

# MOORING LINES



NOVEMBER 2002

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## WATERFRONT STATISTICS

SHIPS IN PORT: 37  
NO. OF VISITS: 80  
SEAFARERS RECEIVING MINISTRY: 251  
NEW MINISTERING SEAFARERS: 0  
NEW CORRESPONDENCE COURSE STUDENTS: 0

Edited By: Deacon Gene Lawrence  
Managing Editor: Lorraine Stargel

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

John Thurber, President  
Sheila Wescott, Secretary  
Roger Lawrence, Treasurer  
John Engles  
Doug Wolford  
Maynard "Doc" Campbell

### Mission Statement

The Tacoma Seafarers' Center is organized to minister holistically, (spiritually, emotionally and physically) to seafarers who come to the Port of Tacoma. Our ministry emphasis is spreading the saving gospel of Jesus Christ world-wide to and through Seafarers.

### HATS OFF:

To **all of you generous supporters**. We have had some tremendous surprises in new gift giving. To a couple of you recent donors, I say a special one thousand blessings to each of you.

A special "Thanks" to **TCM Internet Services (Rev. Robert Grothe and Doug Pariseau)** for their fabulous work on our web site.

Also, a "Thank You" to **Lorraine Stargel** for her generosity and the generosity of an **anonymous donor**, both whom have provided the monies to get our web site started and up and running.

A special "Thank You" to **Ron and Sheila Wescott** for donating for the first year hosting fees of our web site.

### BIBLES DISTRIBUTED:

Chinese – 10 Filipino – 15 Japanese – 1 India – 3

### 'JESUS' VIDEOS DISTRIBUTED:

Chinese – 4 English – 4 Filipino – 11 Korean – 1  
Japanese – 3 Russian – 1 Swedish – 1 India – 3  
Bulgarian – 1 Burmese – 1

### CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY & CREW – MV ALESLEVADA

The bulk-carrier ship MV Aleslevada, with a full complement of 29 mainland Chinese officers and crew, had been in the dock for over a week (dock lock out going on) when the 60-year old chief engineer Jiang Y. S. was brought to the hospital in an emergency. Sadly, he did not survive the crisis, he died. I remembered a couple of days ago, I went up to the ship, and with everybody in the crew mess, I presented and played the 'JESUS' movie in Chinese-Mandarin language, for everyone to see. Praise God! The psalmist declared, "As for man, his days are like grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourishes; when the wind has passed over it, it is no more; and its place acknowledges it no longer." (Ps 103:15-16)

Capt. Tang X. G., the master, called me for some help and assistance – he and the crew needed to be consoled on this tragedy. He agreed, when I asked him that we pray for the Lord's help. The ITF was informed accordingly, to

further assist in the situation. Finally, the ship was cleared by the Health authorities to be free from any diseases that would endanger the crew. And after a week, we conducted the funeral service, without the family of the deceased, since no one was coming according to the captain!

The captain gave his statement about the late C/E Jiang during the service - most of the officers and crew attended. We offered our deepest condolence and sympathy to the captain and crew, as well as to the family (in China). The apostle Paul, admonished us, "LOVE must be sincere, ...rejoice with those who rejoice; **mourn with those who mourn, ...**" (Rom 12:9-21)

**Prayers for these crew** would bring the gospel message deeper into their lives (Captain and the new chief engineer and some crew have received the New Testaments in Chinese, and have shown interest in it). They've expressed their sincere gratitude of our assistance to them in this tragedy!

Lito B. Dicdican

**"We must show them we care, before they care what we know."**

**Rev. Ray Eckhoff**



**SPECIAL: Web Site & E-Mail Note:**

### NOW FUNCTIONAL → Tacoma Seafarers' Web Site.

Please check it out at <http://www.tacomaseafarers.org>. If anyone has any comments or suggestions about our web site, or anything for that matter, please let me know.

One of the features accessible on our web site allows our supporters to "donate via credit card" utilizing the services of PayPal, the world's #1 on-line payment service that lets you send money safely and securely to anyone with an e-mail address.

**E-MAIL:** You may also contact us at anytime through our e-mail address at [center@tacomaseafarers.org](mailto:center@tacomaseafarers.org).

Gene Lawrence  
Executive Director

**REPORT ON QUEBEC, CANADA CONFERENCE**

The North American Maritime Ministry Conference was held in Quebec, Canada on September 14-17, 2002. There were representatives from 48 different ports from the United States and Canada. The Conference was well attended and enjoyed by all. Of special note was the fabulous presentation of food. Each meal was a spectacular culinary delight, and worthy of a Martha Stewart award.

The information presented at our Conference in Quebec was very informative; we learned what was happening at different seafarer centers around the world. It was a time of sharing and learning for all.

Much has changed in all of our lives since 911. Since that fateful day, I have done much more reading on the religion of Islam, in an effort to understand both the religion and the people that practice that religion. Before 911, I new that Allah was the god of Islam, and that Muhammad was their prophet. Prior to that time, I was busy working and raising my family, leaving little time to study other religions. As a Christian, I was active in church, which included teaching Sunday School and having regular Bible studies at our home. After much studying on the religion of Islam, I have come to the following conclusion; God and Allah are not the same. No nation has every been peacefully converted to Islam; every nation that has been converted has been brought under dominion by Muhammad's sword. The religion of Islam has 5 pillars that a faithful Muslim must practice to ensure their place in paradise which are:

- 1, The first pillar is the "Shahada" or profession of the "Umma" (good or sincere Muslim). The good Muslim need only recite, "there is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is his prophet."
2. The second pillar of Islam is "Slat" or prayer ritual. The prayer ritual is to be preformed 5 times a day facing Mecca. The true believer must pray bowing toward Mecca.

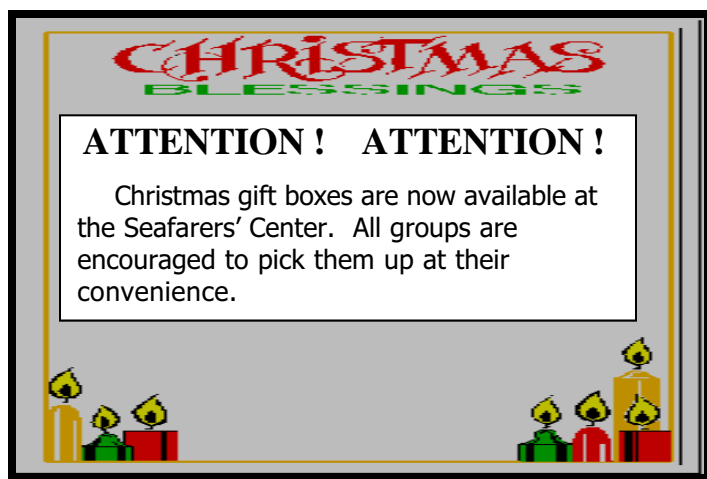
3. The third pillar of Islam is the "Zakat" or giving alms to the poor. Every good Muslim must give alms to the poor, which benefits the community and supports evangelism of the Islam faith. The amount that is given is not dictated, just that one give to the poor.

4. The fourth pillar of Islam is "Haj" or pilgrimage. Every good Muslim is to travel at least once in their lifetime to Mecca and pray at the monolithic pantheon, called the "Ka'ba". Going to Mecca gives the devout Muslim the opportunity to walk where the prophet Muhammad walked.

5. The fifth pillar of Islam is the "Saum" or fasting ritual. Once a year during the month of Ramadan, Muslims are to abstain from all good and drink during daylight hours.

I am happy to report that I am now a board member of the Lutheran Association for Maritime Ministry (LAMM). Elections were held during our last Board meeting on September 18, 2002. This past month, I have been blessed with much clothing and books generously donated by the public and given to the Seafarers' Center. The Lord has abundantly blesses us.

Lloyd Bovee



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**NEXT TSC BOARD MEETING -- November 5, 2002**

**NEXT LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING -- November 26, 2002**

Hostesses: Our Savior Lutheran Church Ladies

Devotions: Shirley Muntz

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