



MOORING LINES



A TIE WITH PEOPLE OF THE SEA



SEPTEMBER 2006

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WATERFRONT STATISTICS

SHIPS IN PORT: 77
NO. OF VISITS: 77
SEAFARERS RECEIVING MINISTRY: 497



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
John Thurber, President
Roger Lawrence, Treasurer
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Herb Bauer

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

... go to the **Steve Maxted Family** of MGL/Multilingual for the beautiful clean job done in the flower beds and hedges at our main building on Alexander Avenue. They also did edging cleanup as well. It was a big job and done very well, to the Glory of God.

Gene Lawrence, Executive Director

GOOD BYE & THANK YOU

... to **Rev. Lloyd Bovee**, Port Chaplain. Lloyd has done tremendous work with the seafarers while serving at the Tacoma Seafarers' Center. His contributions to the ministry will be long lasting. He has decided, in his words, that it is time to be "Movin' On". We wish him well and an abundance of God's blessings.

Gene Lawrence, Executive Director

MESSAGE FROM CAPTAIN LEE, GREENWICH BRIDGE

Dear Mr. Tom Harris,

This is Captain Y.C. Lee who used to drop by your Seafarers' Center while my ship, **MV Greenwich Bridge**, stayed at the Port of Tacoma, Pier 4.

I appreciate your kindness you showed me every time ship calls at Tacoma. My ship will arrive Tacoma again on 23rd August at 2230 hours. Also, I have plan to purchase large amount of crew's provisions as I used to at Tacoma. I can't thank you enough for your providing transportation for my crewmembers every time.

For the golfing appointment with you last time you proposed, probably, things will not be allowing me to play golf this time at Tacoma on between 23rd - 26th August. Thank you anyway for your kindness you showed me.

I'll stop by your Seafarers' Center, i.e. my favorite place in Tacoma, this time where I can relax with a cup of coffee available anytime sitting on comfortable sofa.

Thank you.

MESSAGE FROM ELMER, FORMER COOK, VALENCIA BRIDGE

Hi! Tom. I am already with my family and very happy. As of now we are having fun going out shopping and spending time playing together.

Sorry, because only today I saw my e-mail. I was very busy on playing with my son. I was so happy from the time I arrive here.

I hope all of you at the TSC are doing fine, hope to see you again if ever I travel to TACOMA or in other vessel. I have a nice time while I am staying there. All of you are very much approachable and easy to be with. I enjoy being there, I miss you all.

As always, God bless you all. Always be the same and never change your good relation to all seafarers. I will always keep the good memories having all of you as a friend and teacher of God's word.

Elmer

LOST IN TACOMA

Recently (7/3/06), my husband and I spent the afternoon in Tacoma - we often park at Freight House Square, ride the Link to the end and come back to the Museum. Wandering around downtown Tacoma and Ruston Way on a Sunday afternoon is a special treat and adventure.

We were in our car headed for home on Pacific Avenue and noticed a fellow looking up and down the street, starting in one direction he would turn around and start in another direction. My husband, Tom Harris, is a volunteer at the Tacoma Seafarers' Center and immediately said, "that fellow is lost and I bet he is off the ship, **MULBERRY PARIS** docked at the grainier". We went around the block, parked and Tom started after the man on foot. He finally caught up with him and a very difficult conversation began. He was from China and sure enough off the ship and *lost*. He got into our car and we took him to his ship. When he got out he thanked us with such a smile of appreciation and gratitude. I was glad Tom identified this man as being lost and we were able to get him back to his ship. We were pleased, blessed and thankful we *took the time*.

Barbara Harris

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

Rev. Ray Eckhoff

POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

We are hearing in the News so much these days about the radical Muslims, that we are often left with the question as to whether we can witness effectively to them about Jesus. Can a Muslim come to believe in Jesus? The article on the next page, 'An Exciting Story from Turkey,' is from a friend who works in Turkey with the Muslims. The story will show the power of the Holy Spirit.

Gene Lawrence, Executive Director

AN EXCITING STORY FROM TURKEY

Two and one half years ago, a Turkish university student was home on winter break. He loved to climb mountains and he frequently climbed Mt. Olympus in Turkey, near Antalya. He had been seeking to find out about Jesus and when he was on top of the mountain, Jesus appeared to him and said that He was God. This university student shared the experience with his Muslim mother. She was puzzled, but not angry. Two days later, he went back to the university and soon after was hit by a train and was killed. The details of the accident are not known, because he was alone. After this tragedy, the mother wanted to find out about Jesus; but where? There are about 120 Believers in the city of around a million people. Her other son said he thought he knew where there was a church and so let's go and try to find it. Ramazan, the pastor, was there. He comes to the church every day with one day, Saturday, off. So he was there. He spent two hours with the mother and shared Jesus with her. He also gave her a Bible. A short time later, she came back and wanted to become a Believer; so Ramazan lead her to the Lord. Her husband did not become a believer for 6 months, but came with her to church. After the father became a believer, their son became a believer. Since that time, the mother has shared the gospel with many, many people and around six people have come to know Jesus in this short 2 _ years.

Because I have experienced death with a loved one, we have become good friends. Even though I can't imagine what it would be like to lose a son, I do understand the loss of a loved one. Yesterday, they asked me if I wanted to go with them to the cemetery. I said yes. What an experience I had. We first went to Larry's grave and they cleaned the marble and garden part and we stayed there for a few minutes. Then we went to their son's grave. The first thing I noticed was that their son's birth date was written on the stone but not death date. I asked why? They said that because according to John 11:25, 26, which is on Larry's grave, even though you die you live and he was living; he was just living in a different location with Jesus. Wow, what a testimony. She said she has had many opportunities to share with people at the cemetery because they all ask why no death date. Then she started to pray. She thanked God for taking her son home, even though she missed him so much, but it was worth it to find Him. I was really blessed by the maturity of this wonderful mother. I am not sure I could do the same. Later she started reading the Bible out loud

and then we sang some hymns. What a wonderful experience.

With each believer there is a story; but, this one I was privileged to be able to experience some of the sorrows and joys of this story. I thought you might like to read about it.

Just one side note. Often when a Muslim has a bad experience like a death of a loved one, if the loved one becomes a believer, then God is punishing them for leaving Islam. So this story is extremely unusual.

Gloria Patterson

THEY LOVE TO COME TO TACOMA

Last week, a Ukrainian Seafarer wanted to go someplace where he could go on a long hike. Ed then drove him to the Point Defiance/Ruston area and he expressed he would like to walk all the way back to the Center.

I was there when he returned later with his backpack. He happily loaded his bag with many chocolate candy bars, from our store, stating that he absolutely loved chocolate! After asking where his home was, he went to the map on the wall to point it out to me. Before walking back to his ship, he expressed to me that the crew always gets excited when they know they're coming to Tacoma, because we take such good care of them. They love to be able to make their phone calls in privacy, get on the Internet (free), and simply relax while watching sports on TV and enjoying some coffee and cookies.

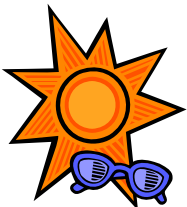
Donna Eckhoff

NEVER TAKE OUR DEMOCRACY FOR GRANTED

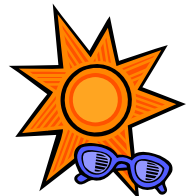
While working at the Center one Monday, I had some special time visiting with a young Burmese. As his fellow crew members were very busy phoning home to their family members, he had tried many times to call his home in Burma, but was repeatedly cut off, so he was unable to talk with his loved ones.

He then explained to me with teary eyes that his country is run by the Military and the authorities are making sure no one will be able to infiltrate the country with Democracy. Therefore, phone calls are strictly monitored and their life in general is very difficult. My heart went out to him. These people need much prayer.

Donna Eckhoff



NEXT TSC BOARD MEETING – **December 4, 2006**
NEXT LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING – **September 26, 2006**
Devotions: Betty Hoffman
Hostess: Zion Lutheran Church
Snacks: Betty Hoffman



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