



MOORING LINES



A TIE WITH PEOPLE OF THE SEA



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WATERFRONT STATISTICS

SHIPS IN PORT: 82
NO. OF VISITS: 79
SEAFARERS RECEIVING MINISTRY: 554



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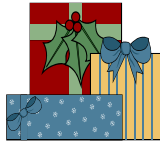
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Mission Statement

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

They are in, come and get yours. This is the time of the year that is exciting ... when we give out these gifts to seafarers who have, in many cases, never received a Christmas gift before. Of course, this also gives us a unique opportunity to share the Gospel message about the Christ that some seafarers have not met before.



PLEASE HELP: pickup & fill one or more Christmas boxes.
Praise be to God the Father for His Wondrous Love !

WHAT IS YOUR PERCEPTION OF NORTH VIETNAMESE?

Perhaps thirty years ago it was not a very good perception of North Vietnamese. We had the privilege to have a ship, the **Century Star**, in port with a crew from Vietnam for four days. The men were all from the north, near Hanoi in Haiphong.



On the first day in port, we visited them and found out that none of them could get off the ship to go shopping. They had no visa. So they asked if we could do some shopping for them. Well, we bought some items and took them to the ship. They would reimburse for the cost and then give another list like: bananas, oranges, grapes, bok choy and other leafy vegetables. We would go out and buy the items and bring them back. Then they would want more like: shampoo, skin lotion and toothpaste.



None of them claimed to be a Christian, but when we offered the **Jesus Story** on DVD in Vietnamese, they gladly received it along with gospel tracts. Also, they were very happy to receive Vietnamese Christian music and 22 free T-shirts. We had the idea of buying a cake for them and

eating it too (with them). Before we ate the cake, I asked the Captain and officers if we could pray to God to give thanks and ask for a blessing for them and their families. They gratefully agreed.



A better question is: *What is the Lord's Perception?* Centuries ago a star appeared in the east marking the place of the Savior for the crew of the **Century Star**. Looking at these men, I see a people for whom our Lord died... so that they could live forever with Him.

Submitted by Paul Peterson

TRAGEDY FAR AWAY AT HOME

On a Wednesday evening, a lone seaman came into the Center. He had never been to the Center before. Someone had told him about us and had given him a ride to us. He asked for the phone, so I showed him the phone room. He was there for about an hour, then he came out and paced the floor. He began to tell me the story of his frustration, agitation, and anxiety.

His son, in the Philippines, had been in a motorcycle accident three days earlier. In Tacoma, thousands of miles away from his family, the overseas phone communications were proving inadequate for his desire to be able to do something. His son, Jason, not quite 21 and due to graduate in March, had suffered severe head trauma. For three hours he was in and out of the phone room, telling new information he could get from each person. None of the new information was hopeful. He never did get to talk to the doctor or nurse at the hospital.

He told me with pain and wringing his hands how his sons are so precious in his life. He's had to leave his home, family and country for so many years as a merchant marine because that is the only way to be able to support his family.

We urged him to talk to his Captain to request leave to go home. But, he said that he just signed on only 3 weeks before. He was certain that leave would not be granted. His ship left port at noon the next day. We did not hear if home leave was granted or of Jason's condition. I still pray for the family. Paul contacted a local Filipino pastor on the phone

who talked with our seaman friend and he will try to get someone to contact the family in the Philippines.

Submitted by Betty Erickson

FILIPINO FIST FIGHT

*"I do not fight like a man beating the air."
1 Cor 9:16.
The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world." 2 Cor 10:4
"Fight the good fight of the faith." 1 Tim.6:12
"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." 2 Tim. 4:7*

The Bible is full of fighting. The Seafarer Center had a fight last month. The Center was full of faithful followers of the famous Super Featherweight Filipino Manny Pacquiao (on the left in photo).



Seventeen seafarers from 3 ships surrounded the TV set, with snacks, on a Saturday night to watch their much loved son fight his way to victory. It was a good fight. All the seafarers went back to their ships at 10 pm with smiles on their faces.



We want to keep up the fight, the good fight, at the Seafarer Center for the souls of the seafarers.

Please pray for us that we just don't beat the air, but that we serve well the seafarers that come through our port. We don't want to knock them down, but we do want to touch their lives with the love of Jesus.

Submitted by Paul Peterson

GREAT BALLS OF FIRE

On a Saturday afternoon around 1:45 pm, I drove by this quiet street with seafarers on the way to shopping. Then I went back to the Center to pick up more seafarers for shopping. But, I was especially exhausted that day and just sat in the van and took a nap for an hour before going into the Center.

Then I headed toward the shopping center again around 3 pm. We saw a big black cloud of smoke in the air. It was from the fire in the photo. A propane fuel truck blew up. The axles actually flew up onto the overpass seen in the photo. This is the street we drive on and the factory we go by each day.



I believe that the Lord protected us and kept us safe and out of the fire through falling asleep on the job. Another 5 or 10 minutes earlier and we probably would have experienced a concussion.

Even nowadays as we drive by the factory, I tell seafarers what happened here. Then I explain that we need to be ready for the next life now because we never know what may happen. They are listening and they learn how to know which direction they will go after this life.

We want to keep seafarers out of the fire (eternal fire). Pray for us daily for our physical protection in ministry and pray for our communications (verbally and with literature) so the seafarers will be safe for eternity.

Submitted by Paul Peterson

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

NEXT TSC BOARD MEETING – December 3, 2007

NEXT LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING – November 27, 2007

Devotions: Shirley Muntz

Hostess: Good Shepherd
Snacks: Betty Hoffman



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