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Grand Lodge
International Ship Masters' Association

ISMALLETTER

2014 Convention Group Photo



FINAL BELLS

Detroit Lodge #7 member Capt. **Elmer V. Dunn** (#10349) passed away on April 18, 2014, just ten days before his 102nd birthday. His career on the Great Lakes spanned six decades, mostly aboard Ford Motor Company vessels. Services were held on April 22.

Georgian Bay-Huronian Lodge #15 member and 2014 ISMA Grand Chaplain Capt. **Robert B. Hull** passed away suddenly while in Thunder Bay, Ontario, on May 2, 2014, at the age of 59. **Bob** was a 1976 graduate of Georgian College (where he also was an instructor), and most recently worked as a pilot with Great Lakes Pilotage Authority – District 3. **Bob** and his wife of over 35 years, **Julianne**, regularly attended ISMA conventions and were strong supporters of ISMA. In addition to his recent appointment as Grand Chaplain, **Bob** was also

serving as Lodge #15 secretary-treasurer at the time of his passing. Services were held on May 10. In addition to **Julianne**, survivors include sons **James** and **Caleb**. Information on the Robert Hull Memorial Scholarship (Georgian College) can be found on the Lodge #15 website (<https://sites.google.com/site/ismageorgianbayhuronianlodge15/home>).

The following is excerpted from a tribute written by **Philip Visser** and posted on the Lodge #15 website:

On Friday, May 2, Captain Robert Bruce Hull entered the perfect harbor of rest... Bob was a member of the first graduating class of the Marine Navigation Technology program at Georgian College... He sailed with Misener Transportation as an officer and master, and also was shore superintendent during his time with this company... In 1991, Bob assumed the role of a full-time professor of navigation at Georgian College. For the last 20 years, he served as a pilot with the Great Lakes Pilotage Authority in District 3 and the Welland Canal... He was a founding member of Georgian Bay-Huronian Lodge #15 of the International Ship Masters Association... He was known throughout the Great Lakes marine community.



Captain Robert Hull, left rear, with the other Grand Lodge officers at the 2014 Convention, Sault Ste. Marie, February 7.

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ISMA NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

ISMA Letter distribution is via e-mail through local lodge secretaries.

Make sure your local lodge secretary has your correct e-mail address.

ISMA Letter is always available on our website, www.shipmaster.org, for viewing at any time.

(Arrangements can be made for those members without email or internet access to receive a printed copy.)

Thank you.



Final Bells, continued

Northeast Michigan Lodge #19 member Capt. **Robert David Massey** passed away at the age of 90 on May 13, 2014, at his home, where he was receiving hospice care. He served in the US Navy during World War II and retired following 20 years of service in the Navy Seals. He then owned and operated Massey Marine Construction and Salvage, and in fact, salvaged most of the *Nordmeer* in Lake Huron. In 1978, he moved to Florida where he taught at Florida Institute of Technology until 1986. **Bob** is survived by his daughter, two sons, two grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. A memorial service will take place at a later date.

FROM THE LODGES

Buffalo Lodge #1:

Lodge #1 reports several recent changes to their lodge officers:

Secretary:	Jazmin J. Ptak
Treasurer:	George Haynes
Warden:	Robert Pfohl
Chaplain:	Lance W. Orton

Detroit Lodge #7:

The final meeting of Lodge #7's winter season was held on April 8, 2014, at Mariners' Church. Speakers were **John Jamian**, Executive Director of the Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority; and LTjg **Selena Warnke**, USCG Sector Detroit Inspections Division Chief, who addressed the lodge on matters relating to the vessel inspection process.

Cleveland Lodge #4:

The final Lodge #4 meeting prior to their summer break will be a Cuyahoga River and Cleveland Harbor cruise aboard Capt. **Wayne Bratton's Holiday**, on June 12, 2014.

Georgian Bay-Huron Lodge #15:

Lodge #15 member Capt. **Bruce Shepperd**, age 87, was featured in an article in the Owen Sound *Sun Times* on May 18, 2014, for his contribution to the Meaford Museum and his outstanding ship models. The museum's new marine exhibit showcased 13 model ships, including eight built by **Bruce**. He has also loaned several pieces of nautical gear to the museum. **Bruce** began his maritime career as a 16-year-old deckhand aboard the *Caribou*, a Manitoulin Island ferry. When he retired in 1994, he had captained eight Algoma Central Marine vessels. More info can be found at



www.meafordmuseum.ca and www.owensoundsuntimes.com/2014/05/17/meaford-museum-celebrates-marine-history.

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With some friendly guidance from Lodge #15, students at Georgian College have formed the Georgian College Marine League, with a mission "to connect cadets and alumni of marine programs." Membership is open to all current and former students of Georgian College's marine programs.

Northeast Michigan Lodge #19:

When the first freighter of the season arrived to load stone at Lafarge Presque Isle Quarry on April 15, 2014, Lodge #19 members were on hand. **Paul LaBrecque**, **Ted Rayha**, and **Lee Barnhill** (along with members of the media and Lafarge representatives) welcomed the *Hon. James L. Oberstar* and her captain, Port Huron Lodge #2 member **Joe Ruch** (photo below). The full *Alpena News* article is available at www.thealpenanews.com/page/content.detail/id/529256/1st-freighter-of-season-arrives-at-PI-quarry.html?nav=5004.



Lodge #19 held their annual spring dinner at the Courtyard Restaurant in Alpena on April 8, 2014 (photo below).



Raffle Winners

In case you were wondering... Winners of the Twin Sault Lodge #22 boat trip raffle have been announced. Grand Prize winner of a trip aboard an Interlake Steamship Company vessel is **Jim Hogan**, Highland, MI. Three Second Prize winners will each receive a round trip for two to Beaver Island; they are **Tom Sonnega**, Shoreline, WA; **Shane Murphy**, Royal Oak, MI; and **Dave Norman**, Barbeau, MI.

Port Huron Sea Cadet to Visit Hong Kong

US Naval Sea Cadet Chief **Sierra Slobodecki** will travel to Hong Kong this summer as part of an international Sea Cadet exchange. **Sierra** is a member of Port Huron's F.C. Sherman division, training on the USNSCS *Grayfox*.

NEW MEMBERS

Chicago Lodge #3:

Active Professional:	Scott Day	#12857
	Leslie Monroe Faith III	#12860
	Robert Oaks	#12861
	Dennis O'Leary	#12855
	Nathan W. Schley	#12862
	Gordon L. Steiner	#12859
	Fred Swastek	#12854
Associate:	Dr. Nancy Jackson	#A-12858
	Patricia Lock	#A-12856

Green Bay Lodge #18:

Active Professional:	Christopher Champeny	#12864
	Greg Melanson	#12865

Northeast Michigan Lodge #19:

Associate:	Russ Franzen	#A-12852
	Dean Wiltse	#A-12853

Niagara District Lodge #20:

Active Professional:	Joseph E. Nimako	#12851
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Twin Sault Lodge #22:

Associate:	Marc Vander Meulen	#A-12866
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Grand Traverse Lodge #23:

Active Professional:	David Lieberman	#12863
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Note: The pennant number for **David Lieberman**, Grand Traverse Lodge #23, was incorrectly listed in the March-April "New Members" list as #12851. His pennant number as listed above is correct.



**HAVE YOU SIGNED UP A
NEW MEMBER RECENTLY?**

Marine Transportation System Public Discussion

The US Coast Guard, US Army Corps of Engineers, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are co-sponsoring "Future of Navigation – 21st Century Waterways" public listening sessions in several locations across the US. These meetings provide a venue for open communications between various Federal agencies and US Marine Transportation System (MTS) stakeholders. They will provide MTS users and stakeholders an opportunity to express their needs for navigational information and service delivery systems necessary to improve safety and efficiency of maritime transportation. A listening session will be held on June 12, 2014, at 5 pm, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Port Huron, MI.

Ballast Water Challenges Continue

The Great Lakes Maritime Task Force has sent a letter to US legislators participating in the Intra-Parliamentary Group meeting with Canadian government personnel in Ottawa, ON, beginning June 6, 2014. The letter details objections to Canada's proposed ballast water regulations, which, if implemented, could be disastrous for Great Lakes shipping. Stay tuned...

WRRDA Passes

Following the 412-4 vote in the US House of Representatives on May 20, 2014, and the 91-7 vote in the Senate on May 22, Congress approved H.R. 3080, the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA). The bill contains provisions that will significantly reduce the dredging backlog on the Great Lakes by increasing the amount spent on maintaining deep-draft ports and waterways, and designating the Great Lakes a "navigation system" for the purposes of maintenance dredging. WRRDA requires the government to increase national harbor maintenance funding, reaching 100 percent of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF) revenues by 2025.

GREAT LAKES LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR

Michigan Congressman **Bill Huizenga** was named 2014 Great Lakes Legislator of the Year by the Great Lakes Maritime Task Force. The annual award is presented to a legislator who has helped advance shipping on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway.

Huizenga's district includes Michigan ports that are suffering from the dredging crisis such as Muskegon and Grand Haven. "Congressman Huizenga has shown incredible resolve in addressing the dredging crisis on the Great Lakes," said **James H. I. Weakley**, President of GLMTF as well as Lake Carriers' Association. "His laser-like focus on the issue is one of the big reasons the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA)... contains provisions key to ending the dredging crisis. The bill not only calls for more funding for dredging, but designates the Great Lakes a system in terms of dredging, and that in itself should put the Lakes on an even footing with other waterways."

Huizenga is also a strong supporter of adequate US Coast Guard icebreaking resources on the Lakes, especially noteworthy in light of the very harsh 2013-14 winter and the difficult shipping breakout that followed.

USCG Requests Comments on Rulemaking – Special Load Line Exemption for Lake Michigan

In order to promote barge transportation of certain agricultural products and cargoes, petitioners have requested that the US Coast Guard create a load line-exempted route along the eastern shore of Lake Michigan. This would effectively extend the existing Chicago (Calumet Harbor), IL, to Burns Harbor, IN, exemption up the eastern shore of Lake Michigan to Muskegon, MI. Restrictions would be similar to those for the existing exempted route along the western shore between Calumet Harbor and Milwaukee, WI. Public comments are encouraged. Comments and related material can be submitted online via <http://www.regulations.gov> on or before August 25, 2014. When submitting comments, include the docket number **USCG-2013-0954**. The announcement appeared in the *Federal Register* on May 27, and can be viewed in its entirety at www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-05-27/pdf/2014-11931.pdf.

ISMA Membership Applications

Available Online at

www.shipmaster.org/membership.htm

Senators Urge Re-Evaluation of New Lock at Soo

On May 22, 2014, a bi-partisan group of 11 Great Lakes Senators signed a letter urging the US Army Corps of Engineers to re-evaluate the benefit-cost ratio of building another Poe-sized lock at the Soo. The letter urged the Corps to reassess the true value of a second maximum-size lock. Led by Sen. **Carl Levin** (D-MI), the group included **Debbie Stabenow** (D-MI), **Tammy Baldwin** (D-WI), **Dan Coats** (R-IN), **Al Franken** (D-MN), **Amy Klobuchar** (D-MN), **Joe Donnelly** (D-IN), **Rob Portman** (R-OH), **Sherrod Brown** (D-OH), **Charles E. Schumer** (D-NY), and **Ron Johnson** (R-WI).

Former Congressman Oberstar Passes

Congressman **James L. Oberstar**, who represented Minnesota's iron ore mining and shipping industries in the US House from 1974 to 2011, passed away on May 3, 2014, at the age of 79. "Great Lakes shipping has lost its greatest friend and staunchest supporter," said Lake Carriers' Association President **Jim Weakley**. "He was at the forefront of every effort to make waterborne commerce on the Lakes and Seaway safer and more efficient." Great Lakes Maritime Task Force named **Oberstar** Great Lakes Legislator of the Year in 1999, and Interlake Steamship Company renamed MV *Hon. James L. Oberstar* in his honor in 2011.

License Advancement Program

Twin Ports Lodge #12 member **Christopher Edyvean** has been the instructor for the annual winter Great Lakes License Advancement Program (LAP) at Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies (MITAGS). The four-week course prepares license candidates for an original deck officer's credential or an upgrade. **Christopher** reports that the following completed the program on February 12, 2014: **Mike King**, **Dustin Darby**, **Eric Darby**, and **Kyle Joyce** of Interlake Steamship Company; **Shawn Pavlovich** and **Dan Manning** of Grand River Navigation; and **Phil Slominski** of the NY State Barge Canal Corp.

Industry Newsbriefs –

The US Maritime Administration hosted the Second National Maritime Strategy Symposium: Domestic Shipping Opportunities on May 6, 2014, in Washington, DC.

St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation Administrator **Betty Sutton** spoke about the Seaway in Lorain, OH, on April 16, 2014. Lorain was one of the cities she represented when she served in the US House of Representatives. She suggested that the Great Lakes region, a manufacturing and agricultural hub, be called the "Opportunity Belt." Cooperation between cities and ports is critical, she said. "The Great Lakes region is a vibrant and dynamic economic environment that is primed for further use and economic development. But, we have to make it happen."

The city of Thunder Bay, ON, is hosting the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative's Annual General Meeting June 18-20, 2014. More information is at www.thunderbay2014.com.

Earlier this spring, the US EPA awarded 11 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grants totaling more than \$5 million for projects to combat invasive species in the Great Lakes basin. More information is available at www.glri.us.

continued next column...

Green Marine's seventh annual conference, GreenTech 2014, will be held June 10-12 in Saint John, New Brunswick. For more information, see www.green-marine.org.

Federal MPs and other Canadian politicians, together with Chamber of Marine Commerce members, toured the International Marine Training and Research Centre, Georgian College, Owen Sound, ON, on April 12, 2014. The visitors learned about Canada's marine industry and the college's plans for a new Marine Emergency Duties training facility.

The fifth annual Maritime Industry Congressional Sail-In was held in Washington, DC, on May 7, 2014. For more information, see www.maritimeindustrycongressionalsail-in.org.

International Ship Masters' Association

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