



**International Shipmasters' Association**  
**Detroit Lodge No. 7**  
Chartered April 2, 1891

January 22, 2004

TO: Members of Detroit Lodge No. 7

Detroit Lodge No. 7 is pleased to announce the results of the lodge election held on Friday, January 9, 2004:

President: **Melvin E. Riecher**

First Vice President: **John S. Frost**

Second Vice President: **Luther L. Clyburn**

Secretary-Treasurer: **Paul M. Jagenow**

Convention Delegate: **Robert D. Baldwin**

Alternate Convention Delegate: **Melvin E. Riecher**

Board of Governors (three elected for a 3 year term): **Samuel D. Buchanan, Jerry Crowley, Steven A. Nelson**

Alternate Governor: **Robert D. Baldwin**

Congratulations and good luck to the newly elected lodge officers.

There is a revised lodge schedule enclosed with this mailing. I have added the dates of some of the dinner dances sponsored by nearby lodges. Also, special thanks are extended to Tom Jannausch, who has offered his yacht Aquasition as the site of a newly added lodge meeting scheduled for Monday, February 2. At that meeting, the lodge will be instructing the lodge delegate on how to vote on any proposals or resolutions that may have been received from the various lodges for presentation at the upcoming convention. Directions to the Aquasition are on the back of the revised lodge schedule.

Dossin Museum will again have a booth at the Detroit Boat Show. The show will run from February 7 thru February 15. Curator John Polacsek is again calling upon members of the lodge to help staff the exhibit. He can be reached at the museum on Saturdays & Sundays (313- 852-4051), the rest of the week at his office at Fort Wayne (313-297-8366), or at his home in the evening (313-885-7957). A benefit gained from helping at the Dossin Museum exhibit is being able to see the Boat Show for free as part of your volunteer effort.

This mailing contains a nomination form for the **Lewis Ludington Award**, which is given at Mariners' Church during the annual Blessing of the Fleet. Nominees must be licensed mariners and meet the qualifications listed on the enclosed sheet. The sheet also contains a listing of all previous recipients of the award. The Board of Governors will select candidates for the award at its next meeting, which will be held at 10:00 AM on Friday, February 13 in Dossin Museum. To be eligible for consideration, nominations must be received prior to the Board meeting.

Dinner Dance chairman Bob Baldwin and his committee have selected the site of this year's dinner dance. It will be held at the Activities Center of the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House in Grosse Pointe Shores, Michigan on the evening of Saturday, February 28, 2004. An optional tour of the Ford House will be offered as part of the evening's festivities. A brochure about the house is enclosed. Invitations will be mailed out shortly, so be sure to mark the date on your calendar as the dance committee is

planning a memorable night of dining and dancing for the lodge and its guests.

Chicago Lodge No. 3 had a guest speaker, Chuck Kakuska of Sea-K's Licensing, at its December 10, 2003 lodge meeting. Detroit members will remember that Chuck has been a guest speaker at our lodge in the past. The minutes of the Chicago lodge meeting included a synopsis of Chuck's remarks on licensing. With the ever-changing nature of marine licensing, I thought those remarks would be of interest to our membership, both licensed and unlicensed. Should anyone want to contact Chuck directly, his web site address is included in the minutes.

On January 10, Past Grand President Ron Ingram and I drove to Buffalo, New York to witness the reinstatement of Buffalo Lodge No. 1. Buffalo was the original Shipmasters lodge founded back in 1891, but had dropped out of the organization in the 1970s. Through the yeoman efforts of Grand President George Haynes, the Buffalo lodge has been revitalized.

The ceremonies to reopen the lodge were held at the Lower Lakes Marine Museum in downtown Buffalo. On display were Buffalo Lodge No. 1's original lodge flag, lodge jewels and lodge Bible. Apparently, these items had been in safekeeping with Jim Wager at the offices of American Steamship Co. Grand President Haynes did an excellent job conducting the initiation ritual. Approximately 15 persons joined the I.S.M.A. as a group, and there were a few members who were transfers from other lodges. At the conclusion of the ritual, Grand President Haynes presented the members of the reinstated lodge with the original charter of Buffalo Lodge No. 1, which had been preserved by the Grand Lodge. The charter, which had been issued in 1891, was admired by one and all.

Besides the two of us from Detroit Lodge No. 7, there were representatives from several other lodges in attendance, including George Haynes, Terry Doyon and John Philbin of Port Huron Lodge No. 2, Tim Browne and Jim Brinckerhoff of Chicago Lodge No. 3, Ed and Katherine Morris of Bay City Lodge No. 5, John Biolchini of Northeast Michigan Lodge No. 19 and Allan Sykes of Niagara District Lodge No. 20. Grand President Haynes and First Grand Vice President John Biolchini represented the Grand Lodge, with Ron Ingram the only Past Grand President in attendance. Grand President Haynes was very pleased with the turnout from the various lodges.

The NBC affiliate in Buffalo was on hand to record the proceedings, and a televised report appeared on Buffalo's 11:00 clock evening news. Grand President Haynes was interviewed and his remarks reflected well on the Grand Lodge, the various lodges of the I.S.M.A. and the newly reinstated Buffalo Lodge No. 1. I was very impressed with the Grand President's hard work that resulted in the reopening of the Buffalo lodge, and I think the I.S.M.A. can be proud of his efforts. Captain Haynes hopes to have a copy of the television report for showing at the upcoming convention in Alpena.

Fraternally yours,

Paul M. Jagenow  
Secretary-Treasurer