

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL ANNUAL MEETING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2010
ALAMEDA, CA

The Annual Meeting was called to order by President Ray Thompson at 9:00 A.M. at the Encinal Yacht Club on Saturday, October 23, 2010.

INVOCATION and MOMENT of SILENCE: Given by President Ray Thompson

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE: Given by President Ray Thompson

ROLL CALL of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President Ray Thompson	District 8
President Elect Vern Bendsen	District 19
First Vice President Marc Connelly	District 3
Second Vice President Stephen Willing	District 25
Treasurer Marshall Nemoy	District 15
Past President Jerry Rudd	District 1
Executive Secretary Mary Eiffert	District 1

VERIFICATION of a QUORUM:

Recording Secretary Marybeth Thayer: Mr. President, there is a quorum.

SELF INTRODUCTION of PAST PRESIDENTS:

Evertt Roberts	1991	District 5
Ira Nies	1996	District 5
Marion Hughes	2002	District 1
Larry Foote	2004	District 19
Carol Promessi	2007	District 19

SELF INTRODUCTION of ATTENDEES & GUESTS:

DISTRICT 1:

Northwestern Vice President Art Kovarnik Log Editor-In –Chief Mary Nye Meyers
P/Northwestern Vice President Mike Parish Member Roxanne Parish

DISTRICT 5:

District President Ron Timmerman District Vice President Bill McKinney
Guest Vi Roberts

DISTRICT 7:

District Director Joel Kay

DISTRICT 8:

District Director Joe Dowdell

DISTRICT 10:

District Director George Demos

DISTRICT 11:

District Director Rosalie Davis-Green Alt. District Director Gary Green

DISTRICT 14:

Legal Officer George Knies District Director Lenworth Gordon District President Jan Brennan
Member Reginald Smith Member Duane Collins

DISTRICT 15:

US Sailing Rep. Bill Thayer Recording Secretary Marybeth Thayer Member Gary Hall
2009 IOBGA P/President Audrey Hall

District 16:

Protocol Officer Marsha Landreth

District 19:

Southwestern Vice President Gary McGrath District Director Joan Marsh-Clune
Sergeant-At-Arms Phil Promessi P/Southwestern Vice President Larry Draper
District President Herman Meyer District Vice President Pat Carson Member Otis Brock
Member M. Estella McGrath Member Marilyn Brock Member Eddie Jo Mack
P/District Director George Trefz Member Marshall Wattel Member Mike Billington
District Treasurer/Supply Officer John Anthony District Secretary Ray Mitchell
Member Barbi Carson Member Linda Bendsen

DISTRICT 23:

District Director Francis D. Ramsey

DISTRICT 27:

Northeast Vice President Chuck Browning District Director Robert Howe
Member David Grove

DISTRICT 51:

District Director Walt Kadyk

APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES of OCTOBER 24, 2009:

The motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from October 24, 2009. Motion passed.

RATIFICATION of ACTIONS of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Motion was made and seconded to accept the Ratification of Actions of the Executive Committee.

Question was asked where this information could be found.

Answer it is all in the LOG.

Motion was passed.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

A. DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

DISTRICT 7 DIRECTOR JOEL KAY REPORT:

We have a very committed group of vice presidents, who are actively engaged in following their chapters' annual events as well attempting to reopen closed chapters. Our latest attempt is the successful reopening of the Aladdin Mariners Chapter in Southern Ohio, and gaining two (2) new members from there. Our Humanitarian Fund has provided boating activities to those who would not otherwise be able to take part in the on-the-water programs such as Blind Sailors, Sea Scouts and those organizations that assist the disabled. Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 5 DIRECTOR IRA NIES REPORT:

This year since October of 2009 until now has been an absolutely fantastic year for District 5. Our membership has grown thru the effort of our newly elected President Ron Timmerman and our newsletter was brought back to life by Vice President/Treasurer Bill McKinney. For the first time in several years District 5 has rekindled the spirit of Blue Gavel and is changing the attitude of many Past Commodores who have not been interested previously. Taking on such projects as Clean-Up Cruise with District 1 in Kennewick, WA and raising funds for the Sea Scouts to help refurbish a boat. The President, Vice President and Secretary have all agreed to continue in their respective positions for one more year with the belief that a more solid foundation will be formed to build the future of District 5. I want to thank President Ron Timmerman and Vice President Bill McKinney for bringing District 5 back to life, this is the first time that these two (2) Officers have been at our Annual Meeting. Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 8 DIRECTOR JOE DOWDELL REPORT:

What has been happening since District 8 has been restructured was discussed. Our E-Mail is back and our newsletter, with the help from Mary Nye Meyers, is working. The District has had five (5) Membership meetings, four (4) Social Activities, four (4) Board of Director Regional meetings, The idea of splitting District 8 into smaller areas was discussed at all meeting with letters send out to all members. It was put to a vote and voted down at this time. To form a new District it must have five (5) Chapters petition to the District following the Bylaws. Upcoming is the IOBG Winter Regional Meeting being held in District 8 at the Isles Yacht Club. Passed out flyers on the schedules and remember it will be Summer Whites with Blue Jackets. Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 10 DIRECTOR GEORGE DEMOS REPORT:

We are doing well. Starting with our Valentine Dinner and ending in December with a cruise of Huntington Harbour, we have had a very good year. Our membership has doubled, many Past Commodores have renewed their interest in District 10 and the "Class of 2009" joined. In addition to social events, we have also been able to assist in charitable activities in the community. District 10 is "alive and well". Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 11 DIRECTOR ROSALIE DAVIS GREEN REPORT:

District 11 had a good year despite some challenges. We had 6 activities with an average attendance of 33 per activity. All our activities raise funds for our Jr. Sailor Scholarship Fund to send needy junior sailors to a local yacht club summer sailing program. Our District Treasurer Lynne Hammett passed away in May. She was an active member who held many officers in the district. Her absence has been felt broadly throughout the district. Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 14 DIRECTOR LENWORTH GORDON REPORT:

Welcome everyone to our district. He introduced Congressman Reginald Smith who this year is Commodore of Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Assoc.

This year has been a busy one with youth activities, social events and raising funds for this event.

We did a brunch with IOBGA, it went quite well. The Wheelchair Regatta was held here at Encinal Yacht Club with PICA.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 15 DIRECTOR EILEEN VAN WINKLE REPORT:

Given by Alt. District Director Bill Thayer

This year the District started with the annual Yacht Club Management Seminar, its mission is to instruct and guide yacht club officers and boards. It was well attended.

We had our Member Appreciation Day, two (2) Wine and Cheese events with, one with a little home brew beer.

Funds raised this year were for Recreational Boaters of California and Jr. Sailing Program at Camp Pendleton's Sailing Facility.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 16 DIRECTOR MARSHA LANDRETH REPORT:

District 16 kicked off the year with an installation breakfast for the 2010 Officers. It has been a busy year and now we are deciding where to place scholarship funds we have raised thru the year.

Should you sail into one of our harbors, give us a holler and we'll make you welcome.

Report Submit.

DISTRICT 19 DIRECTOR JOAN MARSH-CLUNE REPORT:

District 19's primary focus all year truly culminates with Convention 2010 and installation of Vern Bendsen as IOBG International President.

In addition to raising additional money to support this convention, these activities brought out many members who might not otherwise have been as active this year.

Membership continues to be a concern for the district. We all recognize the need for communication and increased marketing to an understanding of how boating patterns and practices have changed within our members clubs and chapters. So this challenge will continue.

A primary focus for our District is our continued support of the Recreational Boaters of California.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 23 DIRECTOR R. F. SAPITA REPORT;

Given by District Director Francis D. Ramsey

2010 was a relatively quiet year for the District. Historically District 23 has filled its leadership positions by appointments and volunteers who have generously given their time and talents. New Bylaws are now being developed and a preliminary draft is now before the District's officers and the IOBG Executive Committee for their review and comments. It hopes that the bylaws will encourage more District activities and facilitate growth in the District. Once the bylaws are in place we can then concentrate on growing the charter and membership base of the District.

Report Submitted.

I would like to make an announcement that I have been elected District 8 President for 2011 and one of my jobs is Membership and looking at a new way to induct future IOBG members.

DISTRICT 26 DIRECTOR ERNIE ODIERNA REPORT:

Given by Northeastern Vice President Chuck Browning

During these difficult economic times we have learned how other Clubs have been coping and maybe take home some innovative new ideas that could benefit your own Club.

We had a very successful "Thank-A-Vet" day.

The Blue Gavel is an organization loaded with knowledge and practical experience by guys and gals, just like ourselves, who have been there and done that. The main reason most of us are members is so that we can

continue to help our respective Clubs, meet some new folks and enjoy the camaraderie of the Yacht Club fraternity beyond our local shores. It's all here; you just have to participate and contribute to reap the benefits.
Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 27 DIRECTOR ROBERT HOWE REPORT:

A busy year, we just finish our "Vets-On-The-Bay" day, to help raise funds for it; we had a booth at the Annapolis MD Boat Show. Plan to ask the Executive Committee and Humanitarian Foundation Board to consider the idea of having a booth there for raising funds for the Foundation.
At this time I like to introduce David Grove who has been a member of IOBG for one (1) month and will be District 27 Director soon.
Report Submitted.

At this time Chairman of the Board Jerry Rudd presented the Humanitarian Foundation's pin to Robert Howe for his donation.

DISTRICT 51 DIRECTOR WALT KADYK REPORT:

I am pleased to report that District 51 still has a handful of loyal members.
I have set a goal to recruit 10 new members in the next twelve (12) months. I hope to do this by using the available IOBG recruiting materials and through personal communication and will encourage each "new" member to recruit one member as well.
Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 75 REPORT:

Given by Treasurer Marshall Nemoy

Has received a letter from the District President and a list of the new 2011 officer and report all is well. Treasurer Marshall Nemoy explained a little bit of the history of IOBG New Zealand Membership.

District 19 Director Joan Marsh-Clune asked to speak again to inform everyone that a very successful Soul Food Extravaganza was put on by some members from the Ebony Boat Club to raise funds for this Annual Meeting.

President Ray Thompson thanked all the District Directors for their reports and called them the "glue" that hold the Executive Committee and the membership together.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARY EIFFERT REPORT:

There were only two charters approved. District 23 has a new chapter, Bayshore Yacht Club and District 21 has a new chapter, Orange Coast College Sailing Association.
I look forward to serving yet another year.
Report Submitted.

B. AREA VICE PRESIDENTS:

NORTHWESTERN VICE PRESIDENT ART KOVARNIK REPORT:

Districts 2, 4, and 24 are all in Canada and not doing well.
District 1 just had its change of watch for the upcoming year. Many events planned for the coming year.
District 5 is a hard working group. They are already putting plans together for the June Regional Meeting and knighting.
Report Submitted.

SOUTHWESTERN VICE PRESIDENT GARY McGRATH REPORT:

We need to get back to basic, because it is once again time to send out membership renewals and I feel that we need to make a concentrated effort to regain and retain those delinquent members.

You can all start by creating some new functions for your Districts and then sending the calendar of events along with your renewals. Then send not one but three notices as well as individual phone calls to those members you feel a need for personal contact. Emails are fine, but snail mail and personal contacts are also needed if we are to regain those lost members.

Let us make the year 2011 our comeback membership year.

Report Submitted.

NORTH CENTRAL:

Second Vice President Stephen Willing explained why North Central Vice President Tom Lyon wasn't here today. Tom Lyon is one of the most qualified persons to have in any organization. This past year unfortunately he had a series of setbacks and had to resign. He will be missed.

NORTHEASTERN VICE PRESIDENT CHUCK BROWNING:

We have some of the same problems losing members as everyone else, I agree there is a lot we can correct ourselves if we get out there and talk to them ourselves.

All districts are having some good events except for District 20 with the problem no one wants to get involved.

This will work it self out in time,

Report Submitted.

C. APPOINTED OFFICERS:

EDUCATION and DEVELOPMENT PHIL PROMESSI REPORT: No report.

WEBMASTER & LOG EDITOR-IN-CHIEF MARY NYE MEYERS REPORT:

The LOG deadline is November 6th for articles and pictures,

The Website is being used and with the Email Service it will continue even more.

PROTOCOL OFFICER MARSHA LANDRETH REPORT:

Pass out flyers on Principal Rules Governing Motions and Order of Precedence.

RECORDING SECRETARY MARYBETH THAYER REPORT: No report.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS PHIL PROMESSI REPORT: No report.

D. APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES:

HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION LIAISON JERRY RUDD REPORT:

IOBGHF has a pin to wear when a \$100.00 donation is given.

At the luncheon today there will be an envelope on each table to give a donation for the IOBGHF Christmas Card to be put in the LOG with your name on it. I hope everyone will participate.

Robert Howe talked about some of the goals for Humanitarian Foundation this coming year. Trying to understand what it does and to get Humanitarian Foundation more visible this year.

NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION DAVID KUTZ REPORT:

Given by Past President Jerry Rudd

The main thing is the use of Ethanol which is not good for the fuel tank on boats; the government wants to go 15%. It is a problem.

There is a pamphlet called "Paddle Smart" it for small crafts, kayak, and row boats. A lot of these are found adrift and no one knows if there has been a problem or who to call. There is no charge and you would get a sticker for your craft with the correct information on it. Check with your Coast Guard Auxiliary for it.

President Ray Thompson at this time introduced International Order of the Blue Gavel Auxiliary President Lucy Anthony.

IOBG AUXILIARY PRESIDENT LUCY ANTHONY REPORT:

I will be IOBGA President again in 2011 and looking forward to it. The coming year will be one of introducing our members to what is going on in IOBGA and educating them on proper wearing of the uniform, code of conduct, bylaws and the fun of joining. We will continue to support the IOBG and the IOBGHF (which I will be their Secretary in 2011) in every way.

LEGAL OFFICER GEORGE KNIES REPORT:

Report was given at the Pre-Annual meeting on Friday, October 22, 2010.

US SAILING BILL THAYER REPORT:

An elaborate Opening Day Ceremony kicked off the first year ever Youth Olympic Games in August in Singapore. The 8th Annual C. Thomas Clagett Jr. Regatta for Sailors with Disabilities was sailed 25th and 26th August. Nominations were accepted for the Gay S. Lynn Memorial Trophy for a person or an organization that had made an outstanding contribution to disabled sailors and the sport of sailing for disabled sailors. US Sailing has partnered with HTH Global Worldwide and Allen Financial Group to offer US Sailing Members a healthcare program designed specifically for sailors.

E. EXECUTIVE SOMMITTEE:

TREASURER MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

The financial statements in this report are as of September 30, 2010 and the nine months then ended. The financial position of the organization is shown on the Balance Sheet and the results of operations are shown on the statement of Budget Comparison-Combined Operations.

Supplementary statements for each activity are also provided.

IOBG has come a long way in 2010. The completion of the bylaws project has provided us a better framework to run the organization. We have resolved many of the items that caused hostility in the past. Now is the time to continue the work of providing an organization dedicated to preserving the traditions of yachting, serving the boating community and becoming involved in humanitarian projects.

Any questions: Can you send out address labels for the Auxiliary?

Answer: No, I do not have their data base.

Report Submitted.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT STEPHEN WILLING REPORT:

When we look back over the year 2010, we see progress within the organization, new bylaws, and a better voting system, a new link on the website for concerns or suggestions and a reduction of meetings to reduce costs. We hope these members realize that the Executive Board is working very diligently to move the organization forward.

Next year is full of promise with the introduction of our new system to communicate with our member on a regular basic. With timely reminders of meeting or events, it is hoped more people will find the time to participate and experience the fun and friendship of the "Blue Gavel".

Report Submitted.

President Ray Thompson adjourned the meeting for lunch at 11:50 A.M. and resumed the meeting again at 1:25 P.M.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT MARC CONNELLY REPORT:

First some "Thank You"

My heartfelt thanks to our District Directors and Area Vice Presidents, your efforts for the year are appreciated. Like many organizations in this economy we all have had our work cut out for us.

Humanitarian Foundation has just approved a project for Sandy Beach Yacht Club in District 3.

Report Submitted.

PRESIDENT ELECT VAN BENDSEN REPORT:

We have made a significant change and much progress this past year. There is more communication between us all. Our rank and file members have been getting more information than before and responding with their views and ideas. This was evident during the work on the Bylaws changes. With your support, we will continue to make our Blue Gavel a worth while organization.

Report Submitted.

PAST PRSIDENT JERRY RUDD REPORT:

You all are Past Commodores, so you know as Past Commodores you get to sit at the end of the bench. Had some good years with a few ups and downs along the way. Thank you all. To the Board and new Board coming in, with your help the 21st Century is looking good.

My wife and I will be working with IOBGHF, so we will see you from time to time. Thank You.

PRESIDENT RAY THOMPSON REPORT:

The IOBG Presidency is but a brief moment in time. Accepting the title as President generates visions and plans aimed at improving the Order. I now realize how short that term really is. A number of planned projects were completed, reorganization of District 8, voting procedure, by-laws additions and revision, a balanced budget. Problems still must be addressed such as declining membership, and a more comprehensive marketing program. Your new Flag Officers are aware of these problems, are in accord and collectively will work toward solutions. I wish to thank everyone for their support and effort Thank you all.

Report Submitted.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. APPROVAL OF 2011 BUDGET:

Motion was made and seconded to accept the 2011 Budget. Motion passed.

B. DONATION TO ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION:

It was suggested, due to insufficient membership, not to make a contribution to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution at this time. Motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

C. NEW CHAPTER APPLICATIONS: None.

E HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION:

IOBGHF President Bob Howe asked how to get information about the IOBGHF on the Website.

Webmasters Mary Nye Meyers explained that the she could add 3 or 4 more pages to the IOBGHF Link. There would be no page restriction.

Motion was made and seconded to allow the IOBGHF to have more info on the Website. Motion passed.

ELECTION OF 2011 OFFICERS:

First Vice President Marc Connelly is in charge of the election.

First Vice President Marc Connelly opened the nominations for Officers for the year 2011 to 2012. He stated that he will go office by office and nominee for each and ask if there are any nominations from the floor for that particular office. First Vice President Marc Connelly read each name that was nominated. It was moved and second that the nominations from the floor be closed for each nominee.

District 51 Director Walt Kadyk

District 50 Director Joel Kay

Southwestern Vice President Gary McGrath
Southeastern Vice President Tom Sullivan
North Central Vice President Joel Kay
Northwestern Vice President Art Kovarnik
Northeastern Vice President Bob Howe
Executive Secretary Mary Eiffert
Treasurer Marshall Nemoy
Second Vice President Chuck Browning
First Vice President Stephen Willing
President Elect Marc Connelly
President Vern Bendsen
Immediate Past President Ray Thompson

(The President and Immediate Past President are included on this list for continuity only, as those offices are automatic).

The motion was made for the entire slate of Officers and seconded. Motion passed.

At this time I would request the Secretary casts one (1) ballot for the slate of officers for 2011 to 2012.

Motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

Ladies and Gentlemen we have a slate of Officers for 2011 to 2012.

The slate of nominations of the coming year 2011 to 2012 has passed.

President Ray Thompson congratulated and welcomed President Vern Bendsen.

President Elect Marc Connelly then introduced the new 2011 Officers to the membership.

President Vern Bendsen announced that the Fall Regional Meeting will be held right after the Annual Meeting is adjourned.

President Vern Bendsen adjourned the meeting at 1:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marybeth Thayer
Recording Secretary