

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL  
SPRING REGIONAL MEETING  
THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2015  
PORTLAND YACHT CLUB, PORTLAND, OREGON

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by President Joel Kay on June 4, 2015 at 10:25 A.M. at the Portland Yacht Club, Portland, Oregon.

President Joel Kay thanks District 5 Officers and Portland Yacht Club Officers and Members for hosting the Regional Meeting.

ROLL CALL of the Executive Committee:

President Joel Kay  
President Elect Joe Dowdell  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Rosalie Davis Green  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Tony Durieux - Excused  
Treasurer Marshall Nemoy  
Immediate Past President Gary McGrath  
Executive Secretary Mary Eiffert

Mr. President there is a quorum.

APPROVAL of AGENDA:

President Joel Kay ask for a motion to approve the Agenda  
Motion to approve the Agenda by Past President Gary McGrath  
Second by District 1 Trustee Deni Lee  
Motion passed.

INTRODUCTION OF IOBG INTERNATIONAL PAST PRESIDENTS:

President Ira Nies           1996  
President Jerry Rudd       2009  
President Gary McGrath   2014

INTRODUCTION of HOSTS:

President Joel Kay thanked our hosts, Ron Timmerman, Bill McKinney, Mike Kondrat, Duane Westfall and Steve Adkins.

SELF-INTRODUCTION of ATTENDEES and GUESTS:

DISTRICT 1:

IOBG Past President Jerry Rudd NWAVP Mary Nye Meyers  
District Director Lani Lightle District President Bob Lee District Trustee Deni Lee  
Member Roxanne Parish

DISTRICT 5:

IOBG Past President Ira Nies Past District Director Ron Timmerman  
District Director Duane Westfall District President Mike Kondrat  
District Treasurer Steve Adkins District Secretary Bill McKinney  
Member Leona Nies Member Richard Dyer Member Renee Dyer

DISTRICT 8

SEAVP Bud Higginson

DISTRICT 11

Legal Officer Gary Green SWAVP Sherry Barone HF Director Julie Albright

DISTRICT 15

District Alt. Director/US Sailing Rep./Sgt. At Arms Bill Thayer  
Recording Secretary Marybeth Thayer

DISTRICT 19:

Past District Director John Anthony

APPROVE of MINUTES of the WINTER REGIONAL MEETING:

President Joel Kay asked for a motion to approve the Winter Regional Meeting.  
Motion approved 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Rosalie Davis Green.  
Second by President Elect Joe Dowdell  
Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TREASUER MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

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

The financial statements in this report are as of April 30, 2015 and for the four months then ended. Base on past experience the variance is smaller than last year on June 1 and should be considered “normal” for this time of the year. It appears the increase in dues has had little, if any, effect on the membership.

The IOC is again soliciting photos to be used on the 2016 membership card. Send us your in the JPEG (.jpeg) format. Remember the photo must lend itself to use on the membership card. That means we

have to overlay all the necessary membership information. All photos will be submitted to the Executive Committee at the Annual Meeting. The person who submits the photo selected for the 2016 membership card will receive a free 2016 membership.

We thank all the district treasurers for their work with the dues payment process. The IOC is here to assist all IOBG members. Feel free to call us on the toll free number, (888) 378-2211. Let us all enjoy the summer season.

Report Submitted.

2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT TONY DURIEUX REPORT: Given by President Joel Kay

One of my duties is to work directly with our LOG Editor and Communication Director Mary Nye Meyers, we have discussed having difficulties with communication among our membership and ourselves.

We need your help. Remember---all LOG articles are due to the editor (via embedded or email attachments) within 2 weeks after the last meeting.

When I boat into a marina flying my burgees, I want people to notice I'm a member of the Blue Gavel and as such a Past Commodore. We need the world to know who we are. Please pass on these thoughts to your district and your chapters.

Report Submitted.

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

The districts and chapters who seems to retain the most members have provide service to their local community that members want to get behind and support e.g. a fund raiser for charity, putting on a regatta, supporting a regatta or other club activity, providing yacht club management or boater education in addition to social gatherings. Keep up the good work. I encourage those who aren't doing service to their local community as Blue Gavel to work with your members to find a project that the community wants to help with or identify an unmet need in the community for which Blue Gavel can find a solution.

It is important as past commodores we are a group of doers. We like to contribute to our community.

Make it possible for the members to contribute as members of the Blue Gavel.

Report Submit

PRESIDENT ELECT JOE DOWDELL REPORT:

The 2015 IOBG Annual Meeting will be held in Marathon, FL Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>, the meetings will be held at Marathon Yacht Club. There are a lot of activities in Key West to see, so come early and enjoy it all. Some places we will be going to while we are at the Annual Meeting are the Dolphin Research Center, The Turtle Hospital, Aquarium, and a trip to Pigeon Key Island. More information will be coming out later in June.

In 2016 the Meetings will be held in Portland, OR in June, Buffalo, NY in August and Marina Del Rey, CA in October. You will hear more about these meetings later in the year.

PRESIDENT JOEL KAY REPORT:

I had the honor to speak to the Cleveland Boating Association aboard a World War II Submarine USS COD about my thoughts about Memorial Day, a day where the Boating community were all aboard to celebrate the day.

I hope everyone is reading the LOG and the LIGHTHOUSE, they are wonderful communication to inform us what is going on in the Blue Gavel'

The dues increase does not seem to have any effect on the membership, however there are some problems with certain Districts, which we will be talking about later in the meeting. The Area Vice Presidents seems to have a good handle on this problem and we also will be discussing increasing our chapters and membership in Canada and New England areas. We also will be discussing the operation and effectiveness of the Humanitarian Foundation.

Everyone have a safe and happy Boating season.

PAST PRESIDENT GARY McGRATH REPORT: No Report.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARY EIFFERT REPORT: No Report.

NORTHEASTERN VICE PRESIDENT ERNIE ODIERNA REPORT: Not Here.

SEAVP and DISTRICT 8 DIRECTOR BUD HIGGINSON REPORT:

District 8 seems to be running very smoothly with a lot of activities going on. The goal of having an Executive Committee member visit with each of our 24 chapters visited this year is going well. District meeting has been well attended and the nominations are underway for the election of Executive Committee member in October.

Southwest Florida Yacht Club is considering establishment of their own IOBG Chapter, They were former members of the Royal Palm Yacht Club and we should be receiving their application at any time now. District 8 Spring Meeting hosted by Dunedin Boat Club did an outstanding job. Congratulations to President Bosi and his crew.

District 18 Director Buzz Bisanz and President Dave Kowert are working hard recruiting new members and rebuilding the District. Many activities are planned as a recruiting tool in the near future and we all look forward to seeing great results.

Reports submitted by District 18 Director Buzz Bisanz and District 18 President Dave Kowert.  
Report Submitted.

NEAVP MARY NYE MEYERS REPORT:

Thank You to District 1 and District 5 Boards for doing a great job in our membership and getting our name out there.

Discussed how District 1 holds different events in there three (3) areas Canada, Idaho and Washington and District 5 for the outstanding job of their Life Jackets Program.

Both Districts are here and we will get a more detailed report.

SWAVP SHERRY BARONE REPORT:

I have been to many opening days from Pittsburgh Yacht Club (District 19) to American Legion Yacht Club (District 11) enjoying the kickoff of the yachting season which never closed in California and Hawaii.

Each of our Districts is working hard growing membership and raising money for local charity as well as having fun.

Kathy Smith District 15 Director did an amazing job at the IOBG Winter Regional Meeting. District 14 Director Marge Bottari hosted a speaker series at Golden Gate Yacht Club with Commodore Norbert Bajurn discussing defending the America's Cup raising funds for sailing scholarships. Leo Vortouni District 21 Director is helping plan a kickoff event for Transpac in Newport. District 6 Director Richard Denton is helping host events for the IOBG Southwestern Transpac Race – Visit to Honolulu, Hawaii 25 – 30 July 2015. Come and be a part of the Trans Pacific Race in Hawaii with friends from IOBG and IOBG District 6.  
Report Submitted.

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT PHIL PROMESSI REPORT: Not Here.

LEGAL OFFICER GARY GREEN REPORT: No Report.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR MARY NYE MEYERS REPORT:

The LOG deadline is June 20, 2015 for all pictures and articles.  
The LIGHTHOUSE is doing quite well, being open and the more information we receive for it, the better for IOBG.

PROTOCOL OFFICER MARSHA LANDRETH REPORT: Not Here.

RECORDING SECRETARY MARYBETH THAYER REPORT:

Questions asked to those present – Has everyone signed the sign up sheet and turned in their reports?

SERGEANT AT ARMS BILL THAYER REPORT: No Report.

APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS:

BOAT US MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

IOBG renewed our co-operation with BOAT US and IOBG will still get membership at ½ price with BOAT US.

IOBGA LIAISON REPORT:

IOBGA Meeting still in session.

COMMITTEES:

AUDIT REPORT: Given by Chairman Gary McGrath.

After a review of all records and statements and satisfying all questions of the Audit Committee, we (the Committee) find that there were no discrepancies and everything is in order submitted by Gary McGrath, Rosalie Davis Green and Joe Dowdell.  
Report Submitted.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Given by Chairman Gary McGrath

President Joe Dowdell  
President Elect Rosalie Davis Green  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Tony Durieux  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President B. E. "Bud" Higginson  
Treasurer Marshall Nemoy  
Immediate Joel Kay  
Executive Secretary Mary Eiffert  
NEAVP Ernie Odierna  
NWAVP Lani Lightie  
NCAVP Mark Vadaj  
SWAVP Sherry Barone  
SEAVP Robert P. "Buzz" Bisanz  
District 50: OPEN  
District 51 Walt Kadyk

Submitted by Chairman Gary McGrath, Joel Kay, East District 50 Roger Isphording and West District 51 Eileen VanWinkle

OLD BUSINESS:

BYLAWS and POLICY MANUAL REPORT: Given by Chairman Gary McGrath

There are two (2) policies being changed, one is the Bylaws and the other is on the Policy and Procedures Manual. These changes will be sent out for a mail-in vote.

First one is on Bylaws change to Article VII, Section 4 which now reads:

When a quorum is present at any meeting of the Board of Directors, in person or by proxy, the act of the majority shall be the act of the Board of Directors.

A quorum shall be deemed present if two-thirds (2/3) of the total eligible votes of the Directors are present.

The change is:

**A quorum shall be deemed present if Fifty Five percent (55%) of the total eligible votes of Directors are present.**

Second one is on the Policy and Procedures Manual as of now it reads:

Dues are due on the first of January each year, and are considered delinquent after that date. Added to that is:

As a convenience, the IOC has allowed Districts to submit their dues prior to the Annual Meeting; however, if the Board of Directors vote to increase the dues; all dues submitted to IOC early (prior to the Annual Meeting) shall be adjusted and billed the difference between the current dues and the voted dues increase.

These two changes will be a mail-in ballot proposal and you will mail the ballot back to the Office of IOC to be counted and announced at the Annual Meeting.

Report Submitted.

Legal Officer Gary Green asked the additional item about the Humanitarian Officer Liaison. Past President Gary McGrath stated it will now be an IOBG Past President as the Liaison Officer with the Humanitarian Foundation.

#### US SAILING REPRESENTATIVE BILL THAYER REPORT:

US Sailing is proud to announce a new partnership with 11<sup>th</sup> Hour Racing, a program established by the Schmidt Family Foundation that specializes in fostering strategic partnership within the sailing and marine communities to promote collaborative systemic change for the health of our marine environment.

In an effort to dramatically improve the Olympic youth development system for sailing in the United States, US Sailing and the AmericaOne Foundation are excited to announce a historic new initiative: Project Pipeline. With the extraordinary commitment of \$5 Million from AmericaOne Foundation, we are in position to launch a long-term initiative that will transform the way our young sailors train in the U.S.

Report Submitted.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Rosalie Davis Green added US Sailing promoting US Athletes for the next Olympics. US Sailing is going around the country and asking local Yacht Clubs to support the next Olympics effort. Del Rey Yacht Club hosted an event that included Olympic Athletes training local juniors and getting out on the water with them (there was a charge for each junior and many Yacht Clubs sponsor them) and all the funds go directly to Olympics Athletes for their training. They raised over \$100,000.00.

President Joel Kay called for a 10 minute break at 11:30 A.M.

President Joel Kay resumes the meeting at 11:45 A.M.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Chapter Application and Approval of New Chapter Applications: Given by President Joel Kay

President Joel discussed the new legal Chapter application and how everyone should go to IOBG website and read it. At the Executive Board meeting we approve the new Chapter applications. We have also approved a new Chapter, Ventnor Yacht Club in New Jersey.

Are there any new Chapter applications from District 1 or District 5? Not at this time.

Lunch will be served now, be back by 1:00 P.M.

President Joel Kay resumes the meeting at 1:10 P.M.

President Joel Kay called on Treasurer Marshall Nemo to discuss the history of the Humanitarian Foundation.

It started about 1991 under the leadership of a future IOBG President Dr. Dick Disraeli (1994). The version was to do it like the Shriners or Make-A-Wish organizations (HF picked Bone Marrow project that wasn't well receive), it didn't work. At this time we need members who are creative doers and that will be the key to motivate IOBG Members to help raise funds for the Humanitarian Foundation. The Foundation was set up to help different areas in our IOBG Membership to fund different projects needed in their area.

Example: District 15 had a Bicycle Team to participate in a day event to raise funds for Make-A-Wish, in this one day event with the Yacht Clubs in the area help raise over \$125,000.00. Charities events like that help get our name out there.

Treasurer Marshall Nemo opened the meeting for discussion.

HF website is all over the place, one thing is needed is to change its name to reflect more boating projects like District 5 which is involved with their "Life Jacket" Program. HF mission needs to be more locally based. Start with local projects and thru that progress a larger project could immerge.

Some of the questions always asked is how do we apply for a grant and where is the money going. How much money is taken in and given out for HF projects. The membership needs be informed at all the times. HF is under Tax "501-c-3", get the research done on your project to be sure that it is legal for a "501-c-3" Donation.

Projects from the Districts should be from "Bottom Up, Not Top Down".  
On thing is that each entity has to stand on its own.

When District 5 starts to get their Life Jacket program going, it helps to talk to people who were involved in Waterfront area and learning what was needed and letting them know what the District was doing and how to keep it going.

Treasurer Marshall Nemo ended this part discussing how the tax donations works with HF and called on IOBGHF Treasurer Jackie Evans Rudd for further update on HF.

IOBGHF Treasurer Jackie Evans Rudd said there was a new application form on HF Website: [www.iobg-hf.org](http://www.iobg-hf.org). Also, have Memorial Cards and envelopes for anyone who wants one. Talked about some on the donations that HF has given out and looking at new ones before the Board.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS REPORTS:



DISTRICT 1 DIRECTOR LANI LIGHTIE REPORT:

District I held its Spring Regional Meeting at Coeur d'Alene in Idaho on the Spokane river hosted by Spokane Yacht Club.

Opening Day with our IOBG banners flying we had Representing District 1, Bob Lee, also attending was our IOBG 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Rosalie Davis Green with our IOBG Legal Officer Gary Green who was there as a dignitary representing Pacific Coast Yachting Assoc.

Our Fall change of watch will be hosted by Tacoma Outboard Assoc. Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> .

Our membership has dropped in recent years but is seeing the trend reverse with the potential of our current and future officers.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 5 DIRECTOR DUANE WESTFALL REPORT:

Our District Leadership is honored to host the 2015 Spring Regional Meeting. Overall our membership has grown by 50% this year.

Our annual Hadley's Landing Cruise and Clean-up, we participated helping to clean up the public docks and enjoy some sunshine and comradely with a potluck as well.

Our Life Jackets are being delivered to over 25 different kiosks on the Columbia, Willamette and Rogue Rivers with IOBG HF President Ira Nies helping to provide funds. This is a major priority for IOBG District 5. We have applied for a grant with Oregon State Marine Board to help us expend our life jackets program.

Report Submitted.

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

District 6 is getting ready for the Transpac events.

District 6 meetings coming are Election on 10/7/15 being held at Kaneohe Yacht Club, Installation and Induction dinner on 11/5/15 will be held at Waikiki Yacht Club and the Christmas Party on 12/3/15 at Hawaii Yacht Club.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 7 DIRECTOR GENE McKEOWN REPORT: Given by IOBG President Joel Kay

We had our Blue Blazer event where Yacht Clubs Commodores heard about IOBG and we got a few new members from that event. We hosted a luncheon with 105 guests aboard a Cruise Ship that sails in our waters.

DISTRICT 10 DIRECTOR LaVON PLUMLEE REPORT: Given by SWAVP Sherry Barone

It is my pleasure to report that District 10 members have a lengthy list of both socials, sailing and educational activities, plus charity events for the participating members.

We have 76 members and we inducted 8 new Past Commodores at their Opening Day ceremonies this year. We hosted another very successful "Meet our New Members" BBQ.

Our IOBGA President Marsha Saracco is planning a 2015 Fashion Show.

Our communication is a vital factor for our success. Our website is [www.IOBG-District10.org](http://www.IOBG-District10.org).

District 10 enjoys monthly events, like CPR class, Father Day BBQ!, Fireworks, Charity Regatta Brunch, Luau Cruise to Bahia Corinthian YC, BBQ, Fashion Show at our member yacht clubs and other events.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 11 DIRECTOR SUSANA HERNDNEZ ARAICO REPORT: Given by SWAVP Sherry Barone

District 11 organized a visit to tall ship *Lady Washington* (a replica of the first American ship to round Cap Horn and land in the Pacific Northwest) with a lunch at PCCYC and an optional sail afterward on the Ship.

Many have been inducted as new IOBG members starting in March included Marina Venice Yacht Club, King Harbor Yacht Club, Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club, South Coast Corinthian Yacht Club, Del Rey Yacht Club and Westlake Yacht Club.

Membership renewals are coming in and we will be sending out another reminder for the late comers. We are currently planning our special member-appreciation event at the Del Rey Yacht Club, the following month a Hollywood Bowl Concert and a picnic dinner with a Chase Park Concert.

We are supporting the plans for the 2016 IOBG Annual Meeting, have made a contribution for 2015 and an event in August to raise additional funds.

Report Submitted.

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

District 14 started out the year with a special event, a talk by Norbert Bajurin about the up coming America's Cup 35 in Bermuda in 2017 held at Golden Gate Yacht Club.

The event was a fund raiser for District 14 Jr. Sailing Scholarship.

Some of the other events plan for this year is a cruise planned to Rio Vista, an Appreciation Picnic and a Napa Wine Tour and of course the Transpac Race to Hawaii.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 15 DIRECTOR KATHY SMITH REPORT: Given by Alt. District 15 Director Bill Thayer.

District 15 started 2015 with our annual Yacht Club Management Seminar. Open to all the clubs, the YCMS provides informational speakers to club bridges and other club members interested in learning more about how their club is run.

In February, District 15 was very proud to host the IOBG Winter Regional Meeting. We were very happy with the amenities, cooperation and service from the host hotel, The Bay Club.

In May, IOBG/IOBGA District 15 fielded a bicycle team for the 3 Yacht Clubs Amazing Race Event. Our team raised over \$2000.00, and the total event raised over \$125,000. It is admirable that Make A Wish, San Diego has no wait list for wishes. Thanks to all those who organized, participated, and worked hard to make event an annual success.

Our Member Appreciation Bar B Q and Bocce Ball Tournament held at Coronado Cays Yacht Club to thank our members for their continued support.

President Jim Jenkins, Vice President Bill Edwards and Secretary Ned Knight are organizing our first annual IOBG Charity Regatta.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 16 DIRECTOR CLARK OWENS REPORT: Given by SWAVP Sherry Barone

District 16 is looking forward to planning a trip to the Maritime Museum in the Channel Islands Harbor in Oxnard.

Our District continues to try to increase membership. We have had some success but faces challenges that all districts seem to have, we do have members from every clubs in both our harbors and we are having excellent attendance at our events by inviting interesting speakers.

We look forward to our annual BBQ at Ventura Yacht Club in September. This year the theme is "Fiesta".

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 19 DIRECTOR M. ESTELLA McGRATH REPORT: Given by SWAVP Sherry Barone

District 19 is alive and doing well. We have 153 paid members in IOBG and 50 members in IOBGA.

In February our induction of new members held at Pittsburg Yacht Club was well attended.

At the Delta Marian Yacht Club we held our Annual Commodores Appreciation Day it was free to all Commodores at Delta Marina Yacht Harbor.

In August we will host our annual Meyer Haven Memorial Bar B Que along with nominations for the 2016 Board of Directors, it will be at Village West Yacht Club.

The IOBGA had a trip visiting the Rosie the Riveter National Historical Park in Richmond.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 21 DIRECTOR LEO VORTOUNI: Given by SWAVP Sherry

District 21 had one member last year and this year we have 54 members. New membership inductions have been a primary goal of District 21 and District President Richard Price.

The District is hosting a lot of events and improving the operations within District 21.

We will be in the Old Glory Boat Parade sponsored by the American Legion Yacht Club, Transpac has been extended an invitation by District 6 to be part of the Celebration in Hawaii.

Lake Arrowhead Yacht Club is hosting a IOBG party in August and this year they received the 2014 Club of the Year Award.  
Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 23 REPORT: Given by IOBG President Joel Kay

District President Robert Sapita is working very hard putting this District back together. He is getting a lot of support from NCVF Mark Vadaj.

DISTRICT 50: No Report.

DISTRICT 51: No Report.

IOBGA PRESIDENT JUNE THACKER: No Report.

NEW BUSINESS:

CHAPTER APPLICATIONS:

President Joel Kay informed all, there is a new Chapter Application Form on the website.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

President Joel Kay thanked Portland Yacht Club and Columbia River Yacht Club for hosting the 2015 Spring Regional Meeting.

District 5 President Mike Kondrat informed everyone what the schedule was for tomorrow at Columbia River Yacht Club.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marybeth Thayer, IOBG Recording Secretary