

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL
SPRING REGIONAL MEETING
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SESSION
PORTLAND, OREGON
THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2011

The Spring Regional Meeting was called to order by President Vern Bendsen at 10:05 A.M. at the Columbia River Yacht Club on Thursday, June 9, 2011.

President Vern Bendsen welcomed everyone.

ROLL CALL of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President Vern Bendsen	District 19	
President Elect Marc Connelly	District 3	Excused
First Vice President Stephen Willing	District 25	
Second Vice President Chuck Browning	District 27	
Treasurer Marshall Nemoy	District 15	
Past President Ray Thompson	District 8	
Executive Secretary Mary Eiffert	District 1	

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

INTRODUCTION of the INTERNATIONAL PAST PRESIDENTS:

Marion Hughes	District 1
Ira Nies	District 5
Carol Promessi	District 19
Jerry Rudd	District 1

INTRODUCTION of the HOST:

President Vern Bendsen introduced our Host Ron Timmerman.
Host Ron Timmerman welcomed everyone and introduced District 5 Vice President Bill McKinney.

District 5 Vice President Bill McKinney also welcomed everyone and talked about the upcoming Boat ride this afternoon. Asked if there were any questions about the other events.

APPROVAL of the AGENDA:

President Vern Bendsen distributed the agenda for this meeting. Motion was made to approve the Agenda and seconded. Motion passed.

SELF INTRODUCTION of ATTENDEES and GUESTS:

DISTRICT 1:

North Western Vice President Art Kovarnik Log Editor Mary Nye Meyers
Member Al Eiffert

DISTRICT 5:

District President Ron Timmerman District Vice President Bill McKinney
District Secretary Jerry Miller Treasurer Steve Adkins Member Bill Farr
Member Erik Runyan Guest Gayle Timmerman

DISTRICT 7:

North Central Vice President Joel Kay

DISTRICT 8:

District Director Joe Dowdell

DISTRICT 11:

District Director Rosalie Davis-Green District President Julie Albright

DISTRICT 14:

District Director Lenworth Gordon IOBGA INT'L Treasurer Renee Gordon

DISTRICT 15:

District President Michele Wold US Sailing Rep/IOBGHF Director/SWVP Bill Thayer
Member Dick Wold Past Director Gary Hall
IOBG INT'L Recording Secretary Marybeth Thayer

DISTRICT 19:

South Western Vice President Gary McGrath District Secretary John Anthony
District Treasurer M. Estella McGrath Past Director/Sgt.at Arms Phil Promessi
Past Director Joan Marsh Member Sue Olsen Member Robert Olsen
Member Pam Allen Member Jim Allen Member Linda Bendsen

President Vern Bendsen explained that President Elect Marc Connelly was in the hospital with a collapsed lung but doing well and hoped to talk to him later in the day.

APPROVAL of MINTUES of the WINTER REGIONAL MEETING,
FEBRUARY 19, 2011

Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from February 19, 2011. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TREASURER MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

The 2010 year continued the recovery from events that occurred in 2009. One regional meeting was eliminated in 2010 and the same strategy was employed for 2011. This year we will not have the August regional meeting. It is anticipated when we next meet in Buffalo, New York, our financial picture will compare more favorably with prior year's results.

The Blue Gavel Log is lower than budgeted due to more members electing to receive the Log by email than by printed copy. The email letter called the Lighthouse has a fixed cost of \$90 per quarter. The Lighthouse does not replace the Log.

Report Submitted.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT CHUCK BROWNING REPORT:

There have been some Earthquake disasters recently affecting some of our (New Zealand) IOBG Members. We are asking for a one time donation through our Humanitarian Foundation marked for the New Zealand Earthquake Support Fund.

IOBGHF President Bob Howe spoke about collecting donations this weekend.

I made a trip with Steve Willing to the Ocean Spring Yacht Club in Mississippi and was impressed with the reception we received from the Past Commodores and their members.

Report Submitted.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT STEPHEN WILLING REPORT:

Second Vice President Chuck Browning and I received a request to visit Ocean Springs Yacht Club. Hurricane Katrina destroyed the club but not the spirit. We met with a group of Past Commodores and gave them information about IOBG, the Auxiliary and the Humanitarian Foundation. This is a great start for the IOBG in this area, as there are about ten clubs in the vicinity and our newest members are eager to spread the word.

Report Submitted.

JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT RAY THOMPSON REPORT:

From time to time some members expressed dissatisfaction with the Organization and Policy. In 2009 a By-laws and Procedures committee charged with the responsibility of reviewing all By-laws and Procedures and to submit their recommended revisions for a membership vote.

All approved revisions were submitted for a membership vote and were resoundingly approved.

We still had a Chapter that did not vote, but strongly opposed a number of these recently approved changes.

Concluding: Due to the differences in Chapter makeup, size, location, affluence and activities, one can easily see the problems created by having to work under a single set of By-laws. "One Size" does not fit all, easily. However, readily accepting requests for change or revision, then quickly responding to such requests can greatly improve accountability and acceptability.

Report Submitted.

PRESIDENT VERN BENDSEN REPORT:

As most of you know, since day one, I have been stressing communication to each other.

To better communicate with our total membership, we started the Lighthouse publication. This is a short email to let the membership know what is going on within the organization.

Guess what?

During the last few months we found out that not all our members want to be communicated too. We need each District to check up on these members and find out for sure if they do or don't want it. If not we will take them off the list for the Lighthouse.

Those who still want a printed copy of the Blue Gavel Log, we must find a way to get them to print it from our Website.

A comment from the floor suggested that each District print up copies for those who do not have a computer and give it to that group of members. Otherwise there would be an extra charge for the printed Log.

On the positive side of the coin, members have sent in their suggestions for the Policy Manuel revision. We also have heard from non member past commodores asking about the Blue Gavel and how to become members, as well as forming their own Chapter. We are making progress with our communications endeavor.

Report Submitted.

ELECTED OFFICER'S REPORTS:

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARY EIFFERT REPORT: No Report.

AREA VICE PRESIDENTS REPORTS:

NORTHWEST AREA VICE PRESIDENT ART KOVARNIK REPORT:

The Northwest Area all seems to be moving right along.

District 1 Officers represented IOBG in the Opening Day boat parade on Lake Union in Washington, about 15 members took part. District 1 held their Spring Meeting in Hells Canyon with 3 new members. A good turnout represented IOBG at the Opening Day Ceremony at Des Moines Yacht Club and July 15th and 16th, a summer picnic and Sept. 24th a Change of Watch are planned.

District 5 is coming back strong and Iris Nies has a report.

Record Submitted.

NORTH CENTRAL AREA VICE PRESIDENT JOEL KAY REPORT:

North Central consists of Districts 7, 9, 23 and 25.

The only one I did not receive a report from was District 25 and no one has answered my requests for information.

District 23 Director Bob Sapita has provided me with his report. He is struggling to keep the District together as 1 member has submitted his dues for this year. Another problem is that the Secretary lives 260 miles away and he rarely hears from him. Bob Sapita is doing his best to instill value in IOBG membership.

District 9 Director Patrick Slee reported that District 9 is helping with financial support for Stephen Willing when he is installed as IOBG International President at the IOBG

Annual Convention in Windsor, Ontario on October 17th thru 21st. Three (3) Districts (7, 9 & 25) will help with the cost of the hospitality room. District 7 and 25 are being asked to help with the IOBG Annual Meeting with financial support.

District 9 and District 25 are working together to provide free Pizza at the membership drive at the I-LYA fall meeting and sponsoring a lane at the AYC Bowling and a hole at the Golf Outing.

District 7 has had a very busy year so far with the President's Ball in April, attending a function with the host GCBA (Greater Cleveland Boating Association), and more summer events coming up.

District 7 Past Commodore Bob Stanley has agreed to help create chapters in the Pittsburgh area beginning with Fox Chapel Yacht Club and Oakmount Yacht Club. He is also trying to find the membership list of Beaver River Yacht Club, not in Pittsburgh but still in District 7.

Record Submitted (Include Districts 7 and 9).

NORTHEASTERN AREA VICE PRESIDENT ROBERT HOWE REPORT:

Emailed all Districts, 3, 12, 20, 22, 26 and 27, received responses back from only 20, 26 and 27.

A suggestion was made to have a discussion with each District with a periodic conference call paid out of the Vice President's fund. The hurdle remains what would be on an agenda that would have common interest among the Districts?

Met with Officers from District 26 and discussed how the District and IOBG International might develop a good relationship.

At this time the District has solicited the Hugesnot Yacht Club as a new chapter.

We discussed using HF status as a 501 c3 in their fund raising efforts for the Veterans Appreciation Event.

Record Submitted.

SOUTHWEST AREA VICE PRESIDENT GARY McGRATH REPORT:

This year so far I have completed in District 19 a New Chapter for Capital City Yacht Club in Sacramento, and I'm working on Long Beach Single Sailors and Richmond Yacht Club in the Bay Area as Chapters.

Opening Days in Northern and Southern California are winding down. Southern California Opening Day Ceremonies are very traditional and regimented in their Ceremonies and that is what yachting is all about.

District 10 has inducted thirteen New Commodores into their District. They have many events starting with a welcoming dinner to welcome all the new IOBG Members, a brunch at Navy Yacht Club. a Hollywood Bowl visit and presented a check for the Long Beach Charity Regatta of \$1000.00 from IOBG Humanitarian Fund.

Also, a new chapter Sea Gate Yacht Club is being chartered in their District.

District 21 feels that their members as a group with their experience and knowledge are being under-utilized in the Yacht Club community at large. They hope to develop a group of "GO TO" experts in the areas Yacht Clubs needs.

District 6 is in the midst of preparing for the Transpac Race which they are hosting.
Report Submitted.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS REPORT:

DISTRICT 5 DIRECTOR IRA NIES REPORT:

District 5 Director Ira Nies introduce District 5 President Ron Timmerman to speak on District 5.

District 5 President Ron Timmerman reported that they have doubled their membership this year and has many activities planned this year. Still involved each year clearing the area on Hadley Landing. We are now recognized by the Columbia River Yachting Association (All Yacht Clubs in the area belong to it).

We are using the Marketing tool with our Log Editor Bill McKinney and it is working very well.

Enjoy hosting the Spring Regional Meeting here.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 8 DIRECTOR JOE DOWELL REPORT:

Tom Sullivan has resigned as Southeastern Vice President. He was the SEVP for over five (5) years. He worked very hard to keep it together along with Harvey Sussel.

The Executive Board has asked me to take over Southeastern Vice President position for the rest of the year

There is still a discussion on the IOBG bylaws changes voted in recently. Opinions from George Knies, Legal Officer of IOBG and John Shultz, Legal Officer of District 8 state there is no conflict or legal inconsistencies,

P/C Bob Shogren is retiring as the Supply Officer after 15 years.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 11 DIRECTOR ROSALIE DAVIS GREEN REPORT:

District 11 President & Newsletter Editor Julie Albright is here for the 1st time and I hope will not be her last.

District 11 is alive albeit confronting some challenges. Membership numbers are down and renewals are coming in slowly, there are several factors involved. We are a district which encompasses a relatively small geographical area which many activities at the yacht club competing for our membership attention. So we are looking at different ways to get our membership back on track. One way we plan is to set up a PayPal account to our members with computer savvy.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 14 DIRECTOR LENWOOD GORDON REPORT:

There is an increase in our activity this year. Renee Gordon and I have been visiting different Yacht Clubs in our area discussing IOBG and Richmond Yacht Club is getting a chapter together to join IOBG.

We have the Wheelchair Regatta out on the Bay, which IOBG supports.

No Report.

DISTRICT 15 EILEEN VAN WINKLE REPORT: Given by District 15 President Michele Wold:

IOBG District 15 is very proud to report that we have 100 plus active members at this time. IOBG will be represented at next year's benefit for Make A Wish Foundation, our goal is to raise \$2500.00 for our 10 person team in this charity event.

Our next event is a midsummer hamburger barbecue and party for our members on August 21st.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 19 DIRECTOR HERMAN C. MEYER REPORT: Given by District 19 Treasurer M. Estella McGrath:

We have been very active in our District and in February we installed 12 new members. May 1st found us aboard the Hornblower Cruise Liner for Opening Day on San Francisco Bay.

In March we cruised to the San Joaquin Yacht Club and the planned cruise in April was canceled due to weather.

More activities are planned for the rest of the year.

Report Submitted.

APPOINTED OFFICER REPORTS:

EDUCATION PHIL PROMESSI REPORT: No Report.

LOG EDITOR-in-CHIEF MARY NYE MEYERS REPORT:

LOG deadline is SATURDAY, JUNE 25th.

Please send me your reports by email. If you give it to me in a written report I have to retype it for the computer.

Getting a lot of hits for the LOG, the LIGHTHOUSE has a very short article and you turn to the LOG for fullest information. This is very good and what the LIGHTHOUSE was intended to do.

WEBMASTERS MARY NYE MEYERS AND MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

Explained how the LIGHTHOUSE works under the laws of United States of America and Canada Anti-Spam Law. If we get hard bounces more than 2% we get a letter about our notices and they can rescind the contract to put out the LIGHTHOUSE.

There are three Bounces we look at:

ABUSE BOUNCE: The member deletes the file before even opening it up.

HARD BOUNCE: Wrong address
SOFT BOUNCE: Too much on the member's computer.

Be sure to tell your Membership in your District if they don't want to receive the LIGHTHOUSE let IOC know and they will be taken off the list. Don't just keep deleting it from your website.

No Report.

President Vern Bendsen adjourned the meeting for lunch at 12:00 P.M.

Meeting resume at 1:00 P.M. by President Vern Bendsen.

DISTRICT 50 DIRECTOR JOEL KAY REPORT:

Visited Ocean Spring Yacht Club in Ocean Spring, Mississippi with 1st Vice President Stephen Willing and 2nd Vice President Chuck Browning and met with Past Commodore John Shaughnessy to talk with him and others about joining IOBG.

There is a lot of interest in the area.

LEGAL OFFICER GEORGE KNIES REPORT: Given by SWVP Gary McGrath

Honorary Yacht Club Commodores eligible for IOBG Membership? From an article George Knies wrote in the Log and he has received inquiries from Past Commodore John Nicholson about the policy. After reading his statement, I recommend that we consider adding a section in our Policy Manuel addressing Honorary Membership to IOBG members who have demonstrated their ability and their interest in serving their club.

IRS Electronic Notice Form 990-N e-Postcard:

Failure to file Form 990, Form 990 EZ or the e-Postcard, for three consecutive years will result in the organization's tax-exempt status being revoked as of the filing date of the third year the return or e-Postcard is due.

Music Police:

ASCAP, BMI and SESAC licensing organizations are very aggressive in the copyright policing/monitoring activity and copyright enforcement procedures. Be sure your Yacht Club is complying with ASCAP, BMI AND SESAC rules and regulations.

Report Submitted.

RECORDING SECRETARY MARYBETH THAYER REPORT: No Report.

COMMITTEE'S CHAIR PERSON REPORTS:

NOMINATIONS CHAIR PERSON P/P RAY THOMPSON REPORT:

We have received letters from those are who are interested in the different positions except for North Eastern Area Vice President and District Director 50. If you are or know someone who would be interested let anyone on the Committee receive a letter by July 15th.

APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES:

BOAT US MARSHALL NAMOY REPORT:

There Safety Program is going on and is always very good to do. Right now in California there is a law going thru our legislation to ban copper based bottom paint on boats. BOAT US has written a good article to all members about the false science evidence used to try to pass this bill.

HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION LIAISON BOB HOWE REPORT:

Request that at the Annual Meeting the IOBGHF be scheduled for an early meeting, so when the report is given at the Annual Meeting we can give a full report on what we have done in 2011 and what we look forward to do 2012.

A wide range of subjects were discussed in Winter Regional Meeting in Florida. Rewrite of the Bylaws, a revision of the HF Mission Statement, better communications with all members and much more. We have limited funds coming in but plenty of demands for Grants however.

We have approved limited funding to Long Beach Charity Regatta and Sea Scouts Tiki Too.

Report Submitted.

US SAILING BILL THAYER REPORT:

US Sailing announced the 2011 Sailing Team Alpha Graphics, 40 sailors in all comprising of Olympic and Paralympics hopefuls.

The US Sailing Yacht Club Summit held on April 2nd and 3rd in Chicago was sold out with 365 sailors and 185 clubs and association by March 21st. No walk-ins were accepted.

USA Junior Olympic Sailing Festival kicked off on May 21st and 22nd in Flowery Branch, GA at Lake Lamier Sailing Club.

The Children's Melanoma Prevention Foundation teamed up with US Sailing on "Don't Fry Day".

Report Submitted.

COMMITTEE'S CHAIR PERSON REPORT:

ELECTIONS CHAIR PERSON STEVE WILLING REPORT:

After the slate is posted from the Executive Committee anyone who is interested in one of the positions has thirty (30) days to write a petition and send it to the Secretary (Executive Secretary Mary Eiffert). Remember you need three (3) different Chapters to sign the petition.

No Report.

President Vern Bendsen passed out a statement on HONORARY CLUB COMMODORES written by Legal Officer George Knies. The Executive Committee has

discussed it and has not made a decision yet, any input from you or your members, write to anyone on the Executive Committee.

IOBG AUXILIARY PRESIDENT LUCY ANTHONY REPORT:

We are here to support the main body at IOBG and helping out IOBGA in all their endeavors.

No Report.

Bylaws & Policy Manuel Chair Person IOBG President Vern Bendsen Report:

We have oaths now for everyone in the manual and pictures on where and how your badges go on and clothing when it should be worn.

Question asked by Phil Promessi was why there wasn't anything about Education and Training in the Manuel.

Answer: Just didn't have it, but if it was wanted would be look into.

Asked Phil Promessi to come up with what Education and Training should say in the Manuel.

It has taken a year to get this part completed, but remember the Policy Manuel can and should keep current and change with the times.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

a. D & O Insurance

1. Legal Involvement.

This is something the IOBG should look into, discussion on how to get it and what will be the cost must to be look into.

b. Chapter Applications:

First Vice President Stephen Willing has one Chapter request.

Ocean Springs Yacht Club Ocean Springs, Mississippi District 50

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

South Western Area Vice President Gary McGrath asked about the application from Capitol City Yacht Club in CA.

All the information was sent to President Elect Marc Connelly and he still has it.

There should be no problem in accepting the Capitol Yacht Club.

c. Honorary Membership:

No further discussion needed at this time.

d. Good of the Order:

1. Annual Meeting: October 21, 2011, Buffalo, New York

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy gave a short update. It will be held starting October 19th thru 23rd ending with the Fall Regional Meeting.

Prices for the Hotel and events are not available right now but will be on the IOBG Website. The Annual Meeting will be on the 22nd.with the Work Meeting on 20th and Pre-Meeting on 21st.

President Vern Bendsen reminded everyone that even though President Elect Marc Connelly will not be able to attend we should all go to support our Host Royal Rosarians at the Knighting Ceremony tomorrow.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marybeth Thayer
Recording Secretary