

International Order of the Blue Gavel
Spring Regional Meeting
Thursday, June 9, 2016
Portland Yacht Club, Portland, Oregon

The meeting was called to order by President Joe Dowdell on June 9, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Portland Yacht Club, Portland, Oregon.

CALL TO ORDER: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Elect Rosalie Davis Green.

ROLL CALL:

President Joe Dowdell	District 8
President Elect Rosalie Davis Green	District 11
First Vice President Tony Durieux	District 7
Second Vice President Bud Higginson	Absent
Treasurer Marshall Nemoy	District 15
Past President Joel Kay	District 7

The Recording Secretary confirmed that a quorum was present and all officers had signed the attendance log.

AGENDA: Treasurer Marshall Nemoy moved to approve the agenda as corrected to having Humanitarian Foundation report from Jackie Rudd at an earlier time. President Elect Rosalie Davis Green seconded the motion. Motion approved.

INTRODUCTION OF PAST PRESIDENTS: President Joe Dowdell introduced Past President (2011) Vernon Bendsen.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HOST: President Joe Dowdell introduced and thanked District 5 President Mike Kondrat for hosting the meeting.

Mike welcomed everyone, gave information about the fun boat rides starting from Columbia River Yacht Club, the Rose Festival, knighting ceremony, and ball. District 5 Director Ron Timmerman next welcomed everyone to the 46th year Blue Gavel has met in Portland.

SELF-INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS and GUESTS

DISTRICT 1:

International Executive Secretary Mary Eiffert
Communications Director Mary Nye Meyers
International PP IOBGA Jackie Evans Rudd
Northwest Area Vice President Lani Lightle
District 1 President Jim Martinson
District 1 Treasurer IOBGA Laurie Martinson

DISTRICT 5:

District 5 President Mike Kondrat
District 5 Secretary Bill McKinney

DISTRICT 11:

Southwest Area Vice President Sherry Barone
Legal Officer Gary Green
District 11 Director Susana Hernandez Araico

DISTRICT 14:

District 14 President Mike West
District 14 Director Susie West

DISTRICT 16:

Recording Secretary/Alternate Director 16 Marsha Landreth

DISTRICT 19:

District 19 Director Sandra Clark
District 19 Secretary Dave Breninger
Linda Bendsen
Linda Breninger
Zane Clark

APPROVAL OF FALL REGIONAL MINUTES:

It was regularly moved, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes of the last Regional Meeting held in Marathon, Florida, October 25, 2015

IOBGHF REPORT - Treasurer Jackie Rudd

Jackie reported that the Humanitarian Foundation is looking for directors. On May 21, 2016, HF funded \$600 for three scholarships to the Youth Sailing Program at Gulf Harbors

Yacht Club in New Port Richey, Florida. To continue supporting groups, the Foundation needs donations. A new treasurer is needed as Jackie is stepping down.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TREASURER - Marshall Nemoy

Treasurer's report was prepared for distribution and discussion at the Regional Meeting held June 9, 2016. Summary: As of April 30, 2016 IOBG had a net income of \$57, 224, which is \$401 lower than budget but \$8,449 more than last year. Total paid members as of June 1, 2016 is 1,500, which is 46 lower than this same date last year. Total assets have increased by \$21, 685 primarily because there was no February Regional Meeting scheduled this year. IOBG's net worth has increased because of the income from the previous year and the reduction of the liabilities; thus, continuing a strong financial position and stability.

Central Billing of IOBG Dues report was distributed. Marshall explained that central billing is needed in only some districts. For example, when a district quits, the balance in checking account is sent to IOC. IOC carries it as a liability and hopes AVPs can encourage them to come back. President Joe Dowdell sent survey to former members in districts with dramatic change in membership, discovering that some haven't received bills. Sending bills from IOC gets results in those districts. IOC sends to district their share of the collected dues. Will notify treasurers and presidents to keep abreast of members in district. This will increase operating costs of IOC for paper, stamps, staff time, and credit card cost of 3%. Executive Committee is interested in Districts' input on this possibility.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT - Bud Higginson

Unable to attend. Goal to communicate with AVPs west of the Mississippi to discuss mutual thoughts about increasing membership and improve retention program has been delayed due to a personal health issue, which is improving. Bud is looking forward to seeing everyone at the Buffalo Regional meeting in August.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT -Tony Durieux

Tony spoke to the district directors about working together as a team, communicate the successes. Spread the word of district or chapter successes. The Chapter will thank you for acknowledging their great work and your fellow Districts will thank you for the valuable information. When planning activities, think back to the time when you joined your yacht club. What did you look for? Tony gave an example of a Sunday Bruch cruise on the Nautica Queen out of Cleveland. The District 7 Auxiliary planned the event that included both BG and auxiliary members, bridge officers from surrounding yacht clubs, plus family and friends. The attendance was 150 +. All this goes to Retention and Recruitment. When

current bridge officers see that BG stands for more than just the PC, the desire to become part of the Blue Gavel is given extra emphasis both now and at renewal time.

PRESIDENT ELECT - Rosalie Davis Green

The long awaited IOBG brochure has now arrived and are on the tables. Much collaboration went into it. A special shout out to Mary Nye Meyers and Bud Higginson for scores of pictures. P/P Vern Bendsen helped with the precise wording. IOBGA and HF presidents were able to include information. Everyone is reasonably satisfied with it. Use the brochure in recruitment. Districts with 100 members will receive 25 brochures and districts under 100 will receive 10 to start with. When gone, request more from the IOC. The brochure is good for US use, and also worldwide. Many members have wanted something to leave with commodores of yacht clubs when visiting out of the country who might consider joining IOBG. This way people have the brochure to look at after they have forgotten what was said in the conversation.

The annual meeting will be in Marina Del Rey, October 20-22. Why participate? The first thing is that it gives you a chance to have your voice heard in the business of the organization, and if there is anything to vote on, your representative is there to vote. Los Angeles is a wonderful place to visit. Del Rey is the home of the incoming president, so the meeting will be at DRYC. Hotels are close, but expensive. The hotel we are using is 1 ½ miles away at \$150 a night. Activities include a visit to the Getty Museum, Long Beach Harbor cruise, and dinner at LBYC. The Grand Ball will be at Del Rey Yacht Club. Put it on your calendar. We look forward to seeing you there. Registration online starts July 1st.

PAST PRESIDENT - Joel Kay

Being a past president has allowed me more time to be involved in District 7 activities and programs. Having come from the North Central Area, Nancy and I got invited to the Commodore's Ball at a yacht club which I have visited many times in the past, but never had attended a ceremony. The 2016 Commodore promised to join the Blue Gavel in 2017. Joel also boarded the USS Cod following the GCBA Memorial Day Service. While in NZ, he received word that he had sold his boat, proving the old adage that taking possession of a new boat and selling a boat are the two best days in a boater's life.

The boating community is getting smaller, hurting the yachting and IOBG membership; therefore, retention is important. He does not have a solution to this problem but will continue to work with everyone who is engaged in working on the problem. The brochure is a great step in this direction, thanks to Rosalie Davis Green, Tony Durieux and their team for making this happen.

PRESIDENT - Joe Dowdell

Joe's report was on IOBG committees. The IOBG Bylaws and the IOBG Policy and Procedure Manual authorize and refer to several committees. The committees may be either "standing committees," appointed for a definite time, in our case, one year; or a "special committee," appointed for a special purpose. Thus we have the standing committees: Annual Meeting Committee, Bylaws and Policy Manual Committee, and Finance Committee. The president may also present additional committees, as may be required, to the executive committee for approval. Districts also have committees. All committees have a specific goal or function. Some of the committee duties and details are set forth in detail in the bylaws or policy manuals, some have none. How should those with none be operated? In accordance to Robert's Rules of Order. So, according to Robert's, it is the duty of the chairman to call the committee together. It is the duty of the committee to meet on the call of the chairman, or any two of its members. In small committees, the chairman usually acts as secretary, who keeps a brief memorandum of what is done, for the use of the committee, during the deliberations of the committee no one has a right to be present, except members of the committee. Unless agreed to by general consent, all questions must be put to vote, and instead of the chairman's abstaining from speaking on questions, he is, usually, the most active participant in the discussions and work of the committee. In order that the assembly may have the benefit of the matured judgment of the committee, a reconsideration of a vote must be allowed regardless of the time and of previous reconsiderations, and it may be moved by anyone even if he was absent when the previous vote was taken; but it shall require a two-thirds vote for its adoption. This prevents taking advantage of the absence of members to reverse action, and enables members who were absent to bring up the question of reconsideration. The committee constitutes a miniature assembly, being able to act only when a quorum is present.

When presenting the committee report, the draft is read entirely through, and then read by paragraphs, the chairman pausing after each paragraph, and asking "Are there any amendments proposed to this paragraph?" No vote is taken on the adoption of the separate paragraphs; but, after the whole paper has been read in this way, it is open to amendment generally, by striking out any paragraph, or by substituting or inserting new ones, or by substituting an entirely new paper. When the entire report has been amended to suit the committee, they should adopt it as their report, and direct the chairman or some other member to report it to the assembly. When committees are appointed to investigate, or to report upon, certain matters, the report should close with, or be accompanied by, formal resolutions covering all recommendations, so that when their report is made no motion is necessary except to adopt the resolution. When the report has been adopted by the committee, a clean copy is made. If the report is of much importance, it should be signed by all the members concurring in the report. It may be signed by the chairman alone, if so, his signature is followed by the word "Chairman." This is not to be used if other members sign. The report can contain only that which has been agreed to by a majority vote at a meeting of which every member has been notified, or at an adjourned meeting thereof (a quorum, a majority of the members, being present), except where it is impracticable to have

a meeting of the committee, when it may contain what is agreed to by every member. If a committee is appointed from different sections of the country with the expectation that its work will be done by correspondence, its report can contain only what is agreed to by a majority of the members.

Please contact protocol officer Marsha Landreth if there are any questions.

How does the committee function when its members are located far apart? The answer is to utilize a free service known as freeconferencecall.com. Committee members can all attend a prearranged conference by telephone with each member calling the same number and are connected telephonically, just as though they were all sitting in the same room. The Executive Committee has been doing just that for two years and it works quite well. Contact Joe if you want more information.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY - Mary Eiffert

No report

NORTHWESTERN AREA VICE PRESIDENT REPORT - Lani Lightle

Districts 1, 5

DISTRICT 1 – report given by Lani Lightle

District 1 had its spring meeting in Yakima, WA, which is in eastern Washington, 142 miles SE of Seattle. The summer picnic is scheduled for July 16th. Membership growth and retention has been a struggle for District 1 over the years . . . but am encouraged by the direction District 5 is going with their Nautical Safety Foundation as another dimension of Blue Gavel. District 1 will pursue the same to inspire membership growth and retention.

DISTRICT 5 – District President Mike Kondrat

Focus on water safety. Wrote grant to IOBGHF; spent grant on 300 life jackets. Became a 501C3, allowing yacht clubs to give donations. Received a waterway grant for \$2500. Yacht clubs hear about BG through foundation. Get them excited because of publicity. Will give away 600 life jackets this year, 700 next year. Exciting and expand life jacket kiosks. Portland Boat Show. Collect outgrown life jackets. Give them to organizations. Booth free – ask people to bring life jackets and dump them in a box, get your name out. TV stations on board.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA VICE PRESIDENT REPORT - Sherry Barone

Districts 6, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 19, 21, 51

Each of our Districts continues working hard growing membership and raising money for local charities and the international installation in October for President Elect Rosalie Davis Green. Golf tournaments. Mid-winter race.

DISTRICT 6 – report given by Sherry Barone

District 6 is out of Hawaii has been involved in Wednesday night races. Will have installation at Wikiki Yacht Club in November, and a Christmas party in December.

DISTRICT 10 – report given by Sherry Barone.

District 10 held a crazy fun Golf, and a wine-tasting fundraiser with 90 guests - raising money for IOBG Annual Meeting.

DISTRICT 11 - Director Susana Hernandez Araico

Held a brunch installation; speaker SCYA president; worked on calendar for the year. Preparing for national meeting. Membership appreciation dinner in April with a Hawaiian theme. Two fundraisers, one July 28th BBQ.

DISTRICT 14 – Susie West

Two new members have stepped up to hold board positions. We have 6 new members but we are still challenged on how to motivate members to take an active part. District 14 encompasses 38 IOBG Chapters that cover a geographical counties from San Jose to Alameda. In 2015 Susie sent out 250 personalized letters to former members, chapters, past and present commodores to encourage interest. Held an appreciation picnic resulting in a fabulous turnout. Continue to raise money for youth scholarships. Maintain a website. Personal approach best.

DISTRICT 15 – report given by Marshall Nemoy

Held a management seminar in January. Members' appreciation barbeque was held March 12. May 14th Three Wishes for Make-A-Wish. Lots of activities like contest with tee-shirt frozen like a brick. Rubber Ducky with a paddle, rode bikes. The Amazing Race raised \$103,000, with our IOBG team raising \$1700.

DISTRICT 16 – Alternate Director Marsha Landreth

Last summer District 16 helped with a Chowder fest, which raised \$20,000 for the Maritime Museum. District 16 is involved again this year and set a goal of \$25,000. Other functions

included Disabled Veterans' Day on the Water, an installation brunch, summer barbeque, and a merry Christmas party.

DISTRICT 19 – Director Sandee Clark

Delta District with 148 members. Joint induction with District 14 in February. Over 80 people were in attendance. In May we had our Commodores' Appreciation BBQ at Delta Marina Yacht Harbor where 55 people enjoyed a wonderful Delta afternoon.

NORTH CENTRAL AREA VICE PRESIDENT – Mark Vadaj, reported given by Tony Durieux

Districts 7, 9, 23, 25, 50

After a slow start thanks to the spring weather, Districts 7, 9, 23, and 25 are in full swing. They will join together in several events to produce outstanding functions bigger and better than what they can do on their own, including but not limited to Memorial Day Ceremonies, barbeques, cocktail parties, rendezvous, membership drives, wine tasting, and more. Mark invites you to all functions.

DISTRICT 7 – Director Warren Dempster, reported given by Tony Durieux

District 7 board has been busy with not only our own events, but events that we participate in with Greater Cleveland Boating Association and Inter Lake Yachting Association. President Richard Mckee was invited to speak at USS Cod during Memorial Day. District provides a cocktail party for GCBA. With 9 & 25, we sponsor a cocktail party at the I-LYA Powerboat Regatta. These events introduce IOBG to Lake Erie yacht clubs. Thanks to IOBGHF for donation to the Len Anderson/Dean Palmer Fund, which allows boat rides on Lake Erie to those with disabilities.

DISTRICT 25 –Director Jim Cyrowski, reported given by Tony Durieux

Just held a membership meeting that was well attended. June 26 hosting party at Steel Lake Boat Club for other districts. Upcoming events include wine tasting, and a BBQ, and the I-LYA Regatta.

DISTRICT 50 – Director Mark A. Vadaj, reported given by Tony Durieux

Last year, District 50 successfully attracted new members in Boston area and Maine. Reaching out to all past commodores. Our primary goal is IOBG membership retention and secondary to transition them into an active chapter and district.

SOUTHEASTERN AREA VICE PRESIDENT – Robert P. Buzz Bisanz, report given by Tony Durieux

Districts 8, 18, 70, and 75

I attended the District 8 summer meeting held at the Gulf Harbors Yacht Club in New Port Richey, Florida on May 20 and 21, 2016. Attendance was good, including Joe Dowdell, IOBG President, past SEAVP John Button, and past District 8 Director Joe Tringali. At a District 8 Buzz Bisanz presented an IOBGHF check for \$600 to fund three scholarships to Gulf Harbors Yacht Club's Youth Sailing Program.

DISTRICT 8 – Director Karen Shea, report given by Tony Durieux

District 8 has a total of 227 members in 25 chapters across Florida. Assigned officer to active chapters, also assigned officer to non-member yacht clubs. It is anticipated that the communications will provide an increase in membership and strengthen retention of our membership.

Karen sent personal letters to 27 inactive chapters asking them to rejoin; four will rejoin in the fall. Will send letters to the 7 yacht clubs that are members of FCYC and to 30 clubs that are members of Yachting Club of America. I have compiled a spreadsheet to give information for me to follow up. What association they are members of, and have given info to Bud. All of this is to help Florida IOBG grow.

NORTHEASTER AREA VICE PRESIDENT – Ernie Odierna, no report

Districts 3, 12, 20, 26, 27, no reports

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

LEGAL OFFICER'S REPORT - Gary Green – no report

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Mary Nye Meyers

Log articles are due June 25th. Take and send photos of knighting.

PROTOCOL OFFICER'S REPORT – Marsha Landreth

If interested pick up graphics of Parliamentary Procedure process.

RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT – Marsha Landreth

Sign in and give hardcopies of reports.

APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS:

BOAT US - Marshall Nemoy

Advocates for boating. It is a cooperating group, they support us, and we should support them. Get ½ off as a member of IOBG.

HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION – Liaison Vern Bendsen – report from Jackie Rudd given earlier.

Need new judge advocate.

MEMBERSHIP - Rosalie Davis Green

Glad to see so many district reports talked about increasing membership and membership retention. In an upcoming meeting we will discuss ways to help.

COMMITTEES:

ANNUAL MEETING - Rosalie Davis Green

See President Elect Report.

AUDIT COMMITTEE - Joel Kay

The Audit committee has received the complete file from the Treasurer for the period ending December 31, 2015. A full review by the Audit Committee has been held and the Committee has unanimously agreed that the material provided is complete and worthy of approval. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the Executive Board accepts the records and closes the books for 2015.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - Joel Kay

Prepared a slate to be presented at the Summer Regional Meeting as per bylaws.

ELECTIONS - Rosalie Davis Green

Elections will go forth at the Annual Meeting according to policy manual and bylaws.

IOBG AUXILIARY - Sandra Durieux

Auxiliary continues to be dedicated to helping our districts, and in conjunction with the main body, promoting both IOBG and IOBGA.

District 1 has Cash for Kids, underprivileged on the water for a fun day.

District 15 held a boating seminar for spouses of yacht club officers and board members. They also have started a Facebook page to keep everyone informed what district 15 is doing.

District 25 is holding a wine tasting and pasta dinner. They are also holding a reception for all past commodores, commodores, vice commodores, rear commodores from Districts 7, 9, and 28.

District 7 held its annual Blue Blazer, getting several past commodores to join that evening. They also have many special events, including marching in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, which has swelled to 150 participants. Good fundraiser.

IOBGA has suffered losses. Past International President Mary Gallagher and Hope McLeod passed away. Past District 7 President Jerry Dunn and Hildegard Gephardt also passed away. They will be sorely missed.

We are also working on getting our membership database up to date.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS - none

CHAPTER APPLICATIONS - none

MEETING SCHEDULE 2017 – Rosalie Davis Green
Winter Regional Meeting, March 3 & 4, in Clearwater, Florida.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marshall gave information on tomorrow's Knighting Ceremony of Rosalie Davis Green. Rain was expected; however, the ceremony took place at Washington Park among the beautiful rose gardens with only a slight sprinkle.

Joe received a note from De Ramsey's daughter that he will be celebrating his 99th birthday next week. She would like a shower of cards to brighten his day.

Francis "De" Ramsey
c/o Villa Courts ALF
1992 Queens St.
N. Ft. Myers, Fl 33917

Rosalie Davis Green won the 50/50 for HF and then donated it back.

ADJOURNMENT:

PC Vern Bendsen moved to adjourn. 1st Vice President Tony Durieux second the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Landreth
Recording Secretary