



INTERNATIONAL SHIPMASTERS' ASSOCIATION

DETROIT LODGE NO. 7

www.DetroitLodge7.org

November 28, 2014

TO: Members of Detroit Lodge No. 7

The lodge schedule for 2014-2015 is enclosed. The lodge schedule lists all the membership meeting dates, the dates of the annual Shipmasters Convention (February 5-8 in Duluth, Minnesota) and the date of the annual lodge dinner dance (February 28 at Sindbad's in Detroit).

The first winter meeting for the lodge will be at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle on Tuesday, December 9, 2014. Joel Stone, Senior Curator with the Detroit Historical Society, has graciously made arrangements allowing the lodge to have access to the museum. For this special event the museum will be opened at 11:00 AM so that the members and their guests can view the exhibits. The lodge luncheon will be at 12:00 Noon with a program to follow at 1:00 PM. The lodge will not conduct a business meeting. Members are encouraged to bring spouses, guests and prospective members, who may wish to learn more about either the lodge or the museum.

The remaining lodge luncheon meetings will generally alternate between the Island Cove Marina and the J.W. Westcott Co. Two of the Island Cove meetings are scheduled as evening potluck dinner meetings with spouses and guests. One of those evening meetings has been scheduled for a Saturday evening (January 24). The last winter meeting will be held at Mariners' Church on Tuesday, April 7. The lodge is grateful to Joel Stone at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, Sam Tundo and his wife Peggy at Island Cove Marina, Jim Hogan at J.W. Westcott Co. and Fr. Bill Fleming and his staff at Mariners' Church for sponsoring the lodge at the various meeting sites.

This mailing contains the annual dues notice. Dues are to be paid by January 1, 2015. Your roster information as it appears in the 2014 membership roster is taped to the dues notice. Please take a moment to review the accuracy of your roster entry. Use the remittance form of the dues notice to report changes or corrections needed.

Nominations for the annual lodge election will take place during the Tuesday, December 16 meeting at the Island Cove Marina. If anyone is interested in serving or would like to recommend a lodge member for a position, please contact Sam Tundo (248-644-2850 or 248-425-2631), Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Nominees are needed for Second Vice President, Convention Delegate, Alternate Delegate and three seats on the Board of Governors.

The annual Great Lakes Memorial Service at Mariners' Church took place on Sunday morning, November 9 with numerous Shipmaster members participating. Serving in the honor guard during the bell ringing portion of the service were Ron Ingram, Jack Callahan, Art Brooks, Jack Frost, Scott Reynolds, Sam Tundo, Art Herrala, Tom McMullen, and Ron LaPlante of Detroit Lodge No. 7; Roger Hewlett and Brian Eickel of Port Huron Lodge No. 2; Grand President Bob Schallip and Mary Schallip of Twin Sault Lodge No. 22 and Admiral Gerald Achenbach of Grand Traverse Lodge No. 23. Several of those members also served as bell ringers. During his homily, Fr. Bill Fleming, Rector of Mariners' Church, gave a very moving tribute to lodge member Arlene Earl, known as the Flower Lady, for her long service to the vessels plying the Great Lakes. For many years Arlene has been placing flowers aboard vessels, bringing cheer to sailors away from home especially during the holidays.

The Lost Mariners Remembrance at Dossin Great Lakes Museum took place on Monday evening, November 10. Several uniformed lodge members were in attendance including Ron LaPlante, Luke Clyburn, Art Brooks, Kathy McGraw and Scott Reynolds of Detroit Lodge No. 7, and Grand President Bob Schallip and Mary Schallip of Twin Sault Lodge No. 22. Grand President Schallip, lodge First Vice President LaPlante and Capt. Clyburn served as part of the honor guard. Kathy McGraw was necrologist, reading the names of the crew of the Benjamin Noble which sank in 1914; Malcolm McAdam was the coordinator of the vessel flotilla; Neil Schultheiss did the Live Webcast of the event for Dossin Museum; and Joel Hepola piloted the mailboat J.W. Westcott II, which was part of the Honor Flotilla on the Detroit River. Detroit Lodge No. 7 donated roses which were strewn on the waters of the Detroit River as part of the memorial ceremony.

Enclosed is a memorial page for Past Lodge President Frederic Weber, who passed away on October 19, 2014 at the age of 89 following a battle with bone cancer and complications of a broken hip. Fred was a member of Detroit Lodge No. 7 for over 50 years, serving as lodge President in 1969 and 1970. In his early years, he worked aboard the S.S. Tashmoo, S.S. Put-In-Bay and the S.S. Eastern States. He also sailed occasionally aboard the S.S. William Clay Ford. After serving with the Army in the China-Burma-India Theater of World War II, he went to work for Detroit Edison and retired after 40 years of service. He often observed the freighter traffic on the Detroit River from his work station at the Mistersky Power Plant. Fred was an avid supporter of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, where he served 20 years as Marine News Editor of the museum's publication "Telescope." He was staunch Shipmaster to the end. Despite being nearly blind, he insisted on attending the ISMA Convention in Sault Ste. Marie last February. He was the center of attention when the attending members of Detroit Lodge No. 7 posed for a group convention photo. Fred's remains have been interred at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan.

John Sarns continues to manage the lodge's website (www.detroitlodge7.org). Be sure to check out the website when you have time as John updates it on a regular basis. Lodge members have occasionally reported that they have not been receiving lodge e-mail messages. John suggests that all members add "detroitlodge7@aol.com" to their computer contact/address list so that lodge e-mails are properly received and not treated as spam. That should help correct the incident of lost e-mails.

The lodge has been e-mailing the Grand Lodge's ISMA Letter to members with internet addresses and mailing hard copies to any members without e-mail addresses. Thus, everyone should be receiving the ISMA Letter either by e-mail or snail mail. If you are not receiving your copy in either format, please let the lodge know so that corrective measures can be made to insure that you receive it.

My cell phone number and e-mail address are on the front cover of the lodge roster. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about lodge activities.

Fraternally yours,

Paul M. Jagenow
Secretary-Treasurer

DETROIT LODGE NO. 7

Schedule of Events and Lodge Meetings (2014 – 2015)

- Tuesday, December 9, 2014 – Dossin Great Lakes Museum, Belle Isle, Detroit**
Museum open 11:00 AM, Luncheon 12:00 Noon, Speaker 1:00 PM
- Tuesday, December 16, 2014 – Island Cove Marina, 32081 N. River Road, Harrison Township**
Luncheon 12:00 Noon & Meeting 1:00 PM
Nomination of Lodge Officers
- Saturday, January 3, 2015 – J.W. Westcott Company, Foot of 24th Street (12 24th St.), Detroit**
Luncheon 12:00 Noon, Meeting 1:00 PM
Annual Meeting & Election of Officers
- Tuesday, January 13, 2015 – Island Cove Marina, 32081 N. River Road, Harrison Township**
Luncheon 12:00 Noon, Meeting 1:00 PM
- Saturday, January 24, 2015 – Island Cove Marina, 32081 N. River Road, Harrison Township**
Joint Evening Meeting with Spouses and Guests 5:30 PM
Potluck Dinner – please bring a dish to pass, the lodge will provide the main meat course and beverages
- Tuesday, February 3, 2015 – Island Cove Marina, 32081 N. River Road, Harrison Township**
Luncheon 12:00 Noon, Meeting 1:00 PM
*** Convention Delegate Receives Voting Instructions***
- Thursday, February 5 thru Sunday February 8, 2015 – Grand Lodge Convention**
RADISSON CONVENTION CENTER, DULUTH, MINNESOTA MICHIGAN
- Saturday, February 14, 2015 – J.W. Westcott Company, Foot of 24th Street (12 24th St.), Detroit**
Luncheon Noon, Meeting 1:00 PM
Report of Convention Delegate
- Tuesday, February 24, 2015 – Island Cove Marina, 32081 N. River Road, Harrison Township**
Luncheon 12:00 Noon, Meeting 1:00 PM
- Saturday, February 28, 2015 – Annual Dinner Dance, Detroit Lodge No. 7**
SINDBADS RESTAURANT AND MARINA, 100 ST. CLAIR ST. – DETROIT
- Saturday, March 7, 2015 – J.W. Westcott Co., Foot of 24th Street (12 24th St.), Detroit**
Luncheon 12:00 Noon, Meeting 1:00 PM
- Sunday, March 8, 2015 – Blessing of the Fleet, Mariners' Church, 11:00 AM**
- Wednesday, March 18, 2015 – Island Cove Marina, 32081 N. River Road, Harrison Twp.**
Joint Evening Meeting with Spouses and Guests 6:30 PM
Potluck Dinner – please bring a dish to pass, the lodge will provide the main meat course and beverages
- Saturday, March 28, 2015 – J.W. Westcott Company, Foot of 24th Street (12 24th St.), Detroit**
Luncheon 12:00 Noon, Meeting 1:00 PM
- Tuesday, April 7, 2015 – Mariners' Church, 170 E. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit**
Luncheon 12:00 Noon, Meeting 1:00 PM

In Memory of
Frederic Eugene Weber

December 2, 1924 - October 19, 2014

Member of Detroit Lodge No. 7 for over 50 Years

Initiated February 11, 1964

Pennant No. A-1293

Lodge President 1969 & 1970

Lodge Warden 1965 & 1966

Longtime lodge member Fred Weber passed away on October 19, 2014 after a battle with bone cancer and complications of a broken hip. He was 89 years of age. Fred was a member of the lodge for over 50 years, serving two terms as lodge President (1969 and 1970).

Fred's parents met aboard the S.S. TASHMOO, where his father Thomas was Chief Steward. Fred's mother, a recent widow, had come aboard the TASHMOO for an excursion and met Thomas. Love and marriage followed and their only son Frederic was born on December 2, 1924.

Being the chief steward on the S.S. TASHMOO had perks and one of them allowed Mrs. Weber and young Fred the use of the area beneath the pilothouse. Previously the area had been the Captain's cabin and when a new cabin was constructed behind the wheel house for the Captain the area beneath the pilothouse became a lounge. Fred would go aboard with his mother for weekends on the TASHMOO to Port Huron. He remembered being in the private lounge on a number of trips.



Fred at the 2012 Lodge Dinner Dance

Fred often went with his father to inspect the vessel during the off season when it was in the Detroit Shipyard. During the 1936 navigation season, the TASHMOO struck a rock while leaving Sugar Island in the lower Detroit River, then moored at a dock in Amherstburg. Fred's father recalled it was an orderly sinking. As the boat settled to the bottom, the band and dancers simply moved one deck higher to continue the evening's festivities.

Fred grew up helping his dad on the S.S. TASHMOO and then on the S.S. PUT-IN-BAY which ran to the Lake Erie Islands and did midnight dance cruises on Lake St. Clair. Fred was in charge of the concession stand. He then got his own summer job at age sixteen on the S.S. EASTERN STATES of the Detroit & Cleveland Navigation Company Line.

Uncle Sam called Fred in 1943 and he served in the U.S. Army 326 Harbor Craft on a tug which was stationed in India. The tug brought supplies to the cargo planes that were flying 'over the hump' bringing supplies to the Chinese Army during World War II. One of Fred's vital jobs was to provide beer to the pilots who were flying cargo planes over the Himalaya Mountains. The planes had to fly straight over the mountains and in order to keep the pilots awake they were required to pop a number of cans of beer. It was not the alcohol in the cans that the pilots needed, rather the oxygen that was released when a can of beer was opened. With a small reserve of oxygen in each can the pilots could attain the proper altitude and then come down safely on the other side of the mountain. Fred recounted that a book had been written about the Army's experiences in the India Campaign and it was entitled "Confusion Beyond Imagination".

After returning from World War II, he returned to Detroit where he worked on the Detroit & Cleveland Navigation Company's S.S. GREATER DETROIT as a purser. When the GREATER DETROIT was taken out of service at the end of the 1950 sailing season he took a job with Detroit Edison and retired from that company after forty years of service.

In 1950 he found and dated Joan and soon they were Mr. & Mrs. Weber. Their only child Ty was born in 1952. Fred's heart was always with the "Boats" and he photographed many of the vessels that plied the Inland Seas and came to the Port of Detroit, often from the windows of the Mistersky Power Plant where he worked for many years.

Fred and Joan became involved with the International Shipmasters Association. He joined Detroit Lodge No. 7 on February 11, 1964 and Joan joined the Ladies Auxiliary. Fred participated in numerous lodge activities, holding several lodge offices and serving on committees for a number of lodge dinner dances and conventions. After Fred's retirement from Detroit Edison he kept active in the Detroit Lodge even though his eyesight was failing. Just this past winter (February 2014), he made a special effort to attend the ISMA Convention held at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

Fred had a great interest in the Dossin Great Lakes Museum. For a number of years Fred was the maritime news editor for *Telescope* magazine that is produced by the Great Lakes Maritime Institute, a support group of the Dossin Museum. He would painstakingly gather information on the activities of the Great Lakes vessels, news that is now readily available on the internet. He helped document the comings and goings of the Lakers and knew the five Great Lakes and Seaway system well.

He and his good friend Captain Donald Erickson enjoyed volunteering for duty at the Detroit Boat Show and could be found in the pilothouse of the WILLIAM CLAY FORD that was attached to the museum after the vessel was taken out of service. Fred had a special interest in the WILLIAM CLAY FORD where he served as a 'deck hand' and 'wheelsman' on the vessel during his long vacations from Detroit Edison. This was all due to the action of his best friend Captain Donald Erickson.

Per Fred's wishes no funeral services or visitation were held. He remarked, "Do nothing after I die, salute the flag and think of me once." Fred's wife Joan preceded him in death, passing away in 2008. Fred and Joan Weber were both interred at the Great Lakes National Military Cemetery in Holly, Michigan on November 14, 2014. They are survived by their son Tyree and daughter in law, Mary Weber of Clinton Township, Michigan.



Working on the *William Clay Ford*



Joan & Fred Weber at the 2005 Lodge 7 Dinner Dance