



Grand Lodge
International Ship Masters' Association

ISMA LETTER

Volume 28, Number 1
January-February 2014

2014 ISMA Grand Lodge Convention
Sault Ste. Marie, MI
Hosted by ISMA Twin Sault Lodge #22

See You at the Soo!

Kewadin Casino and Convention Center
February 6-9, 2014

Convention Report in Next Issue of ISMA Letter

FROM THE LODGES

Buffalo Lodge #1:

Lodge #1 will hear guest speakers at three upcoming meetings, all held at Hillview Restaurant in Depew, NY. Speaking on February 20, 2014, is CAPT **Brian W. Roche**, Commanding Officer, USCG Sector Buffalo. The topic for the March 20 meeting is "Great Lakes Weather Patterns and Trends," presented by a representative from NOAA, National Weather Service, Buffalo. Then on April 17, Lodge #1 member Capt. **Lance W. Orton** will discuss "Piracy on the High Seas." All meetings begin with a social hour at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6:30, and the meeting at 8:00 pm.

Buffalo Lodge held their annual Holiday Dinner on December 12, 2013, at the Buffalo Yacht Club. Despite stormy winter weather, 23 members and guests enjoyed the event. On October 17, lodge members enjoyed a tour of the Buffalo Maritime Center. Director **Roger Allen** and Pres. **John Montague** gave the tour, showing all the different programs that the center has for teaching youth and adults the skills of wooden boatbuilding.

Chicago Lodge #3:

Lodge #3 is once again coordinating Chicago Maritime Industry Day to be held on Thursday, March 13, 2014, at the DoubleTree Hotel, Alsip, IL. Lodge #3, together with the USCG

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Scholarship Winners Announced

ISMA Scholarship Committee Chairman Capt. **Seann O'Donoghue** has announced the 2014 award recipients.

Cadet Scholarship: **Taylor R. Boaks**
Jason Davenport
Hawsepip Scholarship: **Ionel Viorel Oncescu**

THANK YOU from
SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

From Cadet **Jason Davenport**:

January 9, 2014

Dear Captain O'Donoghue,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to you and the International Ship Masters' Association for making the "ISMA Cadet Scholarship Award" possible. I was thrilled to learn of my selection for this honor and I am deeply appreciative of your support.

Currently enrolled as a 3rd year navigation cadet at the Great Lakes International Marine Training and Research Centre, upon graduation I plan to pursue a career in marine navigation as a watch-keeping officer serving on the Great Lakes. The financial assistance the International Ship Masters' Association has provided is of great help to me in paying my educational expenses, and it will allow me to concentrate more of my time for studying. Your vested interest in other cadets' futures and mine will pay off ten-fold as we achieve our goals and proudly serve our communities in the years to come.

Thank you again for your generosity and support. I look forward to the time that I can help others as you have helped me.

Sincerely,
Jason Davenport

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ISMA NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

ISMA Letter distribution is via e-mail through local lodge secretaries.

Make sure your local lodge secretary has your correct e-mail address.

ISMA Letter is always available on our website, www.shipmaster.org, for viewing at any time.

(If you do not have an email address or internet access, please let your local lodge secretary know so that other arrangements can be made for you to receive a printed copy.) Thank you.





Scholarship Thank You, continued

From **Taylor Boaks**:

January 8, 2014

Dear Donors,

I am writing this letter to thank you for selecting me as a recipient of the International Ship Masters' Association Scholarship Award. As a third year Deck Cadet, my initial goal is to graduate from the Great Lakes Maritime Academy as a Third Mate Oceans Unlimited and Great Lakes First Class Pilot. Ultimately, I plan to earn a USCG Master's license and sail as Captain of a vessel on the Great Lakes.

This scholarship award will greatly assist me in successfully completing the Deck Officer curriculum at the Great Lakes Maritime Academy and ultimately serving as a United States Merchant Marine officer.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

Sincerely,
Taylor Boaks

Note: You can meet **Taylor** on February 7. He's planning on attending the ISMA Convention to receive his award.

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From **Ionel Viorel Oncescu**:

January 12, 2014

Dear Scholarship Selection Committee:

*I was very happy to learn that I was a fortunate winner of the International Ship Masters' Association 2014 Scholarship award. I would like to start by saying how very thankful I am to the Scholarship Chairman and Committee members for selecting me to receive this award, as your financial generosity has allowed me to be one step closer to my goal.*

*I regret not being able to accept this award in person as I will be attending Georgian College in Owen Sound for the PPS Level 1 Simulator. This course is a requirement before I'm allowed to write my 4<sup>th</sup> Class Motor License which I plan on attempting once I complete the simulator course. After completing these hurdles, I hope that with my past electrical experience and new engineering license that exciting opportunities will open and that I become a valuable asset to future employers.*

*Thank you very much on behalf of me and my family, who have supported me continuously for my dream to become a reality. Your generosity is appreciated and accepted with extreme honor. If it wasn't for associations like yours and its generous donors, seamen like me would have a harder time in advancing to greater goals. Once again, thank you sincerely for believing in me.*

Sincerely yours,  
**Ionel Viorel Oncescu**

FROM THE LODGES, continued

MSU Chicago, brings together a number of agencies that have jurisdiction over the waters in and around Chicago. Following their presentations, agency personnel will be available to answer questions from members of the marine community.

Cost for the day is \$40 before March 6; \$50 after. More information is available at [www.chicagoshipmasters.com/industry/info.htm](http://www.chicagoshipmasters.com/industry/info.htm).

### Detroit Lodge #7:

New Lodge #7 officers, elected on January 4, 2014, are:

|                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| President:           | <b>Richard S. Scott</b>    |
| 1st Vice President:  | <b>Ronald C. LaPlante</b>  |
| 2nd Vice President:  | <b>Thomas L. Jannausch</b> |
| Secretary-Treasurer: | <b>Paul M. Jagenow</b>     |

The following officers were appointed:

|                 |                                                                   |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Co-Chaplains:   | Rev. <b>Paul A. Innes</b><br>Fr. <b>Russell E. Kohler</b>         |
| Marshal:        | <b>Dennis E. Pomeroy</b>                                          |
| Warden:         | <b>John C. Mantyk</b>                                             |
| Sentinel:       | <b>Michael W. Nall</b>                                            |
| Lodge Surgeons: | Dr. <b>Thomas W. Baumgarten</b><br>Dr. <b>Larry W. Stephenson</b> |

At Lodge #7's dinner meeting on January 25, members and guests heard from member **Wayne Sapulski**, who gave a presentation on recent lighthouse preservation efforts around the Great Lakes. **Wayne**, who has visited every lighthouse on the Lakes, has authored/co-authored two books on the subject.

In December 2013, Rev. **William R. Fleming** was named Rector of Mariners Church of Detroit. Fr. **Richard Ingalls Jr.** is now Rector Emeritus.

### Georgian Bay-Huronian Lodge #15:

Lodge #15 has posted their meeting schedule for 2014, including the Annual Mariners' Blessing of the Great Lakes Fleet at St. George's Anglican Church, Owen Sound, on Sunday, February 23, at 10:00 am.

### Northeast Michigan Lodge #19:

Lodge #19's newly elected officers are:

|                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| President:           | <b>Lee Barnhill</b>       |
| 1st Vice President:  | <b>Robert Noffze</b>      |
| 2nd Vice President:  | <b>C. Patrick Labadie</b> |
| Secretary-Treasurer: | <b>Walter Watkins</b>     |

The following officers were appointed:

|           |                      |
|-----------|----------------------|
| Marshal:  | <b>David Veasy</b>   |
| Warden:   | <b>Jack Thompson</b> |
| Sentinel: | <b>Ted Rayha</b>     |
| Chaplain: | <b>Jim Daleski</b>   |

## NEW MEMBERS

### Detroit Lodge #7:

Associate: **Loran S. Tong** #A-12839

### Twin Ports Lodge #12:

Active Professional: **Lisa L. Sundberg** #12840

### Grand Traverse Lodge #23:

Cadet: **Taylor Boaks** #C-12838



HAVE *YOU* SIGNED UP A  
NEW MEMBER RECENTLY?

## Industry Newsbriefs –

### From the USCG National Maritime Center:

- In response to changing procedures associated with the publication of the Final Rule titled “Implementation of the Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 (STCW), as Amended, and Changes to National Endorsements,” as of January 2, 2014, the Coast Guard is issuing separate medical certificates to certify mariner compliance with minimum medical standards. For more information, go to [www.uscg.mil/nmc/medical/colorbox/medcert\\_alert.asp](http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/medical/colorbox/medcert_alert.asp).
- The USCG has issued a Medical Certificate Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) providing guidance for the issuance of medical certificates under the STCW code. For more information, visit [www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/medical\\_certificate\\_NVIC\\_Issued.pdf](http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/medical_certificate_NVIC_Issued.pdf).
- Also, the USCG recently issued a Basic Training NVIC, providing guidance for qualification and revalidation in Basic Training, (BT), formerly known as Basic Safety Training (BST). For more information, go to [www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/NVIC\\_BT\\_Final\\_with%20Encls\\_20131219.pdf](http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/NVIC_BT_Final_with%20Encls_20131219.pdf).

**Mari-Tech Conference:** The 2014 Mari-Tech Conference and Exhibition will look at the marine industry’s future through presentations on technology, best practices, marine safety, engineering, government shipbuilding programs and business innovation. The conference will be held May 7-9, 2014, at the Hilton Hotel & Suites Niagara Falls/Fallsview, in Niagara Falls, ON. The event will be sponsored by both the Canadian Institute of Marine Engineering, Great Lakes Branch; and the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, Great Lakes and Great Rivers Section. Mari-Tech 2014 is committed to providing maritime personnel with opportunities to develop their knowledge, stay up-to-date on international engineering development, and

*continued next column...*

interact with marine industry key stakeholders globally. For more information, see <http://mari-tech.org/index.php/mari-tech-2014>.

### Nautical Charts:

- NOAA has issued the first edition of Chart 14887 – St. Marys River-Vicinity of Neebish Island. The chart is available as a paper print-on-demand chart, PDF ([www.charts.noaa.gov/PDFs/14887.pdf](http://www.charts.noaa.gov/PDFs/14887.pdf)), and raster navigational chart. The electronic navigational chart will be available by March 2014, in time for the start of the shipping season. Coast Survey has built this chart from original sources, and provides large-scale (1:15,000) coverage of the upbound and downbound channels of the St. Marys River. At the 1:15,000 scale, positions of many of the features were corrected an average of ten meters from positions in prior charts.
- Coast Survey is also issuing new editions of the current four largest scale charts of the St. Marys River – Charts 14882, 14883, 14884, and 14962. More updates will follow this year and next.

### St. Lawrence Seaway:

- For the second consecutive year, a surge in grain movement led to a strong finish for the Seaway. Seaway tonnage for the 2013 navigation season amounted to 37 million tonnes, 5.3% lower than 2012. However, the Seaway did see a 12% increase in liquid bulk movement.
- The Seaway closed for the season on January 1, 2014, with the eastbound vessel *Orsula* transiting the St. Lambert Lock at Montreal. The last vessel to exit the Welland Canal at Lock 8 was the *CSL Laurentien* the same day. Both sections of the Seaway were open for 286 days, having opened on March 22, 2013.
- **Seaway Tolls:** The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC) has announced a toll rate increase of 2.5% for the 2014 navigation season. The new revised tariff is available on the Seaway website, [www.greatlakes-seaway.com/](http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/).

**US-Flag Tonnage:** The Lake Carriers’ Association reported that due to weather and ice delays and cancelled cargos, US-flag cargo movement on the Great Lakes was 7.1 million tons in December 2013. As a result, the year-end total was 89.2 million tons, a decrease of 0.4% from 2012. Iron ore cargoes in US-flag lakers totaled 43.9 million tons in 2013, a decrease of 3% from 2012. The brutal weather cut December shipments to 4 million tons, a decrease of 21% compared to December 2012’s ore tonnage. 2013 coal and limestone shipments showed slight increases over 2012 (coal +3.7%, stone +1.5%). US-flag shipments of cement, salt, sand, and grain were in line with 2012.

**Waterways Conference:** The annual Great Lakes Waterways Conference is being held in Cleveland, OH, February 4-5, 2014,

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Industry Newsbriefs, continued

at the Marriott Key Center. The Admiral's Dinner and Awards Ceremony takes place at 7 pm on February 4.

**New International Bridge:** On October 7, 2013, the USCG issued Public Notice 09-05-13, advising "that an application has been received by Commander, Ninth Coast Guard District, from the State of Michigan, for approval of location and plans for the construction of a fixed highway international bridge over a navigable waterway of the United States." The New International Trade Crossing is planned for Mile 16.7, Detroit River, City of Detroit, MI. Under the design-build project, minimum vertical clearances have been designated to be no less than 133 feet at the shorelines and no less than 152 feet for the center mid-channel width of 100 feet. With either design – cable-stay bridge or suspension bridge – no bridge piers will be located in the Detroit River. Comments were received through November 8, 2013, by the Office of Commander, Ninth Coast Guard District. You can download the document at <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/?Do=pubArchives&path=2013>.

The November 2013 issue of *World Trade 100* contained an article on the Great Lakes-Seaway, "The Best Kept Secret in Logistics." See it at <http://www.worldtradewt100.com/articles/89802-the-best-kept-secret-in-logistics>.

On November 13, 2013, the US Environmental Protection Agency announced a \$500,000 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant to the Ohio Lake Erie Commission to study the causes of harmful algal blooms and low oxygen levels in Lake Erie.

**Mariners' Church Blessing of the Fleet**

The Annual Blessing of the Fleet at Mariners' Church of Detroit will be at 11:00 am on Sunday, March 9, 2014. The Captain Lewis Lundington Award will also be presented at the service.



**ISMA Website:**

If you don't know how to log into the members-only section of the ISMA website, contact your local lodge president or secretary. Note that the username and password are case-sensitive.

**ISMA Membership Applications Available Online at**

[www.shipmaster.org/membership.htm](http://www.shipmaster.org/membership.htm)



**International Ship Masters' Association**

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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**Twin Sault Lodge #22 Freighter Trip Raffle**

Last chance to get your tickets for a trip for 4 aboard an Interlake Steamship Company vessel — the ISMA Convention at the Soo.