

DETROIT LODGE NO. 7
INTERNATIONAL SHIPMASTERS' ASSOCIATION
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

August 5, 2001

To: Members of Detroit Lodge No. 7

Enclosed is the new 2001 lodge roster. Please check everything in your roster entry including telephone number and E-mail address. Area codes continue to be split and it is hard to keep track of changes. In regard to E-mail addresses, a single transposed letter or number will make the E-mail address ineffective. So please double-check addresses to make sure they are listed correctly. Also, remember that a spouse's name can appear in parenthesis after your name if you desire. There is also a line available for place of employment and vessel name, if any. If you find any errors or missing information in your roster entry, please let me know either by U.S. Mail (18258 Mayfield, Livonia, MI 48152) or E-mail (piagenow@aol.com). I would like to thank Bill Graham for continuing to maintain the lodge roster database in his computer. Keeping track of roster changes can be a daunting and time-consuming task and I appreciate Billy's assistance with the roster.

From all reports, the lodge picnic held on Sunday, July 22, 2001 on the grounds of the J.W. Westcott Company was a resounding success. Over 150 lodge members, auxiliary members and their guests turned out to watch the Parade of Tall Ships. Numerous other lodge members were observed in the Parade of Tall Ships itself, including Bill Hoey and Roger Stahl on Gaelic tugs, Bill Graham on the Yacht *Helene*, Luke Clyburn on the *Pride of Michigan*, Bob Kerr on the Tug *Forney* and several lodge members on the two Westcott mailboats. The temperature was in the low 90's, but large shade trees and breezes from the southwest helped to moderate the heat. The prevailing southwesterly breezes provided ideal conditions for the tall ships to exhibit their sails.

I want to mention a number of lodge and auxiliary members who were a great help to me in planning and setting up the lodge picnic. Tom McMullen and his brother-in-law Dave Williams did yeoman duty at the barbecue grills, an especially grueling job on such a hot day. Ron Ingram helped in handing out the cooked hot-dogs, brats and burgers, and his sons Mark and Alan helped in keeping picnic supplies replenished. Oscar Rosso provided an extra cooler and cooker for the picnic. Auxiliary members Mary Ann Ingram, Sue McMullen and my wife Sarah shopped for food and supplies, and set up and managed the food tables. The picnic-goers, by bringing dishes to pass, ensured that there was a fine array of food and plenty of it to go around. Finally, special thanks go to Jim Hogan, General Manager at J. W. Westcott Co., for hosting the picnic, and also to the staff at the mailboat for its work. I know that the mailboat crew, which includes several lodge members, went to great pains cutting grass and sprucing up the area so that everything was in readiness for the arrival of the lodge. All these extra efforts were very much appreciated.

In the "members in the news" department, the June 30, 2001 issue of the Detroit News, the July 19, 2001 issue of the Detroit Free Press and the August 2, 2001 issue of Waterways (a special section distributed with several suburban Detroit newspapers) all featured articles about the Westcott mailboat. Lodge members Sam Buchanan, Len Tanner, Mary Taylor and Jim Hogan were mentioned and/or pictured in those photo stories. Caution is urged when reading the Waterways article. While the gist of the article is generally correct, there are several errors of fact, including the spelling of vessel names, the location of mail slots and the date of the Fitzgerald sinking. Also, Sam Buchanan was misidentified as "Jim" Buchanan in a photo caption. Unfortunately, writers often get the details mixed up.

Also "in the news" was member Gus Balanda, our lodge's resident fitness guru. He was a participant in the Michigander cross-state bicycle ride, and was mentioned in a story about the cross-state bike ride that appeared in the July 26, 2001 issue of the Detroit Free Press.

During planning sessions for the Parade of Tall Ships, lodge President Ken Gerasimos had prepared a list of several lodge members willing to serve as volunteer pilots aboard tall ships that might require assistance in navigating the lower Detroit River. Most of the tall ships did not require assistance, but at the last minute one of the ships contacted the lodge in hopes of utilizing the services of a volunteer pilot. Member Mike Gerasimos volunteered to assist. He helped pilot a tall ship called the *Amara Zee* from Toledo, Ohio to Bay City, Michigan. The *Amara Zee*, currently on a tour of the Great Lakes, is a tall ship manned by thespians. The actors put on performances using the vessel itself as a stage. Capt. Gerasimos deserves the thanks of the lodge for offering his time and expertise to the *Amara Zee*. By the way, Mike did not don leotards and pantaloons while aboard ship, nor was he seen waving any theatrical cutlasses. He would be the first to agree that such a sight would surely qualify as a Greek tragedy!!

Norm Janusiewicz, known in the lodge as Super Chief from his days as Chief Engineer with Cleveland Cliffs, asked me to advise the lodge that he is now settled in Lockport, NY (near Buffalo) living with his daughter and son-in-law. He has been through quite a lot in recent months - heart failure, a broken hip that required surgery and then quadruple bypass surgery. His move to New York was necessary to be closer to family. He is on the mend, and was even able to make it to the lodge picnic with his son-in-law serving as chauffeur. His new address is in the lodge roster.

Fraternally yours,

Paul M. Jagenow
Secretary – Treasurer
Detroit Lodge No. 7, I.S.M.A.