

# DETROIT LODGE NO. 7 INTERNATIONAL SHIPMASTERS' ASSOCIATION

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

March 29, 2000

To: Members of Detroit Lodge No. 7:

## PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

Monday, April 3 lodge meeting

Luke Clyburn, who is active in the Sea Cadet Program and serves as Master aboard the "Pride of Michigan", will address the lodge about projects involving the ecology and history of the Great Lakes that spark interest with sea cadets. He will show slides of research projects that the sea cadets have participated in, such as a study of the remains of an underwater forest in Lake Huron near Lexington, Michigan. The sea cadets have also been researching the known route of French explorer LaSalle's sailing vessel Griffon which disappeared in 1679 after leaving Green Bay, Wisconsin with a load of furs. The remains of the Griffon have never been located.

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Ken Gerasimos, 1st Vice President of Detroit Lodge No. 7, has posted a notice on the ISMA website regarding Michigan Senate Bill No. 955, commonly known as the Michigan Water Ballast Proposal. This proposal is highly controversial and threatens to seriously impact Great Lakes shipping as we know it. All members are urged to contact their state senators and representative to strongly protest the implications of this legislation. A copy of the website notice as posted by Capt. Gerasimos is enclosed, as is a statement by the U.S. Coast Guard Ninth District titled "Subject: Ballast Water and ANS." Also enclosed is a Lake Carriers' Association position paper titled "Michigan Ballast Water" mailed to R. Gasior, Chairman of the ISMA Grand Lodge Navigation, Engineering and Legislative Committee. These documents provide much background information. Several public hearings about this Senate proposal have been scheduled. The nearest site to Detroit is scheduled for Monroe, Michigan on Monday, April 10, 2000 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM in the Monroe City Hall Council Chamber.

The next meeting of the St. Clair/Detroit Rivers Operations Working Group is scheduled for Thursday, April 20 in Sarnia. Pat Owens, Chairman of the lodge's Navigation Committee, will as usual be representing the lodge at the meeting. Members who would like items added to the meeting's agenda should contact Capt. Owens as soon as possible. His phone number is 810-364-8374 and his e-mail address is: POWENS7020@AOL.COM

In other lodge news, congratulations are extended to member Frank McBride, who was recently awarded the second AAA Michigan / Lighthouse "Great Lakes Great Boating Award" at the Detroit Boat Show on February 11, 2000. An article about his award is enclosed. Frank has been very active in boating on the Great Lakes. Besides serving on the Michigan Waterways Commission, he also serves as host of the well received PBS series entitled "Ports of Call", a series of informative travel videos about various ports and harbors around the Great Lakes.

Several ISMA members recently received "Certificates of Merit" from the U.S. Coast Guard Ninth District. In ceremonies held on Tuesday, March 28, 2000 at the U.S. Coast Guard Base, Detroit, Admiral James D. Hall presented the certificates to G. Richard Boyle, Donald Carns, Leonard Tanner and Robert Ransch. All four are members of Detroit Lodge No. 7. Paul LaMarre of Port Huron Lodge No. 2 was also honored. Their certificates of merit were awarded in recognition of life-saving rescues conducted by the crews of the J. W. Westcott II Mailboat during the 1998 and 1999 seasons. A total of 5 persons were saved from drowning as a result of these rescues. James Hogan, general Manager of the J. W. Westcott Co. and also a member of Detroit Lodge No. 7, was presented with a letter of commendation for the high level of professionalism and humanitarian service exhibited by his Westcott staff in effecting these rescues.

The lodge has received word that the Sankore Marine Immersion Academy and High School, a charter school located in Detroit on East Jefferson, is looking for professional mariners who are willing to assist its training program aboard the school's 38-ton, 65-foot vessel Sea-Born (ex-Huron Lady). Point of contact is

Joseph Mastripolito  
501 Parkdale  
Rochester, MI 48307  
Home phone: 248-651-2127  
Work phone: 313-393-3062  
e-Mail: [jmastripolito@ameritech.net](mailto:jmastripolito@ameritech.net)

for those members who may wish to volunteer their time and expertise.

Sincere condolences are extending to member James Hogan, whose sister Joanne Bleiler passed away on March 14, 2000 after a brief illness. Joanne is survived by her husband Bill and two children, Jeff and Toni. She is also survived by her mother June Westcott Hogan, who is a member of our lodge Auxiliary.

Lodge member Tom Leinweber, who now spends his winter months in Florida, calls from time to time to inquire about lodge affairs. He advises that he volunteers at the Florida Adventure Museum in Punta Gorda and was recently featured on a local television news program for his volunteer work. He invites members to drop by and visit if they travel to Florida during the winter months.

Fraternally yours,

Paul M. Jagenow  
Secretary-Treasurer