



Grand Lodge
International Ship Masters' Association

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January-February 2016

ISMALLETTER

Convention Time Is Here

The Grand Lodge Convention, hosted by Chicago Lodge #3, is upon us. See you at Embassy Suites Chicago Lakefront, where the Grand Lodge will be called to order on Thursday morning, February 4, 2016. Grand Lodge Delegates caucus the evening of February 3. A convention report will appear in the next *ISMALetter*.



FROM THE LODGES

Buffalo Lodge #1:

Guest speaker at Lodge #1's upcoming meeting on February 18, 2016, will be **Jon Hitchcock**, from NOAA, presenting "The White Hurricane of 1913." The meeting will be held at Panes Restaurant, North Tonawanda, NY; speaker at 7:30 pm.

Port Huron Lodge#2:

Lodge #2 members and guests, as well as members from several other lodges, toured Sarnia MCTS Vessel Traffic Services & Coast Guard Radio (Sarnia Traffic Center) on January 16, 2016. Sarnia Traffic employees **Mary-Jayne Levert**, **Julie Knapp**, and Lodge #2 member **Dianne Simms** gave an



Above: Sarnia Traffic Operator Julie Knapp describes the Detroit-St. Clair Rivers VTS. Right: Lodge #7 members.

From the Lodges, continued



Dianne Simms explains Sarnia's emergency response system.



GLMA cadets and Lodge #2 members.

overview of operations. The tour was followed by lunch at the Open Grill Restaurant, Point Edward, ON, and a short tour of the Lakes Pilots Association office and boats in Port Huron. 53 members and guests participated, representing Port Huron Lodge #2, Detroit Lodge #7, Niagara Lodge #20, and Buffalo Lodge #1. Four cadets from Great Lakes Maritime Academy also traveled from school to participate in the tours.

continued on page 2...



From the Lodges, continued

Chief **Pablo Mendoza** of USCG Station Port Huron spoke to Lodge #2 about "Safety Operations and Marine Events on the St. Clair River" at the lodge's January 14 meeting.

Victoria Conradson of SEMCO Energy, and Lodge #2 Secretary, gave a presentation on coal loading operations at Midwest Energy Resources Co., Superior, WI, at Lodge #2's meeting on January 21.

ISMA members are invited to attend Lodge #2's annual Dinner Dance, to be held at the DoubleTree Hilton in Port Huron on Saturday, March 5, 2016. The event includes a buffet dinner, dancing, ISMA history presentation, door prizes, boat trip raffle, and a hospitality room where sea stories will be told later. The DoubleTree is offering a special rate of \$99 for reservations by February 13. Early registration for the Dinner Dance is \$45 US or \$55 CN if paid before February 20. For more information, see http://www.shipmaster.org/PDF/2016_Lodge2_DinnerDanceFlyer.pdf.

Sierra Slobodecki, recipient of Lodge #2's Blue Water Scholarship, achieved a 3.98 GPA for the Fall 2015 semester at Great Lakes Maritime Academy, Traverse City, MI.

Detroit Lodge #7:

The following officers were elected and appointed at Lodge #7's meeting on January 2, 2016:

President:	Scott E. Reynolds
1 st Vice President:	Kenneth W. Suddick
2 nd Vice President:	John C. Mantyk
Secretary-Treasurer:	Raymond E. Oset
Co-Chaplains:	Rev. Paul A. Innes Fr. Russell E. Kohler
Marshal:	Dennis E. Pomeroy
Warden:	Scott R. Skrzypczak
Sentinel:	Michael W. Nall
Lodge Surgeons:	Dr. Thomas W. Baumgarten Dr. Larry W. Stephenson

After 33 years, **Paul Jagenow's** name is no longer in the Lodge #7 Secretary-Treasurer's position. **Paul** has certainly



been one of the driving forces behind Lodge #7 and the entire ISMA organization. Toward the end of 2015, he decided not to seek re-election, saying, "I have served as Secretary-Treasurer since 1983. When January 2016 rolls around, I will have been in office for

Ray Oset, takes over from Paul Jagenow as Detroit Lodge #7 Secretary-Treasurer.

33 years, certainly a long time. I feel that it is time for fresh hands to take over the duties and responsibilities of the office... I will remain an active member of Detroit Lodge No. 7." Thank you for your service and attention to detail, **Paul**. It should be noted that **Paul** also retired from his long-time employment at J. W. Westcott Co.

Lodge #7's 125th Annual Dinner Dance will be Saturday, February 20, 2016, from 6 to 11 pm, at ConCorde Inn, 44315 N. Gratiot Ave, Clinton Township, MI (586-493-7000). Rooms are available at the special Shipmasters rate of \$89.99 plus tax. Cost of the dinner dance is \$48 per person, which includes a buffet dinner, dancing, door prizes, and cash bar. Reservations should be made by February 12. For further information or to make a reservation, call **Ron LaPlante** at 586-463-7893.

Georgian Bay-Huron Lodge #15:

The annual Mariners Service and Blessing of the Fleet takes place at 10:00 am on Sunday, February 14, 2016, at St. George's Anglican Church, Owen Sound, ON. Volunteers are needed to set up the ship fleet flags at the church (contact **Ray Schrempf** at rayschrempf@gmail.com). Volunteers can also sign up for the sea shanty crew, which will perform two or three shanties at the Mariners Service (contact **Tom Pink** at tpink@bmts.com).

Lodge #15 and the Georgian College Marine League are sponsoring the annual Marine Speakers Day at Georgian College in Owen Sound on March 1, 2016. Speakers are needed from both deck and engineering groups. For further information or to participate, contact **Seann O'Donoghue** at capt.s.odonoghue@gmail.com or **Kaitlin Whittall** at kmwhittall2@gmail.com.

Northeast Michigan Lodge #19:

Lodge #19's elected and appointed officers for 2016 are:

President:	Lee Barnhill
1 st Vice President:	Patrick Hart
2 nd Vice President:	Ted Rayha
Secretary-Treasurer:	Wally Watkins
Marshal:	David Veasy
Warden:	Max Lund
Sentinel:	Gary Thompson
Chaplain:	James Daleski

Boat Trip Raffles

Visit www.freightertrip.com for the latest news about ISMA raffles.



ISMA Membership Applications
Available Online at

www.shipmaster.org/membership.htm

FINAL BELLS

Cleveland Lodge #4 honorary member **Robert Portenier** passed away on October 2, 2015, at the age of 99.

Twin Ports Lodge #12 member **Richard D. Bibby** (#10258) passed away on December 20, 2015, at the age of 93. He sailed the Great Lakes prior to World War II. During the war he was a merchant mariner for the US Maritime Administration. He was awarded a medal for bravery and service to the citizens of Russia during convoys to Murmansk. Following the war, his 41-year career with Hanna Mining Company included time as fleet personnel manager and vessel agent. **Dick** was active in a number of maritime organizations in addition to ISMA. In 1978, he was named "Marine Man of the Year" by the Twin Ports marine community. **Dick** was preceded in death by his wife **Jean** in 2010. Services were held in Duluth on December 29.

Long-time Port Huron Lodge #2 Ladies Auxiliary member **Mary E. McLaughlin** passed away on December 23, 2015, at the age of 98. Her husband, Capt. **Frank D. McLaughlin**, passed away in 1982.

We have received word of the passing of **Donna M. Dubbs**, wife of former ISMA member **Paul Dubbs**. Long-time members will remember them as attending many ISMA conventions.

Scholarship Award Winners

The ISMA Scholarship Committee selected the following people to receive 2016 Scholarship Awards:

Andy Deegan, a QMED, employed by Interlake Steamship Company, who is working on obtaining an engineer's license.

Zachary Peters, a 3rd year Navigation Cadet at Georgian College Great lakes Marine Training Centre, Owen Sound, ON.

Mark Andrask, a 3rd year Engineering Cadet at Great Lakes Maritime Academy, Traverse City, MI.

Congratulations!!

Soo Rescue

On September 9, 2015, during a routine Soo Locks Boat Tours trip, Captain **Clayton Hill** and crew were downbound on the Canadian side. As they approached buoy 108, they saw a cap-sized kayak with two persons in the water. Capt. **Hill** contacted the US Coast Guard and found that it would be about 15 minutes until a small boat arrived. Seeing the two persons struggle in the water, he approached them and the crew successfully helped one man aboard the tour boat. The other remained in the water. Hearing the radio traffic, Capt. **Robert Schallip** (ISMA Past Grand President) and his tour boat crew departed their dock and headed to the scene. A Canadian pleasure boat also arrived and was able to get the second person onto the swim platform. Due to the observations and quick work by Captain **Hill** and his crew, as well as Captain **Schallip** and his crew, the two kayakers are alive and well.

Lifesaving Award

On August 14, 2015, the crew of the *Algoway*, captained by Niagara Lodge #20 President **Dino Dini**, spotted and reported a pleasure craft and its occupants in distress in Lake Erie off Lorain, OH. The *Algoway's* workboat was launched with three crew members aboard, along with their trauma kit, defibrillator and oxygen kit. The *Algoway* maneuvered to windward of the stricken craft to provide a lee for the occupants of the pleasure

boat and the *Algoway* crew assisting. With the US Coast Guard arriving on scene, four occupants of the pleasure craft were rescued and the body of a fifth recovered from the water.

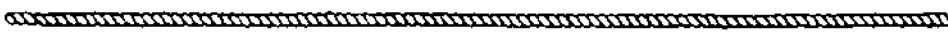


On November 25, 2015, the US Coast Guard presented the Captain David P. Dobbins Award to the *Algoway* crew and Capt. **Dini** for their lifesaving efforts.

Industry Newsbriefs –

- On January 19, 2016, the US Coast Guard issued a Marine Safety Alert reminding mariners of the dangers of relying solely on global navigation satellite systems, such as GPS, for navigation and positioning. These systems are subject to natural, accidental, and intentional interference. "Therefore, it is important to remember to use all available means for navigation and maintain proficiency so you can still navigate should your primary GPS fail." Read the entire alert at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg545/alerts/0116.pdf>.
- On January 13, 2016, the Ninth Coast Guard District LNM Notification system notified recipients that an updated electronic edition of the Volume 7 Light List is available on the USCG Navigation Center's website at <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/?pageName=lightLists>. Complete versions of all 2016 Light Lists are updated weekly and can be found at <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/?pageName=lightListWeeklyUpdates>.
- On January 12, 2016, the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC) announced a toll rate increase of 2% for the 2016 navigation season. It also announced the introduction of a new Gateway Incentive program created to support the System's competitiveness. The new revised tariff can be found at http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/seaway_handbook/seaway-handbook-en/web_schedule_tolls.pdf.
- The St. Lawrence Seaway's 2015 navigation season closed ice-free on December 31, 2015. 36 million tonnes of cargo transited the waterway during the season, with grain at volumes well above the five-year average. However, the total 36,110,000 tonnes of cargo was down by 9.47% from 2014's total of 39,887,000 tonnes. Vessel transits totaled 3780 in 2015 versus 3927 in 2014. The 2015 season opened

continued on page 4...



Industry Newsbriefs, continued

on April 2, about a week later than usual, reflecting frigid conditions in early spring. The 2015 navigation season was 274 days long. Last vessel through the Welland Canal was *Mississagi* on December 31, while *Baie St. Paul* exited the Montreal/Lake Ontario section on December 30.

- On January 15, 2016, the US EPA announced that the governments of Canada and the United States have published a draft Lake Superior Lakewide Action and Management Plan developed by the Lake Superior Partnership that documents ecosystem conditions, threats and proposed priority actions under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. The governments are seeking public comments on the draft report until January 29, 2016. The draft report is a product of extensive collaboration among experts in a variety of subject areas and summarizes current knowledge on Lake Superior. View the report at <http://binational.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/2015%20Lake%20Superior%20LAMP%20draft.pdf>. More information on Great Lakes water quality can be found at <http://binational.net>.
- On January 4, 2016, the Conference of Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers released the region's draft Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Maritime Transportation System Strategy for public comment. Comments will be accepted until February 3. Find the full document at <http://www.cglslgp.org/media/1621/draft-regional-mts-strategy-january-2016.pdf>.
- On January 8, 2016, the National Maritime Center (NMC) issued a reminder that completed physical exams must be submitted to a Regional Exam Center (REC) and should not be sent directly to the NMC. View the announcement at http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/mmc_and_mc_application_submittal_notice.pdf.
- In December 2015, Environment Canada and NOAA requested that vessels submit freezing spray observations to help with US and Canadian freezing spray forecasts. An online submission form can be found at http://www.opc.ncep.noaa.gov/icing_report.php.
- On December 17, 2015, the US Coast Guard National Maritime Center issued an advisory as follows: "Until further notice, the National Maritime Center (NMC) will continue to accept applications for medical certificates submitted via the US Coast Guard form CG-719K Rev (01-09) with an expiration date of June 30, 2012. Note that this form is not required; it is an alternative to the current version, form CG-719K Rev (01-14) with an expiration date of January 31, 2016." View the announcement at http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/med_cert_apps_719k.pdf.
- On December 3, 2015, the US EPA Great Lakes National Program Office announced that the US and Canada Draft Report on Groundwater Science is now available for public comment. "The governments of Canada and the United States have published a draft report that documents groundwater science relevant to the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. The governments are seeking public comments on the draft report until January 31, 2016. For more information, see http://binational.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/gw_2015_summary_en_final.pdf.

Salute Your Fellow Members with the
SHIP MASTERS' SALUTE:
3 Long, 1 Short



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.

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