

MOORING LINES



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WATERFRONT STATISTICS

SHIPS IN PORT:	73
NO. OF VISITS:	51
SEAFARERS RECEIVING MINISTRY:	416
NEW MINISTERING SEAFARERS:	0
NEW CORRESPONDENCE COURSE STUDENTS:	0
NEW BIBLE STUDY LEADER:	0

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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.

CHRISTMAS BOXES ARE IN

Yes, it is that time of year again! Come and get yours before they are all gone.



We have 2000 boxes for this year. It is always best to call before you come down, to make sure someone will be here. The sad truth is that sometimes we have to close and lock the doors when we go pick up seafarers, due to a lack of volunteers.

TOP WISDOM

The rope handrails on the side of the gangway were greasy and the stairs were steep and shaky, but the welcome smile on the face of a young Chinese seaman made the climb worthwhile.

The 4,000-ton capacity bulk grain cargo ship *Top Wisdom* of Chinese registry had arrived at the TEMCO dock the day before. Ed Egan had taken one of the Center's cell phones aboard for the seamen to use their phone cards to call home. However, a language challenge proved difficult for clearly understood instructions on usage.

Gene Lawrence, Executive Director of the Tacoma Seafarers' Center, called new volunteers George and Lisa Stokes for help. Lisa is a native born Chinese speaker. They boarded the ship where Lisa immediately established rapport with the Captain who graciously received them. It was soon learned that the Captain, who speaks some English, was able to figure out the instructions and the seamen were able to complete their calls. Nevertheless, the Captain expressed great appreciation that the Center had sent volunteers (especially a Chinese speaker) to show concern and to offer additional help.

The next day George and Lisa teamed up with two other new volunteers, Tom and Barb Harris, to return to the ship to take a case of donated apples, more phone

cards and the good will of caring people. The Captain was overwhelmed. During the first visit he received the team in the crew lounge. This time, however, he took the team to his private quarters and served tea and orange-flavored sunflower seeds. Then he took the team to the bridge. What a fascinating high-tech place! In the end, he showed the team a seaman's compact cabin. They enjoyed the visit.

To make a long story short, the impact on the Captain and his crew was "not to show how much the team knew, but to let them know how much the team cared." Because the crew could not disembark for economic and political reasons, it was important that the Center was able to extend its outreach to establish communications and cultural connections. This is just another way to impart love and brotherhood to further international friendship and peace.



Pictured from left to right are Volunteers Tom & Barbara Harris, Lisa Stokes (husband George Stokes is taking the picture) and two crew members – the First Officer and Captain – of the *Top Wisdom*.

JOHNNY APPLESEED VISITS CENTER

It all started in KJV Genesis 1:11, and God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth," and it was so. The

“fruit” which the Bible says Adam and Eve ate in the Garden of Eden, is believed by many people to have been an apple.

Many years later a man named John Chapman an Ohio pioneer became a legend. He was a strange mixture of plant nurseryman, herb doctor, minor military hero, and religious enthusiast. At the beginning of the 1800’s, he appeared along the Ohio River and became known to his frontier neighbors as “Johnny Appleseed” because of his ardent way he distributed apple seeds and sprouts in central and northern Ohio.

This October the Center was blessed with our Port Chaplain Lloyd Bovee meeting a Zillah Washington apple grower at the Puyallup Farmer’s Market. They struck up a deal and we have been able to provide 54 visiting ships each with a case of Red Delicious Apples. Each case weighs forty pounds and is delivered in conjunction with other Center materials.

The Seafarers *raved*, the Officers were more than *elated*, and the Captains and Chief Officers were very *thankful* for the kindness shown by our Center. Most noticeably appreciated were the seven or more ships with no shore passes.

In an “editorial sense,” isn’t it wonderful that with a small group effort, we can show the world what an outstanding product Washington produces. We are first in apple production, followed by New York, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

In closing remember:

**Apples can be sour,
Apples can be sweet,
Apples can be juicy,
But they sure are nice to eat.**

Thought for the Day: “May the clouds in your life form only a background for sunsets and rainbows.”

Ed Egan

NEXT TSC BOARD MEETING -- **November 10, 2003 @ 7:00 am**

NEXT LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING – **November 25, 2003**

Hostess: Donna Eckhoff **Devotions:** Judy Mandt **Cookies:** Fran Liebert



BIBLES, VIDEOS and CD’s

We are having another **BVC Fundraiser**. Do you have any used books, videos or cd’s that are in good condition? We have need of many of them. Call us to come pick them up, drop them off at the Tacoma Seafarers’ Center, or at your church.

NOTE: We cannot accept the condensed Readers’ Digest Books for sale because of copyright laws.

Spread the word to family and friends so they can participate. This is very much needed, as our finances are very limited.

Speaking of Finances



This year has seen some drastic reduction in our receiving financial support. For some reason it seems that we have lost some of our supporters. We understand that the economy has been a bit tough on many of us, but we still have God’s work to do at the Center.

We are still hard at work to make Disciples of all Nations as the Nations of the World visit us here in the Port of Tacoma. We are truly a Global Mission at work. Thank you for your prayers and financial support.

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