

# INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL WINTER REGIONAL MEETING

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SESSION

PUNTA GORDA, FL

FEBRUARY 19, 2011

The Winter Regional Meeting was called to order by President Vern Bendsen at 10:00 A.M. at Isles Yacht Club in the Bridge Building on Saturday February 19, 2011.

President Vern Bendsen welcomed everyone to the Winter Regional Meeting.

ROLL CALL of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Vern Bendsen	District 19
President Elect	Marc Connelly	District 3
First Vice President	Steve Willing	District 25
Second Vice President	Chuck Browning	District 27
Treasurer	Marshall Nemoy	District 15
Past President	Ray Thompson	District 8

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

APPROVAL of the AGENDA:

Motion made to approval the Agenda and seconded. Motion passed.

INTRODUCTION of the INTERNATIONAL PAST PRESIDENTS:

Louis Key	2000	District 7
Harvey Sussel	2006	District 8
Art Theobald	2005	District 3
Ray Thompson	2010	District 8

INTRODUCTION of the HOST:

President Vern Bendsen introduced our Host Chairman Charles Martoglio:

Charles Martoglio was glad everyone came and hoped all will enjoy Isles Yacht Club hospitality. He spoke of the history of the Club that was flattened on August 13, 2005 from Hurricane Katrina and the re-building from a Tent to 5 Trailers put together (which we are holding our meeting in one of the rooms today) to the beautiful new Yacht Club right next door. After all we have done to re-build we have been honored as one of the Clean Harbors in the United States.

SELF-INTRODUCTION of ATTENDEES and GUESTS:

DISTRICT 1:

Mary Nye Meyers LOG Editor-In-Chief

DISTRICT 3:

Betty Theobald Member

DISTRICT 5:

Ron Timmerman District President

DISTRICT 6:

Dale T. Mogle Member

DISTRICT 7:

Joel Kay NCVP Alfred Gebhardt Member

DISTRICT 8:

Tom Sullivan SEVP	Joe Dowdell District Director	Francis T. Ramsey District President
Frank Hutchinson District President Elect		George Eichman District 1st Vice President
Ray Starsman IYC Chapter President		Bill Sulser PCYC Chapter President
Bert Gartenhaus District 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President		Bob Shogren District Supply Officer
Chuck Ranson District Treasurer		Charles Martoglio Member
Kurt Kuehn Member		James Dupuy Member
Richard Treadway Member		Cliff Lewis Member
Phillip Bouchaert Member		Bob Pratt Member
Hal Bishop Member		Alan C. Grossman ICY Vice President
Pat Sheffield NPBYC Chapter President		Don Mercera Member
John Button Past SEVP		John A. Schultz Member
Scott Glover Guest		Rosemary Bouckaert Member
Maude Ramsey IOBGA Member		

DISTRICT 14:

Lenworth Gordon District Director	Larry Draper U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
Renee Gordon Int'l IOBGA Treasurer	

DISTRICT 15:

Bill Thayer US SAILING Representative	Marybeth Thayer Int'l Recording Secretary
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DISTRICT 19:

Herman Meyer District Director	John Anthony District Treasurer/Supply Officer
Lucy Anthony Int'l IOBGA President	Linda Bendsen Member
Sue Meyer IOBGA Member	

DISTRICT 27:

Robert Howe NEVP

DISTRICT 50:

Joel Kay District Director

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

President Vern Bendsen announced the passing of International Past President of IOBG Ted Kendrick.

APPROVAL of the MINUTES of 2010 SUMMER REGIONAL MEETING:

Motion was made and seconded to accept the Minutes from August 20, 2010. Motion passed.

APPROVAL of the MINUTES of 2010 FALL REGIONAL MEETING:

Motion was made and seconded to accept the Minutes from October 23, 2010. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TREASURER MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

Treasurer Marshall Nemo stated the financial statements presented in this report are as of December 31, 2010 and for the year then ended. In the year of 2010 we had net income savings. Most of the savings resulted from the elimination of one regional meeting and lower than expected attendance at the Annual Meeting. Significant savings were also experienced in the clerical and travel expense areas.

This report contains information that may be of interest to all members. Any member in good standing may request a copy of this from the IOC office.

The Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting last October adopted the 2011 Budget. In most respects it is similar to past years. With two-thirds of the active membership having email addresses on file, THE BLUE GAVEL LOG will be delivered to them electronically. In addition this year we are starting a news bulletin called THE LIGHTHOUSE which will be sent electronically to all members with a valid email address. The bulletin will be sent approximately once per month, this will not replace the BLUE GAVEL LOG. A printed copy of the LOG will be mailed to those members who do not have email addresses or insist on a paper copy during the year. If the cost of paper and postage continues to raise we may have to charge a subscription fee or raise dues.

Report Submitted.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT CHUCK BROWNING REPORT:

Our Brochure needs to be updated before we use them this year. I am looking for suggestions on how to better utilize our Brochures, if you have any ideas let me hear from you. One of the things we need to decide is do we need to continue using pre-printed brochures.

Communication must be used from the bottom up and top down to make it work and this is not happening.

If you accept an Officers position in the IOBG you are expected to complete all requirements of that position to the best of your ability.

Report Submitted.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT STEVE WILLING REPORT:

At this time, the Policy and Procedures Manual is being updated and brought in line with the new by-laws, however the duties of the District Directors and the Area Vice Presidents are still available on the website for your use.

Area Vice Presidents and District Directors are required to submit statistical reports before each regional meeting. It's the duty of these officers to complete these forms and submit them in a timely manner, your co-operation is appreciated. A report for the LOG by District Directors, outlining your districts' activities, should also be submitted with a copy to the Area Vice President, and the Log Editor.

Please take a few moments to read and/or download the By-Laws and the Policy and Procedures Manual.

Report Submitted.

PRESIDENT ELECT MARC CONNELLY REPORT:

As President Elect, my job description includes supporting President Vern Bendsen, a day does not pass without our communicating.

Another job is membership development. With the help of Mary Nye Meyers, we have the updated marketing program ready to go on line.

Another job is the budget, Marshall Nemoy and I will compare notes and ideas toward the 2012 budget.

Lastly, it is the job to prepare, manage and present the October, 2011 international meeting. Plans are well underway for Buffalo/ Niagara, NY, 20, 21, 22, October, 2011.

Report Submitted.

JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT RAY THOMPSON REPORT:

No report.

PRESIDENT VERN BENDSEN REPORT:

What is the easiest thing to do, yet it is one of the hardest things to do? It is called communication.

My number one priority this year is to have a working communication system in place so all members can communicate with the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee is working hard to communicate regularly with our membership.

We are open for suggestions, but always remember, a suggestion must be for the benefit of the whole organization, not just for a few.

We have a place on our web site for the membership to send us their concerns and thoughts.

The Nominating Committee will have two regular Blue Gavel members on it, one from the east and one from the west. Neither one has any office with the Blue Gavel. Each will have a term for 2 years, except for the west, this is one year. This will stagger the terms of office.

I know change is hard, but change we will. We must keep up with the times, or we will lose it.

So I ask each and every Blue Gavel member, help us with your organization to change into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.  
Report Submitted.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARY EIFFERT:

Has been excused

AREA VICE PRESIDENTS:

NORTHEASTERN VICE PRESIDENT ROBERT HOWE REPORT:

Northeast is growing, but we have three (3) dormant Chapters and I have started to visit these Chapters, one is in New York and it is beginning to re-energize. I'm going to try to create a Phone Log, getting all the

District Directors together at one time and discuss IOBG and listen to them. I think this will help energize Northeast Region. This cost will come out of my IOBG allotment.

In District 20 Director David Meshulam offered a USPS “free” Water Smart books that may be offered to Chapters as well as “free” lectures on many different topics that are now being offered by the USPS. Scheduling and shipping of the books are the only issues that would be needed to be resolved. This is being look into, but overall this looks like a good idea.

Report Submitted.

#### SOUTHEASTERN VICE PRESIDENT TOM SULLIVAN REPORT:

District 8 is doing better. We have a solid Board and the communication is growing. Our newsletter “THE GULF STREAM” is in good hands. Financial stability is back to District 8, thanks to P/C Bob Pease.

As District Director of 8 the district is being re-organized and there is a Raft-Up coming up in Chattanooga, TN. I will be going and my plans are to get three (3) key people to head up three (3) different areas Charleston, South Carolina, mid-Carolina and Tennessee with no more than 200 miles between them Everyone will be motivated to use the Marketing Program.

Report Submitted.

#### NORTH CENTRAL VICE PRESIDENT JOEL KAY:

The reports from the North Center Districts are very busy and moving forward. Only District 25 has not given a report. All Districts are very busy with a lot of activities.

A committee has been assembled to create three (3) new chapters in the Pittsburgh, PA area. The Clubs are Fox Chapel Yacht Club, Pittsburgh Yacht Club, and Oakmont Yacht Club. Oakmont Yacht Club is the oldest inland lake Yacht Club in the country.

Report Submitted.

#### DISTRICT DIRECTORS REPORTS:

##### DISTRICT 6 REPORT:

Member Dale T. Mogle: No report.

##### SOUTHWESTERN AREA VICE PRESIDENT GARY McGRATH REPORT:

SWVP Gary McGrath sent in a written report read by Chuck Browning:

District 10 has had an active year with functions almost every month. One of the functions was a Duffy cruise to see decorated homes in Huntington Harbor.

District 15 presented their Annual Yacht Club Management Seminar at the Mission Bay Yacht Club in 2011. This is a half day seminar covering Yacht Club History and Protocol, Club Associations, Club Organization and Structure, and Legal and Financial Considerations. There was a special presentation given by RBOC President Linda Benson. Also, in attendance was IOBG President Vern Bendsen for a question and answer session. IOBG District President Michele Wold said her main focus will be on new members and promoting camaraderie among current members.

District 16 will continue to support the local youth by donating scholarships to the local sailing programs and in the year 2010 made a generous contribution to the Pacific Corinthian Youth Foundation. They also held a Holiday Party with admission being a donation of canned goods for the local food bank. They are planning on having an exciting 2011 with many additional activities to those listed above.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 8 DIRECTOR JOE DOWDELL REPORT:

Welcome to Florida and District 8. This meeting had been scheduled for The Summer IOBG Regional Meeting in the month of August and then IOBG wanted to resurrect the Winter IOBG Regional Meeting. So I went to work and asked Isles Yacht Club to host the International Organization. Dates had to be changed but Charles Martoglio and Isles Yacht Club chapter stepped right up and here we are. I wanted you to know, it was easy. So welcome to District 8, and Isles Yacht Club.

The District 8 quarterly report that was due January 31<sup>st</sup> was filed January 4<sup>th</sup>. The responsibilities of the Director to visit or contact at least 3 prospective chapters, 3 current chapters, and 3 weaker chapters was met this past quarter.

By the time all the dues comes in we will number about the same as last year.

There is a Florida Council of Yacht Clubs and the President of Isles Yacht Club Chapter of Blue Gavel Ray Starsman is on the executive board of the Council, Tom Smith (a member of the IOBG) is also on the executive board. I'm an alternate delegate. This is a good opportunity to meet the current officers of the various clubs as well as some past commodores of these 36 clubs.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 14 DIRECTOR LENWORTH GORDON REPORT:

At the end of 2010 the Board of District 14 met to debrief after the participation in the IOBG Annual Conference held in Alameda, CA. At the core of our conversation was the advancing of information with more visibility, featuring the Humanitarian Foundation as our main fund raising activity and public's service and the benefit derived from the dollars contributed.

We have had an increase in membership and one of our new members Susan Jacquelin (joined Encinal Yacht Club) is a member transferred from Hawaii to a contract position with U.S. Coast Guard and will strengthen relationship between the Coast Guard and IOBG.

All the raising efforts in 2011 are to support the IOBGHF and broaden awareness of Blue Gavel in our community.  
Report Submitted.

DISTRIST 19 DIRECTOR HERMAN MEYER REPORT:

District 19 began 2011 with enthusiasm. Our change of watch took place on board a vessel of the Horn Blower fleet out of Pittsburg, CA and it appears the boat was sold out. Our new President, Captain Pat Carson has taken helm. We had a very successful induction of new members. Last year we were very busy co-hosting the IOBG Annual Meeting with District 14. This year we look forward to a relaxing good time.  
Report Submitted.

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

LEGAL OFFICER GEORGE KNIES:

President Vern Bendsen informed the members that George Knies has just had serious operation and is doing quite well.  
Report Submitted

HISTORIAN ART THOBALD REPORT:

Historian Art Theobald informed the members that he is collecting all information like, the Treasurer reports from all.

LOG EDITOR-in-CHIEF MARY NYE MEYERS REPORT:

Announced the deadline for the LOG is Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.

WEBMASTERS MARY NYE MEYERS and MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

We now have a bulletin on the Website called THE LIGHTHOUSE it is a brief announcement newsletter. We sent out the first bulletin on February 8, 2010. It goes out to every member that has a valid E-Mail address. We also sent out these bulletins to 2008 and 2009 members who did not re-join in 2010. This is to remind them of IOBG. Once we have the proper E-Mail addresses for the Widows and Widowers they also will get THE LIGHTHOUSE (all for free). We did have some bulletins that didn't get thru and when we get proper addresses we will try these members again.

Mary Nye Meyers does the production work and Marshall Nemo is the writer.

This program can tell how many open the bulletin, right now it is 52% There is a link on the website to THE LIGHTHOUSE. This is a quick way to learn what is going on in your area or any area of IOBG. Anything any District wants us to put in, send it to IOC, this will only work with every Chapter input. If you want a perspective Commodore from your Chapter to receive THE LIGHTHOUSE send me (the writer) their E-Mail address. This is a short and quick way to alert all IOBG Members what is going on in their District and in all Districts.

Photos would not work in this area, there would be too small for this type of bulletin.  
Report Submitted.

APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES:

IOBGA Liaison Officer Chuck Browning introduced IOBGA President Lucy Anthony.

IOBGA PRESIDENT LUCY ANTHONY REPORT:

IOBGA has been active in raising funds for IOBGHF. In IOBGA District 8 with Evelyn Hutchinson from Palm Beach Yacht Club has put together boxes of goodie to be sent to a military group in Afghanistan.

Past President Ray Thompson talked further about the project and how very well it is receive and appreciated. Also another group is doing the same in Iraq; it is not very expensive project.

RECORDING SECRETARY MARYBETH THAYER REPORT:

No report.

BOAT U.S. MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

Remember IOBG Members get a discount on joining BOAT U. S. They are working on designing a new life jacket. The Coast Guard right now is pushing for everyone on a boat 26 ft. and under wearing a life jacket.

MEMBERSHIP & MARKETING MARC CONNELLY REPORT:

Report Submitted Earlier.

U. S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY LARRY DRAPER REPORT.

We are doing Boating inspections and Boating classes on safety. Something we all should take advances of.

#### US SAILING BILL THAYER REPORT:

US Sailing's 2010 One-Design Symposium presented by the Gowrie Group was held in Corona del Mar, California the week-end of November 13-14 at the Balboa Yacht Club.

The 2010 US Sailing National Championship season came to conclusion December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> in St. Petersburg, FL with the true spirit of competitive sailing displayed at the Disabled Sailing Championships hosted by the St. Petersburg Yacht Club on Tampa Bay.

The first ever US Sailing Yacht Club Summit will be held April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Fairmount Hotel in Chicago, IL.  
Report Submitted.

#### COMMITTEE'S CHAIR PERSON:

#### ANNUAL REVIEW AND AUDIT PAST PRSIDENT RAY THOMPSON REPORT:

Just got the review yesterday and with Audit will have a full report before the next meeting. Everthing is under control.

#### NOMINATIONS PAST PRESIDENT RAY THOMPSON REPORT:

You must write a letter if you want a position. The Executive Committee doesn't go out and pick the people. We will have a slate of Officers to present at the next meeting. If you have people or yourself who want to move forward please write us a letter and passed this information on to your membership in your area.

Question asked: Have the people have been picked two (2) from East and two (2) from West to be on the nominating committee yet?

Answer: Not yet, it will be done this week.

#### BYLAWS & POLICY MANUEL VERN BENDSEN REPORT:

The By-Laws are on the Website. Working on updating the Policy Manuel, this hasn't been done since 2005. Should be done in three (3) or four (4) months, hopefully in time for the June Meeting. If you or anyone from you District have a suggestion for the Policy Manuel send them to me.

#### ELECTIONS COMMITTEE STEVE WILLING REPORT:

There has been a change in the new By-Laws, whereas when the Nominating Committee presents their slate of Officers for the ensuring year. Other members who want to be considered they have thirty (30) days from the announcement to submit a written application. Then the ballots would be printed with that person name on it.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

District 14 Director Lenwood Gordon announced that the America's Cup will be coming to San Francisco. The Golden Gate Yacht Club is hosting the Cup.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Chapter Application: None at this time.



- b. Isles Yacht Club Blue Gavel Letter: Heard from the Isles Yacht Club representatives yesterday and the Executive Committee has it under consideration.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

District 5 President Ron Timmerman discussed the upcoming Spring Meeting in Portland, Oregon, June 9<sup>th</sup> thru the 13<sup>th</sup>. Hope everyone will come and explained a little of the activity planned.

President & CEO Bob Howe discussed about rejuvenating IOBGHF. There are problems but they can be solved. Had a meeting yesterday with IOBGHF Board and the concern is how to get more funds in. At this time we have two (2) applications we are working on.

We are asking for six (6) minutes at the Annual Meeting in Buffalo to present our ideas and how we want to do it. Right now we have money going out and none coming in. We want to change that.

President Elect Marc Connelly talked of the good things IOBGHF has done and with President Howe at the helm will continue to do.

Meeting adjourned at 11:49 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marybeth Thayer  
Recording Secretary