

**INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL
WINTER REGIONAL MEETING
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SESSION
San Diego, California
February 6, 2009**

CALL to ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by President Jerry Rudd at 9:15 A.M. at Mission Bay Yacht Club on February 6, 2009.

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE:

Given by Phil Promessi

ROLL CALL of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Jerry Rudd	District 1
President Elect	Ray Thompson	District 8
First Vice President	Vern Bendsen – Absent	District 19
Second Vice President	Marc Connelly	District 3
Treasurer	Marshall Nemoy	District 15
Immediate Past President	Richard Janiszewski – Absent	District 12
Executive Secretary	Mary Eiffert	District 1

The Recording Secretary confirmed that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL of AGENDA:

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

INTRODUCTION of IOBG INTERNATIONAL PAST PRESIDENTS:

Dr. Richard Disraeli	1994	District 15
Carol Promessi	2007	District 19

INTRODUCTION of HOSTS:

Marshall Nemoy welcomed everyone and introduced District 15 members present and talked a little bit on the history of Mission Bay Yacht Club which started in 1927.

SELF-INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES AND GUESTS:

DISTRICT 1:

Mary Nye Meyers	District Director	Al Eiffert	Member
Jackie Evans Rudd	IOBGA P/P	Michael Meyers	IOBGA 2nd Vice President

DISTRICT 8:

Tom Sullivan	Southeastern Vice President		
Pat Sheffield	Chapter President of NPBYC	Fritz Foster	Guest

DISTRICT 10:

George Demos District Vice President

DISTRICT 11:

Gary Green District Director
Rosalie Davis Green District President

DISTRICT 15:

Linda Loftis	District Director	Audrey Hall	Member / IOBGA Int'l President
Jim Coburn	District President	Greg Hansen	Member
Gary Hall	Member	Bill Thayer	Member / IOBGA District Secretary
Marybeth Thayer	Recording Secretary		

DISTRICT 16:

Marsha Landreth Protocol Officer

DISTRICT 18:

Tom Sullivan Southeastern Vice President

DISTRICT 19:

Phil Promessi	Sergeant-At-Arms	Lucille E. Anthony	IOBGA President Elect
M. Estella McGrath	Member	John Anthony	District Supply Officer
Gary McGrath	Member		

DISTRICT 21:

Merry Keller District First Vice President
Rusty Libby Member

DISTRICT 23:

Francis D. Ramsey North Central Vice President Maude Ramsey Guest

DISTRICT 26:

Ernie Odierna District Director

DISTRICT 27:

Chuck Browning Northeastern Vice President

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the FALL REGIONAL MEETING:

The minutes of the Fall Regional Meeting held in Seattle, WA on October 26, 2008, were approved as submitted.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TREASURER: Marshall Nemoy distributed and discussed his report. He stated that the Financial Statement presented in this report are as of December 31, 2008 and for the year then ended.

There is good news in this report in spite of having non-routine expenses such as three special mailers to District 8 and other interested parties.

Expenses for the Executive Committee Annual Meeting, Area Vice Presidents and the Blue Gavel Log were lower than budget. Only the International Operations Center was higher than budgeted because of three special mailings, printing, postage, and web site maintenance.

At this time the Membership statistics are in flux and a better picture will be available at the Spring Regional Meeting in June.

Questions ?

Greg Hansen asked how many Members in IOBG? Response: 2330 dues paying members in August, 2008

George Demos asked how many Chapters in IOBG? Response: there is not an accurate count at this time Report submitted.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: Marc Connelly stated that the Marketing Program was fully implemented at the October Meeting. Both the District Directors and Area Vice Presidents reports are fully functional on the web site. \\

We have 11 Districts of which 6 Districts have reported. Work still needs to be done on getting the Districts to report. I will get together with Web Master Mary Nye Meyers and iron out a few remaining problems with the Web page and The Log.

I'm pleased to announce that District 3 Auxiliary is presenting a check to the Humanitarian Foundation. Report Submitted.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: Vern Bendsen is somewhere between South America and Mexico.

PRESIDENT ELECT: Ray Thompson said: I thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President Elect. Hopefully my efforts will be sufficient to satisfy all the requirements this office demands.

During the past several years IOBG has been plagued with an inordinate amount of internal criticism regarding certain operating policies. Now the escalation of the criticism along with ensuring frustrations has been serious enough to cause the resignation of District 8's Board of Directors as well as a number of Chapters. The negative potential of all this criticism makes it imperative that I commit my efforts to the reducing of as much of these critical areas as possible. My commitment will never be successful with out the full cooperation and support of all the members. Therefore, it is hoped that District Directors would poll their membership on all these trouble-some issues, which in turn, would help produce democratic and more easily defended solutions. Solutions that would resolve internal frustrations would permit more time and effort for our involvement in the support of water and boating activities.

I had planned to have the IOBG Annual Ball at Palm Coast Yacht Club, that is being changed and by the June Regional Meeting the new place will be announced.

A meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 19, 2009 in Florida and President Jerry Rudd will be attending.

Report Submitted.

PRESIDENT: Jerry Rudd thanked everyone for coming to this meeting. Most of this winter has been spent with working on the problem with District 8. The motion that was tabled at the 2008 Annual Meeting is still in the forefront and being work on. Some new Bylaws have been approved and by the August Regional Meeting we hope to have them before the Executive Committee so they can be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

We have had an invitation from New Zealand to come over for a meeting. They have even offered for the members who come to stay at their home to cut the expenses. Will leave this invitation open and pass it on to Ray Thompson.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Mary Eiffert had no report just requests. Need a list of those individuals who receive the Past Presidents Award – Deed of Gift, Need the last three years of the “Financial Audit”, and a copy of the 2006 Annual Meeting Minutes, held on the Queen Mary in San Diego.
Report Submitted.

NORTHEASTERN VICE PRESIDENT: Chuck Browning discussed the Districts in the Northeastern Area.

DISTRICT 3: Presented “The Boater of Year” to Art Theobald for 2008.

DISTRICT 20: Gave its Members a break by not charging District dues and some relief on their International dues.

DISTRICT 26: Put out a good informative News Letter.

DISTRICT 27: Will again raise funds for two charities “Vets on the Bay” and “Children of Fallen Soldiers”

Also, I sent unpaid members of District 12 and 20 a letter to see if they could come back as active members.

Report Submitted.

NORTH CENTRAL VICE PRESIDENT: Francis D. Ramsey discussed the Districts in the North Central Area.

DISTRICT 9: We have allocated our humanitarian funds this year to “Sight Center of Toledo-Juvenile Program”, “Vail Meadows”, “Wertz’s Warriors” and three food banks.

DISTRICT 23: Is working hard putting together the preparations for the 2009 August Regional Meeting being held in Saugatuck and Douglas MI hosted by Tower Harbour Yacht Club.

DISTRICT 25: Is just in the planning stage for 2009 and looking forward to a good year.

DISTRICT 7: Along with District 9 and 25 we are going to co-sponsor the I-LYA Commodore’s Party at Put-In-Bay in August, 2009.

Also, had a conversation with Past Commodore Richard Lauric of the Burnham Park Yacht Club and he is interested in establishing a District in Chicago.

Report Submitted.

SOUTHEASTERN VICE PRESIDENT: Tom Sullivan discussed the difference between the leadership of some new members and older members. District 8 has a new interim set of Officers looking forward, with a lot of hard work, to a good year.

Report Submitted.

President Jerry Rudd said what is going on with the District 8’s resignation of the previous Board is history, none of us can do a thing about it or alter or change it. When I talked to Tom and other members I wanted to stay fresh and positive on this subject, not go backwards. It is not International’s decision to break the District up, that is only the District’s decision we can only help or give assistance if asked.

Keep a positive discussion - no negative.

NORTHWESTERN VICE PRESIDENT: Art Kovarnik was in the hospital, now at home, getting better every day.

SOUTHWESTERN VICE PRESIDENT: Larry Draper’s wife Deanne Tomei is in the hospital.

DISTRICTS DIRECTORS:

DISTRICT 15: District Director Linda Loftis discussed the good turn out for the IOBG Seminar for the current Officers of the Districts Yacht Clubs and IOBGA Seminar for spouses all on the same day and same place.

DISTRICT 10: District Vice President George Demos discussed the Humanitarian Foundation and a member of Long Beach Yacht Club asked about joining IOBG and has passed along information on this possible new Chapter.

DISTRICT 19: Alternate District Director Gary McGrath reported that District 19 held their retreat in December and set their calendar for 2009. They also, raised District dues so more of the funds could be given to the Humanitarian Foundation. February 22nd they will have their installation of new members. Report Submitted.

Past President Carol Promessi stated that the SWVP tried to have two Seminars a year in Northern and Southern CA. With everything going on and a very busy schedule this year, I think we can get in one each. She stated let Larry Draper or me know if one of your yacht clubs can hold it.

DISTRICT 51: District Director Linda Loftis sent a letter to all members of the District and receive some response back. We had an invitation for a Regional Meeting for 2010 in Houston, TX, something we should consider. District 15 President Jim Coburn has received an invitation to visit Nautical Yacht Club, De Baja, Ensenada Mexico maybe we can get a Chapter there.

DISTRICT 1: District Director Mary Nye Meyers said that they are having “Hands Across-the-Borders” with different activities with Canada and Oregon. We are using the Marketing Program and it is working. Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 23: NCVP Francis D. Ramsey discussed the Summer Regional Meeting.

DISTRICT 26: District 26 Director Ernie Odierna said we have been focusing on ways to make it more attractive for Clubs to join the Blue Gavel, to be able to offer them some real advantages and benefits in membership. We have an open invitation to all District P/C’s to attend our Pre-Meeting dinner along with their spouses.

The Amusement Park on Long Island Sound, NY has opened a portion of it’s beach area that will allow **small dinghies and Kayak access. This has been a long time coming and District 26 has work for this for years.** Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 11: District 11 Director Gary Green reported we are on our way to having the same membership count as last year. We are raising funds for our Jr. Sailing Scholarship and other charities, by having a Wine Tasting Party, Pancake Breakfast, and a trip on a Tall Ship in Los Angeles Harbor.

DISTRICT 21: District 21 First Vice President Merry Keller stated they have an active program on going to enlarge our membership with new members and old members. One of our charities was getting Life Vests for the Sea Scouts last year. More Charity functions are planned.

DISTRICT 16: District 16 Alternate Director Marsha Landreth reported that the District gave two scholarships for Youth Sailing and a donation to the Humanitarian Foundation. The District looks forward looking to increasing membership and participation in 2009. Report Submitted.

President Jerry Rudd announced that Marsha Landreth is now International Protocol Officer.

DISTRICT 18: Past President Carol Promessi reported with some members who are striving to revitalize their District.

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT: Phil Promessi stated he was asked to hold a workshop for this Meeting.

I choose to base this workshop on the three questions that were asked at the last Annual Meeting and to discuss some of the answers to these questions. A discussion followed.

Both President Jerry Rudd and Past President Carol Promessi stressed the importance of getting records from all Districts to see how everyone is doing and if any help is required.

LEGAL OFFICER: President Jerry Rudd said George Knies will be out of commission for a short time and IOBGHF Legal Officer Mark Montobbio has agreed to step in until George Knies is back on board.

WEBMASTER & LOG EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Mary Nye Meyers said the deadline for articles for the LOG is February 20th. A discussion followed on how the Log works for the Membership. Our Website is reaching a lot of members from Ireland to Saudi Arabia. She explained some more facts on how to use the Website. A discussion followed.

President Jerry Rudd then gave a great Thank You to Peggy Gregory and Carol Promessi for doing the 2009 Directory, an outstanding book for this year.

President Rudd adjourned the meeting for lunch at 12:05 P.M.

The IOBG Winter Regional Meeting resumed at 1:40 P.M. at Mission Bay Yacht Club which President Jerry Rudd called to order.

IOBG AUXILIARY REPORT: President Audrey Hall said it was a privilege to be able to address you. We are off to a good start with great changes to our Web site thanks to Mary Nye Meyers, www.iobga.org check it out. We look forward to contribute to the goals of IOBG and promote more activities. Report Submitted.

President Jerry Rudd, in behalf of IOBG, presented a plaque of appreciation to District 15 and Mission Bay Yacht Club.

APPOINTED OFFICERS REPORTS CONTINUE:

PROTOCOL: Marsha Landreth had no report and handed out a chart out about the order of precedence in Robert's Rules of Order.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Marybeth Thayer needs your reports at all meetings,

SERGEANT at ARMS: Phil Promessi: No Report.

APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES:

BOAT U.S.: James Hinckley: Absent.

IOBGA LIAISON: Second Vice President Marc Connelly: No Report.

IOBGHF LIAISON: Treasurer & Chief Financial Officer Jackie Evans Rudd reported that IOBGHF is solvent. Have received a donation from District 3 today and District 19 has sent in a donation,

NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION: Dave Kutz: Absent.

U.S. SAILING: Bill Thayer reported that Roy Disney received US Sailing prestigious Nathanael G. Herreshoff Trophy.
As of December 1, 2008, the 2009-2012 Racing Rules of Sailing with US Sailing Prescriptions became available along with a host of seminars hosted by North U.
Report Submitted.

COMMITTEES:

BY-LAWS: P/P Carol Promessi: No Report.

NOMINATING: President Jerry Rudd said if you are interested in holding an elected position you must send a letter requesting it to anyone in the Nominating Committee. The committee consists of Chairman Ray Thompson, 1st Vice President Vern Bendsen, or Immediate Past President Richard Janiszewski. The Letter must be in by the August Meeting.

CONVENTION (2009): President Ray Thompson: No Report.

SUPPLY OFFICE: President Jerry Rudd report from Legal Officer George Knies that he sent the four clothing contracts out and I have received only one back signed by North Star. I need to get the other three contracts signed and back to me to sign to keep it all legal.

OLD BUSINESS: President Jerry Rudd said we have arranged to meet with Interim District Board. District 8's Interim Board on February 21, 2009. He will be attending along with Ray Thompson and Tom Sullivan. Funding is an immediate problem and also we hope to discuss alternate possible solutions and some other issues.

A motion was made that IOBG would loan District 8 interim board \$1000.00 to publish a newsletter to District 8 members.

Motion was seconded.

Discussion followed.

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy said IOC would provide the labels and let them take care of the mailing and printing out of the funds authorized by this vote if passed, except for the four Chapters who have officially dropped out,

Questions:

Carol Promessi asked that some District funds have already been collected. Why don't you use those funds?

Response: Treasurer Nemoy said District funds submitted to the International should be held in escrow for the District like we do for District 18. He advised that the IOBG Bylaws and District 8 Bylaws should be followed to the letter.

Pat Sheffield asked is there a need for a lawyer and also stated that Florida Law protects the funds.

President Rudd response: One problem is when the IOBG District 8 Board resigned en masse there is nobody with the legal authority to act in behalf of District 8 until there is an election.

Motion passed.

CODE of CONDUCT – LIFE MEMBERS: Our Bylaws are silent on Code of Conduct. Last year President Richard Janiszewski brought this idea to the Executive Committee. On the Committee is Immediate Past President Richard Janiszewski, 1st Vice President Ray Thompson, and Past President Carol Promessi, and Legal officer George Knies. Past President Carol Promessi read the draft proposal.

Discussion followed.

Question:

Russell Libby asked where in our Bylaws would this be placed?

Response: The Bylaws Committee will take this draft under advisement and decide where it would be placed in the IOBG Bylaws.

A motion was made to recommend this Draft to the Bylaws Committee.

Discussion followed.

Motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

Draft Submitted.

BY-LAWS CHANGE - IS THERE ANY NEW SUGGESTIONS: LIFE MEMBERS PAY DISTRICT DUES:

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy said at the Annual Meeting in Seattle, we had a discussion about voting as an Alternate Director. Some problems have come up. We have members who do not pay District dues because their District does not make Past District Presidents pay dues. International Past Presidents do not pay International dues.

How do we certify that this group as a Alternate Director is eligible to represent that District?

Discussion followed.

Districts 50 and 51 Alternate Directors are appointed by the Executive Committee and those Chapters do not pay District dues because District 50 and 51 do not charge District dues; but do pay International dues. The Alternate Director must be a paid up member of the district he or she represents.

Have to name an Alternate Director by a certain date

Still needs to work on this, just keep it simply for a Bylaws change.

NEW BUSINESS:

CHAPTER APPLICATIONS: We will postpone this discuss until 1st Vice President Vern Bendsen is present.

DUES: SOME CLUBS ARE GOING TO HOLD UNTIL AUGUST LATE PAYMENT:

All dues shall be postmarked by July 31st each year. We should leave the late payment alone for now until District 8 is resolved.

GOOD of the ORDER:

SPRING REGIONAL MEETING 4-7th in PORTLAND, OREGON

REMINDER: MEETING is on THURSDAY:

President Jerry Rudd talked about President Elect Ray Thompson being Knighted at the 2009 Royal Rosarian Rose Festival. It is a privilege to be honored at the Rose Festival. There with me last year were Supreme Court Judges and people from all over the United States. So if you have never been, it is lovely ceremony.

CHAPTER APPLICATION:

President Elect Ray Thompson has one Chapter request:

White Rock Yacht Club Glen Burnie, MI District 27

Motion was made to accept the Chapter and seconded. Motion was passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marybeth Thayer
Recording Secretary