

**INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL
SUMMER REGIONAL MEETING
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SESSION
MACKINAC ISLAND, MI
AUGUST 18, 2007**

The Summer Regional Meeting was called to order by President Carol Promessi at 9:00 a. m. at the Mackinac Island Yacht Club in Mackinac Island, MI on Saturday, August 18, 2007.

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE: Given by F. D. Ramsey

INVOCATION: Given by 2nd Vice President Ray Thompson

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Bonnie Sussel – First VP of the Auxiliary

Robert Graven – District 7 Director

Trooper David Brinkerhoff – Son of Sandy Beach Yacht Club member Roy Brinkerhoff, New York Police Officer killed in the Line of Duty

Bill Hickman - Missing, Past District Director 1 (1995) and District 1 President (1994)

ROLL CALL of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

The Recording Secretary confirmed that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Carol Promessi distributed the agenda for the meeting. The spelling of Catawba Island Yacht Club was spelled incorrectly. Correction made. The Agenda was accepted and approve as submitted

INTRODUCTION of IOBG PAST COMMODORES

Art Garside	2003
Art Theobald	2005
Harvey Sussel	2006

INTRODUCTION of HOSTS:

District Director 23 F. D. Ramsey
Win Cooper
Roy Boudreau
Don Schorehaar
Tom Rifenberg

OFFICERS AND GUESTS

Debbie Banks-Skellenger	North Central VP	<u>District 14</u>	
Marc Connelly	Northeastern VP		
Tom Sullivan	Southeastern VP	Larry Draper	Acting District Director
Mike Parish	Northwestern VP	D. Paul Buckley	Member
Art Garside	Past Intl. President		
Art Theobald	Past Intl. President		
Mary Nye Meyers	Log Editor-In-Chief/ District 1, 1 st VP	<u>District 15</u>	
Marybeth Thayer	Recording Secretary	Bill Thayer	US Sailing Rep
Phil Promessi	Sergeant-AT-Arms	Linda Loftis	District President
	Dist Dir 19	Gary S. Hall	District Director
Joan Marsh-Clune	IOBGHF Pres & CEO/ District 19 Secretary		
<u>District 1</u>		<u>District 19</u>	
Roxanne Parish	Member	Linda Bendsen	Member
		Herman Meyer	District Treasurer
<u>District 3</u>		<u>District 23</u>	
Lew Smith	District Director	F.D. Ramsey	District Director
Bill Pilkington	Member	Win Cooper	Member
Dan Pruchowski	Member	Tom Rifenberg	Member
<u>District 7</u>		Roy Boudreau	Member
		Don Schorehaar	Member
Scott Croxford	District President	<u>District 25</u>	
<u>District 8</u>		Stephen Willing	Acting District Director
Frank Snedeker	Member	<u>District 51</u>	
Bob Shogren	Supply Officer	Vern Bendsen	District Director

APPROVAL of MINUTES of the SPRING REGIONAL, MEETING PORTLAND, OR – June 7, 2007

The minutes of the Spring Regional Meeting held at the Columbia River Yacht Club in Portland, OR, June 7, 2007 were approved as submitted.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURER MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

Passed out the Treasurer's report and the information in this report should be shared with all members of IOBG. The financial statements contained in this report are as July 31, 2007 and seven months then ended. The report shows the Budget for the International Operations Center, Executive Committee, Annual Meeting, Area Vice Presidents, and Blue Gavel Log. The 2008 budget will be presented by President-Elect Richard Janiszewski. The membership statistics attached to this report are as of August 1, 2007 and 2006. A list of the districts and votes allocated to them will be mailed to the officers and directors entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting.

Here are a few items that will be of interest to all members:

1. Our membership year ends September 30, 2007. Dues received after that date will be credited as 2008 dues unless specified otherwise. This is an accommodation to members who travel south for the winter.
2. Dues must be sent to your district treasurer. Sending the dues directly to the I.O.C. will only delay the processing of your membership card. Be sure your district treasurer sends in a dues transmittal in a timely manner.
3. For your convenience you may be notified that the BLUE GAVEL LOG has been published on the web site, www.iobg.org. Just send us an email at bgtreas@iobg.org and we will put you on the notification list. This is particularly useful for those who change locations with the seasons.
4. Please notify us when you change your mailing address. 98% of the time we learn about your new address from the returned BLUE GAVEL LOGS. By policy we do not re-mail the returned Logs. Also, be sure to notify your district or they send in your dues with the old address and process starts all over again.

Ask for questions from the floor. No questions.

President Carol Promessi asked that the Treasurer's report for 2007 Summer Regional meeting be approved. Treasurer's Report was accepted, seconded and approved as submitted.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RAY THOMPSON REPORT:

Received report from both Northwestern and Southwestern Area Vice Presidents.

No IOBGA concerns or requests.

I have remained in touch with Navy Yacht Club Pensacola since their charter renewal.

After the renewal was approved they requested a transfer to District 8. Because of the embarrassing length of time required to handle their request they have voted to now remain in District 51.

To spare disappointment in these transfer requests it is necessary that the By-laws be strictly observed and that assumptions be minimized.

Passed out a picture of Lake Beresford Yacht Club that burned down, this is a reminder to have Fire Insurance. They are starting to be rebuilt.

1st VICE PRESIDENT JERRY RUDD REPORT:

I submitted to the Reporting Secretary Marybeth Thayer the Southwestern Vice President, George Knies's report.

The report talked about Districts 14 and 19. The Tall Ships coming to San Francisco and District 14 will work with U. S. Coast Guard and American Sail Training Association.

JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT HARVEY SUSSEL:

Two jobs this year, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, which I will talk about later in this meeting and any help I can give the President (not busy in that dept).

PRESIDENT-ELECT RICHARD JANISZEWSKI:

This year I have been working as a member of the Nominating Committee, preparing the 2008 Budget, and the Annual Meeting in Oct.

PRESIDENT CAROL PROMESSI:

We had an Accounts Receivable problem since 2004 that the Executive Committee discussed at the Summer Regional Meeting in Portland. We have been working on resolving the problem and so far we have collected \$249.36 owing the IOC from the Districts.

The Executive Committee has decided that it is in the best interest of the organization that there will not be Dual Officer Holders, you can hold only one position.

Last year it was suggested that the International officers give guidance, encouragement, and support to floundering Districts. It took a simple phone call, to start the ball rolling now District #23 is revitalized! North Central Area Vice President Debbie Banks-Skellenger has been a great help to De and to the District. Thank you both. At this time De has already signed up 3 new members from this meeting and he isn't done yet! If it had only been one new member that would have been great! That is what IOBG is all about, getting members and their Districts working together.

The biggest accomplishment has been the signing of the MOU by the USPS. This is to encourage squadrons, districts, and yacht clubs working together with the yacht clubs to provide a possible venue for courses and meetings. IOBG is also into an agreement with the USCG Aux., which we are still awaiting approval.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

Executive Secretary Mary Eiffert – Absent

Area Vice Presidents:

Southeastern VP – Tom Sullivan

District 8 is working very well with an Ambassador program.

District 18 is not too good, the leadership is weak. So I have contact the Commodores of the different yacht clubs and asked for help to get addresses for the past Commodores, everyone has been most helpful. I am thinking about offering a free membership for the 1st year to get them back and having them sign a paper to honor dues for the following year. The Treasury has \$5000.00 in it, Treasurer Marshall Nemoy sent out the dues notice in Jan and asked that Tom Sullivan write a letter to the members and sign it and send it to Marshall Nemoy for mailing.

He agreed with 2nd Vice President Ray Thompson that IOBG needs to move faster when a Club wants to move to another District. Navy Yacht Club Pensacola does belong in District 8 not District 51.

Northwestern VP Mike Parish report:

Have not heard from all my Districts; but this is what's happening so far.

District 1: The Summer picnic was held at Brownsville Yacht Club in July. Over 40 people attended; but due to inclement weather the picnic was held inside.

District 2: No report

District 4: Still sponsoring the "Gift of Sailing" program through donations from Blue Gavel Canada and individual member clubs.

District 5: Their activity was an Island clean-up in June, wine tasting in Sept., and Annual meeting and induction of new members in Oct.

I have talked to Legal Officer George Knies about the Districts membership problems and the unauthorized uses of IOBG items. George Knies has been busy with them and are close to a conclusion.

District 24: Will hold their "Okanagan Invasion" in Sept., which is always a lot of fun. If interest to go contact Dist 24, they would love to have you.

North Central VP Debbie Banks-Skellenger Report:

District 7, 9, 23, and 25 are very busy.

District 7 hosted a cocktail party for 150 people in June for the Greater Cleveland Boating Assoc. IOBG gets the exposure from the area that it represents.

District 9 held their annual Pig Roast this summer, always very successful.

District 25 is a very busy district. They have added 2 new chapters, held a rendezvous at the Great Lakes Steel Boat Club with over 170 people and 40 Boats in attendance. There is some confusion regarding Alpena Yacht Club listed in both District 23 and District 25, which will be settled this week-end.

Districts 7, 9, and 25 collectively hosted a cocktail party in honor of Interlake Yachting Association's Commodore Jim DuPre in July. The event heightens IOBG awareness amongst boaters.

District 23 is starting up again with De Ramsey and working very well.

Northeastern VP Marc Connelly Report:

A short report, spoke on the Marketing program yesterday. Had some problems with some Districts not working well; but have been on phone and helping them thru it, working very well now.

Went to District 27 and was impressed with the donation of over \$5000.00 to the "Families and Children of Fallen Soldiers".

Southwestern VP George Knies Report: Absent (Report Attached) Report will be given by Vern Bendsen

The report is about Northern Ca, no report for Southern Ca.

The Tall Ships coming in July, 2008.

Districts 14 and 19 will support adopting The Tall Ship California next year in Port Festival.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS REPORTS:

Acting Director District 25 Stephen Willing report:

District 25 has a successful rendezvous at the Great Lakes Steel Boat Club and even as our membership is down right now, we had 80 Past Commodores at this event. We are working hard to build the IOBG back up. Thank you to Debbie Banks-Skellenger for all her help.

Acting District Director 14 Larry Draper Report:

We have lost a few members this year and are working to get new members. Helping us get the IOBG message out to the membership is District 19. We have a newsletter going to the membership.

District Director 51 Vern Bendsen Report:

District 51 is in the midst of the boating season and being so spread out the report of the activity in District 51 will be given at the Annual Meeting.

District Director 15 Gary S. Hall Report:

Under the leadership of President Linda Hall we are having a good year. Had a IOBG Appreciation Barbecue, a very good turn out in June, Wine and Cheese Party to support the Humanitarian Foundation in July, and a raft up in Sept. will be held in San Diego Bay.

District Director 3 Lew Smith Report:

The District is doing pretty well, had a District sail at Island Yacht Club. We are helping the Single Boat Foundation replace their Boat, which they lost a couple of years ago. They give boat rides to the Wheel Chair bound. Report not turned in.

District Director 23 De Ramsey Report:

District 23 has 4 new members and will be working hard to prompt IOBG.

District Director 19 Phil Promessi Report:

District 19 is alive and well. District has adopted the Girl Scouts of Sacramento who are restoring their own Navy PT Boat. We had a 50/50 raffle at our BBQ in July with proceeds going to them. Membership is going down, but we are hard at work to get our members and new members into the IOBG spirit.

District Director 10 Ann Fox Report: Absent (report attached) given by President Carol Promessi

District 10 membership is down although new members were brought in at Opening Days. Dues are being paid, however the interest in the organization is waning. We are planning a fund raiser for Humanitarian Foundation at the change of watch in Nov.

APPOINTED OFFICERS REPORTS:

Legal Officer George Knies: Absent. No Report.

Education & Development Phil Arms: Absent. No Report

Webmasters Marshall Nemoy / Mary Nye Meyers Report:

Marshall Nemoy explained that the Webmasters job is divided into two areas. Mary Nye Meyers takes care of the district information, updating the District Officers pages and on the website and putting the Log on the website. I take care of the Home Page and linking your website to main IOBG websites. It is easy to do and will get your message out to the membership. District 8 has one and instructions on how to use the website I can help the districts with their own websites.

Recording Secretary Marybeth Thayer:

Asked has everyone signed the green sheet (sign up paper).

Log Editor-in-Chief Mary Nye Meyers Report:

This will be a fast time for the articles to get to the Log. In one week articles are due by next Saturday, August 25, 2007. We need to get the information out for all the membership to read before the Annual Meeting.

All articles from District Directors should come thru the Area Vice Presidents except when the AVP lets the Editor know it coming directly from District Directors.

Protocol George Knies: Absent. No Report.

Sergeant-at-Arms Phil Promessi: No Report.

APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES:

Boat U.S. Vern Bendsen: No Report.

U.S. Power Squadron BJ Ursin: Absent. No Report.

U.S. Sailing Bill Thayer Report:

IOBG is a supporting member of US Sailing and I have submitted a letter requesting marketing devices for our Annual Meeting. They have a weekly e-newsletter which has a wealth of information in it. EPA permits and boat operator licensing are still two big items of information to boaters. The US Sailing Annual Meeting will be held in Scottsdale, AZ this year.

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

National Boating Federation Art Garside: Phil Arms is in charge of it, so take my name off of it for next year. No Report.

President Carol Promessi received by E- Mail from Phil Arms a website for Buoy Information. It is called "Dial a Buoy" By E-Mail it is www.ndbc.noaa.gov/dial.shtml. or call 1-888-701-8992 by cell phone. If you are out on your boat (on the water or not) and want to know what is going you can dial a buoy on your cell phone and get the weather & data needed.

Joan Marsh Clune and Jerry Rudd brought up the law up before U.S. Congress HR 25.50 about the permit on discharge from recreation boats. It would be very hard to afford boating if this is not approved. Be aware of it and get your representatives and boaters behind this bill.

IOBGA Liaison Ray Thompson: No Report.

IOBGHF Liaison Phil Arms: Absent. No Report.

Members Leadership/Public Relations Art Garside Report:

I have sent out 30 letters to different publications and have not had a good response back yet. We need to get IOBG name out. Some districts have been sending the letter out and getting it published Jerry Rudd and District 19.

COMMITTEES:

BYLAWS and POLICY MANUAL Phil Arms: Absent. Report read by Marshall Nemoy.

As approved and requested by the Executive Committee in February, the following recommended change to the bylaws of the IOBG is submitted for consideration at the 2007 Annual Meeting:

Article VI (Officers) Section 2

“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.”

P/P Philip B. Arms Jr.
Chair/Bylaws Committee

Questioned ask by P/P Art Garside is that any Board of Director? Answer by Marshall Nemoy: Any District Director and up to be consider for 2nd Vice President or higher.

Another question by P/P Art Garside was that a request was made by District 8 about a Bylaws change. What is happening? Answer: It was bought up at the Executive Committee meeting and at this time in the best interest of IOBG not to go forward with the request and President Carol Promessi is writing a letter to District 8's President Jack Kennedy to explain the decision.

Election 1st Vice President Jerry Rudd Report:

I am sending out notices to the Area Vice Presidents and District Directors for the Annual Meeting with different forms to be filled out and returned. In the package there are forms for the new slate of Officers, applications, and who is coming to the meeting. Need to know if the District Directors is coming to the Annual Meeting and if not, need for the District Director to submit a member's name who will attend and represent the District. He or She will have to vote for the District. A form is in the envelope to show the number of votes each District has.

All the paper work needs to be filled out and returned, it's not as critical as the Log, but almost. Before the Oct. meeting we must know who is attending.

The slate of Officers was presented by Chairman Harvey Sussel.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE NOMINEES for 2008

President	Richard Janiszewski	District 12
President-Elect	Jerry Rudd	District 1
1 st Vice President	Ray Thompson	District 8
2 nd Vice President	Vern Bendsen	District 19
Immediate Past President	Carol Promessi	District 19
Treasurer	Marshall Nemoy	District 15
Executive Secretary	Mary Eiffert	District 1
North Central Vice President	OPEN	
North East Vice President	Marc Connelly	District 3
Southeast Vice President	Tom Sullivan	District 8
Southwest Vice President	Larry Draper	District 19
Northwest Vice President	Art Kovarnik	District 1
Director, District 51	Ann Fox	District 1
Director, District 50	Damian Pflgebraar	District 9

RECEIVE NOMINATIONS FROM IOBG/HF Phil Arms: Absent. Report read by President Carol Promessi.

ELECTIONS of DIRECTORS of the IOBG HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION

The bylaws of the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation specify that the Executive Committee of the IOBG are the Trustees and voting members of the Foundation. There are three classes of membership in the Foundation:

Voting members (Trustees), Regular Members (All members of IOBG) and Humanitarian Members (those who are not members of IOBG but support the Foundation and its work). The Voting Members are the ones who elect the Directors of the Foundation.

The Chairman of the Board of the Foundation appoints a Nominating Committee to select qualified candidates for election to the Board. This Nominating Committee shall make its report at least 60 days before the date of the election at the Annual Meeting of the Foundation. The Annual Meeting of the Foundation shall be held in conjunction with the Annual International Convention of IOBG. Nominations by petition may be made at least 45 days prior to the election. The Annual Meeting of the Foundation will be held on Saturday, 20 October, 2007.

Therefore, the nominating committee should report no later than August 21st, and nominations by petition should be received no later September 5th.

The President of IOBG has appointed a Committee to Receive Nominations for Director of the Foundation. The committee is: President-Elect Richard Janiszewski, Second Vice President Ray Thompson, and P/P Phil Arms (Executive Secretary to the Trustees of the Foundation). The Foundation Nominating Committee makes their report to this committee, and nominations by petition should be forwarded to them.

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, please do not hesitate to contact the committee, Chairman of the Board P/P Marion Hughes, or Foundation President & CEO P/C Joan Marsh-Clune. Please forward nominations by petition to Phil Arms at 352 Seawind Drive, Vallejo, CA 94590, pbarms@aol.com.

ANNUAL MEETING Richard Janiszewski report:

All is well, the meetings, lunches, dinners, and social events are set.

Every District should be represented at the annual meeting as it is the most important one of the year. Be sure to get the message out for all members to attend.

My wife Pat Janiszewski has arranged for an important Wood Carver to do 2 different Birds (pictures of them passed around). The cost is \$40.00 per carving and all the funds raised will go to the Humanitarian Foundation. You can order today or at the annual meeting.

IOBG AUXILIARY President Pat Graven: Absent. No Report.

IOBGHF President Joan Marsh-Clune report:

Concerned that people don't yet know or understanding about what IOBGHF does. IOBGHF information is in the website and the information is in the Log also. We have available in Foundation Budget, \$47,393.00. We are working hard to get the word out about what we can do for boating and what the membership can do for the Foundation.

District 15 President Linda Loftis presented to IOBGHF President Joan Marsh-Clune a check for \$500.00 from the Wine and Cheese party held at the Point Loma Yacht Club in San Diego.

SUPPLY OFFICER EARL HOHLMAYER: Absent. Marshall Nemoy reported that the Shoulder Board called Wavey/Navy has been authenticated. A list of members will be given as to who can buy IOBG material from Supply Officer.

Joan Marsh-Clune said the IOBG Auxiliary order is separate from IOBG.

Discussion followed about the look of the Shoulder Boards.

OLD BUSINESS:

MARKETING COMMITTEE Marc Connelly: No Report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chapter Applications: President-Elect Richard Janiszewski reported that we have 2 Chapter request. Motion made by Richard Janiszewski to accept applications from Yacht Club of the Yacht & Country Club – District 8 Second by Jerry Rudd. Motion was approved. Motion made by Richard Janiszewski to accept the application from Cape Fear Yacht Club – District 50 Second by Marshall Nemoy. Motion was approved.

PROPOSED BUDGET for 2008

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy stated that one of his tasks, as required by the bylaws, is to assist the President-Elect in the budget process. Based on his experience, and the fact that we have had two years of losses, he gave President-Elect Richard Janiszewski the following estimates for expenses in 2008. Based on the assumed number of members for 2008 and the average attendance at the Annual Meetings, reduce this expense somewhat. Constants are the Executive Committee travel to Regional Meetings, Area Vice President's travel allowance, The IOBG LOG, there are some ideas to reduce this, and the IOC. President-Elect Richard Janiszewski thanked Marshall Nemoy for all his hard work. Looking long and hard at everything, the membership has been in decline in the last two years. Reduced the expenses by 5%, some ideas are on the Log and postage reduction. We have lost about 20% of the membership in the last 5 years. Recommend a dues increase of \$10.00 per member per year to start in 2008.

Art Garside asked a question about the increase in dues. What has been budgeted out, and worried that a dues increase will loose membership.

Marshall Nemoy answered citing the survey taken last year which stated that 78% to 79% were okay with the travel policy and the Districts discussed raising their own dues so their District Directors could attend Annual and Regional Meetings. Not sure about how many, 3 or 4, Log newsletters should be issued. If we loose some members over the proposed increase of dues, are they really interested in IOBG.

Also, P/P Art Garside asked what reduction the Committee has discussed. President-Elect Richard Janiszewski discussed travel pay for the Log Editor and Legal Officer. It was discussed that the Legal Office would receive per diem for the Annual Meeting. The Log is very costly and we are talking about not so many pages in it. Look at going from 4 to 3 meetings a year. The Log from 4 to 3 issues. Looked at the AVP budget, but realized if we cut back we could lose on some of their travel to find new Chapters and assist their districts personally. Everything is on the table. A lively discussion followed:

Herman Meyer proposed an increase in dues of \$10.00
Vote will be taken at the October Meeting.
Steve Willing said Great Lakes Association is starting up again and could take some IOBG Members.
Mary Nye Meyers said printing is less than it was 5 years ago.
Marshall Nemoy talked about the marketing of IOBG saying Marketing won't work if you don't believe in it.

President-Elect Richard Janiszewski will send a letter out to all members explaining the dues increase. Marshall Nemoy will draft a letter and have the Executive Committee check it over and have President-Elect Richard Janiszewski sign the letters. It would be about 2600 letters to the membership. Have it done very quickly, long before the Annual Meeting. Joan Marsh-Clune thought the 33% raise of the \$10.00 dues increase would be a hard sell. Phil Promessi said don't talk %.

Marshall Nemoy explained the rate increase again.

Art Garside asked Marshall Nemoy, how many do you think we will lose. Answer: About 150 people.

Tom Sullivan suggested to partnership with a National Chain.

Answer: not enough time. (not sure who said that).

Election packages will be going out soon.

Art Garside asked if a bylaws change was needed on the dues increase.

President-Elect Richard Janiszewski says it is not needed by our bylaws.

Marshall Nemoy said no bylaws change, please.

President-Elect Richard Janiszewski closed the discussion and asked if anyone had any further ideas or input, please let the Executive Committee know.

COMMUNICATIONS:

President Carol Promessi sent out a Get Well card to Alan Eiffert (husband of Executive Secretary Mary Eiffert) and a Sympathy card to IOBGA President Pat Graven on the death of her husband Director District 7 Bob Graven.

GOOD of the ORDER:

President Carol Promessi presented an Appreciation Plaque to De Ramsey.

De Ramsey thanked everyone for coming to this out of the way meeting place.

President Carol Promessi talked about the District 3 is holding a Memorial Benefit this weekend at Sandy Beach Yacht Club for Trooper David Brinkerhoff, New York Policeman, who was killed in the line of duty.

Announcement:

President Carol Promessi discussed the plans for dinner and the Boat ride after dinner.

Past President Harvey Sussel thank everyone for their support and cards for his wife Bonnie Sussel.

Fall Regional Meeting: October 21st – Engleside Inn @ 9:00 A. M.

Meeting adjourned at 12:28 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marybeth Thayer
Recording Secretary