



Grand Lodge  
International Ship Masters' Association

Volume 31, Number 2  
March-April 2017

# ISMA LETTER

## From the Grand President

Happy Spring to all of you! For all our active sailors, I wish you a very safe sailing season.

I'd like to send out a very heartfelt thank you to all members and Lodges for the support following the sudden passing of my Stepfather who suffered a heart attack on the Sunday morning we were cleaning up from the convention. Many of you who attended remember him from the convention Saturday night at the corn hole game. We received many wonderful cards, phone calls, texts, emails, and flower arrangements from so many members from all Lodges, and my entire family thanks all of you. This truly shows the character and compassion of the members of this great organization.

It was a very busy winter immediately after the convention as well. **Deb** and I enjoyed attending both the dinner dances in Detroit and Port Huron followed by the Blessing of the Fleet at Mariners' Church. I also was fortunate to be invited to ride on the USCG Cutter *Hollyhock* for the annual Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) day. This event encourages businesses to look at people from the military when they are hiring due to the professionalism, training, and leadership servicemen and women acquired while serving the country. Since the event was in the first week of March and we met at the Coast Guard station in St. Ignace, we were scheduled to break ice in the Straits, but with the mild winter we mainly went for a boat ride and a nice tour of the *Hollyhock*.

Our NELC chair, **Scott Skrzypczak**, continues to get our name in front of larger audiences and even went to Washington, DC, to meet Senators and Representatives regarding marine related issues. A big thank you to **Scott** for the dedication and work he is doing for ISMA!

I wish you all a great spring, and I look forward to seeing as many of you as I can during the season while I'm out throughout the lakes.

Capt. **Lee W. Barnhill**  
Grand Lodge President

**ISMA Membership Applications**  
Available Online at  
[www.shipmaster.org/membership.htm](http://www.shipmaster.org/membership.htm)

## From the NELC

On March 1, 2017, ISMA Navigation, Engineering and Legislative Committee Chairman **Scott Skrzypczak** traveled to Washington, DC, to participate in the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Congressional Sail-In. The national maritime industry was represented by 110 participants, who conducted 130 meetings with members of both the Senate and the House of Representatives and their staffs. (See page 6.)



(l to r) *Jessica Schwartz (Legislative Director— Cong. Brad Schneider); Mike Surgalski (Great Lakes Maritime Academy); Andrew Strosahl (TI); Scott Skrzypczak (ISMA); Kyle Johnson (Great Lakes Dredge & Dock) at the Congressional Sail-In.*  
—photo courtesy Sail-In

## Scholarship Presentation

The 2017 Grand Lodge Scholarship winner **Donald Hicks**, 2nd year navigation cadet at Georgian College, was presented with his award at the 25th Annual Mariners' Service in Owen Sound, ONT, on February 12, 2017.



In the photo above: *Capt. Thomas Foster, 1st Vice President, ISMA Lodge #15, Scholarship Recipient Donald Hicks, Capt. Seann O'Donoghue, President, ISMA Lodge #15.*



## 2017 Convention Report

The ISMA Grand Lodge was opened at Alpena, MI, on Friday, February 3, 2017. Grand President **Robert Lund** thanked all those who served the Grand Lodge during the past year. He reported on his activities during the year, and concluded, "Serving as International Ship Masters' Association Grand President has been the greatest honor of my life. The marine industry has been very good to me, and sailing tugs and excursion vessels has been one of my greatest joys... Thank you all!"

In his report, Grand Secretary-Treasurer **Albert Tielke** reported that as of December 31, 2016, ISMA has 678 members, down 8 from the previous year. He also said he would not be seeking reelection.

NELC Chairman **Scott Skrzypczak** reported the progress made in 2016 and NELC policy and objectives for 2017. He included position papers on 1) Federal Regulation of Ballast Water, 2) Construction of a Second US Coast Guard Heavy Icebreaker Stationed on the Great Lakes, 3) Promotion of New Short Sea Shipping Trades on the Great Lakes and Seaway, and 4) Adequate funding for Dredging Great Lakes Deep-Draft Ports and Waterways.

Scholarship Chair **Rebecca Hancock** announced the scholarship winners: Hawsepiper – **Ian Bramall**; Canadian Cadet (Georgian College) – **Donald Hicks**; and US Cadet (Great Lakes Maritime Academy) – **Derek McMullen**. Unfortunately, none were able to attend the convention, but did send thank you notes.

**Richard Gray** and **Rebecca Hancock** presented a summary of Membership & Outreach Committee activities since the last convention. There were also reports from Newsletter Editor **Christine Rohn-Tielke** and Website Chairman **Frank Frisk**.

Two proposals were presented. The first was from Port Huron Lodge No. 2 concerning the Rouge River Canal Entrance Lighted Buoy 2, Detroit, MI. The buoy is a critical navigational aid for large vessels transiting the Rouge River Entry, and is replaced with a small red nun during the winter from December 7 to April 1. The proposal directs the NELC to request that the US Coast Guard replace Buoy 2 with a permanent year-round lighted ice buoy. This proposal was approved unanimously. The second proposal was received from Detroit Lodge No. 7 concerning ISMA member pennants, and enabling Grand Lodge members to have the option to display an ISMA logo with the member's pennant number on the member flag. This proposal was determined to fall in the category of constitutional amendment, since the style and arrangement of members' pennants is spelled out in the ISMA Constitution. The proposal was subsequently withdrawn, and will possibly be reintroduced as a constitutional amendment at the 2018 Grand Lodge meeting.

2017 Grand Lodge officers were elected as follows:

Grand President:	<b>Lee Barnhill</b>
Grand 1st Vice President:	<b>Harold Dusseau</b>
Grand 2nd Vice President:	<b>Mark Mather</b>
Grand Secretary-Treasurer:	<b>Brian Eickel</b>

The following officers were appointed:

Grand Chaplain:	<b>Mary Ann Schallip</b>
Grand Marshal:	<b>Greg Stamatelakys</b>

*continued next column...*

Grand Warden:	<b>Caitlin Clyne</b>
Grand Sentinel:	<b>Scott Reynolds</b>

The following committees were also appointed (with Chair listed first):

**NELC:** **Scott Skrzypczak, Seann O'Donoghue, George Haynes, John Wellington, Mark Mather, Gerry Greig, Joe Ruch, Tom McMullen, Larry Dostal, Phil Knetchel, Greg Stamatelakys**

**Newsletter Editor:** **Christine Rohn-Tielke**

**Website Committee:** **Frank Frisk, Rebecca Hancock, Richard Gray, Tom Blakely, Caitlin Clyne**

**Membership/Outreach Committee:** **Richard Gray, Rebecca Hancock, Tom Blakely, Caitlin Clyne, Dan Towner, Harry Dusseau, Scott Skrzypczak**

**Scholarship Committee:** **Rebecca Hancock, Seann O'Donoghue, Russell Brohl, Gerry Greig, Joe Ruch, Bob Lund, Lee Barnhill, Ray Sheldon, Jim Leaney, Mark Stevenson, Harry Dusseau**

**Historian:** **Paul Jagenow, John Sarns**

**Investment Committee:** **Albert Tielke, William Strauss, Russell Brohl, Brian Eickel**

**Grand President's Award Committee:** **Albert Tielke, John Wellington, Paul Jagenow**

There were a number of speakers and presentations at the convention, including a video greeting from US Senator **Gary Peters** (view at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=4UuEOAjJOh8&feature=share](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4UuEOAjJOh8&feature=share)); USCG licensing issues and delays by **Chuck Kakuska**; the Marine Technology Program at Alpena Community College by **David Cummins**; USCG Aids to Navigation by Doug Sharpe; National Weather Service update by **Amy Seeley**; Historical Ship Construction by **Pat Labadie**; Great Lakes Passenger Steamers by **Joel Stone**; Aerial Drones by **Mark Stevenson**. **Jeff Gray** of the NOAA Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary gave the Grand Ball keynote address.

For a nice selection of convention photos, see Detroit Lodge #7's gallery at <http://www.detroitlodge7.org/Fireworks%20Conventin%202017/index.htm>.

The 2018 Grand Lodge Convention will be held in Toledo, OH.

## FINAL BELLS

Detroit Lodge #7 member Capt. **Thomas J. Schnell** (#10301) passed away on March 4, 2017. He was retired from Lakes Pilots Association and had been a member of Lodge #7 for 36 years. He is survived by his wife **Donna**. A private military service will take place at a future date in Nashville, TN.

## Lodge #2 Announces Raffle Winners

Port Huron Lodge #2 drew their raffle winners at the lodge's recent dinner dance. Grand Prize of a trip for four aboard an Interlake Steamship Company vessel was **Lisa Ludington** of Lexington, MI. 2nd Prize winner of \$1000 cash was **Yim Sonnega** of Shoreline, WI. 3rd Prize winner of round trip passage for two on the car ferry *Badger* was **Charlotte Moore-Viculin** of Dearborn Heights, MI. Lodge #2 thanks all who purchased tickets for their support.

## From the Lodges

### Detroit Lodge No. 7:

The 126<sup>th</sup> Annual dinner Dance of Lodge No. 7 was held on February 25, 2017, at the Aloft Hotel in the newly renovated David Whitney Building overlooking Grand Circus Park in downtown Detroit. Event chairman was **Scott Reynolds**. Attendees included several Grand Lodge officers, and all in attendance enjoyed a wonderful evening.

### Twin Ports Lodge No. 12:

Twin Ports Lodge No. 12 member Master Chief **Bill Carlson**, USNR (ret), received the American Legacy Award from the American Merchant Marine Veterans Association at their recent national convention in Reno, NV. The award was presented by AMMV President **Chris Edyvean**, who is also a member of Lodge 12. Also present at the ceremony was **Joe Walters**, Lodge 12 president and Grand Lodge PGP. **Bill** served in the US Navy's Armed Guard aboard several merchant marine ships in world War II, two of which were torpedoed and sunk. He also received a Congressional Records Statement from Senator **Dean Heller** of Nevada.



Above: Bill Carlson receives the American Legacy Award from AMMV Pres. Chris Edyvean. Below: Wyn Kroeten, Bill Carlson, Chris Edyvean, Joe Walters.



### Georgian Bay-Huronina Lodge No. 15:

In March 2017, **Percy Warrilow**, age 92, received an Honorary Life Membership in ISMA and Lodge No. 15. **Percy** served as an engine room stoker aboard Canada's first aircraft carrier, *HMS Nabob*. **Percy's** wife **Betty Warrilow** authored the book *Nabob – The First Canadian-Manned Aircraft Carrier*, which is a definitive history of a chapter in Canadian Naval history. *HMS Nabob* was part of the home fleet at Scapa Flow in the Orkney Islands. *Nabob* participated in two operations off the Norwegian coast, including air strikes against the German battleship *Tirpitz*. During refueling operations in preparation for another strike, *Nabob* was torpedoed by the German submarine U-354 in the Barents Sea. The stern sank 15 feet before flood-

ing was controlled. Five days later, she steamed into Scapa Flow under her own power but had lost 21 men.



Above: Lodge 15 President Seann O'Donoughue presents ISMA membership certificate to Percy Warrilow. Below: Damaged HMS Nabob.



On April 22, 2017, the museum ship *Keewatin* will be warped at her berth, being secured into her final mooring position in Port McNicol. A number of Lodge No. 15 members are expected to participate.

On March 2, 2017, several Lodge No. 15 members participated in a meeting with the city of Owen Sound to discuss the growing cruise ship industry in the Great Lakes, and the possibility of Owen Sound becoming a secondary port of call, and then progressing to a primary port of call.



## Around Washington

On March 8, 2017, 23 Senators have sent a letter to the office of Management and Budget (OMB) registering their opposition to the proposed \$1.3 billion reduction in the US Coast Guard's FY 2018 Presidential budget request. Read the letter at <https://www.cantwell.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/03082017%20Letter%20to%20OMB%20Director%20Mulvaney.%20CG%20FY18.pdf>.

Rep. **John Garamendi** (D-CA), ranking member of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee, authored a February 28, 2017, opinion piece, "Our maritime industry is too important to ignore." Read it at <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/economy-budget/321678-our-maritime-industry-is-too-important-to-ignore>.

## NEW MEMBERS

### Port Huron Lodge #2:

Associate: **William Anthony** #A-13005  
**Trevor Schick** #A-13006  
Cadet: **David J. Zolinski** #C-13007

### Detroit Lodge #7:

Associate: **William J. Storen** #A-13027

### Georgian Bay-Huron Lodge #15:

Active Professional: **Jean Francois Faucher** #13025  
**Bradley J. Hankinson** #13024  
Associate: **Marlyn T. Pellerin** #A-13026  
Cadet: **Bryan Barty** #C-13020  
**Dakota Birkenheier** #C-13014  
**Thomas Brownell** #C-13022  
**Hick Brownstein** #C-13021  
**Valerie Carter** #C-13016  
**Aayden Dunnings** #C-13008  
**Sean Haberle** #C-13010  
**Stephen Jacques** #C-13019  
**Ryan Just** #C-13011  
**Nicholas Keeling** #C-13015  
**Brock Leduc** #C-13012  
**Scott Munro** #C-13013  
**Alexander Plagenz** #C-13018  
**Alexander Richards** #C-13023  
**Grady Semple** #C-13009  
**Edward Cruzito Visca** #C-13017



HAVE *YOU* SIGNED UP A  
NEW MEMBER RECENTLY?

### Website Redesign

by **Frank Frisk**, Website Chairman

The ISMA website was placed in service almost ten years ago, and at the 2017 Convention, the Grand Lodge approved an update/rebuild. The site has been migrated over to a new server with all content included. Over the next few months, our creative, talented website team will tackle rebuilding and update using formats and technology that we not available ten years ago! The site will be modernized to allow visitors to use their device of choice at any time. There will still be a members-only area of the site. I have been charged by the Grand Lodge with accuracy and the complete content on our site. I will review all updates, changes, and deletions and pass them along to the proper person for inclusion. Everything will be placed in a cloud storage service for possible review. Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or suggestions.

**Frank Frisk**

Editor's Note: Chicago Lodge #3 member **Tom Blakely** has been working on the redesign of the website, and indicates that the changes will happen in stages. He says, "While the overall focus of the redesign is attracting new members, we also want to make the Grand Lodge website more of a tool for the local lodges as well."

## Members in the News

The Grand Lodge Convention received coverage in both the *Alpena News* and TV news in Alpena. View the newspaper article, "Alpena resident new Shipmasters president," at <http://www.thealpenanews.com/news/local-news/2017/02/alpena-resident-new-shipmasters-president/> (including a photo), and the Fox 11 television report at <http://www.wbkb11.com/international-shipmasters-association-names-alpena-resident-capt-lee-barnhill-2017-grand-president>.

A February 8, 2017, article on WBEZ Chicago's website about the future of Great Lakes shipping included a quote from Chicago Lodge #3 member **William Strauss**. Read it at <https://www.wbez.org/shows/curious-city/come-hell-or-high-water-can-great-lakes-shipping-make-a-resurgence/bf2c3960-2de7-4ece-ac7c-96ce07fa2866>.

An article in Detroit historical Society's *Telescope* about recovering an anchor from SS *Greater Detroit* in November 2016 mentioned several ISMA members, including Grand President **Lee Barnhill**, **Sam Buchanan**, **Jim Hogan**, **Paul Jagenow**, **John Jamian**, **Mac McAdam**, **John Polacsek**, and **Neil Schultheiss**. Read it at <http://www.detroitlodge7.org/TelescopeVol.4%2716%20ed.pdf>.

Twin Ports Lodge #12 member **Bill Carlson** was interviewed for a *Duluth News Tribune* article on March 19, 2017. (See *From the Lodges*, page 3.)



A March 23, 2017, article in the *Milwaukee Independent* featured the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee research vessel *Neeskay* and its captain, Green Bay Lodge #18 member **Greg**

**Stamatelakys**. Read it at [www.milwaukeeindependent.com/featured/research-vessel-neeskay-a-vital-tool-for-great-lakes-study/](http://www.milwaukeeindependent.com/featured/research-vessel-neeskay-a-vital-tool-for-great-lakes-study/).

The January 2017 edition of *Marine News* published an interview with Grand Traverse Lodge #23 member **Margo S. Marks**, President/General Manager of Beaver Island Boat Company, who also serves as President of the Passenger Vessel Association.

Cleveland Lodge #4 member **Charles Edwards** was pictured in the January 2017 issue of *American Maritime Officer*.

## Great Lakes Maritime Task Force

The Great Lakes Maritime Task Force has issued its 2016 Annual Report. Read it at <http://www.glmf.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/2016-GLMTF-Annual-Report.pdf>. ISMA is a long-time member of GLMTF.

## Blessing of the Fleet - Detroit

The 53<sup>rd</sup> annual Blessing of the Fleet was held on Sunday, March 12, 2017, at Mariners' Church in Detroit. Numerous ISMA members participated in the service: Grand President **Lee Barnhill** of Lodge 19; Grand Second Vice President **Mark Mather** of Lodge 23; Past Grand Presidents **Ron Ingram** of Lodge 7, **John Biolchini** of Lodge 23, and **Robert Schallip** of Lodge 22; Lodge 2 member **James Semerad**; Lodge 7 members **Bill Graham**, **Ray Oset**, **Mike Nall**, **Dominic Gorno**, **Art Herrala**, President **Ken Suddick**, **Lynne Kogel**, and **Kathy McGraw**; Grand Lodge Chaplain **Mary Ann Schallip**, member of Lodge 22; and Lodge 23 member Adm. **Jerry Achenbach**, Superintendent of Great Lakes Maritime Academy. **Ken Suddick** and **Jerry Achenbach** served as bell ringers as the names of the departed mariners were read by necrologist **Kathy McGraw**. **Ken Suddick**, **Art Herrala**, **Lee Barnhill**, and **Mike Nall** presented the wreaths representing the dangers of Storm, Reef, Fire, and Collision. **Ron Ingram** and **Bill Graham** served as pennant/flag receivers. The service was conducted by Fr. **Tony Faint** of Mariners' Church.

**Lewis Ludington Awards:** At the service, three nominees were named as recipients of the annual Lewis Ludington Award: (pictured below) **Dominic Gorno** of Detroit Lodge #7, **Robert Schallip** of Twin Sault Lodge #22, and **John Biolchini** of Grand Traverse Lodge #23. (—photo by Paul Jagenow)



## Scholarship Donations

The ISMA Scholarship Fund is growing, thanks to generous member (and local lodge) donations. At the 2017 Grand Lodge Convention, Cleveland Lodge #4 challenged the other lodges with a matching donation of the first \$1000 donated by local lodges. The following lodge donations were received at and since the convention:

Cleveland Lodge #4	\$1000
Northeast Michigan Lodge #19	\$ 500
Grand Traverse Lodge #23	\$1000
Georgian Bay-Huronina Lodge #15	\$ 400
Niagara District Lodge #20	\$ 400
Chicago Lodge #3	\$ 743.37

A big thanks to the following individuals who also donated at the convention:

- Camilla Ross
- Harold Dusseau
- Charles Duggan

## Grand Lodge Officers



2017 Grand Lodge Officers: (front, l to r) Grand Secretary-Treasurer **Brian Eickel**, Grand President **Lee Barnhill**, Grand 1st Vice President **Harold Dusseau**, Grand 2nd Vice President **Mark Mather**; (back, l to r) Grand Chaplain **Mary Ann Schallip**, Grand Sentinel **Scott Reynolds**, Grand Warden **Caitlin Clyne**, Grand Marshal **Greg Stamatelakys**.

## Blessing of the Fleet - Detroit Photos

—by Paul Jagenow



Just in...

## The View from the Wheelhouse

It has been a couple months since I last wrote in the newsletter or saw any of my fellow ISMA members face to face. Since the Grand Lodge convention in Alpena, I have represented ISMA at a couple of meetings in the region and also went to Washington DC. This year has started out with a few very large legislative projects on which I have been working with other industry groups and have briefly outlined below.

In mid-February, I traveled to Cleveland for the annual Great Lakes Waterways Conference where industry representatives as well as US Coast Guard and US Army Corps of Engineers representatives gave presentations. Topics covered ranged from dredging projects around the Great Lakes to the emerging Great Lakes cruise ship industry to mariner recruitment and retention. Something that really stuck out to me at this conference, as it applies to many of our lodges, was that presenters from maritime academies and companies alike recognized that the high return on investment for getting new members into the industry is through the Sea Cadets / Sea Scouts. I know many of our member lodges donate to their local chapter or even volunteer as ship's officers and teachers, and I wanted to relay that those investments are recognized as making a difference in the industry.

The Army Corps of Engineers also spoke at length about their upcoming dredging projects as well as current ongoing projects. They are seeing an upward trend in funding—which hopefully continues—and there is increased pressure in Congress to appropriate the funds collected through the Harbor Maintenance Tax Fund. This fund has been in surplus for many years and is collected on cargo solely for the purpose of dredging and maintaining port infrastructure. Through the legislative efforts of our friends at Lake Carriers' Association (and others in the Great Lakes region), they have managed to secure a 10% cut of those funds going forward. So, as spending from the HMTF increases, so will our region's cut of the pie.

Immediately following the Waterways Conference, I was invited to attend the LCA Captains' Committee meetings in Cleveland. Many, many topics were discussed here and I could write pages about it all, but I'm trying to keep it short and simple. First, Norfolk Southern Railroad has amassed a very sizable fine because of bridge delays in Cleveland, Toledo, and South Chicago; so the Bridge Delay Forms do work and I urge every master to keep filling them out and sending them in because it's the only way we can hold them accountable. Second, the east bank development in the Cleveland Flats is asking for a suspension of the Marine Safety Zone along the east bank of the Cuyahoga. This zone starts at the NS bridge and goes 600 feet south, basically where ships are turning into and out of the Old River Bed. The entire committee is vehemently opposed to this proposal as it will constrict the river further and put all the responsibility on the vessel master and almost none on the development owners. However, this is not a done deal and the Cleveland Marine Safety Division seems to actually want it to happen. Lastly, NOAA was present at the meetings and came to us for help reconfiguring the LCA course lines on the Lakes. Problems have arisen with electronic charts being unable to match up course lines from chart to chart. The cause of the problem is that these lines are roughly 100 years old and were only ever abeam bearings. In the modern world of electronics and GPS, NOAA needs more accurate source data from which to construct charts. So, we were tasked with breaking

into working groups and matching all of the waypoints up with actual GPS coordinates and amending course lines to reflect current trade patterns. I want to stress this—*no LCA lines were removed* but some were added. This is an ongoing project that probably will take months to a year to complete and the working groups for each lake consist of captains from every fleet represented by LCA.

Now, the elephant in the room—The resilient second Poe-sized lock at the Soo. Given the current administration's professed love of infrastructure projects, it doesn't get much better than the Soo. The Army Corps is currently in its second year of the economic study, and the numbers look promising so far. The hurdle is going to be to get them to drop unreasonable assumptions when calculating the cost/benefit ratio, which is what has held up the project since 1986. Rail would be unable to handle the load; then they came up with a plan to build a conveyor from the west approach to the east approach on barges floating in the un-used Davis lock. It is so unreasonable that it's aggravating, but since I lack sufficient sources to cite on the claim, I can't make any further comments. There are many articles now out from Governor Snyder of Michigan as well as from Great Lakes Maritime Task Force and LCA on this subject and I encourage all our members to dig into it a bit.

Finally, a briefing on ISMA's return to Washington D.C. On March 1, I participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Congressional Sail-In. Members of the maritime industry from all over the country met with Congressmen/women and Senators throughout the day to drum up support for the Jones Act and discuss other issues, like the C-VIDA bill that I have previously written about. Overall, there were 110 participants who conducted 130 meetings that day. I was placed in a group with four others and assigned six House Reps, all but one from the Great Lakes region. To give everybody a peek into how this goes, you have a 15-minute meeting where you have to reduce what you want to say into a sound bite that somebody in that office will latch onto. So basically, you become a door-to-door salesman and must stay high energy all day to try and make some kind of lasting impression. After the meetings of the day, there is a networking social hour where, amongst others, I met the president of the Council of American Master Mariners (CAMM). They do much the same work as ISMA, but on the sea coasts of America, which could foster a great partnership with our organization. Needless to say, I had a blast going to this event, it netted us some much-needed exposure, and potentially gained us some new allies; I look forward to attending again next year.

In conclusion, it was a somewhat busy spring, but it really only laid out the work ahead of the industry this year. There are quite a few mixed messages coming from the current administration as to funding and budget cuts, and it's not my job to politicize this newsletter; and I won't. I will say, however, that I am cautiously optimistic about the future of our Great Lakes system and as your NELC representative I'll keep talking to whomever will listen about our needs and our jobs. As always, if you want more information or have further questions, please feel free to contact me at [NELC@shipmaster.org](mailto:NELC@shipmaster.org).

**Scott Skrzypczak**  
NELC Chairman



**May 7, 2017** -  
Battle of the Atlantic Sunday,  
WWII Remembrance  
at Cenotaph, Owen Sound, ON

**May 22, 2017** -  
National Maritime Day - United States

**June 14-16, 2017** -  
Great Lakes & St. Lawrence Cities Initiative  
Annual Meeting, Montreal, Quebec

**June 27, 2017** -  
Hamilton Marine Day, Hamilton, ON

**August 12, 2017** -  
St. Lawrence Day

**September 3, 2017** -  
Annual Canada Merchant Navy Day

### Governors and Premiers List Priorities

An article in the March 2017 *Compass*, newsletter of the Conference of Great Lakes Governors and Premiers, lists the group's maritime priorities for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence System:

- Ensure the functionality of critical infrastructure through strategic investment.
- Eliminate system constraints and bottlenecks.
- Expedite the movement of goods and people across the US-Canada border.
- Reform pilotage.

For details on each of these items, access the *Compass* newsletter at <http://www.cglslgp.org/media/1886/compass-2017-issue1.pdf>.

### Newly Formed Installation Committee

In an effort to make the Grand Lodge installation ceremonies run more smoothly, Grand President **Lee Barnhill** has established the "Grand Lodge Installation Committee." The committee will be temporarily instated for 2017-2018 to evaluate its effectiveness at the next convention in Toledo, OH, in February 2018.

Committee Chair will be the Grand Lodge Installing Grand Marshal (currently **Seann O'Donoghue**). A Past Grand President will serve as Advisor (currently **Ray Sheldon**). The other members will be the current Grand Lodge President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President (currently **Lee Barnhill**, **Harold Dusseau**, and **Mark Mather**).

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



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the ISMA web-  
site.

### ISMA Swag Store

Check out the ISMA logo-ed items available at the  
ISMA Swag Store  
[www.ismaswagstore.com](http://www.ismaswagstore.com)



### 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.

### International Ship Masters' Association

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