

**INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF BLUE GAVEL (FINAL)
WINTER REGIONAL MEETING
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SESSION
ALAMEDA, CA
FEBRUARY 9, 2008**

The Winter Regional Meeting was called to order by President Richard Janiszewski at 9:00 a.m. at the Encinal Yacht Club on Saturday, February 9, 2008.

Pledge of Allegiance: Given by President Janiszewski

Moment of Silence

Invocation: Given by President Janiszewski

Roll Call of Executive Committee:

President	Richard Janiszewski
President Elect	Jerry Rudd
First Vice President	Ray Thompson
Second Vice President	Vern Bendsen
Treasurer	Marshall Nemoy
Past President	Carol Promessi

The Recording Secretary confirmed that a quorum was present.

Introduction of IOBG Past Presidents:

Larry Foote	2004
Phil Arms	1997
Carol Promessi	2007

Introduction of Attendees and Guests:

DISGTRICT 1

Art Kovarnik	NWVP
Jim Hinckley	District 1 st VP
Jerry Rudd	President Elect
Mary Nye Meyers	LOG Editor/Dist. Pres.

DISTRICT 3

Marc Connelly	NEVP
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DISTRICT 8

Ray Thompson	1 st VP
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DISTRICT 11

Rosalie Davis Green	Dist.11 VP
Gary Green	Dist.11 Pres.

DISTRICT 12

Richard Janiszewski	Intl. Pres.
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DISTRICT 14

Ray Smith	Member
George Knies	Intl. Legal Officer
Shirley Ahlf	Dist. VP
Richard Ahlf	Dist. Dir.
Lynette Breed	Dist. Pres.
D. Paul Buckley	Member

DISTRICT 15

Linda Loftis	Dist. Dir.
Bill Thayer	US SAILING
Marshall Nemoy	Intl. Treas.
Marybeth Thayer	Intl. Rec. Sec.

DISTRICT 19

Gary McGrath	Dist. Dir.
Phil Promessi	Intl.Sgt-At-Arms
Mike Billington	Member
Linda Bendsen	Member
George Trefz	Past Dir.
Larry Draper	SWVP
Phil Arms	Intl. Past Pres.
Kassey Dolan	Member
Larry Foote	Intl. Past Pres.
John Anthony	Dist. Supply Officer

Ray Mitchell	Member
Joan Marsh-Clune	P/P IOBGHF/ Dist. VP

Fred Von Helf	Member
Pat Carson	Dist. Treas.
Otis Brock	Member
Marilyn L. Brock	Member
Linda Breninger	Member
Peter Oswald	Dist. Pres.
Carol Foote	IOBGA P/P Guest

M. Estella McGrath	P/Commodore PYC
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Carol Promessi	Intl. P/Pres.
Vern Bendsen	Intl. 2 nd VP
Herman Meyer	Dist. Sec.

DISTRICT 23

Francis D. Ramsey	NCVP
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INTRODUCTION of HOSTS:

President Richard Janiszewski introduced our Host George Knies and District 14 & 19 for a big Thank You and asked all to rise and be recognition.

CONFIRMATION of QUORUM:

The Recording Secretary confirmed that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL of AGENDA:

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

APPROVAL of SUMMER REGIONAL MEETING MINTUES, AUGUST 18, 2007. DISTRICT 23:

The minutes were approved as submitted.

APPROVAL of FALL REGIONAL MEETING, OCTOBER 20, 2007, SPRAY BEACH YACHT CLUB, DISTRICT 12, LONG BEACH ISLAND, NJ:

The minutes were approved as submitted.

REPORTS:

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

TREASURER MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

The financial statements presented in this report are as of December 31, 2007 and for the year then ended. The good news is the loss for the year was less than was budgeted. The bad news is the loss was greater than last year. Because we do not have assets, we have to keep a certain amount of money in our Treasury.

The long overdue increase in the dues of \$10.00 adopted by the Board of Directors is expected to provide sufficient funds for 2008 to break even.

He explained step by step about the Budget and where the IOBG funds go.

Asked for questions: None.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT VERN BENDSEN REPORT:

Started with a joke and from then on all went well.

I look forward to working with everyone and a good year. The membership is getting stronger discussed being in the IOBG is to have FUN. Negativity is out. Positive thoughts, ideas, and events are in. We have members like Art Kovarnik and Mike Parish working hard to get Canada back into the fold. Remember "Follow Your Rainbow" it is my motto. Rainbow reflex a positive image.

1st VICE PRESIDENT RAY THOMPSON REPORT:

Have had considerable adverse action in District 8, supposedly created by the dues increase. Since the dues increase was approved, they have now proclaimed IOBG's Vote Tabulation method to be unfair. To substantiate their position they voted at their last meeting to withhold members annual dues, write a letter to all District 8 members,

outlining their dissatisfaction, develop a new name (The Florida Commodores' Association), a new Burgee, and a call to vote at their next meeting (Feb.8, 2008) for the three alternatives outlined in their letter, the last of which is to "politely take their leave from IOBG and go their own way". District 8 with a 547 membership, approved all the above actions at their last meeting by 13 affirmative and 5 negative votes. It is safe to say that a number of Dist. 8 Chapters have voiced complaints to the current Board about various actions of the IOBG Executive Committee. Enough complaints for this Board to consider walking away to start a new organization. However, it is also safe to say there are Chapters not willing to walk away. After Dist. 8's meeting we should survey each club in an effort to evaluate and categorize their position, and from that, determine our course of action.

District 18, with 44 members (2007), continues to operate with little or no organizational framework. After operating in this fashion for sometime, they now have no past officers available nor anyone else willing to take on the reorganizational efforts needed to get this District up and running. Since many of these clubs are members of an active Sailing organization, I propose we attend one of their general membership meetings being held at one of our IOBG Chapter Yacht Clubs. Perhaps in the confines of a friendly atmosphere we could assemble a slate of acceptable candidates

The LOG contents was a subject discussed at a recent Chapter meeting. Less Officer activity and more Chapter/ District news was the request. Many Chapters have projects that would make interesting stories. If District Directors and/or Area V.P.'s turned in such stories along with their reports, we would make the LOG more personal and less formal.

PRESIDENT ELECT JERRY RUDD REPORT:

I have 5 new Chapters applications to be presented to the Executive Committee today. The Annual Meeting will be held in Seattle, WA on October 22nd thru 26th. We have plenty of information we are passing out. My Committee, Mary Nye Meyers, Jim Hinckley and Art Kovarnik, will be helping me out and we will have more discussion later in the meeting.

PRESIDENT RICHARD JANISZEWSKI REPORT:

3 Simple Words—YES WE CAN!

We have an agenda and the year will be good. We have made progress in the last couple of years. We do understand that there is some unfinished business. We will continue to get IOBG looking at all ideas that come before us.

Thank you to our wonderful Hosts for a great Regional Winter Meeting. This is my first business meeting of my tenure.

We would like to hear from you. We are open to any thoughts, comments, or questions you have. Please don't go away with questions unanswered.

Try to attend the Annual or Regional Meetings. How far we can go and how we get there is up to all of us, not just the Executive Committee – we need your help. Remember my motto for this year. YES WE CAN!

PAST PRESIDENT CAROL PROMESSI:

No report. Just remember any changes from you or your District like E-Mail, addresses, or Phone numbers I need to know so the correct information will be available for all.

B. AREA VICE PRESIDENTS

NORTHWEST VICE PRESIDENT ART KOVARNIK REPORT:

We have 161 Members out of 5 Districts. Reports sometimes are hard to get. Oregon is working hard on the June Spring Meeting and the Rose Festival. Their membership went from 26 to 45 members. They are really working hard. In Canada we are working hard to get them to keep in touch, Mike Parish is up in Canada at their meeting helping out, so I could be here. District 1 is well and taking Marc Connelly's Marketing Program serious and having by having Ambassadors for Eastside and Westside. Just a little friendly input and we should get them back.

SOUTHWEST VICE PRESIDENT LARRY DRAPER REPORT:

Having problems getting information from Southern CA sent E-Mails to all and received only a few responses back. 2 new Chapters will be coming from Northern CA. Have been to 5 functions in the Northern area and expect to get down to Southern CA. I would like to make a comment. I have received E-Mails asking "What do you expect from Blue Gavel". I didn't join this organization expecting something from it. I joined for two things, meeting other people and gaining friendship from the people I would meet. My expectations have been double.

NORTH CENTRAL VICE PRESIDENT DE RAMSEY REPORT:

Thanks to Carol Promessi and Debbie Banks-Skellenger for helping bring District 23 back in 2007. We are looking at getting more Chapters, planning a Spring Party, inviting Commodores and Past Commodores in the Douglas and Saginaw MI area for future new members. A Chapter application was turned in today from Tower Harbor Yacht Club, District 23.

NORTHEAST VICE PRESIDENT MARC CONNELLY REPORT:

On the district level need a closer liaison to promote more functionality within the district Monthly or bimonthly contact with the District Directors as well the District Presidents as well.

For the Marketing Plan to work we need to get the District Director and Area Vice President reports on line and e-mail able.

Each District has there own way will try again direct mail to them and to new locations. Need some input from the Executive Committee, will talk to them.

SOUTHEAST VICE PRESIDENT TOM SULLIVAN REPORT:

Tom Sullivan (excused) is attending the Florida 8 Meeting.

C. APPOINTED OFFICERS

EDUCATION and DEVELOPMENT PHIL ARMS: No Report.

LEGAL OFFICER GEORGE KNIES REPORT:

District 5 had a problem with people using IOBG Logo in their area putting on events without being a member of IOBG. It has been resolved in our favor. My job is to assist and advice IOBG Members. I have been receiving calls from Florida 8 District Director and Area Vice President. I advised our representation Tom Sullivan SEVP at the Florida District 8 meeting to take a tape recorder.

Let me know if you need the IOBG Legal Officer advice.

LOG EDITOR-IN-CHIEF MARY NYE MEYERS REPORT:

There will been a deadline for the LOG. It will now be 2 weeks after the Annual and Regional Meetings. February 23, 2008 is the deadline for this meeting and have all records and pictures in by Midnight PST Seattle, WA time.

Pictures can't be accepted from phone cameras and pictures should be at least 1000 Pixels.

I need reports from District Directors and Area Vice Presidents and so does the Recording Secretary Marybeth Thayer, so please let us each have a copy.

SUPPLY OFFICER EARL HOHYMAYER: Absent, No Report.

PROTOCOL OFFICER PHIL ARMS: No Report.

RECORDING SECRETARY MARYBETH THAYER: No Report.

WEBMASTER MARSHALL NEMOY and MARY NYE MEYERS REPORT:

Marshall Nemo takes care of the front page. Mary Nye Meyers works on the rest of it When you place your name on the E-Mail notification for the LOG we take your name of the hard copy mailing list.

Remember Bulk mail is not forwarded it cost us about \$150.00 when it is returned and then the newsletter is tossed away.

Also, we are now sending 1st class mail to Long Beach Island, NJ, a lot of little towns there with the same zip code and U.S. Post office can't seems to get it delivered.

SERGEANT AT ARMS PHIL PROMESSI: No Report.

D. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARY EIFFERT: Absent. No Report.

E. REPRESENTATIVES

BOAT US JAMES HINCKLEY: No Report.

AUXILIARY LIAISON VERN BENDSEN REPORT:

Spoke at the IOBGA Meeting and told them he will help anyway he can.

HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION LIAISON PHIL ARMS REPORT:

He explained his job position and Executive Committee's job.

NATIONAL BOATING FOUNDATION PHIL ARMS and TOM SULLIVAN REPORT:

Tell your membership that IOBG is a regular voting member.

I went a US SAILING National Sailing Symposium Meeting held in Florida as the NBF Representative. There were 400 people talking about community sailing programs. This organization is fostering your future members.

Area Vice President Tom Sullivan is in Florida District 8 meeting along with Past Commodore Harvey Sussel.

US SAILING BILL THAYER REPORT:

Thru 2008 there are seminars and symposiums on safety at sea, Race Management and Advanced Race Managements. US SAILING is filled by volunteers of which many are Past Commodores and Member of IOBG.

US POWER SQUADRON B. J. URSIN: Absent. No Report.

US COAST GUARD AUXILIARY LARRY DRAPER REPORT:

A couple of Yacht Clubs in District 14 and 19 are putting on classes for the US Coast Guard. If you need any information please let me know.

MEMBERSHIP and PUBLIC RELATIONS ART GARSIDE AND DEBBIE BANKS-SKELLENGER: Absent.

President Richard Janiszewski reported for them. They had me write an article on the Blue Gavel and plans are to have it published in about 40 different publications.

F. COMMITTEES

AUDIT CAROL PROMESSI CHAIRPERSON REPORT:

Have receive all the information from IOC the Committee President Janiszewski and President Elect Rudd. We will review it and give a report on the Audit at the Spring Regional Meeting.

BY-LAWS and POLICY MANUAL PHIL ARMS CHAIRPERSON REPORT:

Recommendations for new Bylaws are coming from the Executive Committee and should be known by the Spring Regional Meeting.

ANNUAL MEETING JERRY RUDD REPORT:

The plans for Annual Meeting being held in Seattle, WA October 22 – 26, 2008 are moving right along. Jim Hinckley talked about the trip before the Meeting. It is a trip that will take you into Vancouver and back. This trip includes everything at a cost of \$503.00 per person double occupancy and \$756.75 per single for 4 days. Deposit \$100.00 and it should be sent to Mary Eiffert. DON'T FORGET YOUR PASSPORT! More information on the back table.

ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW CAROL PROMESSI, CHAIRPERSON: No Report.

ELECTIONS, RAY THOMPON: No Report.

NOMINATING CAROL PROMESSI CHAIRPERSON REPORT:

This will be posted in the LOG by law. Chairperson Carol Promessi read it out loud: Notice is hereby given, in accordance with our by-laws, to all members that the IOBG Nominating Committee for 2008 consists of Chairman Past President Carol Promessi, President Richard Janiszewski, and President Elect Jerry Rudd.

The Nominating Committee will consider nominations sent to each member of the Committee by any IOBG member in good standing, who wishes to be considered for an elected office. Any person wishing consideration for an elected office is required to submit his or her request in writing to each member of this committee in time for consideration by the Portland Regional Meeting on June 5, 2008.

Persons requesting an appointed office for 2008 should send their letter to President Elect Jerry Rudd.

This Committee will meet at the Spring Regional Meeting in Portland, Oregon and will make its final report of Nominations for Officers to be elected for 2009 at the August Regional Meeting in Long Island, NY in August.

Remember the Committee needs a letter of intent if you want to stay in the same position or move up, to each of member of the Committee.

MEMBERSHIP, RICHARD JANISZEWSKI, CHAIRPERSON REPORT:

We have a membership problem, taken a good step forward in the Marketing Program. Decided this year to re-activate the Membership Committee and see what we can do to keep old and gain new members.

14. IOBG AUXILIARY, PATRICIA JANISZEWSKI, PRESIDENT REPORT:

2nd Vice President Vern Bendsen (IOBG Liaison Officer to IOBGA) spoke at our meeting, it was very good and we hope it will be in the LOG. District 15 Dawn Shaffer Nemoy put together a very successful Seminar Management for Spouses on what is expected of them and it can be adapted for any IOBGA District and we have this to be put in the LOG.

Later today we will be presenting a check for \$700.00 to Marshall Nemoy to help in the printing of the LOG.

RECEIVE HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION NOMINATIONS, PHIL ARMS REPORT: Already Given.

G. DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

DISTRICT 19 DIRECTOR GARY McGRATH REPORT:

District 19 has 142 members and 19 new Commodores signed up that are not included yet. The District has its website up and running and is in process of linking with International. We have several Chapters that have become inactive and I am in contact with some of them in an attempt to re-activate those Clubs. We always slow on renewals; but by the end of we should be around 180 Members.

DISRICT 15 DIRECTOR LINDA LOFTIS REPORT:

District 15 has 123 Members we started the 2008 year with our Annual Yacht Club Management Seminar, which is always very well attended. I sent letters to all members and Jr. Staff Commodores requesting time to speak at their Club Board Meeting and 5 dates have been set-up so far. The District 15 Board and myself look forward to a good 2008.

DISTRICT 11 DIRECTOR WILMA ROSENBERG REPORT: Absent.

District 11 President Gary Green gave a report that all is well and our social calendar is looking good.

DISTRICT 14 DIRECTOR RICHARD AHLF REPORT:

We have many different activities planed for this year. Fleet Week we try to have a decorated Boat in the Parade, Summer Sailstice we are looking forward to and our Wheel Chair Regatta. We are slow in renewal, but it is coming along.

At this time IOBGHF PAST PRESIDENT JOAN MARSH-CLUNE spoke that there would be an IOBGHF Meeting either at lunch or when this meeting is over. Everyone is invited.

IOBGHF donated to the Excalibur project out of Buffalo, NY, we match funds with District 3 IOBG and IOBGA for the safety equipment. It helps people get out on the water whom otherwise would not be able to.

IOBGHF VPJim Hinckley spoke about IOBGHF funds were low. At the Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA we are going to have a raffle or a silent auction. We are asking the membership to give a gift or present for the event. It would be send to Jackie Rudd before the meeting in October.

DISTRICT 8 DIRECTOR LOU DANIELLO REPORT;

Ray Thompson spoke for Lou Daniello who is at the Florida District 8 meeting. We have at least 591 Members. Coral Reef Yacht Club dropped out and is back in again.

15. IOBG HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION, BOB SHOGREN, PRESIDENT:
Absent.

16. OLD BUSINESS

A. Marketing, Marc Connelly

Marc Connelly spoke about four things that should be done.

1. Retention
2. Recruiting
3. Recognition
4. Support

We need to get the Area Vice Presidents and District Directors to work a little harder on talking to the Membership. To get the report on the website, easy and faster to get to any problem one area might be having. We need to get reports on the Website. I will talk to Executive Committee on this happening.

B. For the Good of the Order, Open

President Richard Janiszewski spoke about Past President Art Theobald now our IOBG Historian and is working very hard in putting our history together.

Marshall Nemoy asked Jim Hinckley for his BOAT US number and anyone else's number for the record in the membership in BOAT US.

Marshall Nemoy asked for District 19's Website name and anyone else so we can put it on IOBG Website.

17. NEW BUSINESS

A. Chapter Applications

President Elect Jerry Rudd has 5 Chapter Applications request.

Maryland Yacht Club	District 27
Ventura Yacht Club	District 15
Tower Harbour Yacht Club	District 23
Emeryville Yacht Club	District 14
San Francisco Shiner Yacht Club	District 14

Motion made to accept the 5 Chapters and seconded. Motion was approved.

B. For the Good of the Order, Open

President Richard Janiszewski spoke about the Executive Committee discussing the LOG expenses it is the 2nd most expense item in the IOBG budget. A good discussion on it and we are always looking for ways to keep cutting the cost. Florida 8 is having a meeting right now and we do have members speaking for us. It is serious problem and when we know what happened at the meeting, you will know. Right now we are waiting to hear from them.

We talked about some Bylaws changes, at this time it is still in discussion. Also, we are looking at Clothing Suppliers and looking at a Value Added, as of right now nothing to report on them.

Marshall Nemoy discussed about the Portland trip and that we would be go to Columbia River Yacht Club for lunch and to Portland Yacht Club for dinner. We will be staying at the same hotel as last year Doubletree Lloyd Central Hotel. There is information on the table.

Phil Promessi of District 19 read a letter concerning the Florida District 8 problem that he wrote a few years ago and it still works. Good response from the membership at this meeting.

President Janiszewski adjourned at 12:06 p.m. and told everyone to be back at 1:30 p.m. to continue. Lunch upstairs at the Encinal Yacht Club.

President Richard Janiszewski re-opened the meeting at 1:33 p.m. and turned the Workshop over to Phil Arms for an open discussion.

The Workshop meeting ended and returned to President Janiszewski at 2:54 p.m.

President Janiszewski was asked to induct Past Commodores into IOBG. The meeting was adjourned at 3:05p.m.for the swearing in ceremony at 3:30 p.m.

President Richard Janiszewski re-opened the meeting and welcomed all the new members.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marybeth Thayer
Recording Secretary