



Volume 28, Number 2
March-April 2014

Grand Lodge
International Ship Masters' Association

ISMA LETTER

2014 CONVENTION REPORT

The 2014 ISMA Grand Lodge Convention, hosted by Twin Sault Lodge #22, was held at Sault Ste. Marie, MI, at Kewadin Hotel & Convention Center. Those arriving on February 6 were able to tour the Cloverland Electric hydro plant, the Soo Locks and VTS facility.

The Grand Lodge was convened on Friday morning, February 7, by Grand President **Rebecca Hancock**. 14 lodges were represented, with only Muskegon and Thunder Bay absent. The Grand President's report covered her activities during the previous year as well as a summary of the reports she had received from each local lodge. In closing, she said, "It has been an honor to serve the ISMA as Grand President. I want everyone to know that my involvement and participation does not end here. The journey is just beginning."

Grand Secretary-Treasurer **George "Skip" Skuggen** reported that as of December 31, 2013, ISMA membership stood at 709, an increase of three over 2012. He announced that after 18 years as Grand Secretary-Treasurer, he would not be seeking re-election.

Chairman **Phil Knetchel** presented the Navigation, Engineering and Legislative Committee (NELC) report, detailing the committee's actions during the preceding year, including:

- Elimination of the speed limit in the lower Detroit River was a successful action item.
- There is still work to be done to end the Fleming Channel passing restriction.

He noted that **Jerry Bisette** stepped down as the Canadian NELC co-chairman, and thanked him for his years of service. He also emphasized that ISMA needs to maintain its relationship with Lake Carriers' Association; while we are separate organizations, we must continue to share information. **Phil** also announced that he is stepping down as NELC chairman, and recommended **John Sarns** as his replacement.

Scholarship Committee Chairman **Seann O'Donoghue** reported that nine scholarship applications had been received. Awards of \$1000 each went to **Ionel Viorel Oncescu**, **Taylor Boaks**, and **Jason Davenport**. Approximately \$2000 was donated to the scholarship fund in 2013; current fund balance is \$3040.

A proposal was received from Port Huron Lodge #2 that the NELC contact the US Coast Guard and Great Lakes Congressional members in support of re-establishment of advanced search and rescue HH-60 Jayhawk helicopters on the Great Lakes. The proposal passed unanimously.

Georgian Bay-Huron Lodge #15 presented a proposal related to safe transfer of personnel at the Soo Locks, by providing a portable gangway. The Grand Lodge voted unanimously to turn this over to the NELC for further action.

The following Grand Lodge officers were elected and later installed on Friday evening prior to the Grand Ball:

Grand President:	Capt. Robert Schallip
Grand 1 st Vice President:	Capt. Joseph Walters
Grand 2 nd Vice President:	Capt. Robert Lund
Grand Secretary-Treasurer:	Capt. Albert M. Tielke

The following officers were appointed for 2014:

Grand Chaplain:	Capt. Robert Hull
Grand Marshal:	Capt. Wade P. Streeter
Grand Warden:	Christine Rohn-Tielke
Grand Sentinel:	Amy Seeley

Speakers at the convention included representatives of the US Army Corps of Engineers; US Customs & Border Patrol; Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary; Tribal Fisheries; Cloverland Electric; as well as **Rochelle Pennington** speaking on the *Endurance*; Sault Ste. Marie historian **Deidre Stevens**; LT **David Lieberman**, USCG *Mackinaw* Ops; and MI Senator **Tom Casperson**. **Seann O'Donoghue** gave an illustrated talk on the delivery trip of MV *Algoma Equinox*. Grand Ball keynote speaker was Capt. **Scott Bravener** of Lower Lakes Towing.

During a "Good of the Order" discussion, Past Grand President **Tom McMullen** volunteered to monitor pending legislation as a member of the NELC. It was noted that ISMA is a member of the Great Lakes Maritime Task Force, which tracks legislation affecting the Great Lakes. Therefore, **Tom** was named as ISMA's representative to the GLMTF.

The next ISMA Grand Lodge Convention will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Duluth, MN, February 5-8, 2015, hosted by Twin Ports Lodge #12.

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.



FROM THE LODGES

Buffalo Lodge #1:

Lodge #1's April 17 meeting will include the program "Piracy on the High Seas," presented by member Capt. **Lance W. Orton**.

Port Huron Lodge #2:

Lodge #2's Annual Dinner Party was held on March 8, 2014, at the River Crab Restaurant, St. Clair, MI. A good time was had by all.

Detroit Lodge #7:

Lodge #7's 123rd Annual Dinner Dance was held on February 22, 2014, at Sindbad's Restaurant and Marina, Detroit, MI.

Lodge #7's April 8 meeting was held at Mariners' Church. Guest speaker was **Selena Warnke**, Chief, Inspection Division, US Coast Guard Sector Detroit.

Georgian Bay-Huron Lodge #15:

Lodge officers for 2014 are as follows:

President:	Seann O'Donoghue
1 st Vice President:	Keith Filby
2 nd Vice President:	Ray Schrempf
Secretary/Treasurer:	Robert Hull
Marshal:	Ian MacFie
Warden:	Gordon McNeill
Sentinel:	Christopher Buckley
Chaplain:	James Van Overbeek

Green Bay Lodge #18:

Lodge officers for 2014 were elected on February 12:

President:	Brendan Groh
1 st Vice President:	Raymond Groh
2 nd Vice President:	Michael Nesbitt
Secretary/Treasurer:	Greg Stamatelakys

Northeast Michigan Lodge #19:

Lodge #19 members were on hand to greet the SS *Alpena* on March 21 when she arrived at Alpena on her first trip of the 2014 season. Participating were **Pat Labadie, Ted Rayha, Max Lund, PGP Jim Daleski, and Lee Barnhill**.



In early April, Lodge #19 donated \$500 to the Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary to help defer costs of transporting students to the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center for field trips. The lodge has been making an annual donation for this purpose. "This helps bus the kids and get them to the sanctuary building to [learn about] the history of the Lakes or get out on the water to help with their education," said lodge president **Lee Barnhill**. "When we first started, we were helping to get 800 students here; now thousands come to the sanctuary every year." Lodge members were able to get together for a photo with the sign recognizing ISMA that was installed last summer at the marine sanctuary interpretive trail. Participating were **Max Lund, Ted Rayha, Pat Labadie, Wally Watkins, and Lee Barnhill**.



Convention Proposal Follow-up

NELC Receives Response from Sen. Levin

NELC Chairman Capt. **John Sarns** received a letter from Senator **Carl Levin**'s office in reply to ISMA's letter urging that the US Coast Guard provide more capable helicopters on the Great Lakes (*see Convention Report, page 1*). Senator **Levin**'s response to the NELC and ISMA was very positive. He agrees with our position and has been actively trying to bring Jayhawk helicopters to the Lakes for some time. "...The Senator will continue to fight for the replacement of the HH-65 airframes in Traverse City with the more capable HH-60 helicopters. He appreciates the support of the ISMA in this endeavor..."

FINAL BELLS

Detroit Lodge #7 member Capt. **William Vallier** (#10125) passed away on March 16, 2014, at the age of 90. He had been a member of Lodge #7 for 40 years, and was also a long-time member of the Propeller Club-Port of Detroit. **Bill** is survived by his wife **Barb**. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Former Detroit Lodge #7 member Capt. **Robert D. Waller** (#11830) passed away on October 14, 2013.

Follow-up: A memorial service for Past Grand President Capt. **Dean Hobbs**, who passed away last fall, was held on March 8, 2014, at Great Lakes Maritime Academy, Traverse City, MI. The GLMA Alumni Association has also announced an annual award in his name.

NEW MEMBERS

Port Huron Lodge #2:

Associate: **Malcolm Campbell** #A-12841
Dennis Hale #A-12848
James Semerad #A-12849

Detroit Lodge #7:

Associate: **Laddie L. Hudson** #A-12850

Georgian Bay-Huronion Lodge #15:

Cadet: **Daryl Caskey** #C-12842
Ted Wilush #C-12843

Grand Traverse Lodge #23:

Active Professional: **David Lieberman** #12851
 Cadet: **Benjamin Conley** #C-12844
Richard J. Gray #C-12845
Christopher G. Raden #C-12846



HAVE *YOU* SIGNED UP A
NEW MEMBER RECENTLY?

Clyburn Receives Chairman's Medal

On February 15, 2014, Detroit Lodge #7 member Capt. **Luke Clyburn** was awarded the Chairman's Medal by the United States Naval Sea Cadet program. The Chairman's Medal is the highest award that may be bestowed on an individual, and recognizes sustained distinguished service and support. **Luke** serves as Commanding Officer of the Great Lakes Division, US Naval Sea Cadet Corps; president of the Noble Odyssey Foundation; and captain of the *Pride of Michigan*. The award was presented to **Luke** at the Annual Inspection of the Great Lakes Division, US Naval Sea Cadets, by Great Lakes Regional Director LCDR **Kevin Mac Farland**.



Scholarship Fund Receives Donations

Following the 2014 Grand Lodge Convention, the ISMA Scholarship Fund has received donations totaling \$3215. Donors include: Grand Traverse Lodge #23, *Know Your Ships* (Marine Publishing Co.), Cleveland Lodge #4, Georgian Bay-Huronion Lodge #15, **Michelle Schallip**, **Amy Seeley**, **Joe Ruch**, **Frank Frisk**, **Bob Libby**, Prologue, **Caitlin Clyne**, and **Ray Sheldon**. *Thank you!!* ISMA scholarships are funded entirely through donations from local lodges, individual members, and friends. Please consider helping ISMA fulfill this portion of our mission statement, "To encourage and assist those preparing for careers as merchant marine officers."

USCG Award Presented to Raymond

On February 19, 2014, the US Coast Guard presented Detroit Lodge #7 member Capt. **Norman Raymond** with the Captain David P. Dobbins Award for his role in rescuing a father and son from the Detroit River on August 11, 2013. The award was presented by USCG Sector Detroit Commander Capt. **Jeff Ogden** during a ceremony at Air Station Detroit. **Norman**, who is commander of USCG Auxiliary Division 20, Ninth District Central Region, was coxswain of the research vessel *Clinton* when he heard a call by the Canadian Coast Guard reporting two people missing in the river near the *Clinton's* location. An unmanned watercraft was located, and the father and son were found clinging to a nearby buoy. The boy was brought aboard the *Clinton*, and the father was rescued by a Canadian Coast Guard vessel. Also receiving the award were *Clinton* crew members **Stephen Stewart** and **Elizabeth Nebei** (pictured below left with **Raymond** and **Ogden**), as well as **Patrick Livingston** and **Jenna Roy** who were unable to attend the ceremony.



Scholarship Winners at Convention

2014 ISMA scholarship awardees attending the Grand Lodge Convention at the Soo, **Taylor Boakes** and **Jason Davenport**, are shown below with Scholarship Committee Chairman Capt. **Seann O'Donoghue**.



50th Annual Blessing of the Fleet

The 50th Annual Blessing of the Fleet was held at Mariners' Church of Detroit on March 9, 2014. Serving in the honor guard were the following ISMA members: *Lodge #7* – **Art Brooks, Sam Buchanan, Jay Downen, PGP Ron Ingram, Ron LaPlante, Joe Mastripolito, Kathy McGraw, PGP Tom McMullen, Steve Nelson, Ray Oset, Scott Reynolds, Rick Scott**; *Port Huron Lodge #2* – **Brian Eickels, Wade Streeter, Roger Hewlett**; *Toledo Lodge #9* – PGP **Bob Haller**; *Twin Ports Lodge #12* – Grand 1st VP **Joe Walters**; *Georgian Bay-Huron Lodge #15* – PGP **Seann O'Donoghue**; *Twin Sault Lodge #22* – **Mary Ann Schallip**, Grand President **Robert Schallip**; *Grand Traverse Lodge #23* – PGP **Rebecca Hancock**. Four mariners were announced as recipients of the Capt. Lewis Ludington Award: PGP Capt. **Seann O'Donoghue**, PGP Capt. **Robert Haller**, Capt. **Steven Nelson**, and PGP Capt. **Dean Hobbs** (posthumously).

Scholarship News

Scholarship Committee Chairman **Seann O'Donoghue** recently wrote the following letter to Capt. **Colin MacNeil**:

*On behalf of the International Ship Masters' Association, I would like to extend my sincere appreciate to you and **Marion Lougas** for your leadership in backing the two cadets who attended the 2014 ISMA Grand Lodge convention in Sault Ste. Marie. These gentlemen are worth it, and they represented Georgian College well. They are good seamen and will be assets to the marine industry upon graduation.*

He included this photo taken at the ISMA Grand Ball on February 7. All are graduates or students of the Georgian College marine program and all are ISMA members. (L to R) Capt. **Gerald Greig** (Class of 1966), Capt. **Seann O'Donoghue** (Class of 1992), Cadet **Tim Westmoreland** (Class of 2015), Cadet **Jason Davenport** (Class of 2014 and ISMA scholarship winner), Capt. **Gary Adcock** (Class of 1991), Capt. **Robert Hull** (Class of 1974), **Erich Zuschlag** (Class of 2010), and **Dane Pageau** (Class of 2013).



Seann received a letter from Campus Principal **Marion Lougas** congratulating the cadets attending the convention and thanking **Seann** and ISMA for the ongoing support of Georgian College.

Newsbits — The US Army Corps of Engineers held a Great Lakes Navigation Stakeholder Meeting on April 9, 2014, in Detroit. The meeting covered FY13 accomplishments, the FY14 program, and the President's FY15 budget. Attendees had the opportunity to interact with USACE staff from all three Great Lakes districts. On March 17, the US Army Corps of Engineers held a stakeholder meeting focused on shallow draft and recreational harbors.

The second symposium aimed at developing a robust National Maritime Strategy will be held by the US Maritime Administration on May 6, 2014, in Washington, DC.

NOAA has announced that PDF versions of their nautical charts will become a permanent product, free to the public.

International Ship Masters' Association

Grand Lodge President

Captain **Robert Schallip**
17592 Simonsen Road
Neebish Island
Barbeau, MI 49710-0405
(906) 635-0941
E-mail: rgschallip@sault.com

Grand First Vice President

Captain **Joseph Walters**
710 Hillside Dr.
Washburn, WI 54891
(715) 492-8676
E-mail: jwaltersisma12@gmail.com

Grand Second Vice President

Captain **Robert Lund**
13436 S. Avenue M
Chicago, IL 60633
(773) 677-5086
E-mail: boblund1958@comcast.net

Grand Secretary-Treasurer

Captain **Albert M. Tielke**
39039 Bridle Ct.
Avon, OH 44011
(440) 934-6960
Cell (216) 533-1157
E-mail: ismasecretary@aol.com

Navigation, Engineering, and Legislative Committee

Chairman....Captain **John Sarns**

1846 Dorothea Rd.
Berkley, MI 48072
(248) 761-8464

E-mail: jsarns@aol.com

Canadian Co-Chairmen...

Captain **Dino Dini**
4 Jill Court
St. Catharines, ON L2S 1A6
(905) 687-8458
Cell (905) 327-7421
E-mail: dino.dini@sympatico.ca

Captain **Seann O'Donoghue**
527 5th Avenue E
Owen Sound, ON N4K 2R4
(519) 371-2723
Email: capt.s.odonoghue@gmail.com

Membership/Fundraising Committee

Chairman....**Rebecca Hancock**

2740 Beitner Road
Traverse City, MI 49684
(231) 883-6828

E-mail: boardman.river.lover@gmail.com

ISMALetter is published bi-monthly by the ISMA

Editor....**Christine R. Rohn-Tielke**

39039 Bridle Court
Avon, OH 44011
(440) 934-6960 Cell (440) 452-6960
Email: chilston@aol.com

Website: www.shipmaster.org

Chairman...**Frank Frisk** Email: mvfrisk2@yahoo.com

