executive Committee has cut cost as far as we can without jeopardizing our quality. The cost in all areas has gone up.

Any questions?

A comment: Why isn't the information on how to get The Log put in red letter and on the back page where the addresses go? The Editor will look into it.

A Motion was made and seconded to approve the Budget for 2008 which includes the \$10.00 increase in due.

President Carol Promessi called on Marshall Nemoy to conduct the vote, because 1st Vice President Jerry Rudd is absent due to medical reasons.

It was explained that to vote on the 2008 Budget would be a vote on the \$10.00 increase in dues. This vote requires a simple majority.

The vote was 41 ayes and 28 nays. The motion passed.

C. PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGE

By-Laws Chairman Phil Arms report:

By-Laws proposed change in on Article 6 Section 2. It read now "To advance as an elected Officer of the IOBG the candidate shall be selected from members who are serving or have serve on the Board of Directors. The exception would be the Treasurer, who because of the need for special qualifications, may come from the general membership". The change would now read "To be elected as Second Vice President or above the candidates shall be selected from members who are serving or have served on the Board of Directors. Other elected Officers and Appointed Officers are not required to meet this qualification". This means the Nominating Committee can select from those who have not been a District Director if the pool of members to go forward dictates. This requires a 2/3 vote. Would the Chair entertain a motion that the Bylaws change be recommend? Answer: yes. Motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

D. NEW CHAPTERS APPLICATIONS

President-Elect Richard Janiszewski has 2 Chapter Applications request.

Both from District 27:

Riverside Yacht Club

Wellwood Yacht Club

Motion made to accept the 2 Chapters and seconded. Motion was approved.

Member Frank Snedaker from District 8 asked to speak under New Business.

He asked to add a suggestion along with the increase in dues. In order to have good will with everyone with our Chapters, International would give to each Chapter the new program from the US Power Squadron "WaterSmart from the Start" as appreciation.

13. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2008

President Carol Promessi asked Treasurer Marshall Nemoy to take charge of the Election. It is the duty of 1st Vice President Jerry Rudd; but as you all know he is not with us today. Marshall Nemoy announced the Nominating Committee slate of Officers that was present from Mackinac Island. Please stand when I call you name. For continuity the President and Immediate Past President serve for two year terms, they are automatically already voted in. Past President Carol Promessi and President Richard Janiszewski.

President-Elect Jerry Rudd: Absent

1st Vice President Ray Thompson

2nd Vice President Vern Bendsen: Absent

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy

Executive Secretary Mary Eiffert

SEVP Tom Sullivan

NEVP Marc Connelly

NCVP: Open

NWVP Art Kovarnik

SWVP Larry Draper

District 50 Damian Pflleghaar

District 51 Ann Fox

Marshall Nemoy asked if there any nominations from the floor? None.

Moved and seconded to accept the slate as presented and have the Secretary record the vote by acclamation. The voice vote taken and the ayes have it.

14. GOOD OF THE ORDER

President Carol Promessi spoke about the fantastic year she had, working well together. We got a lot accomplished and we are on the right path working as a team.

1st Vice President Jerry Rudd's volunteers presented information on the 2008 Annual Meeting in Seattle.

Mary Eiffert talked about Vancouver-Victoria Excursion that will happen before the Annual Meeting.

District Director 8 Lou Daniello had two things to recommend, first that where the Mission Statement is in the front of the LOG, put the words "Keeper of the Flame", it would be up to the Log Editor if she wanted to do it.

Made a motion and seconded: "International provide funds to purchase enough U.S. Power Squadron training manuals, "WaterSmart From the Start" Student Guide to each District Directors and Area Vice Presidents not to exceed \$200.00

A lively discussion followed. Call for question. President Carol Promessi asked for a show of hands. Motion was rejected.

President Carol Promessi asked if there was anything else for the GOOD OF THE ORDER. No response.

15. WELCOMING NEW OFFICERS AND PRESENTING GAVEL TO INCOMING PRESIDENT

President Carol Promessi presented the gavel to President Richard Janiszewski for 2008.

15. SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESIDENT-ELECT - RICHARD JANISZEWSKI ANNOUNCED APPOINTED OFFICERS, REPRESENTATIVES AND COMMITTEES FOR THE NEW YEAR

2008 APPOINTED OFFICERS

Education and Development	PP Phil Arms
Legal Officer	PC George Knies
Log Editor-in-Chief	PC Mary Nye Meyers
Protocol Officer	PP Phil Arms
Recording Secretary	PC Marybeth Thayer
Sergeant-At-Arms	PC Phil Promessi
Supply Officer	PC Earl Hohlmayer
Webmasters	Treasurer and PC Marshall Nemoy, PC Mary Nye Meyers

2008 REPRESENTATIVES

Boat US	PC James Hinckley
IOBGA Liaison	Second VP Vern Bendsen
IOBGHF Liaison	PP Phil Arms
National Boating Federation	PP Phil Arms and SEVP Tom Sullivan
U.S. Sailing	PC Bill Thayer
U.S. Power Squadron	PC B. J. Ursin
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary	PC Larry Draper
Public Relations & Communication	PP Art Garside and PC Debbie Banks-Skellenger

2008 STANDING COMMITTEES

Annual Meeting Review:	Past President Carol Promessi, Chairman President Richard Janiszewski First Vice President Ray Thompson
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Treasurer Marshall Nemoy

Auditing: Past President Carol Promessi, Chairperson
President Richard Janiszewski
President Elect Jerry Rudd

By-Laws: Past President Phil Arms, Chairperson
Legal Officer George Knies
President Elect Jerry Rudd
District 50 Director Damian Pflighaar

Receive
Nominations for IOBGHF: Past President Phil Arms, Chairperson
President Elect Jerry Rudd
Second Vice President Vern Bendsen

Elections: First Vice President Ray Thompson,
Chairperson
President Elect Jerry Rudd

Membership: President Richard Janiszewski, Chairman
Second Vice President Vern Bendsen
Southeast Vice President Tom Sullivan

Nominating: Past President Carol Promessi,
Chairperson
President Richard Janiszewski
President Elect Jerry Rudd

16. ADJOURN

President Richard Janiszewski announced the Fall Meeting will be held immediately after this meeting adjourned. No Sunday meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marybeth Thayer
Recording Secretary