

February 19, 1997

TO: Members of Detroit Lodge No. 7

An updated schedule for the rest of February and March is enclosed. We have a video planned for February 24 and speakers from the Coast Guard coming to the lodge on March 3. The Annual Dinner Dance is March 1. Check the schedule for additional details.

The results of the lodge election are shown on the reverse side of this page. Special thanks to those who took the time to vote and congratulations to those elected.

For those who deal with Sarnia Traffic Center on a regular basis, the next meeting of the St. Clair/Detroit Rivers Operations Working Group will be held in Sarnia at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 20. As usual, Capt. Pat Owens will be attending on behalf of the lodge. If anyone has an topic that should be brought up at the meeting, please inform Capt. Owens (Phone: 810-364-8374).

It is with deep regret, that I notify the lodge that member Bill Luke (Pennant Number A-10846) passed away on February 13, 1997 at the age of 69 following a long illness. Bill was a Vice-President for the Detroit Bank and Trust, retiring in 1975. He also was a noted marine historian belonging to numerous maritime historical societies. He was especially active in the Marine Historical Society of Detroit and was selected as Marine Historian of the Year by that society in 1990. Although Bill's career was in the banking business, he always spoke with pride of the time he spent sailing aboard the Leon Fraser back in his college years. Condolences to the family may be sent c/o his wife Phyllis at 1935 N. River Road #2, St. Clair MI 48079.

Several members of the lodge have been in the news. A feature story about Bob Greene appeared in the December 1996 issue of The Pilot Ladder. An in-depth article about winter shipping was in the February 2, 1997 issue of the Bay City Times and included a photograph of Tom Ochs. A feature about Rev. Richard Ingalls appeared in the March 1997 issue of Lakeland Boating magazine. The American Maritime Officer of January 1997 included a feature story about the M/V Walter J. McCarthy. Alan Flood as well as Past Grand President Pete Jimerson of Toledo Lodge No. 9 appeared in that story.

I have enclosed an article from the SIU Log of February 1997 about the M/V Blue Lagoon, a salt water vessel that was detained in Detroit last fall by the Coast Guard for numerous health and safety violations. Since the Marine Safety Office will be coming to our March 3rd meeting and the Blue Lagoon will be discussed, I thought this article would be useful in providing background information to the lodge.

As a final note, don't forget to get in your reservations to the dinner dance. Support of the members is vital to the dance's success.

Fraternally yours,

Paul M. Jagenow
Secretary-Treasurer