



# INTERNATIONAL SHIPMASTERS' ASSOCIATION

## DETROIT LODGE NO. 7

[www.DetroitLodge7.org](http://www.DetroitLodge7.org)

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March 13, 2015

TO: Members of Detroit Lodge No. 7

Speakers have been arranged for the three remaining meetings of the lodge's winter schedule:

**Wednesday, March 18** – Evening Potluck Dinner/Speaker at Island Cove Marina – 6:00 PM  
Speaker: Kathleen Reynolds, Communications Specialist for Bloomfield Township Police and Fire, and Instructor at Oakland Community College 911 Dispatch Academy

**Saturday, March 28** – Lodge Luncheon/Speaker at J.W. Westcott Co. – 12:00 Noon  
Speaker: Chuck Kakuska, Sea-K's Licensing Service

**Tuesday, April 7** – Lodge Luncheon/Speaker at Mariners' Church – 12:00 Noon  
Speaker: Melissa Kropfreiter, Hydraulic Engineer, Water Hydrology, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District

Refer to the enclosed schedule update for additional details. Please note that the final three meetings will be at three different locations.

During the month of February outgoing lodge President Rick Scott performed yeoman duties for Detroit Lodge No. 7. He began the month serving as lodge delegate to the Grand Lodge Convention in Duluth, MN. His delegate convention report is enclosed. The rest of the month he was involved with organizing the lodge's 124th Annual Dinner Dance. Capt. Scott along with his wife Irene arranged an excellent evening of food, dancing and entertainment at Sindbad's Restaurant on Detroit's eastside riverfront. Several other lodges had members in attendance at our dinner dance: George Haynes of Buffalo Lodge No. 1; Roger Hewlett, Victoria Conradson, Wade Streeter and Brian Eickel of Port Huron Lodge No. 2; Grand First Vice President Bob Lund, Mark Stevenson and Laura Jackson of Chicago Lodge No. 3; and Phil Knetchel of Toledo Lodge No. 9. Dance sponsors who provided gifts included Diamond Jack River Tours, J.W. Westcott Co., marine artist Paul LaMarre, Infinity-Ovation Yacht Charters, Sindbad's Restaurant and Put-in-Bay Winery. A framed print of the S/S Red Wing by Paul LaMarre was donated by Rick Scott. A beautiful Lighthouse Quilt was crafted by Janet Pomeroy and was the main prize in the dance raffle. Capt. Scott and his wife Irene both deserve deep hearted thanks from the lodge for all their hard work.

The annual Blessing of the Fleet was held at Mariners' Church on Sunday, March 8. Fr. William Fleming, Rector of Mariners' Church, officiated at the service. Numerous ISMA members from around the Great Lakes took part in the service. Serving in the honor guard were: Art Brooks, Wayne Coulston, Bill Griffore, Art Herrala, PGP Ron Ingram, Ron LaPlante, PGP Tom McMullen, Steve Nelson, Ray Oset, Scott Reynolds, Rick Scott and Ken Suddick of Detroit Lodge No. 7; Jim Semerad and Roger Hewlett of Port Huron Lodge No. 2; Grand First Vice President Bob Lund of Chicago Lodge No. 3; ISMA Grand President Joe Walters of Twin Ports Lodge No. 12; and PGP Ray Sheldon and Adm. Gerald Achenbach of Grand Traverse Lodge No. 23. Tom Ochs and Paul Jagenow of Detroit Lodge No. 7 were in the congregation. Four past and present Grand Presidents participated in the honor guard. Several Shipmasters served in additional capacities during the service: Joe Mastropolitano served as chalice bearer. During the presentation of the Capt. Lewis Ludington Awards, Scott Reynolds served as reader. During the reading of the names of deceased mariners, Kathy McGraw served as necrologist and Grand Lodge President Joe Walters, assisted by lodge President Ron LaPlante, were designated as bell tollers. Roger Hewlett, Ken

Suddick, Bob Lund and Bill Griffore presented the wreaths that represented loss by storm, reef, fire, and collision. Ron Ingram and Art Brooks were receivers of pennants, burgees and fleet flags.

During the Blessing of the Fleet, three mariners were announced as recipients of the Capt. Lewis Ludington Award:

- **Capt. Wayne Coulston**, a 1975 graduate of the Great Lakes Maritime Academy, worked on supply boats in the Gulf of Mexico from Zapata Gulf Marine Service and then served as Port Captain of Zapata's east coast tug operations. His work with Zapata also took him to supply boats in the waters of India, Egypt and the Persian Gulf. He returned to the Great Lakes in 1988 going to work for the USS Great Lakes Fleet. In 1995 he left USS Great Lakes Fleet to go piloting with the Lakes Pilots Association District 2, piloting ocean going vessels between the Welland Canal and Port Huron and all ports in between. Capt. Coulston has been a member of the ISMA for 15 years, joining Port Huron Lodge No. 2 in 2000 and transferring to Detroit Lodge No. 7 in 2010.

- **Capt. Raymond Sheldon**, a 1976 graduate of the Great Lakes Maritime Academy, started his career with the Inland Steel Fleet now operated by Central Marine Logistics and has sailed with that fleet for his entire career. He received his Masters license in 1992 and his first command was the S/S Wilfred Sykes. Capt. Sheldon joined the ISMA in 1991 and has been a member for 24 years. He has served as President of Grand Traverse Lodge No. 23 and was elected and served as Grand President of the ISMA in 2005. He currently is serving as Master of the M/V Joseph L. Block.

- **Capt. Robert Hull** (posthumous award) passed away unexpectedly in May, 2014 at the age of 59 after piloting a ship through the icy waters of Lake Superior to Thunder Bay, Ontario. Captain Hull was a member of the first graduating class of the Marine Navigation Technology program at Georgian College, graduating in 1976. He sailed with Misener and Pioneer Shipping as an officer and Master. When the opportunity arose, he went piloting and for the last 20 years was working with the Great Lakes Pilotage Authority-Districts 2 and 3. He joined the ISMA in 1985 as a charter member of Georgian Bay-Huron Lodge No. 15 and was serving as that lodge's Secretary-Treasurer at the time of his death. He was honored to be appointed Grand Lodge Chaplain in 2014, sadly serving in that office for only a short time before his untimely passing. In 1991, Captain Hull became a full professor of navigation at Georgian College and as an instructor he assisted many students as teacher and tutor. He enjoyed nurturing the future careers of a generation of cadets at that school. His passing was noted in numerous Great Lakes publications and one such obituary described Capt. Hull as a kind and wonderful gentleman, a person of faith, a skilled mariner and a trusted colleague.

The Capt. Lewis Ludington Award was established by the Ludington Family and Mariners' Church in 1994. Over the years some 85 Shipmasters have been recognized for their contributions to the maritime industry on the Great Lakes. Detroit Lodge No. 7 has been honored to have a role in the selection process. Photos of this year's Blessing of the Fleet have been posted on the Photo Page of the lodge's website.

Photographs of the Grand Lodge Convention, the Dinner Dance and the Blessing of the Fleet have been added to the Photo Gallery of the lodge's website ([www.detroitlodge7.org](http://www.detroitlodge7.org)).

A hearty welcome is extended to Capt. David L. Charvat of Grosse Pointe Farms, who recently joined the lodge as an Active Professional member, and to Dr. William G. Jennings of Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, who recently joined the lodge as an Associate member.

Fraternally yours,

Paul M. Jagenow  
Secretary-Treasurer

# **DETROIT LODGE NO. 7**

## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS – UPDATE March/April, 2015**

**Wednesday, March 18, 2015 – Island Cove Marina –  
32081 N. River Rd., Harrison Twp., MI**

**Joint Evening Meeting with the members, spouses and guests**

**Social/Cocktail Hour - 6:00 PM**

**Pot Luck Dinner - 7:00 PM**

The lodge will provide the main meat dish.

Everyone planning to attend is asked to bring a dish of food to pass.

**Program/Speaker - 8:00 PM**

**Kathleen Reynolds (Communications Specialist Bloomfield Township Police and Fire and Instructor at the Oakland Community College Dispatch Academy) will give and overview of the 911 Emergency Telephone System, what 911 is, how it works and what happens when you call 911.**

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**Saturday, March 28, 2015: J.W. Westcott Co. – 12 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Detroit, MI**

**Luncheon 12:00 Noon, with speaker to follow at 1:00 PM**

**Chuck Kakuska of Sea-K's Licensing Service will give a presentation and answer questions about the U.S. Coast Guard marine licensing process, how it works, pitfalls to avoid, how to earn endorsements on your marine license, etc.**

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**Tuesday, April 7, 2015 – Mariners' Church – E. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, MI**

**Luncheon 12:00 Noon, with speaker to follow at 1:00 PM**

**Melissa Kropfreiter, Hydraulic Engineer, Watershed Hydrology, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District will give a presentation about ice coverage and snowmelt in the Great Lakes Watershed and how it affects water levels**

*For many years now, the lodge has concluded its winter schedule by holding its last luncheon meeting at Mariners' Church, as a sort of bon voyage gathering. Special thanks are extended to the Fr. William Fleming, Rector of Mariners' Church, for allowing this tradition to continue.*

*NOTE: Mariners' Church is unable to provide free parking on weekdays. The nearest paid parking is available in the Underground Garage beneath Jefferson Avenue. Free parking at the Greektown Casino parking garage.*

*In Memory of*

## Capt. Warren F. Fuller

**March 1, 1919 - January 26, 2015**

**Pennant No. 9857**

**Member of Detroit Lodge No. 7 for 54 years**

Initiated March 1, 1960

Recipient of Lewis Ludington Award - 2012



Lodge member Warren Fuller passed away on Monday, January 26, 2015 at the age of 95.

Warren was born on March, 1, 1919 in Jeddo, Michigan, the son of Floyd and Estella Fuller. Raised on a farm, in later years he also worked as a draftsman and tool-and-die maker.

Warren began his sailing career with the Wyandotte Transportation Company. According to the May 1941 issue of the Lake Carriers Bulletin, he received his original navigation license in early 1941 at the LCA Winter Navigation School. He then served as deck officer for the Wyandotte Transportation Company aboard the Steamers *Conneaut* and *Wyandotte*. After a few years, he left Wyandotte Transportation and began working for Frank Becker Towing aboard the tug *B.H. Becker*, which was on a steady run hauling cement clinker from Port Huron to Detroit. Later, he and his wife Anita founded the Fuller Marine Towing Company. One of his tugs, the *Bonanka*, was named after his three daughters, Bonnie, Nancy and Kathy. *Bonanka* was the former U.S. Army Corps of Engineers tug *Quintus*, which Warren sold to Keith Malcolm after several years of ownership.

In 1964, Warren sold Fuller Marine to one of his employees, Bill Hoey, who then founded Gaelic Tugboat Company.

One notable event of Frank's career occurred on the evening of July 30, 1962 while he was captain of the tug *B.H. Becker*. While downbound near the Ambassador Bridge pushing the barge *ABL-502* loaded with cement clinker, the tow collided with the British-flag *Montrose* which had just departed Detroit Harbor Terminals. There was no loss of life, however the *Montrose* sank and remained partially submerged until removed by salvage crews 101 days later. The U.S. Coast Guard later cleared Captain Fuller of any wrongdoing in the incident. The *Detroit News* reported that the *Montrose* was the first British ship to be sunk in American waters since the war of 1812.

Warren joined Detroit Lodge No. 7 on March 1, 1960 and remained a loyal member of the lodge for over 54 years. He enjoyed receiving mail from the lodge and all the issues of ISMA Letter. He was especially honored to receive the Capt. Lewis Ludington Award in 2012.

Warren and his wife Anita loved to travel. Before and after retirement, they packed a camper, fifth-wheeler or motor home and just took off, visiting all 50 states, including three trips on the Alcan Highway to Alaska. They were "snowbirds" who retired permanently to Tucson in 1990.

Warren was preceded in death by his wife Anita, who died in 2008. He is survived by 7 children, 13 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

Condolences may be sent to the family c/o his daughter, Diana Gertz, 2240 S. Double O Place, Tucson, AZ 85713.



Past Grand President Bill Hoey (Left) and Warren Fuller in the summer of 2009



Tug *Bonanka* (ex-Army Corps of Engineers tug *Quintus*) in 1961

<b>Sailing History of Warren F. Fuller</b>				
<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Vessel</u></b>	<b><u>Company</u></b>	<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>Reference</u></b>
Wheelsman	Conneaut	Wyandotte	1940	LCA Bulletin 5/41
Wheelsman			1941	LCA Bulletin 7/41
Third Mate		Wyandotte	1942	Great Lake Review 3/43
Third Mate	Wyandotte	Wyandotte	1944	Great Lakes Review. 1944
Second Mate	Wyandotte	Wyandotte	1948	Great Lakes Review June 1948
Captain	B. H. Becker	Frank Becker Towing	1958	1958 Red Book
Captain	B. H. Becker	Frank Becker Towing	1959	1959 Red Book
Captain	B. H. Becker	Frank Becker Towing	1960	1960 Red Book
Captain	B. H. Becker	Frank Becker Towing	1961	1961 Red Book
Captain	B. H. Becker	Frank Becker Towing	1962	1962 Red Book
Captain	Bonanka	Fuller Marine Towing	1964	1964 Red Book
Captain	Bonanka	Fuller Marine Towing	1965	1965 Red Book
President		Fuller Marine Towing	1965	1965 Red Book
Captain	Tipperary	Gaelic Tugboat	1968	1968 Red Book
Captain	Kinsale	Gaelic Tugboat	1976	1976 Red Book
Captain	Kinsale	Gaelic Tugboat	1977	1977 Red Book