



# MOORING LINES



SEPTEMBER 2003

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## WATERFRONT STATISTICS

SHIPS IN PORT:	77
NO. OF VISITS:	69
SEAFARERS RECEIVING MINISTRY:	319
NEW MINISTERING SEAFARERS:	0
NEW CORRESPONDENCE COURSE STUDENTS:	0
NEW BIBLE STUDY LEADER:	0

Edited By: Deacon Gene Lawrence  
Managing Editor: Lorraine Stargel

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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### 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.

## WHAT WILL BE?

During the past month, my wife Barbara and I vacationed on a cruise via the inside passage to Alaska. What a beautiful part of the world. The passage might be unequalled in its beauty. Two weeks later, my son Brian and I would fly with three friends to Anchorage and drive to Seward to fish for Salmon and Halibut. Fishing in Alaska is one of those rites of passage that I have been doing for the last 8-10 years. It truly is, the last great wilderness, we see numerous wildlife, beautiful mountains, glaciers, and fishing in the Gulf of Alaska (truly may be God's Sea of Plenty).

I am writing this article over in Eastern Washington in a small trailer that my family and I use for fishing, meditation, and just getting away. Yesterday when Barb and I arrived, it was 110 degrees. Today it is a manageable 95 degrees.

My thoughts are on what direction the Seafarers' Center will take or have to take to be successful in the future. Like all non-profit organizations, the usual number one question might be where our future funding will come from?

Organizations, individuals, and most other sources are all reviewing or rethinking their giving. We must provide you, our Seafarers' Supporters, continued feedback; we need your input to be more financially creative and to reanalyze our expenditures. It would appear that we also must seek other forms of giving (i.e. grants, endowments, labor and industry, port support and other forms of financial aid).

Recently we were invited to the Port Authority where a very large expansion plan was presented. Some of the process is already underway such as auto, truck unloading has moved to Port of Tacoma Road. Evergreen Lines will move to the end of Blair Waterway. This move will modify our entrance to Alexander after 2005.

Changes in the regime for Seafarers visiting US ports, has resulted in cancellation of many shore leaves. As a result many seafarers have been imprisoned on their vessels when calling at US Ports. Seamen's Missions have protested such treatments.

We have been able to negotiate with immigration to let seamen use shore phones one at a time, but Captains are reluctant. They fear fines or even ships being seized. Some of the crews on these ships are assembled the last few days before sailing. Seamen VISA or the shipping company failed to have time to purchase shore leaves for the crew.

We are currently trying to resolve a very serious problem on these ships, that being the use of our cell phones. Currently the crew buys phone cards from us or other

vendors. Because of misuse of our cell phones by the seafarers, the best solution for them is to use the pay phones at the dock. We will continue to pursue a satisfactory solution.

Our ability to provide needed items such as clothing, toiletries, magazines, books, religious materials, all need to meet the needs of the crew and their beliefs. It's fun to give out T-shirts, newspapers, Bibles, pens, cards, books, etc. All items get the biggest smiles. They are free!! If you have other ideas, give us a call. Please realize that most of the men have but the sparsest of possessions.

Obviously our biggest and greatest need, and one not easily resolved, is volunteer help. One could wish that the Center to be open from 10:00 to 10:00 each day. Unfortunately, that currently is not possible. The men and women working do their best; and yes, some even work everyday. We would really appreciate more volunteer help and even a couple hours a month would be appreciated!



**Please help us. We Need You!**

As I have learned, since last December, it doesn't take significant training or talent to work at the Center. **It takes a love of God, a desire to help your fellow man, and a compassionate soul.** This experience has been richly rewarding, the pay unmatched, and most of all the opportunity to share and give of ones love and life refreshing.

**Proverb:** Patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet.

Ed Egan

## AUGUST REPORT – CHAPLAIN LLOYD BOVEE

Since my last report, we attended a wedding in Austin, Texas on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August. It was warm, a balmy 95 to 100 degrees! Our oldest daughter's youngest son was the groom. He and his bride have been good friends since the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and are both 28 years old. We all went down and I was able to participate in the ceremony. Also, I was privileged in performing two baptisms one for a child and another for a young man. It just doesn't get much better then that to be a part of a family event and in the spiritual growth and development of another person.

We now have a new peel and stick sign that we can place on ship walls that is semi-permanent. The shipmates will know our phone numbers when they have misplaced our cards.

I had five Filipino Christian shipmates at the Center and we talked and asked each other questions. I finally asked them, "When a man of another faith prays, whom do they pray too?" (We know that all seamen pray.) I got out six Bibles, all identical, and gave each man one. I opened mine to page one and had each of them do the same. I asked, "What does it say in Genesis 1:1?" "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." I then asked them to whom should they pray. They all knew the answer was to God that made all things. Well, they all went back to their ship with a Bible, and now I am waiting until the next time they are in Port for a good report. They are the ones who will advance the kingdom of God in Christ Jesus on the searlanes of the world.

Chaplain Lloyd Bovee



Aboard the ship **M/V MARIA SALAMON** moored at the grain terminal, seafarers show off their newly acquired T-shirts that had been donated to the Tacoma Seafarers' Center by Ed Egan's son Mike Egan, who works for Microsoft.



Crewmember Ralph Mapa M/B aboard the Evergreen ship **EVER GRACE** is standing in front of one of our new stickers.

**NEW PEEL & STICK SIGN**



**TACOMA SEAFARERS CENTER**  
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**Transportation, Fellowship, Phones, Ship Stores, Recreation  
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Aboard the car carrier ship **M/V Queen Ace**, M/B Alex C. Salvador stands in front of one of our new stickers.



Aboard the ship **Fragrant Island**, volunteer Ed Egan is standing in front of one of our new stickers. The sticker is affixed to the bulkhead --- just above and to the left of Ed's helmet.

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**NEXT TSC BOARD MEETING -- October 7, 2003 @ 7:00 am**  
**NEXT LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING -- September 23, 2003**  
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