

**INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL
WINTER REGIONAL MEETING
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SESSION
Charleston, South Carolina
February 3, 2007**

The meeting was called to order by President Promessi at 9:08 a.m. at the Charleston Yacht Club in Charleston, SC on Saturday February 3, 2007.

Pledge of Allegiance: Lead by Charleston Yacht Club Chapter President John McAlister Jr.

Moment of Silence: For Past President Robert Carter, England Director District #70 and Jackie King wife of Joe King, Past President of District #8.

At roll call, the following individuals were present:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| President | Carol Promessi |
| President Elect | Richard Janiszewski |
| 1st Vice President | Jerry Rudd |
| 2nd Vice President | Ray Thompson |
| Treasurer | Marshall Nemoy |
| Immediate Past President | Harvey Sussel : Excuse |

The Recording Secretary confirmed that a quorum was present.

OFFICERS AND MEMBER

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | District 8: | |
| Mark Connelly | Northeastern V.P. | M. Jack Kennedy | President |
| Debbie Banks-Skellenger | North Central V.P. | Rich Oakley | President Elect |
| Tom Sullivan | Southeastern V.P.. | Ronald Richard | 1 st Vice President |
| George Knies | Southwestern V.P. | Phil Bouckaert | 2 nd Vice President |
| Art Garside | Past Intl. President | Dick Kelly | Secretary |
| Phil Arms | Past Intl. President | John Matthews | Treasurer |
| | | Bob Shogren | Supply Officer |
| George Knies | Legal Officer | Joseph Tringali | Past President |
| Marybeth Thayer | Recording Secretary | Briggs Edney | Member |
| | | Frank Snedaker | Member |
| District 14: | | District 18: | |
| Larry Draper | President | John McAlister Jr. | Member |
| District 15: | | Frank Rutigliano | Member |
| Gary Hall | Director | Malcom Swan | Member |
| Bill Thayer | Past SWVP | | |

District 19:

IOBGA:

Phil Promessi

Director

Pat Graven

President

Pat Janiszewski

President Elect

IOBGHF:

Christine Snedaker

Secretary

Audrey Hall

Treasurer

Carol Garside

Chairperson

Innes Richards

Member

President Promessi distributed the agenda for this meeting and it was approved as submitted.

Introduction of International Past Presidents: President Promessi introduced Past Presidents Art Garside and Phil Arms.

Introduction of the Hosts for the Winter Regional Meeting: President Promessi introduced John McAlister Jr. President of IOBG Chapter of CYC and Frank Ruligliano, Past Commodore of CYC.

President Promessi announced the new format for the morning session, and that we would have Round Table discussions and the Education and Development Chairman P/P Phil Arms would lead it. This new format will allow for more interaction between the members and Executive Committee. We would then have the Regional Meeting take place in the afternoon after lunch.

P/P Phil Arms started by having everyone introduce themselves.

The group was divided into 4 groups with 1st V/P Jerry Rudd, Treasurer Marshall Nemoy, P/Elect Richard Janiszewski, and 2nd V/P Ray Thompson chairing the Round Table discussions in each group. The objective was to decide how best to help IOBG do a better job for its Membership, "What works for you".

After the Round Table discussions had concluded, he asked each group spokespersons to talk about what was discussed at each table for a short report.

2nd V/P Ray Thompson reported: Ambassador's Program, supportive charity programs – the Foundation. IOBG should help a Chapter and District with ideas for youth and members activity. Have a support system in place to help out if needed.

1st V/P Jerry Rudd reported: getting publications out at the local level, and to market functions of local Clubs in the Yachting community and help with strong Chapters – weak Districts, what IOBG can do for each District. Need to "Market" IOBG better.

P/Elect Richard Janiszewski reported: the positive things IOBG does for its Districts. Holding District Meetings twice a year, getting all together and finding out what is working for each District. A Management Meeting for the new Officers at the beginning of the year with different speakers to speak on certain subjects.

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy reported: Importance of arranging meetings and better instruction, flexibility is a must. Have an Ambassador to help the Chapters and Districts to work with their Clubs if needed. For the new Officers coming in have Management Seminars and how to raise funds for different Club's activities.

Chairman Arms thanked all speakers and also brought up the idea of a Speaker from the National Transportation Board to talk about Boating issues.
The meeting was adjourned for lunch.

President Promessi resumed the meeting after lunch.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes of the Fall Regional Meeting held on the *Queen Mary* in Long Beach, CA October 29, 2006 were approved as submitted.

IOBGHF REPORT: Given by Carol Garside. No quorum, no meeting. General information is on the web site, Talked about how to get an IOBGHF Pin, how the Christmas card worked and how to request and receive funds from IOBGHF is all on the web site.

District 8 1st V/P Ron Richards gave a big THANK YOU to IOBGHF for the help in getting funds for their Jr. Program.

IOBGA REPORT: Given by President Pat Graven. District 8 is coming back. She presented two IOBGA chapters applications to be approved by the Executive Committee.

President Graven also presented a check of \$400.00 for the 2007 The Log publication.

She questioned the \$15.00 annual charge starting in 2007 for Widow/Widower of Past Commodores.

President Promessi replied that it was put in place last year to start this year. President Graven wants a letter to IOBGA stating that fact and President Promessi agreed.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy distributed the report (copy attached): He stated that the organization has been losing money the last two years and we are on a path of “eating the organization”. Alternatives to raising the dues, to charge for extra services like discharging membership cards are some of the ideas and others that should be discussed throughout the year. It was discussed that some members have a problem with Travel expenses, though a survey showed the majority did not have a problem with it. Discussion followed.

Joe Tringali suggested raising the dues to \$50.00 per year (a \$20.00 increase).

All said IOBG doesn't market itself properly.

Treasurer Nemoy said IOBG is a diverse organization and making changes should be done correctly.

2nd V/P Ray Thompson thanked District 18 and SEVP Tom Sullivan for having the Winter Regional Meeting at Charleston Yacht Club.

1st V/P Jerry Rudd: No Report.

President-Elect Richard Janiszewski reported: Thank you to Charleston Yacht Club for hosting the Meeting. District 8 had a great meeting. Under the leadership of President Promessi and working with the Executive Board, we will all have a successful year.

Immediate Past President Harvey Sussel: Absent.

President Carol Promessi reported: That there would be a Round Table discussion at each meeting in the morning before the main meeting. Also, President Promessi has formed a Marketing Committee with Chairman Marc Connelly. The committee will consist of NWVP Mike Parish, NCVP Debbie Banks-Skellenger, SWVP George Knies, and SEVP Tom Sullivan.

Liaison Officer will be 1st V/P Jerry Rudd. The committee will made a report on Marketing, at the Portland Meeting.

The Roster has been put together the last few years by Peggy Gregory and is mailed to the Executive Committee, Appointed Officers, Area V/Ps, District Directors, and Past Presidents.

President Promessi has appointed B. J. Ursin as IOBG representative to the U. S. Power Squadron. He has been a member of IOBG since 1976.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Executive Secretary Mary Eiffert: Absent

AREA VICE PRESIDENTS REPORTS:

SEVP Tom Sullivan reported that everything is coming along great (Copy Attached). District 8 will exceed Membership from last year and the Auxiliary is coming along.

NWVP Mike Parish: Absent. Report submitted by e-mail to Recording Secretary (copy attached).

NCVP Debbie Banks-Skellenger: Report submitted (Copy attached) District 7, 9, and 25 is fine. District 23 is floundering with only 5 members for 2007. Good communication is the key for my Districts.

1st V/P Jerry Rudd gave Mike Parish's report: District 1 with its Hands Across the Borders and the new by-laws has improved. District 7 is constant. Thanks to George Knies for good advice for the Area. District 1 had their change of watch in September. District 1 is doing well with their raffle for Make A Wish and Wishing Star. IOBGA is making their plans for the 4th Annual Race for the Stars, see attached.

District 2 : No Report, District 4: Annual meeting is schedule for February 11th. Their shipmates across the border meetings are schedule for April 20th thru 22nd, see attached for details. District 5 – look like they are making process for the New Year. They have a full slate of officers and inducted 7 new members, District 24 – No report.

NEVP Marc Connelly: Report submitted (Copy attached). All Districts are well, working very hard and are getting the help they need.

SWVP George Knies: Report submitted (Copy attached): No response from some Districts, very disappointed; but most Districts are doing well.

Legal Office George Knies report: No Problem

Protocol Office George Knies report: Complimented Ann Marie on her singing of the *three* National Anthems, United States, Canada and the United Kingdom at the Grand Ball at the Annual Meeting in Long Beach when she only learned the words for the United Kingdom 20 Minutes before.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

D/D 19 Phil Promessi report: As of 1/1/07 116 members dues were paid for 2007. (Copy attached).

D/D 14 Richard Ahlf report: Given by George Knies (Copy Attached).

D/D 15 Gary Hall report: A good turn out last year and it will even be better in 2007 due to District President Linda Loftis (Copy Attached).

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Education & Development Phil Arms: All is good.

Webmaster Marshall Nemoy and Mary R. Nye (absent) report: All is working well.

Log Editor-in-Chief Mary R. Nye: Absent. Report given by 1st V/P Jerry Rudd:
Have all the news into The Log by the 10th of Feb. She will only accept them by E-Mail. Any photos taken at this meeting, Mary would like to have them for The Log. District Calendar of Events for the web-site please send to Mary R. Nye. All District and Officers information please send to Carol Promessi. The 10th of Feb. is the deadline date, no waiting.

Recording Secretary Marybeth Thayer: No report

Sergeant at Arms Phi Promessi: No report

President Promessi said that Sue Brauner helped with proofing the new roster.

APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES:

Boat U.S. Vern Bendsen: Absent

U.S. Power Squadron B. J. Ursin: Absent

President Promessi gave the report: IOBG will be acting as a communication conduit between the two organizations. The Memorandum of Understanding is being signed in Jacksonville, FL the week-end of February 24th, which B. J. Ursin will be present to sign. President Promessi will not be able to attend. B.J. will be attending the June meeting in Portland and will report further on the U. S. Power Squadron.

U. S. Sailing Bill Thayer: No Report

U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Larry Draper: No Report

National Boating Federation Phil Arms report: Attended a U.S. Sailing Symposium in New Orleans and learned a good deal about their programs. Mandatory licensing is coming. U. S. Coast Guard wants it; but they want the States to fund it.

IOBGA Liaison Ray Thompson: No report'

IOBGHF Liaison Phil Arms: No report.

Member Leadership/Public Relations Art Garside reported that he wrote an article title “Identity Thief” and read it to the membership. He would like the article to be put in The Log and asked for help from the Districts on getting it published in the many boating publications that are out there.

COMMITTEE:

Audit Harvey Sussel: Absent. No report.

Bylaws Phil Arms: No report

Nominating Harvey Sussell: Absent.

President Promessi will give the report:

The Committee: Chairman Harvey Sussell
 President Promessi
 President-Elect Richard Janiszewski

If you have an interest or know of someone who may be interested in serving, let the Committee know. You must write a letter to all the Committee members and in August the Committee will made their recommendation.

President-Elect Richard Janiszewski talked about the Annual Meeting in Long Beach Island, NJ, there are 5 Yachts Club on the Islands. The Ball will be held at a local Country Club. Everything is coming along quite well and maps and other materials are on the back table.

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy gave an update on the Shoulder Boards. The samples will be available in June at the Portland meeting. It will be up to each Chapter if they want to wear it. The Wavy Navy Shoulder Boards have been approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Question asked why we did not get a discount for Shirts and Jackets. Answer because the clothing came in after the contract was signed. Our supplier gets the best price he can, hence, no discounts to Districts.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion made by Richard Janiszewski to accept two applications for IOBGA Chapters
Palm Coast Yacht Club – District 8
Halifax River Yacht Club – District 8
2nd by Marshall Nemoy
Motion was approved.

Motion was made by Executive Committee to send a Bylaws change to the Bylaws committee on Article VI, Section 2.

President Promessi read Article VI, Section 2.

“To advance as an elected Officer of the IOBG the candidate shall be selected from members who are serving or have served on the Board of Directors. The exception would be the Treasurer, who because of need for special qualifications, may come from the general membership.”

Then President Promessi read the proposed motion:

“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.”

Motion was approved.

Marketing Chairperson Marc Connelly wants a letter from the Executive Board stating what is required of the Marketing Committee. President Promessi will send the Committee a letter.

1st V/P District 8 Ron Richards proposed to raise the International due from \$30.00 to \$50.00.

A suggestion was made by Area SWVP Tom Sullivan to a raise of \$48.00.

Further discussion is needed and should be on the Annual Meeting Agenda.

GOOD of the ORDER:

Spring Regional Meeting, June 7-9th in Portland, Oregon

The Meeting will be held at Columbia River Yacht Club. Get your reservation now.

Meeting will be on a Thursday

9:00 a.m. – Executive Committee Meeting

10:00 a.m. – Spring Regional Meeting

Transportation from Double Tree Hotel

Joe Tringali spoke of the 100 Years Royal Rosarian Rose Festival and its history with IOBG. It is like a Homecoming to Northwest area where IOBG was started.

The membership is invited to:

Cocktail Reception with light food on Thursday at Portland Yacht Club.

Dinner on Friday at Columbia River Yacht Club.

Summer Regional Meeting August 16-18th at Mackinac Island, MI

Get your reservation now. Ferry prices will be half price.

The Log will have the schedule for all Meetings.

President Promessi gave a Commemorative Plaque of appreciation to District 8 John McAllister Jr. Charleston Yacht Club Chapter President.

Dinner tonight at 5:00 p.m., Cars are needed to go to the California Dreaming Restaurant.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marybeth Thayer
Recording Secretary