

**International Christmas Ship Annual General Meeting
Camp Horizon, September 29, 2018**

Attendees: Don Wight, Judy Portas, Gary Almaty, Ken Ball, Gary Almy, Ken Ball, Corinne White, Paul Hand, Gord Graves, Sandra Ball, Karen Fern, Barry Shiles, Don Shove, John Moralek, Sue Watjen, Lynda Davidson, Wendy Canessa, Gloria Hardan

Don thanked everyone for attending and he advised there are several things to be covered.

Judy advised that Don and she are Co-CEOs.

Secretary (Wendy Canessa) Directors – John Moralek (Pirates), Gary Almy(treasurer), Ken Ball (Salesperson/alternate Treasurer) Lynda (Director & Mrs. Claus) Barry Shiles (in charge of Acquisitions), Sandra Ball (Choir), Sue Watjen (Elves), Gloria Hardan (Kitchen Wench), Dorothea Frisse (in charge of PR) Patti Easterling (Decorations).

Judy will be giving up the kitchen and she will be training Dorothea to take over.

Thanks to Lynda and Sue for getting out all the letters to the clubs each year.

Judy indicated she would like to see the term of office for all 9 core members and that the 3-year terms start with this vote. *Ken moved, and Sandra seconded that all core positions be for a three-year term of office.* Don however would like to see a staggered vote. *Don Shove and Sandra and Ken Ball would be prepared to be Directors (can have up to 14 members.). CARRIED.*

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Gary advised our R&B fund ended with a positive balance of just over \$300.00. We had about \$400.00 left over last year so we used an extra \$100.00. The Christmas Ship fund covers all costs of running the ship. Last year we ended up **-\$1500.00**. Last year we budgeted just over \$20,000.00 and this year we have raised the fee to participants to \$125.00 US to help offset the shortfall. The funds we took in last year was just over \$14,000 and we spent over \$15,000.00.

One of the things that money gets spent on is getting “commercial” Xmas lights as they last longer and are more durable on the ship.

Judy asked if anyone had a suggestion regarding a donation as a memorial as we had received a \$700 donation. Gary advised that it could not be put into the R&B fund. Sandy shared what her church does. We would need to send a letter of thanks to the donor. We will contact the club to see if they would like a thank you letter.

SCHEDULE OF STOPS – Don advised that the schedule has been changed from last year. We will be visiting the Canadian Clubs on Saturday, December 15th and the U.S. clubs on Sunday, December 16th. The San Juan Sheriff has already confirmed they will be departing Orcas at 12:15 and arriving Blakely at 2:15. Ken will oversee getting the crew to go to San Juan. Don has notified all islands of our new schedule except for Shaw and he will get this done. Ken asked if there was any way the crew going with the Sheriff could be boarded a little more discreetly, but don Webster advised no one saw anything so this appears to be a non-issue.

Judy commented that we have 2 district projects this year. One is Camp Horizon and the other is the Christmas Ship. Judy will bring this up to each club she visits this year as Zone Chair. She feels it is extremely important that all clubs support both these district projects and would ask each club to add line items to their budgets for both.

Gary advised that approximately 1/3 of the funds comes from Canadian clubs and then it is considerably less because of the exchange.

Don let us know that Tim Benson's dad passed away. (Tim is one of our Santas).

Don advised the Friday night hotel is the same, but it is now called the Hotel Bellingham Airport and their contact number is (360-676-7700 Kayla Hudson) and the booking would be under "LION".

We need to get a new team leader for the clowns As Virginia will not be returning this year. Someone had suggested Choice Meyer from Bellingham Fairhaven and she has quite a bit of experience in face painting. There was a discussion about this as she has never been on the Christmas Ship and some felt it was unfair to throw her into this leadership role when she hasn't been on the boat before.

Don Shove asked if he could be responsible for something other than the bilges!

IMPORTANT DATES:

Requests for consideration are due in by October 17th. Applications are due by October 15th. People will be informed of their selection by November 1st.

Bagging Day will be December 2nd.

Decorating days will be December 10th and 11th (Monday and Tuesday).
Food purchasing, and Boat loading day will be Friday, December 14th.

How do we treat gifts from individuals? Judy suggested that we use the picture taken from Blakely and make up a card to send as a thank you to anyone who has donated to the International Christmas Ship.

Judy said that Rick has worked hard with the hotel and he has brought the cost down to around \$4000.00 for 23 rooms.

Gord was at the District I conference and spoke to 3 past district governors. He advised District I needs a different letter than the standard form letter so that they understand how many kids are being serviced on the 5 islands. We see more Canadian children than US children.

Don asked to advise Dennis that Lummi is expecting twice as many children as last year.

Don Shove asked if he would be reimbursed for the cleaning of the Santa suit. The receipt for \$48.79 was previously given to Don.

Judy advised that the Choir costumes would be ready in a few days and the elves costumes will be done also.
Ken moved that we have some custom-made costumes made for some of the "well endowed" Ladies. Seconded by Sandy. Carried.

Gord and Patti(absent) presented Don with a bottle of Irish Whisky for hosting his DG barbeque.
Meeting adjourned at 3:20pm