

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL
WINTER REGIONAL MEETING
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2015
SOUTHWESTERN YACHT CLUB, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

The meeting was called to order by President Joel Kay on February 6, 2015 at 10:08 A.M. at the Southwestern Yacht Club, San Diego California.

CALL TO ORDER:

Pledge of Allegiance: Lead by President Joel Kay.

ROLL CALL:

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| President Joel Kay | District 7 |
| President Elect Joe Dowdell | District 8 |
| First Vice President Rosalie Davis Green | District 11 |
| Second Vice President Tony Durieux | District 7 |
| Treasurer Marshall Nemoy | District 15 |
| Past President Gary McGrath | District 19 |

Mr. President there is a quorum.

President Joel Kay introduced the Past Presidents of IOBG attending this meeting.

Past President (1996) Ira Nies
Past President (2011) Vern Bendsen

SELF-INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES and GUESTS:

DISTRICT 1:

NWVP Mary Nye Meyers

DISTRICT 5:

District Director Duane Westfall District President Mike Kondrat
District Secretary Bill McKinney

DISTRICT 6:

District Director Richard Denton District President Bill DeRego

DISTRICT 8:

SEVP Bud Higginson

DISTRICT 10:

District Director LaVon Plumlee District VP Diane Aperlo
District 3rd VP Bill Plumlee

DISTRICT 11:

SWVP Sherry Barone District Director Susana Hernandez Araico
Legal Officer Gary Green IOBGHF Director Julie Albright

DISTRICT 14:

District Director Marge Bottari Member Erich Schoenwisner

DISTRICT 15:

District Director Kathy Smith District VP Bill Edwards
US Sailing Rep./Sgt. at Arms Bill Thayer Member/SDAYC President Mike Durgin
IOBGA Treasurer Audrey Hall IOBGA Past President Gary Smith
Past District Director Eileen VanWinkle Guest Dianna Durgin Member Gary S. Hall
Member Greg Hansen Member at Large Bob Shogren
Recording Secretary Marybeth Thayer

DISTRICT 16:

Protocol Officer/Alt. District Director Marsha Landreth

DISTRICT 18:

District Director Buzz Bisanz

DISTRICT 19:

District Director Estella McGrath Member Linda Benson Member Pam Allen
Member Sue Olson

DISTRICT 51:

District Director Walt Kadyk

President Joel Kay started the minutes with reports from the Districts.

DISTRICT 1 DIRECTOR LANI LIGHTIE REPORT: Given by NWVP Mary Nye Meyers

At this time we are working on our membership. We are going thru our membership records and find out why some members don't come back and try to do it electronically. This plan we are working on will give us the opportunities to reintroduce dormant chapters and bring in new chapters. We are having our Spring Meeting in Coeur d'Alene, on April 17-18, 2015.
Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 5 DIRECTOR DUANE WESTFALL REPORT:

Our executive team has been focused on getting more members. We are communicating via email and getting the 2015 activities started.

Our District is continuing its efforts in promoting water safety by donating life jackets to local area. It is nice to be asked from a member at this meeting about our program and we are always ready to let anyone know how we set it up.

We invited everyone to attend the Spring Regional Meeting and look forward to seeing everyone join in the festivities.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 6 DIRECTOR RICHARD DENTON REPORT:

ALOHA!

Dues: We got the information about the dues increase after we had collected the dues for the upcoming year-2015, so we absorbed per member the member difference and will raise our dues in 2016.

Installation and Induction: A dinner was held in November to induct three (3) new members and the installation of the 2015 Officers.

HCA/IOBG Christmas Party: The Party was held at the Hawaii Yacht Club and there was no charge for the meal.

Upcoming Schedule of Events: Officers will meet in February to discuss the upcoming year events. All the Commodores in Hawaii meet one month to discuss what is going on in each one of their yacht clubs going to these meetings is one way we gain new members. We also invite Commodores, Past Commodores and their Board Members to our Christmas Party.

Winter Regional Meeting: District Director Richard Denton and President Bill DeRego are attending the Winter Regional Meeting in San Diego.

Current Membership and Finances: All is well.

Report Submitted.

SEVP/DISTRICT 8 DIRECTOR BUD HIGGINSON REPORT:

On November District 8 President Bill Pittman and I inducted the members of the newly established Dunedin Boat Club and Lauderdale Yacht Club and presented them with their IOBG Charter.

A Past Commodore of the Key Biscayne Yacht Club has express an interest in reactivating their IOBG Chapter. St. Charles Yacht Club has expressed an interest in becoming a Blue Gavel Chapter. While Bird Key Yacht Club asked to be put on the inactive list, they are losing members. We are going to keep the Club on our mailing list so that they can see what is happening in District 8 and they thanked me for doing that.

We currently have 24 active Chapters. President Bill Pittman outlined 2015 District goals which are: A) INVIGORATE EXISTING CHAPTERS by having an Executive Committee member at a meeting of each Chapter during the year to Discuss Mission Role of Chapter, Role of District and Role of International. B) INTIATE NEW CHAPTERS OF IOBG by analyzing data on former Chapters and leads on potential Chapters from existing members and publications.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 10 DIRECTOR LaVON PLUMLEE REPORT:

District 10 invited Past Commodore to become members and look forward to inducting them at their Opening Day ceremony.

Our Planned activities for 2015 include: Fundraisers in support of the 2016 Annual conference. Boat Safety Training, Brunch with C.O. of Naval Weapons Station as our guest, Charity Regatta activities in support of the Children's clinic of Long Beach,

Co-sponsor with HHYC a Junior Sailing program and a Wine tasting trip to Temecula by bus.

District 10 plans a fashion show in support of IOBGHF.

Communication continues to stress communications as a vital factor to our success with our website (<http://iobg-district 10.org>).

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 11 DIRECTOR / PRESIDENT SUSANA HERNANDEZ ARAICO REPORT:

We have some challenges with postal delays or losses and our Treasurer had to resign due to illness and Allan Bertik resume his duties as Treasurer.

2015 will me a very active year starting with a Wine tasting in January and in February for Adventure Sail on "Lady Washington". We also plan a fund-raising for the 2016 Annual Meeting to be held in Marina del Rey.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 14 DIRECTOR MARGE BOTTARI REPORT:

We are having a survey with our membership to help getting an IOBG Chapter for each of our Yacht Clubs. Also, we are having members call Past Commodores to join IOBG.

On April 26th we are have a talk on the America's Cup that will benefit our Junior Sailing Scholarship.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 15 DIRECTOR KATHY SMITH REPORT:

Our year started with Change of Watch ceremony October 11, 2014 at Southwestern Yacht Club.

Our annual Yacht Club Management Seminar in January, our District Officers and our speakers spoke on Protocol, Yachting Organizations, Legal considerations, financial issues, dealing with ABC and a new topic: Labor Law. The goal is to provide information for the club members an idea of the issues they may face, and provide a network for them to go for more information.

Finally, District 15 has been busy gearing up for your visit. We have great weather for you and we hope you will enjoy the Yacht Clubs and activities we have planned.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 16 DIRECTOR CLARK OWENS REPORT:

Given by Alt. District Director Marsha Landreth

District 16 is getting off to a great year with the election of our new board at our Christmas party. Our Change of Watch Champaign Brunch in January was well attended by our members clubs (over 100

people). Our President Shelly Berger has some great ideas to find speakers at our meetings, this has stimulated attendance and interest at our meetings. It will be a good year.

Report Submitted.

Alt. District Director Marshal Landreth doesn't understand why our Membership Rooster shows zero membership, for she knows she has paid. Will check immediately when she gets back to find what has happen and let IOBG Treasurer Marshall Nemoy know what is happening.

DISTRICT 18 DIRECTOR ROBERT P. BUZZ BISANZ REPORT:

The South Atlantic Yacht Racing Association held its meeting in Hilton Head, that meeting was attended by numerous Past and Current Commodores throughout the District 18 region. The Commodore of SAYCRA asked District 18 President Dave Kowert to make a brief presentation on IOBG.

We have opened a checking account with our new Treasurer Richard Boyd and our funds currently held by IOBG will be back under District 18 we will have online access for the account and this will be for Marshall Nemoy, Buzz Bisanz, Dave Kowert and Richard Boyd. This will be fully transparent to the District management team.

In April is the Charleston Race Week and the committee there has invited IOBG District 18 an opportunity to volunteer their time to help, beside getting positive exposure as IOBG members helping out, those who help get a \$90.00 free ticket for all four days events. We think that is the kind of organization that will attract new members especially in the greater Charleston Area.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 19 DIRECTOR M. ESTELLA McGRATH REPORT:

The calendar for 2015 has been set up starting with the induction of new members in District 19 IOBG. In May we will be hosting our Member Appreciation Day for all members of District 19. We will host our annual Meyer Haven Memorial bar-b-q, along with nominations for the 2016 Board of Directors in August. Our elections will be in September and our Change of Watch in November.

Sue Meyer will stay on as IOBGA 19 President.

We hope to exceed last membership in IOBG with our second mailing.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 51 DIRECTOR WALT KADEK REPORT:

I was asked where District 51 location is at? It is west of the Mississippi, for all IOBG members who are members of an eligible Yacht Club which does not have an IOBG Chapter. I go to all the Opening Days looking for those IOBG members.

Report Submitted.

TREASURER MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

This report has been prepared for distribution and discussion at the Regional Meeting held on February 6, 2015 at the Southwestern Yacht Club in San Diego, California.

The financial statements in this report are as of December 31, 2014 and for the year then ended. IOBG is organized into five operating activities. They are International Operations Center (IOC), the Executive

committee, the Annual Meeting, Area Vice Presidents and the Communication Group, formerly referred to *Blue Gavel Log*, *the Lighthouse* and the organization's web site.

We accept dues payments in many forms, however, we ask the method readable and clearly indicate new addresses or other important information. This applies to your email address too.

Today at lunch you will meet the voice you hear on the IOC phone – Laurie.

Laurie is looking forward to meeting you.

Remember the IOC is here to serve the membership. We can answer many questions, so please feel free to contact us.

Report Submitted.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT TONY DURIEUX REPORT:

My report is a Big thank you, it is an honor and a privilege to serve the Blue Gavel.

A Past Commodore of Blue Gavel Ken McCloud suggested that I not only join the Blue Gavel but get involved.

Becoming a member of this prestigious organization I remember what Ken had asked of me not what IOBG could do for me but instead said: "Get Involved".

I then met Joel Kay and Joel pointed me in the right direction.

The Blue Gavel is the result of many commodores who came before us and through their leadership and good will made the Blue Gavel this special fraternity made up off our piers. We looked forward to the time when we could wear that Blue Gavel patch and fly the Blue Gavel Burgee.

Report Submitted.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT ROSALIE DAVIS GREEN REPORT:

I will be reporting for Northeastern Vice President Ernie Odierna who is on trip plan more than a year ago and North Central Vice President Mark Vadaj, also was unable to attend this meeting.

NEVP Ernie Odierna said the boating season in his area (New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania) is from April to October.

DISTRICT 3 DIRECTOR LEWIS W. SMITH REPORT:

Given by 1st Vice President Rosalie Davis Green

The District has been approached to host a Regional Meeting and all agreed this was no problem and are very happy about the request.

The District holiday party was hosed by LaSalle Yacht Club. The Auxiliary provided funds for the entertainment which was "magical".

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 12 DIRECTOR VINCENT J. CORE REPORT:

Given by 1st Vice President Rosalie Davis Green

At this I'm not certain if District 12 will continue to be part of IOBG since Hurricane Sandy and the recent dues increase. Will keep you informed.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 26 DIRECTOR ERNIE ODIERNA REPORT:

Given by 1st Vice President Rosalie Davis Green

District 26 is finding out the Clubs in the area are having a hard time staying open and attracting new members while retaining the older ones.

A challenge that we all face is the “grooming “of our successors both at our Clubs and in the Blue Gavel.

Several of our Clubs participated on our “Thank-A-Vet-Day”. The event has become so popular that local waterfront municipalities are actively promoting the idea.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 27 DIRECTOR RUSSELL BOWER REPORT:

Given by 1st Vice President Rosalie Davis Green

District 27 is losing members and the dues increase will not help the situation.

I will be the District Director and Bernie Bonsall as President and leave all the other offices as they are.

We do not have a lot going on at this time.

Will keep you posted.

Report Submitted.

NORTH CENTRAL VICE PRESIDENT MARK VADAJ REPORT:

Given by 1st Vice President Rosalie Davis Green

2015 brings many challenges as well as many opportunities. The future for IOBG has never looked brighter. IOBG is always looking for methods to enhance Membership. With that said, I hope to hear from each and every Member within the North Central or any area. You have a voice and your opinion matters. I will attempt to visit as many Chapters and Clubs in person as possible. Please update all your current addresses, phone numbers and email addresses. If you require assistance, please call or email me directly, I will gladly assist you.

Within District 23 I'm currently engaging all current as well as previous members to actively encourage Membership participation at all levels. I am hopeful that a District Meeting and or Event can be schedule during 2015. In the interim time, I welcome any and all suggestions.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 7 DIRECTOR GENE McKEOWN REPORT:

Given by 1st Vice President Rosalie Davis Green

District 7 Change of Watch, the Blue Gavel was passed to the incoming President Warren Dempster and along with the Executive Board have put together a very full calendar for 2015.

The following week the District hosted the IOBG Annual Convention where Joel Kay was installed as the International President.

In December along with district 9 and District 25 we hosted a pizza party for the I-LYA, Inter Lake Yacht Association Change of Watch.

Coming up a Sunday Brunch, also we will march in the St. Patrick Parade, and our annual Blue Blazer where we invited Commodores and immediate Past Commodores from clubs within the District to a reception to become more familiar with District 7.
Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 9 DIRECTOR STEPHEN BARRY REPORT:

Given by 1st Vice President Rosalie Davis Green

We joined District 7 and District 25 in hosting a pizza part at I-LYA Fall Meeting. It is a way for our districts to talk to club members and encourage support for the Blue Gavel at their respective clubs. The district holds its Executive Board meetings at our various clubs in the area. This has proven beneficial to show support for clubs in our districts.

Again this year some members will head over to Cleveland to District 7 in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. District President Arne Hanson has some goals for the coming year and he is planning on having at least 4 events this year to increase participation and strengthen our district.

Report Submitted,

PRESIDENT ELECT JOE DOWDELL REPORT:

Right now I'm holder of the Historical Papers of IOBG, which has some interesting information on our IOBG. Did you know who was IOBG LOG Editor in 1987? It was Past President (1996) and now IOBGHF President Ira Nies. In 1986 in San Diego IOBG held their Annual Ball at the Bay Club Hotel and the meetings at Southwestern Yacht Club. There are a lot of interesting information in our files. In 2016, the Spring Regional Meeting will be in Portland, OR and the Summer Regional Meeting will be in Buffalo, NY.

This October the Annual Meeting will be in Marathon, Florida, more on the 2015 Annual Meeting in June.

PAST COMMODORE GARY McGRATH REPORT:

This year I'm in charge of the Nominating Committee. Usually our Executive Committee nominees come up thru the ladder from AVPs. Please send me a letter with your qualifications and reasons why. We have an opening for Recording Secretary, we do have one (1) letter from Marsha Landreth for that position at this time.

PRESIDENT JOEL KAY REPORT:

The 2014 Annual Meeting, events and Inaugural Ball are over. Now it's time to get down to 2015. This will be the first year that Area Vice Presidents and District Directors will get a stipend to help defray their costs of attending regional meetings. The goal is to get more members interested in the International Operations and become members of the Executive Committee. The best way to do this is to have them come to the meeting and learn the ins and outs of how the organization is run.

Report Submitted.

President Joel Kay called on President Elect Joe Dowdell to discuss a little bit about what is planned for the 2015 Annual Meeting.

President Elect Joe Dowdell discussed the plans for the Annual Meeting that will be held in October 22, 23 & 24, 2015. We will be staying at a new hotel, the Faro Blanco Resort & Yacht Club. There are

many activities in the area and places you can go to before, during and after the Annual Meeting. Information will be coming out at the Spring Regional Meeting.

SOUTHWESTERN VICE PRESIDENT SHERRY BARONE REPORT:

My area is from District 6 in Guam and Hawaii to District 15 San Diego. I started my year by visiting Guam, if you have not been to Guam it has stunning beaches, great diving and friendly people. Then on to Hawaii to meet District 6 Director Richard Denton and District 6 President Bill DeRego, who are here today.

Held a Southern California district director meeting to meet each other, discuss membership ideas, events and humanitarian fund we will be meeting quarterly. Going to attended in April for a meeting at Encinal Yacht Club, to discuss topics on opening days, events and membership.

Opening days have begun and plan to attend opening days in Southern and Northern California, Report Submitted.

SOUTHEASTERN VICE PRESIDENT BUD HIGGINSON REPORT:

District 8 continues with its effort to establish new chapters and reactivate others, District 8 closed out the year with two new chapters, Dunedin Yacht Club and Lauderdale Yacht Club. District 8 has put together a plan to revitalize all their chapters by visiting each chapter during the calendar year. Report Submitted.

Old Business:

IOBG HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION PRESIDENT IRA NIES REPORT:

We have a new donation plan for \$100.00 you will still get the IOBGHF Pin. Now we have a silver pin for \$500.00 and a gold pin for \$1000.00. If you have more than one pin you can combine them and put those amounts to either a silver or gold pin. Remember this donation is tax deductible and the funds go to very worthwhile projects.

Communications Director Mary Nye Meyers has set up a website for IOBGHF which is www.iobg-hf.org or go on our website and you can link up from there.

IOBGHF is looking for 23 Ambassadors in the United States.

Any questions? One question is what an Ambassador is? Answer is most of the Ambassadors are from the Western States and we need members from all over to prompt and discuss with their respective Districts. Report Submitted.

APPROVAL OF THE FALL REGIONAL MEETING MINUTES, OCTOBER 18, 2014:

President Joel Kay asked to accept the minutes of October 18, 2014, Fall Regional Meeting.

Motion made by Past President Gary McGrath and seconded by 1st Vice President Rosalie Davis Green to accept the minutes. Motion passed.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

President Joel Kay called on District 15 Director Kathy Smith.

District 15 Director Kathy Smith talked about the events coming up and where and at what time everything would be happening.

President Joel Kay adjourned this meeting at 12:00 P.M. and will resume at 1:30 P.M.

President Joel Kay resumed the meeting at 1:30 P.M.

President Joel Kay called on Communication Director Mary Nye Meyers to discuss the new IOBG Directory.

Communication Director Mary Nye Meyers discussed the new IOBG Directory she put together. It will be sent out to the Executive Committee, Area Vice Presidents, District Directors, District Presidents, Legal Officer and the Recording Secretary. It will not be posted on our website and to download yearly updates, it will be on the Lighthouse
It will only be electronically done.

The LOG deadline for articles and pictures is February 21st. If an article is to be in the LOG it is sent to me – Mary Nye Meyer NOT Marybeth, one report to each separately.

District 11 Director Susana Hernandez Araico asked couldn't the dues be collected electronically. With the mail service, postage going up and check costs, wouldn't electronically be a savings? Discussion followed.

District 3 Director Duane Westfall discussed if the funds were sent to the District Treasurer, it would put a burden on that person and this is a volunteer position. There are three difference funds to collect IOBG dues, IOBG District dues and IOBG District Chapter dues.

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy said if IOC collected the dues, it would add time and cost to the IOBG budget to separate the funds in the proper area.

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy said it was a good question and a valid question, that I will have more information on this subject in June.

President Joel Kay called for adjournment. So moved.

Meeting adjourned at 1:48 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marybeth Thayer, Recording Secretary