

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL  
ANNUAL MEETING  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015  
HYATT MEETING ROOM 3, MARATHON, FL

The Meeting was called to order by President Joel Kay at 9:00 A.M. at the Hyatt Place Hotel, Marathon, FL on Saturday 24, 2015.

CALL TO ORDER:

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President Joel Kay  
President Joe Dowdell  
First Vice President Rosalie Davis Green  
Second Vice President Tony Durieux  
Treasurer Marshall Nemoy  
Immediate Past President Gary McGrath: Excused  
Executive Secretary Mary Eiffert

Mr. President there is a quorum.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

President Elect Joe Dowdell asked for a Roll Call of the Delegates.

President Joel Kay called each District.

Districts present are Districts 1,3,7,8,9,11,14,15,16,18,19,23, 25, & 50.

There is a quorum.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PRESIDENT JOEL KAY REPORT:

Despite the dues increase for 2015, the members that were lost, by and large were not a result of the increase. The dues increases enabled the AVPs to attend Regional Meetings by helping pay their travel for them. By having most of the AVPs at the Regional Meetings, the communication level increased from them to their districts and chapters.

More members are opening the "Lighthouse" and "Log". This is the best form of membership by communicating to the general membership what is going on within the organization.

Last year, Past President Gary McGrath created monthly conference calls for the Executive Committee. These were continued nearly every month in 2015. They also contributed to getting the word out to the

membership by creating a very transparent way of handling IOBG business. Also changes in the Bylaws and Policy Manuel were made to ease the confusion of accepting dues in a year when a dues increase was approved by the Executive Committee. The Humanitarian Foundation's reorganization was approved by the Executive Committee. The Humanitarian Foundation has been reorganized and it was determined that only two Area Vice Presidents may serve on its Board in any one year, a major step in the Foundation's ability to govern effectively.

This has been a most interesting year for Nancy and me. I encourage all members to become interested in the operations of the Gavel, as it has been most rewarding for me.  
Report Submitted.

#### PRESIDENT ELECT JOE DOWDELL REPORT:

In 2005 the Blue Gavel were surveyed via a questionnaire included with their membership, The response rate back was 25%. The average length of membership of IOBG membership was 10 years. At that time few visited the IOBG website. Another survey was sent out in 2006 and its response was then 14%.

The three questions that were asked:

1. Should the members who serve at the International level receive reimbursement for their travel in accordance with existing policies?
2. Should members who serve at the District level receive reimbursement for their travel in behalf of the District?
3. Should District establish programs to fund the travel expense for their representatives?

If you answer no to any of the three questions, what would you recommend for a policy concerning travel reimbursement?

Since these surveys were conducted we have had 2 dues increases and decrease in membership. I think it is time for another survey, including an "exit" survey to those that have not renewed their dues in the past two years. A proper well drafted survey can be expensive but in light of what has transpired over the last 10 years, I believe it is necessary and worthwhile.

Report & Survey Submitted.

#### 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT ROSALIE DAVIS GREEN REPORT:

It is a pleasure to be here in Marathon, Florida for the annual meeting. Thank you, Joe Dowdell for your work to plan a nice convention.

It is a challenge to maintain membership and to grow the organization. It requires regular and timely communication. I recently reviewed some IOBG reference material. The concepts identified are as applicable in 2015 as they were when they were first stated 10 years ago: Retention, Recruitment and Recognition and Support.

Retention – It is very important to ensure our activities continue to meet the needs of the current membership. Are we seeking their input prior to planning the calendar? Are we surveying them to find out what they would like to do in the upcoming year? What charities would they like to support? What type of activity can members help with? Members will be committed to participate more if they had an opportunity to participate in the planning process. How well are we engaging our new members? Do we have a system of mentoring new members? Is someone assigned to contact a new member, asking them any questions about membership and personally invite the new members to join them at the next event? A new member who has been personally invited by another member feels more welcome than just the official welcome at their induction. Satisfied members are our best recruiting tool.

Recognition – We are all volunteers. Members work hard to accomplish tasks on behalf of the organization. Be generous in recognizing their efforts and accomplishments. Use the District newsletter, include in the newsletter to recognize items such as: get well wishes, condolences, name those who helped with last club activity, list who is working on the net activity and show pictures of the members in action. Some tasks that keep an organization going are self-gratifying. Other tasks are necessary but not particularly exciting and it help to know that people appreciated your efforts. Do we have special recognitions at change of watch for individuals, chapters and districts that have done outstanding work in the past 12 months? Morale is not good when people feel they are taken for granted.

Support-Provide encouragement, problem solving and assistance to those who are attempting to produce an event or provide a service to the local yachting community. They need to know we are all in this together.

These are basic concepts we all learned on the road to becoming a commodore. As past commodores, we are still human. We will respond positively when we feel we are treated well. If the members don't feel they are treated well, they will find other ways to serve the community. We want members to choose IOBG as their way of serving the yachting community.

Report Submitted.

#### INTRODUCTION OF PAST PRESIDENTS:

Past President 2000 Louis Key

Past President 2008 Richard Janiszewski

Past President 2011 Vern Bendsen

Past President 2012 Steve Willing

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT TONY DURIEUX REPORT:

It is always nice to report positive information. Our Communication Director Mary Nye Meyers reports that Log information is coming a lot faster and has made editing of the Log much easier.

The word is getting out. Districts and Chapters are taking advantage of the media when possible. Doing good things for the community makes us feel good and we as an organization stand a little taller in the eyes of the community.

I would like to give a shout out to District 5 for a job well done and their use of the media. A little name recognition from the media helps the cause at hand.

The Humanitarian Foundation funded Next Door which partners with Safe Kids Columbia Gorge, to purchase 320 life jackets for the kiosks.

I have had the opportunity to ask the question of several districts, "Are you announcing to the public that your local district or chapter of the IOBG is responsible for the event. Have you let the media know who planned, financed and carried out the project? When you ask the media to cover your project, many times they will announce your event to the public in advance helping to make your project an even bigger success.

The response to my question was a resounding no and to the last person, it was agreed we as organization, need to make our presence better known in our communities.

The word is out, tell the public what you are doing. Announce it to the world. Your chapters and districts will grow because of the recognition. It is nice when you walk into a prospective Yacht Club knowing they

respect that you are Blue Gavel. Now, add the respect and recognition from your community because of your doing for others and it becomes a slam-dunk.  
You win because of your caring and thoughtfulness, your chapter or district wins and gavel gets the name recognition.

Remember, you do not need to do anymore that you do now. Just let the community know who you are.  
Report Submitted.

#### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARY EIFFERT REPORT:

My report got shorter this year.

There were only two new chapters approved. District 8, Lauderdale Yacht Club  
And District 27, Ventnor Yacht Club.

I haven't heard from anyone that your charter has been lost or destroyed. Please let me know so I reissue the charter for you to post in your club house.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve as Executive Secretary. I look forward to serving yet another year and getting to see all my friends and meet new ones.  
Report Submitted.

President Joel Kay welcomed District 8 and asked them to stand and be recognized

#### SELF INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES AND GUESTS:

##### DISTRICT 1:

NWVP Mary Nye Meyers District Director Lani Lightle District President Jim Martinson

##### DISTRICT 3:

District Director Lewis W. Smith

##### DISTRICT 7:

NCVP Mark Vadaj District Director Warren Dempster District 1<sup>st</sup> VP Lloyd Boque District Rep. Al Gelhardt IOBGHF Jerry Key Member Mathew Bosie

##### DISTRICT 8:

SEVP Bud Higginson District Director Karen Shea Past District Director Bill Pittman  
District President Shaun Graser District Secretary Heather Wood  
District Legal Office Rosemary Krieger Past District Director Charles Ranson  
IOBGA President June Thacker Member Len Tower Member Audrey Rice  
Member J. H. Kindsvater Member Dennis Bosi Member Jerry McGuire

##### DISTRICT 9:

District President Larry Inguagiato

District 11:

SWVP Sherry Barone Legal Officer Gary Green

DISTRICT 15:

District Director Kathy Smith US SAILING Rep. & Sgt. at Arms Bill Thayer  
Past District Director Linda Loftis Past District Director Gary Hall  
IOBGA Treasurer Audrey Hall Recording Secretary Marybeth Thayer

DISTRICT 16:

Protocol Officer & Alt. District Director Marsha Landreth

DISTRICT 18:

District Buzz Bisanz

DISTRICT 19:

IOBGHF President Joan Marsh Member Linda Bendsen

DISTRICT 25:

Alt. District Director Steve Willing

DISTRICT 50:

District Director Mark Vadaj

RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President Joel Kay called for a vote on the Ratification of Actions of the Executive Committee.  
The motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

TREASURER MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

Yesterday I went thru the Treasurer Report in some detail and answered questions from the members. Is there any further discussion needed?

We are in very good shape it appears that the dues increase for the year has not affected our operations. This means the organization continues to show financial strength.

Report Submitted.

President Joel Kay called for a vote on the Treasurer Report.  
The motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 25, 2014.

The motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from October 25, 2014. Motion passed.

## AREA VICE PRESIDENTS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS REPORTS:

### NWVP MARY NYE MEYERS REPORT:

We have 8 members here attending this Annual Meeting from are districts.  
Our Members are from the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and we hope someday, Alaska.

### DISTRICT 5 P/C BILL McKINNEY REPORT: Given by NWVP Mary Nye Meyers

This past year continued to be a good year for District 5. Membership has increased and activities have continued all year long including monthly board meeting.

District 5 has continued to raise money for the local Sea Scouts. The Daughters of Neptune, and IOBG Humanitarian Foundation from District 5, in the past two years has provide Life Jackets to a non-profit consortium of Next Door Inc., Safe Kids of Columbia River and the Portland District Office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Partnering with these organizations and other has made it possible to impact our local community in a very positive way. In April District 5 was presented a Certificate of Application by the Department of the Army.

This was all done by the 30 members from District 5, a comment made by NWVP Mary Nye Meyers.

In March several District 5 members attended the IOBG Regional Meeting in San Diego and followed up with the annual Hadley Landing Clean-Up Cruise. Blue Gavel Members do a clean up there at a public boat dock with picnic grounds managed by the Portland Parks Department. They have been doing this clean-up for the past 8 years.

District 5 is looking forward to hosting IOBG Regional Meeting in June.

The Portland Royal Rosarian Rose Festival is held on Friday, where the knighting takes place. The Rose Parade takes place on Saturday this is one of many events held during this time. There is a lot to see and do at the Royal Rosarian Rose Festival.

Going forward, we will continue to support the Loaner Life Jacket Project throughout the state of Oregon. We are also starting a new program of donating used or outgrown Life Jackets to be donated to the Loaner Life Jackets program.  
Report Submitted.

District 1 Director Mary Nye Meyers thanked all the members for supporting her in District 1, enjoyed it very much. Thank you.

### DISTRICT 1 DIRECTOR LANI LIGHTLE REPORT:

District 1 held it annual summer picnic in July. This year we went to Anacortes, WA.

Our Fall Change of Watch was held in Tacoma, WA, hosted by Tacoma Outboard Association. Much credit goes to our then 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Jim Martinson for organizing this event.

Our Officers for the coming year are President Jim Martinson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Chuck Havens, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Mary McCollum, Treasurer Ullie Marquardt, Recording Secretary Jeanne and District Director Bob Lee.

It has been a pleasure to serve as District 1 Director. I look forward to serving as NWVP.

Mary Nye Meyers has held this position for many years and has done an out standing job.

I look forward to the challenge of building on what she has achieved.

Report Submitted.

#### NCVP MARK VADAJ REPORT:

The North Central Regional comprising of Districts 7,9,23 & 25 has enjoyed another very successful year with IOBG and has once again topped over 500 members. One of the many reasons for this success is the philosophy that no Districts is successful without cooperation, support and interaction of the neighboring Districts. Several times throughout the year the Districts join together for events and for the good of a common cause including Cocktail Party Events, Regatta's Rendezvous Cruises, Fund Raising, Chapter Events, Dinners and more. This is a multi-faceted strategy that is good for the District, good for Members and good for IOBG. We value all Districts commitment to IOBG and appreciate the contribution which makes this organization so enjoyable. We encouraged all North Central Region to become more active and join the Festivities, Local, Regional and International. Some of the events are free.

We are actively investing in the effort to re-vitalize District 23. Many of you have expressed an interest in not only re-joining IOBG D-23 but also accepting a role as an Officer. I invite you to contact me and I will personally visit you, your Chapter or Club.

I am looking for a Host Club or Chapter to conduct a District Launch Event. Please advise me if you can assist and support this event.

You do not need an invitation to join the fun as a member of IOBG you have already been invited. I look forward to seeing you at the next IOBG Function.

Thank You for Your Commitment to "Yachting Most Prestigious Fraternity"

Report Submitted.

#### DISTRICT 7 DIRECTOR WARREN DEMPSTER REPORT:

District has had a busy summer and fall. We added 22 new past Commodores to our ranks at our Blue Blazer event. We all came together in June at the Greater Cleveland Boating Association annual Rendezvous in Huron, Ohio. We hosted a reception for all GCBA members attending the event.

In June we attended Inter-Lake Yachting Association Regatta at Put in Bay. Together with District 9 and District 25 we hosted an afternoon reception for I-LYA at the PIB Yacht Club.

District 9's host a monthly morning breakfast in Monroe, MI. This is a great event to see our friends in their home port.

We closed our summer at our annual Wine Tour in Geneva, Ohio and some great fellowship in our hospitality suite.

Report Submitted.

#### DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT LARRY INGUAGIATO REPORT:

It has been a busy year for the BG chapters in our District as much of their activities center around a relatively short boating season.

The District Fall Meeting this past Sunday, there was a sharing of information of activities held at local chapters.

Since most of the chapters hold various type of fundraisers to help support projects at their own clubs, the District will work this next year on getting information communicated to other club Blue Gavel members on any events a chapter may wish to open to BG members outside of their club.

The District is divided into six areas and we are pleased to add TSC P/C Barb Pfliegaar as Vice President of the associated with the clubs in that area and will do a great job for the BG.

Our Humanitarian efforts made a contribution to Michigan Special Olympic programs to Wertz Warriors an organization founded by a former Detroit Tiger. We discussed other potential contribution to other recipients and we will solicit input from the other chapters in the District, if there are any that they would like us to consider.

District 9 was the host district at this year at the I-LYA reception. We had about 100 in attendance.

Blue Gavel 7, 9 and 25 join together at the I-LYA Fall Meeting to provide pizza on Friday.

Our main fundraiser is a football pool, which last all season based of the scores of the Ohio State University and the University of Michigan. The funds raise is used in part for its Humanitarian efforts.

The Auxiliary is planning a trip to Toledo Zoo for annual Lights before Christmas viewing.  
Report Submitted.

**DISTRICT 25 DIRECTOR JIM CYROWSKI REPORT:** Given by Past President Steve Willing

District 25 has struggled this past year in maintaining momentum and activities. With our new officer we will continue to look forward to rebuilding on our past success. The passing of major supporters Harvey Karpinski and Past Director and current Officer PC Charley Green have hurt our hearts but gives us encouragement to carry on, and just recently a pillar of BG and GLSBC Ralph Pennybacker.

District 25 has started a Humanitarian Fund challenge where we asked each club to raise \$100.00 for the cause Kids with Hair Loss, with some funds, diverted to our District.

Sun Parlour BC PC's under the direction of President Bill Woods held a BBQ Chicken Dinner to replenish our PC account, and of course to our District.

We in District 25 look forward to representing the BG proudly, and to encourage PC' of every year to join BG.

Report Submitted.

President Joel Kay adjourned the meeting for a short break 10:00 A.M.

President Joel Kay resumes the meeting at 10:30 A.M.

**SEVP BUD HIGGINSON REPORT:**



District 8 held its' Annual Meeting at the Venice Yacht Club October 3<sup>rd</sup> with attendance from throughout the District. The election of Executive Committee members were held during the meeting with Shaun Graser being elected President of District 8. All other positions were filled as well. President Graser announced that the immediate Past President Bill Pittman and our President Elect Peter Franck are committed to try to communicate the traditions of our District 8 members with our entire District. At that time President Graser announced the schedule for next year Regional Meetings.

District 18 remains optimistic in achieving their goal of reorganizing the Districts. Efforts are continuing in recruiting more Executive Committee members and various Yacht Clubs throughout the District.

In preparation of being elected Southeastern Vice President in Marathon, District 18 Director attended the last two District 8 meetings in order to become familiar with members and activities of District 8. The last one was October 2, 2015 District 8 Annual Membership meeting where new officers were elected for 2016. Record Submitted.

#### DISTRICT 8 DIRECTORS KAREN SHEA & BUD HIGGINSON REPORT:

District 8 Secretary Heather Wood and IOBG President Elect Joe Dowdell attended an event at the Lauderdale Isles Yacht Club sponsored by Lighthouse Yacht Club Chapter of IOBG. While at this event they met up with Commodore Mike Sowzak of Gulfstream Sailing Club who expressed an interest in establishing IOBG Chapter at their club. All information has been sent to them.

Following up with the Key Biscayne Yacht Club in their efforts to have their membership application rejuvenated and completed and forwarded to District 8 Treasurer Bob Pease.

District 8 held its annual membership meeting at the Venice Yacht Club on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. We have 224 members from 23 active chapters and 3 members at large.

New Officers for 2016 are: District Director Karen Shea, President Shaun Graser, President Elect Peter Frank, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Doug Case, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Leonard Tower, Secretary Heather Wood and Treasurer Bob Pease. IOBG President Elect Joe Dowdell had the honors of swearing in the newly elected Executive Committee.

Past President Bill Pittman's parting comments were that District 8 over the past year increase it membership and added two chapters. This was done to the efforts of all involved. Continue to go forward on the program of "initiate New Chapters: and "invigorating Existing Chapters". As a team we are committed to communicating the tradition of our District 8 members with our entire District. We are hoping by sharing local traditions with each other that those traditions will live on and be embraced by generations to come.  
Report Submitted.

#### DISTRICT 18 DIRECTOR ROBERT P. BUZZ BISANZ and DISTRICT 8 PRESIDENT DAVE KOWERT REPORT:

After a busy summer season, there is growing interest in The Blue Gavel once again. A meeting is being planned by a group of Past Commodores tentative date is the last week of October.

Charleston Area of District 18 seemed to revolve around Junior Sailing and we hope to build a strategy that will provide some real organizational visibility around the growing number of Junior Sailors here in the

Charleston Area. Many ideas and will potentially raise money for the Community Sailing Assoc. in Charleston which does a great job of training the very young sailors in the area.

In November we are planning a Crab Crack at the Charleston YC. We hope to sign more members at this event.

As we look forward, 2016 looks like a much better year for the organization. We are looking at several individuals for new ways to channel their organizational skills to help IOBG. We have planted enough "seeds" so the local chapter can grow. Once we get some legs under the local Charleston market, we can send ambassadors out to other clubs to further expand the building process.

Finally, we are planning to "pilot" a program offering Blue Gavel experience to any club in South Carolina that needs some outside expertise. We hope that offering to act as unpaid consultants can help improve the visibility as well.

Report Submitted.

NEVP ERNIE ODIERNA: Not Present.

#### DISTRICT 3 DIRECTOR LEWIS SMITH REPORT:

The District 3 summer cruise was held aboard the Grand Lady Tour Boat. Over 90 members attended. Since this is activity is an easy opportunity to hold our Annual Meeting and election of 2016 Officers: President Steve Tisack and election of officers were incorporated into the event. Past President Paul Schneeberger will stay on as an advisor.

At our monthly executive board meeting Treasurer Don Peacock said our membership is down and we decided to canvas the local chapters to find out why they didn't pay and to encourage them to return.

District 3 is looking forward to hosting 2016 summer regional meeting. Details on the agenda will follow later in the year.

Record Submitted.

#### SEVP SHERRY BARONE REPORT:

I enjoyed this past year traveling from Guam/Hawaii to Northern California/Delta/Southern California meeting the IOBG Districts Director and Members and sharing in local events.

Each of the Districts continue working on increasing membership and raising funds for local charities such as District 16 helping raise 18k for the Oxnard maritime museum and District 11, 14 & 15 youth charities. I had the opportunity to attend membership appreciation lunches and youth scholarship fund raising events this year.

IOBG Southwestern and IOBG District 6 hosted a visit in Hawaii for the Transpac 2015 in July. We had a great time and hosted/greeted a welcome party at 2:00 A.M. for Horizon sailboat from Division 5 from Long Beach, Ca taking 2<sup>nd</sup> place in their division.

A meeting was held in Sept. with Southern California Districts at American Legion Yacht Club to discuss past and future events, national meeting, our membership growth by 18% and how to have joint events.

A discussion was held with regards to cooperation and interaction between districts such as holding quarterly events/lunch could be held and all district members could be invited.

The following was proposed:

Holiday brunch on the Queen Mary

Sponsoring a boat for a Holiday Boat Parades, in Marina del Rey, Newport and San Diego.

February - a lunch/brunch at Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club

May - a week-end at Lake Arrowhead Yacht Club.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 6 DIRECTOR RICHARD DENTON REPORT: Given by SWVP Sherry Barone

Transpac – July, 2015

District 6 along with members of the Southwest Region of IOBG greeted the crew of Horizon upon arrival in Honolulu. All enjoyed the various events during Transpac week in Hawaii.

Election Meeting – Wednesday, October 7, 2015

New Officers for 2016 are District Director Bill DeRego, District President Ellis Abram and District Vice President Don Brown.

Installation and Induction dinner – November 5, 2015

Installed and Induction will be held at Waikiki Yacht Club.

HCA/IOBG Christmas Party – Thursday, December 3, 2015

The Christmas Party will be held at Hawaii Yacht Club and conducting our Traditional IOBG gift exchange and serving our Christmas buffet. There is no charge for the meal.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 10 DIRETOR LaVON PLUMLEE REPORT: Given by SWVP Sherry Barone

District 10 proudly reports on another successful Summer season in terms of socials, sailing, educational activities and charity events. Our Treasurer P/C Steve Saracco, reports that we presently have 87 District 10 IOBG members.

Monthly Socials: Held all around the District.

Charity: Supporting our annual Charity Regatta, donations to Boat Owner's Assoc., The Fisher House Foundation, a program that supports America's military in their time of need.

Youth Sailing Regattas: We support our annual District 10 Youth Summer Sailing Regatta.

Auxiliary: Our IOBG Auxiliary President Marsha Saracco continues to enhance our district's activities.

Communication: Our website ([www.IOBG District10.org](http://www.IOBG District10.org)) is updated monthly by P/C Bill Plumlee.

2016 IOBG Annual Meeting: We have been asked by IOBG First Vice President Rosalie Davis Green to co-sponsor the 2016 Annual meeting with Del Rey Yacht Club and have been meeting monthly with this committee. District 10 has donated \$100.00 in support of bus transportation and annual meeting expenses. We look forward to making the 2016 meeting a success.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 11 DIRECTOR SUSANA HERANDEZ ARAICO REPORT: Given by  
SWVP Sherry Barone

District 11 held its special members appreciation event in June, it was early buffet dinner with a jazz group at Del Rey Yacht Club. Attendance did not reflect our membership roster, though e-mails and e-vites went out. We continued, therefore, to work on our e- mailing list to ensure more effective reach-out for future events.

In July, we went to the Hollywood Bowl for the Frank Sinatra birthday concert.

Two summer barbecues that we call “wind-q’s” were held at the Del Rey patio. At both events we were able to raise funds for the 2016 national meeting.

District 11 Vice President and / or President-Director Susana Hernandez Araico have participated at various meetings in preparation for this annual event that will be hosted by Marina del Rey.

Attended Southwest Regional meeting and some very good ideas came together for some activities in the future.

District 11 is now preparing for elections for our 2016 board.  
Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 14 DIRECTOR MARGE BOTTARI REPORT: Given by SWVP Sherry  
Barone

IOBG District 14 has 70 Regular and Associate Members and is located in the San Francisco Bay Area.

District 14 started out our summer season with a cruise out to Rio Vista, our beautiful Delta cruising area, in conjunction with District 19.

In August, District 14 hosted a Membership Appreciation Party and Cruise at the Encinal Yacht Club.

We are also raising money for youth sailing scholarships. We donate to individual young folks who wish to take sailing lessons at any of our yacht clubs and we are now discussing supporting the Educational Tall Ship Foundation. <http://educationaltallship.org/>.

District 14 is working towards a grant from IOBG Foundation and our new Director Susan West and her new leadership 2016.  
Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 15 DIRECTOR KATHY SMITH:

District 15 culminated our year with Change of Watch Dinner and Ceremony at Southwestern Yacht Club.

Past President Jeanne Irwin inducted the new Board of Directors they were President Bill Edwards, Secretary Greg Hansen, Treasurer Marshall Nemoy, Vice-President Ned Knight and District Director Kathy Smith.

Incoming President Bill Edwards was presented with the District 15 President's Trophy by outgoing President Jim Jenkins. The perpetual trophy will reside at Navy Yacht Club San Diego for the coming year.

In conjunction with IOBG/IOBGA Change of Watch, the Auxiliary held their "Genuine Jewelry Exchange, Donated items were sold for \$2, \$5 or \$10, with several Silent Auction items and a table for Swarovski Crystal Jewelry. The event raised over \$800 for ElderHelp San Diego.

Our Website will be up and running soon, and the Board of Directors, along with Past President Jim Jenkins, continuing to plan for our first annual "Race Your BOD" Regatta. This event will also raise funds for our selected charity. Stay tuned!

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 16 DIRECTOR CLARK OWENS and

DISTRICT 16 PRESIDENT SHELLY BERGER REPORT: Given by Alt. District Director Marsha Landrath

On August 8, 2015 District 16 sponsored a fund raiser benefiting our Channel Islands Maritime Museum. Local yacht clubs assisted in drawing attention to this event that helped a Young Adult Navigation Center. The day exceeded all our expectations in every way. Over 900 people attended, and \$18,000 was raised. In all, seventeen restaurants served chowder. We are already planning for 2016 another Chowderfest. Several Wineries served local wines and a local beer distributor poured their favorites in addition. We had three performances by local bands. This wonderful event would have never happen without the support of our local district members, which include yacht clubs in two harbors.

In September we had a dinner at Ventura Yacht Club with speaker Tony Morgan from Ground Water Manager for the United States Conservation District. He spoke on California's drought and the hope we have for an El Nino this coming year. We were all enlightened on the subjects and had an opportunity to ask questions on the issues.

We continue to attract new members, and look forward to the coming year.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 19 DIRECTOR ESTALLA McGRATH REPORT: Given by IOBG Past President Vern Bendsen

President Vern Bendsen informed the members that District Director Estalla McGath was very ill and could not make the meeting.

Delta District 19 has had a very busy and productive year. We have 152 members in our district.

The change of watch was held on November 1, 2014.

In February we had our general meeting and inducted seven (7) new members at Pittsburgh Yacht Club.

In April we began the process of developing bylaws for District 19 with the guidance of Sir Vern Bendsen and Sir Gary McGrath.

In May we had our Commodores Application BBQ at Delta Marina Yacht Harbor.

Bill Wells join us for lunch he authors the Delta Rat Scrapbook for the Bay and Delta Yachtsman magazine

August we were at Village West Yacht Club for our nominations and general meeting

At this meeting the membership approved the bylaws.

Our incoming President is busy working on his change of watch that will be held at Stockton Yacht Club in November.

It has been my privilege to be the Director of Delta District 19 this past year and I'm looking forward to many years of fun activities and fellowship with other like minded boaters  
Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 21 DIRECTOR LEO VORTOUNI REPORT: Given by SWVP Sherry Barone

We now have 56 members as of September 26, 2015.

NEW INDUCTIONS:

OCSSC SC Andy McVary was inducted by District Director Leo Vortouni at a OCSSC's sailing Seminars.

EVENTS:

Harbor Master Plaque Awarded to Lt. Mike Jansen for his 30 years of service to the Orange County Sheriff's Dept. and contributions to the support of District 21. District President Mike Jansen presented the award to Mike Jansen at his retirement celebration.

SOUTH SHORE YACHT CLUB AND DISTRICT 21 JOINT DINNER:

Plans are in work for dinner meeting in November and presentation of the history of Avalon, Catalina at the dinner.

DISTRICT 21's ENTRY FAIRWIND, Takes the Sweepstakes Award in the OLD GLORY BOAT PARADE!:

SC Tim Bercovitz skippered Fairwind, District 21 entry in the parade on July 4, 2015.

This entry received the "Sweepstakes Award" for the best entry.

LAKE ARROWHEAD YACHT CLUB THEME PARTY:

All District 21 members attended "Fly Me To The Moon" party. The party was a great success and included a chartered cruise aboard the Queen on Lake Arrowhead.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 50 DIRECTOR MARK VADAJ RECORD:

2015 was a very successful year for District 50 with an increase in Membership with additional Membership on its way. We have expanded our Geographic Footprint as well. Please Note: District 50 is designed as a Member at Large District for IOBG Members from the Mississippi River to the East Coast, from Maine to Florida and in between to remain as an active part of our Overall Membership. This is a District for members where there is not an active District or Chapter but still want to remain an active Member and enjoy the benefit of IOBG. Your Membership matters and is greatly valued.

Report Submitted.

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT OFFICE PHIL PROMESSI REPORT: Not present.

LEGAL OFFICER GARY GREEN REPORT:

We have renewed our two Trademarks in United States our Name and Logo for another 10 years. We also have trademarks in Canada that are due in 2017.

A question has come up recently. Can a District set up its own charitable Foundation? The answer is yes as long they have separate legal entity from the District. Keep separate records and not dominated by the members but have some independent members.

We are a fraternal organization we are a private order the Good of the Order. That way we can't be mixed up, we can't be co-mingled, as long as that is done it is permissible. However we have our Trademark IOBG, if it is requested to do this the District needs to talk to the Executive Committee to get their permission. It would be granted if it is surely separate and distinctive from the District.

Any question? None.

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER MARY NYE MEYERS REPORT:

My duties include the Log, Lighthouse, Website and International Directory.

I have been Log Editor for 11 years and in those years we have seen the birth of the Lighthouse, e-bulletin online meeting registration and now the online electronic form for updating the district officers and board.

Log articles are due November 7<sup>th</sup>.

Record Submitted.

PROTOCOL OFFICER MARSHA LANDRETH REPORT: No report but does have a draft on protocol here if anyone wants one.

RECORDING SECRETARY MARYBETH THAYER REPORT:

Requested reports not been turned in yet.

At this time President Elect Joel Dowdell thanked Recording Secretary Marybeth Thayer for her nine years of service as this is her last meeting as Recording Secretary.

Marybeth Thayer thanked President Elect Joe Dowdell for his kind words and a Thank You to all.

SERGEANT of ARMS BILL THAYER: No Report.

APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES:

BOAT US MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

If you join Boat US they will give 50% off their annual fee. They have a good program on Boat Safety and Boat Insurance

## US SAILING BILL THAYER REPORT:

US Sailing launched “The Beat” a series of summer sailing events and videos hosted by Katy Nastro with one goal, to capture the essence of sailing – one of the most thrilling sports and activities on the planet

Katy took us to Annapolis, Maryland as we highlighted the Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating (CRAB). Crab’s mission is to make the therapeutic benefits of sailing and the freedom it provides a reality for physically and / or developmentally-challenged individuals and their families regardless of their financial circumstances.

110 boats, 160 sailors and a boat load of solid racing in Camden Harbor at the 2015 Junior Olympics by the Camden Area Youth Seamanship Program and Camden Yacht Club was spectacular.  
Report Submitted.

## NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION GARY GREEN REPORT:

This is our adversary group in the Legislation.

The report from NBF Legislative Director Earl Waesche discussed the National Park Service (NPS) plans to prohibit boating & fishing in Biscayne National Park which would create a No Fishing Zone. All are encouraged to click on “Boating United Keep our National Parks Open”

Potential Ethanol Replacement, Bio-Butanol, gets Marketing Push. This a subject all members should be aware of, check it out thoroughly

The National Differential Globe Positioning System or NDGPS service augments GPS by providing increased accuracy and integrity using land-base reference system to correct messages over radio-beacon frequencies.

However, a number of factors have contributed to decline use of NDGPS. The shutdown of 62 DGPS sites is being proposed which will leave 22 operational sites available to users in coastal areas. These sites could be closed down by January 15, 2016.

To learn more about NBF visit [www.N-B-F.org](http://www.N-B-F.org).  
Report Submitted.

## IOBG HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION PRESIDENT JOAN MARSH REPORT:

IOBG HF was started in 1992, we started out with are main charity Bone Marrow and now we are focus on Youth Boating. Our website is [www.iobg-hf.org](http://www.iobg-hf.org) that has all the information on what we are doing and how you can help.

## COMMITTEES:

### AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESIDENT JOEL KAY REPORT:

The Audit Committee has approved the report at the Summer Regional Meeting in 2015.



## NOMINATING COMMITTEE PRESIDENT ELECT JOE DOWDELL REPORT:

Explained who will be on the Nominating Committee for 2016, President, Two Immediate Past Presidents, IOBG Eastside Member and IOBG Westside Member. Everyone must write a letter if they wish to be nominated for an office by the Spring meeting in June 2016. The nominations will be announced at Summer August meeting 2016.

## IOBGA PRESIDENT SANDI DURIEUX REPORT:

We have 350 members and a full slate of Officers  
Vice President Elect Al Eiffert, Secretary Nancy Kay, Treasure Audrey Hall,  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Gary Smith and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Mike Myers, Past President June Thacker, NW Director Mike Meyers, SW Director Gary Smith, NC Director Rhonda Rich and NE Director Margot Smith.

## BYLAWS and POLICY MANUEL CHAIRMAN VERN BENDSEN REPORT:

Chairman Vern Bendsen turned the meeting over to Treasurer Marshall Nemoy. Discussed were the two new Bylaws that were approved. A mail in votes that was passed was counted by Treasurer Marshall Nemoy and District 15 Director Kathy Smith. One of them was Article 7, Section 4.  
A letter from the 2016 New President which will go out to all members with the 2016 Membership Cards, which still haven't been received yet.

President Joel Kay adjourned the meeting at 11:50A.M. and be back at 1:30 P.M.

President Joel Kay resumes the meeting at 2:25 P.M

## IOBGHF PRESIDENT JOAN MARSH:

Thank everyone who has donated today District 7,9,1,8 & 19. I will be glad to accept any other donation. Thank you all.

President Joel Kay introduced member Jerry McGuire from the Northeast.

## ELECTION of 2016 OFFICERS:

President Joe Dowdell read the list of Officers up for election.

President Joe Dowdell (automatic)  
President Elect Rosalie Davis Green  
First Vice President Tony Durieux  
Second Vice President B. E. "Bud" Higginson  
Treasurer Marshall Nemoy  
Immediate Past President Joel Kay  
Executive Secretary Mary Eiffert  
NEAVP Ernie Odierna  
NCAVP Mark Vadaj  
NWAVP Lani Lightle  
SWAVP Sherry Barone

SEAVP Robert P. "Buzz" Bisanz  
District 50: Open  
District 51: Walt Kadyk

The ballots were passed out and then President Joel Kay and Protocol Officer Marsha Landreth left the room to count the ballots.

President Elect Joe Dowdell adjourned the meeting at 2:35 P.M.

President Elect Joe Dowdell resumes the meeting at 2:40 P.M.

President Joel Kay made the announcement that everyone has been voted in.

President Joel Kay asked Jerry McGuire to discuss the Commodore Club of America and the history of it. Jerry McGuire started by saying, we in the Northeast didn't even know IOBG existed. Our Club is a party group of all Past Commodores which all are invited to a difference Yacht Club for dinner each month. I have talked to the Commodore of Commodore Club of America and they are open to dialogs. SWVP Sherry Barone will plan a visit there.

President Joel Kay turned over the ballots to President Elect Joe Dowdell. At the Fall Meeting the President at that time will announce the Appointed Officers, Committees and Representatives for 2016.

At this time President Joel Kay turned the gavel over to 2016 new President Joe Dowdell.

President Joe Dowdell adjourned the meeting at 2:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marybeth Thayer  
Recording Secretary