March 2, 2007

TO: Members of Detroit Lodge No. 7

Enclosed is the **lodge schedule of events and meetings** for the months of March and April. Here are the highlights:

- The **Blessing of the Fleet** will be on <u>Sunday, March 11</u> at Mariners' Church. Members are encouraged to wear their uniforms to the service. Free parking is available in the underground garage below Jefferson Avenue.
- Chuck Kakuska of Sea-K's Licensing Service will address the lodge at our noon luncheon on <u>Wednesday, March 14</u> at the Island Cove Marina. Chuck spoke at the ISMA Convention in Cleveland and he put on an excellent presentation. Because of all the changes in the licensing process, the licensed members of the lodge should make every effort to attend this program.
- A lodge luncheon and business meeting will take place at 12:00 noon on <u>Wednesday, March 21</u> at the Island Cove Marina.
- An evening meeting and program will take place on <u>Monday, March 26</u> at the Island Cove Marina. This is a joint meeting with the lodge's Auxiliary. Lodge members are encouraged to bring their spouses or guests. This will be a potluck dinner. The lodge will provide the main meat dish and attendees are asked to bring a food dish to pass. Monday is an unusual day of the week for the lodge to gather, but we shifted the meeting date to accommodate the schedule of our speaker. Leonard Marszalek of the Detroit River Front Conservancy will address the lodge on the redevelopment of the Detroit shoreline between the Ambassador Bridge and the Belle Isle Bridge. He will describe the Conservancy's ongoing efforts to revitalize the waterfront.
- The **last winter meeting of the lodge** will be held at 12:00 noon on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>April 3</u> at Mariners' Church. For many years the lodge has made a tradition of holding our last meeting of the season at Mariners' and Fr. Ingalls has kindly allowed this tradition to continue. Free parking passes cannot be used on weekdays, so you will have to pay to park. The underground garage below Jefferson Avenue is closest to the church. Parking would cost about \$8.00 or so. Members may wish to carpool.

Remember that the schedule is a little irregular, regarding which day of the week the lodge will be gathering. As you can see from the underlined dates, the lodge has events

on a Sunday, two Wednesdays, a Monday and a Tuesday. Pay close attention to the days and dates indicated.

About a week ago the lodge e-mailed the **convention delegate's report** to all the lodge members who have e-mail addresses on file with the lodge. The rest of the lodge is receiving a copy of the delegate's report in this mailing. If there is no report in this mailing and you didn't receive it by e-mail either, please let me know. Some e-mail addresses on file have failed due to typographical errors, changes in servers or whatever. E-mail corrections can be sent to either <u>detroitlodge7@aol.com</u> or <u>pjagenow@aol.com</u>,

At this year's ISMA Convention, the Grand Lodge raised the lodge's membership assessment by \$5.00 per member. Beginning in 2008, **annual dues for members of Detroit Lodge No. 7 will increase** by \$5.00. This is the first dues increase since 1995.

I would like to thank Jason Elliott, Bernie Ogden and Oscar and Pat Rosso for joining me in **volunteering to help staff the Dossin Museum booth at the recent Detroit Boat Show.** Their efforts are greatly appreciated. As you know, any use of the museum's DeRoy Hall for lodge meetings is contingent on the volunteer efforts of the membership and the financial support of the lodge. Last December the lodge held two meetings at Dossin Museum before it was closed for renovation.

Dossin Museum will have a Grand Re-Opening on the weekend of March 24 and March 25. Admission is free through the generous support of Masco. The special reopening hours will be 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM both days. This is an opportunity for everyone to see the results of the renovations ordered by the Detroit Historical Society.

I have received several inquiries from members as to whether the lodge will again be able to hold meetings at Dossin Museum. I really don't know. That can be explored after the museum re-opens later this month. In any case, we will get through this season's meeting schedule in good shape, thanks especially to member Sam Tundo, who sponsored the lodge at the Island Cove Marina. Personally, I have been very happy with the clubhouse at Island Cove. The layout of the room has been ideal for serving food, holding membership meetings and hosting speakers. Plus, the staff at the marina has been very accommodating. Some lodge members have raised the issue of distance and drive time, especially those from downriver and the northwest side. Of course, those on the east side and the lodge's Harsens Island contingent are pretty happy about their shorter drive times to meetings. With the lodge scattered over such a wide metropolitan area, some members will always have longer drives than others no matter where we meet. Keep this in mind, and I invite your comments.

Fraternally yours,

Paul M. Jagenow Secretary-Treasurer