

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL
SPRING REGIONAL GENERAL MEETING
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SESSION
PORTLAND, OR
JUNE 5, 2008

The Spring Regional Meeting was called to order by President Richard Janiszewski at 12:38 p.m. at the Columbia River Yacht Club on Thursday, June 5, 2008.

President Richard Janiszewski welcomed everyone to the IOBG Spring Regional Meeting and apologized about the mix-up on the meeting that was to be held here at Columbia River Yacht Club this morning and failed to let the membership know the change of plans. The Executive Committee had several sensitive items to discuss and decided to hold a Closed Session at the Double Tree Lloyd Center Hotel this morning.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Given by Past Commodore Bill Thayer

INVOCATION AND MOMENT OF SILENCE: Given by President Richard 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: Excused
Executive Secretary	Mary Eiffert

The Recording Secretary confirmed that a quorum was present.

SELF INTRODUCTION of IOBG PAST PRESIDENTS:

Ira Nies	1996	District 5
Marion Hughes	2002	District 1

SELF INTRODUCTION of ATTENDEES and GUESTS:

Area Vice Presidents:

Southwestern Vice President	Larry Draper	District 14
North Central Vice President	Francis D. Ramsey	District 23

District 1:

Mike Parish	Past NWVP
Roxanne Parish	Member
Al Eiffert	Member
Jim Hinckley	Member
Mary Nye Meyers	Dist. 1 President

District 5:

Joe Crawford	Supply Officer
A-Net Crawford	Events Coordinator
Robert Gedde	Dist. 5 President
David Donaldson	Dist. 5 Vice President

District 11:

Rosalie Davis-Green	District 11 Vice President
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District 14:

David Buckley	Chapter President of Emeryville Yacht Club
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District 15:

Bill Thayer	US Sailing Rep.
Marybeth Thayer	Int'l Recording Secretary

District 19:

Linda Bendsen	Member
Gary McGrath	Dist. 19 Director
Estella McGrath	Member
John Anthony	Dist. 19 Supply Officer

INTRODUCTION of HOSTS: Given by President Richard Janiszewski

Thank You to the Host District 5 and a special thanks to A-Net Crawford for putting the events all together.

Int'l Past President Ira Nies spoke of the outstanding job A-Net Crawford and District President Bob Gedde are doing in District 5.

APPROVAL OF THE WINTER REGIONAL MEETING:

The minutes of the Winter Regional Meeting at Encinal Yacht Club, Alameda CA February 9th, 2008 were approved as submitted.

REPORTS:

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

TREASUER MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

The Financial statements in this report are as of April 30, 2008 and results of operations for the four months then ended.

Our total assets have increased from the same date last year. The variance is due to the dues increase and the method used to allocate the estimated dues revenue.

The host committee for the Annual Meeting has requested and received the subsidy from the International as called for in the 2008 budget.

The Blue Gavel Log is lower than budgeted and lower than last year as of now. The recent increase in postal rates will no doubt have a negative effect on this activity's budget.

The Membership statistics show we have 231 less members from a year ago. Can't make any estimates as to what is causing this, whether it is due to the \$10.00 increase in dues or the letter sent out by District 8.

Thank you to all the treasurers for their assistance during the main dues paying season.
(Report Submitted)

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT VERN BENDSEN REPORT:

North West and South West Areas are getting involved with the Spring and Summer activities. Area Vice Presidents have been attending these affairs, which is a good thing.

Questions are being asked, what is happening in District 8 and what about our IOBG Supply Officers. I understand this will be discussed later today.

(Report Submitted)

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT RAY THOMPSON REPORT:

North Central V.P. has submitted a report.

Southeastern & Northeastern reports to be submitted.

Attended District's 8 Spring Meeting 5/22-27/08 held at the Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club. The Meeting was well attended with General Business being quickly dispatched so that more time could be spent discussing "Old Business". Old Business related to Dist. 8's revised Position Paper. Their Position has been reduced to a single item which concerns itself with our current Vote Distribution. I'm sure their stated position will be discussed at length later in this Meeting.

A second item discussed, concerned their adoption of a Dist. 8 Burgee. Amid some concern by some members, this Burgee was strongly supported by the Flag Officers, who compared it to a State Flag. Some of the discussion was related to how this Burgee would

be displayed relative to the IOBG Burgee. This issue will also be reviewed at this Meeting.

District 18:

Southeastern V.P., after several attempts, has still been unable to get any volunteers to step forward to help reorganize this District. His efforts are ongoing.
(Report Submitted)

PRESIDENT-ELECT JERRY RUDD REPORT:

He discussed the Annual Meeting, workshop schedules, and the social events planned. District 1 1st Vice President Jim Hinkley has more information and will be glad to pass it out to you.

There is one problem Int'l Past President Ira Nies is a paid up member for life (one of the benefit of being an Int'l Past President), so he doesn't show in District 5 or Treasurer Marshall Nemoy's office for being a member. It would be best if the Secretary of District 5 would show Ira Nies as a paid member each year and then he would be informed of what is going on in District 5 and beyond. This would keep the Int'l Treasurer out of the picture.

PRESIDENT RICHARD JANISZEWSKI REPORT:

At our Executive Committee Meeting this morning, we were discussing 15 different items and decided to ask for your input on some of them. We will listen to all and then make an Executive Committee decision.

PAST PRESIDENT CAROL PROMESSI REPORT: Excused.

President-Elect Jerry Rudd has her report. Bronchitis Pneumonia is what Past President Promessi has and her doctor will not let her fly.

President Elect Jerry Rudd has some information to read from her.

She wanted to point out to those who have not submitted a letter of intent to go on with their position or a member who would like a position you need to submit a letter by E-Mail. Please contact Nominating Chairperson Carol Promessi, Richard Janiszewski or Jerry Rudd, so we would have all the information for the August meeting.

On the Budget all receipts were properly recorder and disbursements were documented in detail. Monthly bank statements were reconciled to verify balance. Marshall Nemoy, Treasurer, was most helpful in furnishing the necessary data for this Audit.

The Committee Chairman Carol Promessi, Richard Janiszewski, and Jerry Rudd made the following recommendations:

Richard Janiszewski: All future audits should be conducted by an independent professional third party.

Carol Promessi and Jerry Rudd: The issue of an outside audit would be expensive with costs running up to \$6000.00 when we are trying to reduce expenses.

The Committee: It is recommended that the travel expense for the Executive Committee shall be restricted to those travel expenses where members that have to travel due to extenuating circumstances to discuss issues that are of concern to a District would be limited to \$1500.00 per year. A Line Item would be added to the Operating Expenses.

They also recommend that the Executive Committee look closely at the receipts. Treasurer Marshall Nemoy should examine the receipts, but he would like to submit them to the Executive Committee for approval.

President Richard Janiszewski doesn't agree that the cost would be \$5000.00 to \$6000.00 for an audit. He would like the authorization to search for an outside auditor. He will report back to the Executive Committee in August.

Discussion followed: Members discussed the expense and all seemed to agree that the cost of \$5000.00 to \$6000.00 is the general cost. Treasurer Marshall Nemoy explained that all records are kept as part of IOBG record history.

President Richard Janiszewski withdrew his request to look for an outside auditor.
(Report Submitted)

B. AREA VICE PRESIDENTS:

NORTHWEST VICE PRESIDENT ART KOVARNIK: Absent.

SOUTHWEST VICE PRESIDENT LARRY DRAPER REPORT:

I've been attending Opening Days in Southern and Northern CA. In Marina del Rey attended seven Opening Days (Sat. and Sun.) and one day in Long Beach. Also, Opening Day on San Francisco Bay and the following week-end attended an Awards Ceremony at Oyster Yacht Club in South San Francisco with 150 people attending.
(Report Submitted)

NORTH CENTRAL VICE PRESIDENT FRANCIS D. RAMSEY REPORT:

We are getting new members and looking at 3 possible new Chapters. He has discussed with IOBG Chapters that received a letter from District 8 and didn't really understand what was going on. He explained IOBG position and they agreed to let him know if they received anymore letters, so IOBG would have a chance to talk to them.
(Record Submitted)

NORTHEAST VICE PRESIDENT MARC CONNELLY: Absent.
(Report Submitted)

SOUTHEAST VICE PRESIDENT TOM SULLIVAN: Excused.

C. APPOINTED OFFICERS:

EDUCATION and DEVELOPMENT PHIL ARMS: Absent

LEGAL OFFICER GEORGE KNIES: Excused

LOG EDITOR-IN-CHIEF MARY NYE MEYERS REPORT:

The deadline for the BLUE GAVEL LOG will be the week-end of June 14th and 15th.

PROTOCOL OFFICER PHIL ARMS: Absent.

RECORDING SECRETARY MARYBETH THAYER REPORT:

Everyone who speaks here at the meeting should give Mary Nye Meyers and me a report.

WEBMASTERS MARSHALL NEMOY and MARY NYE MEYERS REPORT:

Mary Nye Meyers discussed “What’s Happening” has a new section on it. Look there for new information on the Website.

Report Form from Marc Connelly for District Directors and AVPs, Click on it and the form you want will come up.

We are trying different forms like change of address and position, a copy would be sent to Carol Promessi and me. A lot of changes and more to come, you can even make a reservation for the Annual Meeting on the Website.

President Richard Janiszewski thanked Mary and Marshall for all their hard work.

Still a few problems, some information is not current on some Districts.

Marshall Nemo explained, that what we put on the Website is what each Chapter, District, AVP sends to us. They are the ones who must update us on their activities. We need better updates from them.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS PHIL PROMESSI:

Phil Promessi resigned as Sergeant-At-Arms and informed by E-Mail, to all members of the Executive Committee.

D. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARY EIFFERT: No report.

E. REPRESENTATIVES:

BOAT US JAMES HINCKLEY REPORT:

A Membership to BOAT US is ½ off if you give them the name of IOBG and a code number, which is usually in the Blue Gavel Log. If not there, contact the International Operation Center. This organization has a lot of things going for it, Boat Ins., RV Financing, are some of the things they have. Also, BOAT US holds safety courses around the country. BOAT US is initiating a program to help reduce marine debris, particularly monofilament fishing line. According to experts claims it takes over 500 years to break down. They are asking for organizations to start a recycling program. It would be good to pass this information along to our Districts, but not have IOBG get heavily involved in it. (Report Submitted)

AUXILIARY LIAISON VERN BENDSEN REPORT:

The Auxiliary has a request that the IOBG Executive Committee reduce fees for the Blue Gavel Log for Widows. It will be discussed by the Executive Committee.

HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION LIAISON PHIL ARMS: Absent

Humanitarian Foundation Chairman of the Board Marion Hughes: No Quorum.

District 1 1st Vice President Jim Hinckley discussed having a Silent Auction for the Humanitarian Foundation at the Annual Meeting. Mail your gift to Jerry and Jackie Rudd. The Rudd's have a few items already. Also, the shipping cost, if you bid for an item, will be mailed to you at no cost. The cost of shipping will be picked up by Jackie and Jerry Rudd.

Int'l Past President Ira Nies talked about the article in the Freshwater News about IOBG. It shows what IOBG is doing in Oregon, SW Washington, and beyond. A-Net Crawford spoke about putting IOBG information together from the different Districts and will continue to get a least one article in this free newspaper each month. (Newspaper Article Submitted)

NATIONAL BOATING FOUNDATION PHIL ARMS and TOM SULLIVAN: Absent.

Jim Hinckley reported that the 2008 Annual Convention will be held at Clover Island Motor Inn, Kennewick, WA, October 10th and 11th. Phil Arms is the new President for N. B. F. (Report Submitted)

US SAILING BILL THAYER REPORT:

The new issue of the Racing Rules of Sailing (2009-2012) will be mailed the first week in December, 2008.

Senate Bill #2766 and House Bill # 5949 "The Clean Boating Act of 2008" has cleared Committee and is headed for the full Senate and House vote. Keep mailing your Representatives to pass this bill.

(Report Submitted)

US POWER SQUADRON BJ URSIN: Absent

US COAST GUARD AUXILIARY LARRY DRAPER: No Report.

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

F. COMMITTEES:

AUDIT CHAIRPERSON CAROL PROMESSI: Excused.

Report sent in.

(Report Submitted)

BY-LAWS and POLICY MANUEL CHAIRPERSON PHIL ARMS: Absent.

ANNUAL MEETING JERRY RUDD REPORT:

It will be an outstanding Annual Meeting for the price you are getting. The Committee has done a great job to get the right price. No price increase for anything.

ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW CHAIRPERSON CAROL PROMESSI: Excused.

But she is checking everything and all is well.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON RICHARD JANISZEWSKI REPORT:

The Membership will be discussed when we get to the marketing report.

NOMINATING CHAIRPERSON CAROL PROMESSI: Excused.

The report from the Chairperson everything is running smoothly.

G. DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

DISTRICT 19 DIRECTOR GARY McGRATH REPORT:

District 19 is alive and well and although we have 162 Members, we are struggling like every other District.

In an effort to get more members involved we are trying different ideas submitted by our members. One is to integrated meetings and social events together. Also, to consider organizing a committee of advisors with various experts, such as legal, financial advisory, etc. that could be called on to advises and help District 19. Working on reactivating Caliente Yacht Club and Ebony Boat Club and bring Andreas Cove Yacht Club into IOBG as a new Chapter.

I have been a member of Blue Gavel for 23 years and I can't recall a time when there has been so much indecision and uncertainty concerning the direction we are heading.
(Report Submitted)

DISTRICT 15 DIRECTOR LINDA LOFTIS: Absent.

Past Commodore Bill Thayer of District 15 read the report.

District 15 has been well represented at Southern California Opening Days. District 15 will be hosting its Annual Appreciation BBQ at Mission Bay Yacht Club on June 21st with a 50/50 raffle for Humanitarian Fund.

District has 97 members and we just welcomed a new Chapter and 4 new members from Venture Yacht Club'

District Director Linda Loftis will be visiting several Clubs on their meeting nights to explain Humanitarian Foundation and Power Squadron (in teaching a boating safety seminar).

(Report Submitted)

DISTRICT 5 DIRECTOR ED BLATTER: Absent.

Report given by Bob Gedde:

District 5 has taken the responsibility of an Oregon State Park and Boat Dock called Hadley's Landing on Sauvie Island to clean up and maintain. Over the past couple of years we have removed several dead trees, put in five picnic tables, fire pits, four horseshoe pits and have maintained the 300 foot boat dock. We have just signed a new three year lease for this project. We are now in the process of working with the Oregon State Marine Board and the Oregon State Parks to try to get a Biodegradable bathroom put in. This could take a few years. District 5 is working hard to recruit new members and has grown to 38 members. We continue to plan fundraisers and socials throughout the year.

(Report Submitted)

DISTRICT 1 DIRECTOR ART KOVARNIK: Absent.

District 1 1st Vice President Jim Hinckley report:

Art Kovarnik and Mary Nye Meyers attended many Opening Days.

District 1 is heavily concentrating on the Annual Convention and a fundraiser for Humanitarian Foundation at this event.

We have adopted Marc Connelly's Marketing Program. Jim Hinckley will be working on the Eastside and Mike Parish on the Westside.

Have a new Club application "Hells Canyon Yacht Club".

Also, we are presently coordinating with District 5 for joint meetings. As well as "Hands Across the Border" with our friends, Districts 2, 4, and 24 to the North.

(Reports Submitted)

DISTRICT 11 VICE PRESIDENT ROSALIE DAVIS-GREEN REPORT:

Our Membership has suffered a little bit from last year. We have had 3 events so far this year Member Appreciation, Wine Tasting, and a luncheon that helped our Scholarship Funds that goes to our Junior Sailors.

Getting ready for our Summer BBQs with a speaker, one of the best events we have.

IOBG AUXILIARY PRESIDENT PAT JANISZEWSKI REPORT:

At the last meeting in Alameda, CA I said IOBGA was giving \$700.00 to the Blue Gavel Log, I should have said \$800.00. Also, at the last meeting IOBGA voted to offer to IOBGA Chapters a Book on Boating from the Power Squadron. Heard from the Power Squadron Rep. BJ Ursin and they are looking for a grant to get the Book out to everyone. It is a very good response.

From District 8 Ft. Walton Yacht Club has joined IOBGA.

Webmaster Shirley Willing is resigning as IOBGA Webmaster, so we are looking for a new Webmaster. Please contact me if you know of someone who would do the job, Shirley Willing will help to advise a new Webmaster.

President Pat Janiszewski then introduced Dawn Nemoy of District 15 to speak on "District 15's IOBGA Yacht Club Management Seminar Spouses Roundtable Discussion" held the first time this year. It was a discussion of a little bit of everything, running from what to do on Opening Day, trying to stay out of the politics of the Club, (remember you are not an elected Officer). We have a paper on Tradition and Protocol. Would be glad to send it to you, let me know and I can E-Mail the information to you.
(Report Submitted)

IOBG HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION MARION HUGHES: No Report.

President Richard Janiszewski adjourned the meeting for 10 minutes at 2:35 p.m.

President Richard Janiszewski re-opened the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. President's Report:

President Richard Janiszewski reported he met with several District 8 Bridge members and explained IOBG position on the dues increase and balanced budget proposals. It was subsequently agreed that both proposals would be withdrawn.

DISTRICT 8 – VOTING PROPOSAL

There are concerns reported by four or five other Districts about the voting process. District 8 wants one vote for every 50 members and no votes for International Past Presidents, Executive Committee Members and Area Vice Presidents. President Janiszewski asked about Districts with less than 50 members, answer, they would not get a vote. This position is unacceptable.

President Janiszewski has met with approximately 15 Blue Gavel District 8 Chapters and discussed the District 8 letter and IOBG position. District 8 wants an answer to their proposal by June 15th. They were informed that only the Board of Directors can approve a bylaws change at the October Annual Meeting; however, an Executive Committee response no later than June 15th will be forthcoming. District 8 sent letters to all Districts about the voting proposal. Approximately four or five other Districts support the idea of a (current) voting process review.

Last, District 8 has adopted its own flag. Such a flag or any other flag cannot replace or supersede the official Blue Gavel Flag as called for in our bylaws. As to the stationary, IOBG has its own stationary and it should be used in all cases of official correspondence.

President Janiszewski then opened the Meeting up for input from the floor about what to do about the Voting Proposal. The Voting process for a change in the bylaws is done at the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors of the organization.

We are here today to listen and make comment on all our views only.

The Floor is now open for discussion. Many thoughts and ideas were put forth.

1. Not sure if all District 8 understood the letter sent out by their Officers and what each Chapter can actually do about it.
2. A letter from IOBG was sent in response to all District 8 Members.
3. This idea about “1 Vote” has been going on since 1993.
4. If more District Representatives would attend the Annual Meeting the politics would be less and a better understanding of what IOBG is doing.
5. A proposal of what District 8 wants should be made and put forth by them to be voted on at the Annual Meeting.
6. That District Directors (if they couldn't make the Annual Meeting) should have a paid up member of said District come to the meeting. Member must come from the same District to be able to vote at the Annual Meeting.
7. One idea was to break up District 8 for better communication between the Chapters.
8. International Past Presidents can vote in their own District, only the Immediate Past President would have a vote. Executive Committee and Area Vice Presidents should keep their vote. Districts already in IOBG with less than 50 members should be “Grandfather In”.

9. "Grandfather In" in the District below 50 members. Those who had already joined would want a vote or why join. If new Chapters came in below 50 members they could join District 50 or 51.
10. How does one break up a District? There is no mechanism in the bylaws to do it. Each Chapter in their area would have to do it.
11. Why join Blue Gavel? Basically to have fun, meet Past Commodores, and visit other Boating areas. Do a survey on District 8 on their 47 Chapters. I doubt that some Chapters know that they can form their own Districts and have their own Directors to represent them at the International Meeting. We need to be more proactive in presenting IOBG interest.
12. We were all invited in to join IOBG, if certain Districts want changes they are the ones to come to the Regional Meetings and let the Executive Committee know so their ideas can be put in motion and voted on at the Annual Meeting.
13. What is being promised to the members if they leave IOBG? Will they have a Humanitarian Fund and the other activities from District 8?
14. District 8 should prepare a bylaws change and come to a meeting to explain it and have a vote on it.
15. IOBG should send a letter to all District 8 about their proposal.

A motion was made:

"Two of our Executive Committee get together and give Richard an answer for District 8". That way we can accommodate District 8. It must come thru a bylaw change and see if they agree to do that.

The motion was made and seconded to approve the letter to District 8. The motion carried unanimously.

MARKETING REPORT UPDATE:

De Ramsey said the reports are slow in coming. From what he gathered from talking to his Districts and his own report, he made the report for this meeting.

(Record Submitted)

Ray Thompson got a report from Marc Connelly not complete; but one is in the mail.

(Report Submitted)

Vern Bendsen said District 10, 11, 14, & 19 are doing well. He thinks this new reporting process will be working well as we keep using it. The SW Area, we have five Districts with newsletters and three Districts with Auxiliaries.

OTHER:

SUPPLY OFFICER:

President Richard Janiszewski reported:

Supply Officer Earl Hohlmayer of Commodore Insignia resigned because Earl Hohlmayer didn't get the volume of business anticipated.

He started to look for a new Clothing Supplier and Jerry Rudd also came up with a Vendor. The Vendors all buy from the same Clothing Supplier. It was the embroidery that was different. Yatta (East Coast) and David Kutz of North Star (West Coast) are two that have shown their work.

Have to have the correct color thread that will be used every time.

President Elect Jerry Rudd explained Earl Holdmayer's resignation when another Clothing Supplier came in at the last Annual Meeting. IOBG broke a contract with Commodore Insignia and he resigned.

Carol Promessi (President at the time) asked Jerry Rudd to help her in finding a Supplier. David Kutz of North Star suggested having 2 Vendors one in East and West Coasts.

Discussion followed:

They are all buying from the same clothing supplier.

Yatta will have its own website and support the website.

Roxanne Parish explained about the Embroidery Thread comes in special colors by numbers (just like paint comes by numbers). This is an important factor and all the colors should conform to our IOBG colors. All the colors should be the same no matter how many Vendors we use.

The price is almost the same on all items. Prices may vary by Vendor and by the amount of products ordered and shipping (east or west).

Suggested that the Area Vice Presidents pick the Vendors or the Executive Committee pick the Vendors.

A motion was made for the Executive Committee to pick a Vendor or Multiple Vendors.

The Motion was made and seconded. The motion was carried.

(Report Submitted)

President Richard Janiszewski said we still need to discuss about the CODE OF CONDUCT and the SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. The Meeting will continue tomorrow at Portland Yacht Club, June 6th at 4:00 p.m.

The Meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marybeth Thayer
Recording Secretary

Spring Regional General Meeting International Order of the Blue Gavel started on June 5, 2008 and continued at Double Tree Lloyd Center Hotel, Portland, OR on June 6, 2008 at 2.00 p.m. called to order by President Richard Janiszewski.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President
President Elect

Richard Janiszewski
Jerry Rudd: Excused

1 st Vice President	Ray Thompson
2 nd Vice President	Vern Bendsen
Treasurer	Marshall Nemoy
Past President	Carol Promessi: Excused
Executive Secretary	Mary Eiffert
Recording Secretary	Marybeth Thayer

ATTENDEES and GUESTS:

District 1:

Marion Hugh	International Past President
Jim Hinckley	District 1 st Vice President
Al Eiffert	Member
Fritz E. Bohren	Past NWVP

District 12:

Pat Janiszewski	IOBGA President
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District 15:

Bill Thayer	US Sailing Rep.
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District 19:

Larry Draper	SWVP
John Anthony	Supplier Officer
Gary McGrath	District Director
Estella McGrath	Member
Linda Bendsen	Member

District 23:

Francis D. Ramsey	NCVP
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OLD BUSINESS:

IOBGA President Pat Janiszewski asked to speak before the Board about the cost of the LOG for Widows that was raised 2 years ago from \$10.00 to \$15.00. She heard complaints from 5 Districts (mentioned only Districts 9, 12, & 26) about the cost of the extra \$5.00 for the LOG. 8 Widows have been charged, IOBGA President Pat Janiszewski would like the cost for the LOG to go back to \$10.00, and if necessary the IOBGA would pick up the difference.

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy said 7 of the Widows have already paid \$10.00 and he is writing letters to them to get the extra \$5.00 and 1 Widow paid the \$15.00

IOBGA President wants to know if the Auxiliary collected the money for the cost of the LOG and then sent the funds on to the IOBG Treasurer. That would be fine with Treasurer Nemoy.

Liaison IOBGA Office Vern Bendsen thinks each District should take care of their own Members dues (which in this case would be IOBGA Districts). To start this program of IOBGA paying for it could open them up to more thru the years.

President Pat Janiszewski doesn't think that would happen.

Int'l Past President Marion Hughes said if the Auxiliary wants to do it, let them do it.

IOBGA President Janiszewski asked the Executive Committee for the price of the LOG to go down from \$15.00 to \$10.00 per year for the Widows.

IOBG President Richard Janiszewski said a decision on this matter will be made by the Executive Committee at its next Meeting.

President Richard Janiszewski passed out information about the forthcoming Long Island, NY meeting. This handout referred to all meetings as Executive Committee meetings which is incorrect. The corrected version will appear in the Log and on the website.

(Report Submitted)

PROXY:

We have found out that a proxy is not allowed by our bylaws for an Alternate to vote at the Annual Meeting. It should be corrected to read as an assignment statement. If the District Director can't make the Annual Meeting (he or she) can assign the Alternate to vote for the District. The Alternate must be a paid up IOBG Member by August 1st and from the District he is voting for. Area Vice Presidents could not be assigned as an Alternate unless the Area Vice President is voting from his or her own District. President Richard Janiszewski received a Proxy form from Legal Officer George Knies and will turn the matter over to Treasurer Marshall Nemoy to write a new form and will give to President Janiszewski before the August Meeting. The words "Assignment Statement" will be in the form for the new bylaws.

A comment was made about the payment of dues taken before January 1st.

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy explained as a courtesy to members who travel from one section to another for the winter, it has been the policy to accept dues from October and November so the members could get their card to be used while visiting other Districts.

NEW BUSINESS:

CODE OF CONDUCT:

President Richard Janiszewski thinks IOBG needs a Code of Conduct, at this time IOBG doesn't have one.

Legal Officer George Knies wrote one up and President Janiszewski read it. The President thinks we should have one for our own protection.

A lively discussion followed.

Vern Bendsen thinks a copy should be sent out to all Districts for their input.

President Janiszewski received an E-Mail from Bylaws and Policy Manual Chairman Phil Arms and said he had some uneasiness with the complaint procedure; but gave no particulars on what he didn't like.

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy doesn't think the "Code of Conduct" would work well at the Executive level.

A discussion on how it would work between the Districts and at the Executive Committee level.

President Richard Janiszewski said IOBG should have a "Code of Conduct", we have no way to take appropriate action if we don't have a "Code of Conduct".

Different opinions arose and it will have to be discussed quite thoroughly. The Code could work well in the Districts, but not for the IOBG Executive Committee is one thought.

Treasurer Nemoy thinks IOBG should stay out of the judiciary business. We haven't defined what is proper or not proper conduct. IOBG has to define exactly what proper conduct is or is not.

The Executive Committee has to decide if the "Code of Conduct" is needed. Do we need a Code to make members understand what is acceptable?

The Executive Committee will discuss it further and make a decision.

(Report Submitted)

SCHOLARSHIP PROPOSAL:

President Richard Janiszewski prepared a Scholarship program with IOBGA President Pat Janiszewski. It would be a grant or an award to the children of a Blue Gavel Member or Grandchildren of a Blue Gavel Member. He then read parts of the proposed Scholarship he is putting forth.

Since this is the initial discussion of the proposal and since the Humanitarian Foundation is not meeting in Portland, this matter was not presented to them. The Auxiliary has reviewed the proposal and voted to support it in concept with suggested changes to be discussed.

There would be 2 Members from each group to be on the Committee.

A discussion followed:

Bill Thayer said Southwest Districts and Chapters have Junior Scholarships already and are well funded.

Marion Hughes doesn't think it should be done, too much work involve.

President Janiszewski said he received valuable assistance from Vern Bendsen.

Bill Thayer said Vern Bendsen is talking about one area, where IOBG is talking the entire IOBG International Area.

It was also mentioned it would be hard for the Scholarship Committee to read all the applications in a timely matter.

President Janiszewski said where he comes from Scholarship aren't done.

This will have to be brought before the Executive Committee for further discussion.

(Reports Submitted)

RESTRUCTURING:

President Janiszewski asked Vern Bendsen to discuss the concept of restructuring within the Blue Gavel. Citing District 8 as a hypothetical example only, 2nd Vice President Vern Bendsen displayed a map of Florida.

1st Vice President Ray Thompson said “At the request of District 8 Officers, I drew a similar map 10 years ago. Being big does not mean it’s wrong. Are we saying that only a “mom and pop” size District is workable? Panhandle Chapters want to stay in District 8.

It was also mentioned that District 8’s bylaws do not conform to IOBG By-Laws, and they will not change them.

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy said the Executive Committee can write a letter to any District and suggest improvements that might help any District for the future good of IOBG.

This will be discussed further at the Executive Committee level.

(Reports Submitted)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The Recording secretary asked for the approval of the agenda. The agenda was approved.

This Meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

The Executive Committee had further business.

CHAPTER APPLICATION:

Reporting for President Elect Jerry Rudd, Treasurer Marshall Nemoy had 3 Chapters requests.

Grand Lake Cruising Club	District 25
Diversey Yacht Club	District 50
(Subject to approval from District 50)	
Middle River Yacht Club	District 27

Motion made to accept the 3 Chapters and seconded. Motion was passed.

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy is looking into getting Plastic Membership Cards and hopes to have that information for the August meeting.

Also, discussed sleeve patches that will be look into.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marybeth Thayer
Recording Secretary