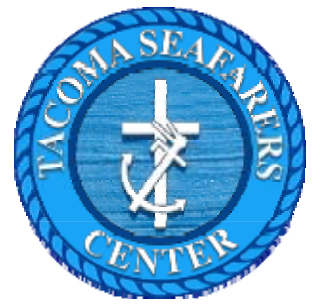




MOORING LINES



A TIE WITH PEOPLE OF THE SEA

MARCH 2009

Phone: 253-272-0716
E-Mail: center@tacomaseafarers.org
Web: http://www.tacomaseafarers.org



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WATERFRONT STATISTICS

SHIPS IN PORT: 74
NO. OF VISITS: 74
SEAFARERS RECEIVING MINISTRY: 511



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.

BUHAY NG MARINO

The life of the Filipino seafarer is filled with much peril; peril in facing pirates, peril in facing the perfect storm, peril from ship board accidents. On top of all this, the seafarer has to fight the hardship of a heavy heart filled with loneliness.

Over 350,000 certified Filipino seafarers leave home and loved ones to sail the seven seas on ships. They are not in search for fame or glory. They sacrifice time to be with family and friends in their homeland in order to provide pesos for their precious ones. Career seafarers cannot see their children grow up. They work 10 months on a ship, go home on vacation for a month or two and then back out to sea for another 10 months.

into port. They look for the seafarer center or closest place to make a phone call to connect with their kapamilya; because they love their families.



Seafarer centers around the world provide a home away from home for the seafarers. Caring people with listening hearts do what they can for these seafarers. We are looking for people with servant hearts to give a little love to seafarers coming to our shores. Contact us.

Filipino seafarer, Tats Revano, composed lyrics, music and video about the lonely life of a mariner. You can see it on YouTube "Buhay ng Marino".

Submitted by Paul Peterson



They come from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao speaking different dialects, bringing products from around the world that we wear, eat and drive. But, they all have one purpose in common when they get

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

Rev. Ray Eckhoff

STRANDED SEAFARERS

It has been brought to our attention that many seafarers are facing unexpected terminations in many ports around the world and in the US as well. It seems that some companies are walking away from their ships and crews in some ports, leaving the local officials to deal with abandoned ships and abandoned ships crews. The crew members in most cases are left with no money or no way to get back to their respective homelands. We have been fortunate to

not have experienced this yet in the Port of Tacoma, but we are told it is inevitable to occur here. We are establishing a Stranded Seafarers' Welfare Fund at Sound Credit Union to help us deal with repatriating seafarers with their families. More information on this will be forthcoming. Please keep the seafarers in your prayers.

H. Gene Lawrence

RELOCATION UPDATE

As I mentioned in an earlier article, we are facing a move due to Port of Tacoma expansion plans. We are faced with having our beautiful building of 30 years, being torn down. Our satellite center located at 1118 Port of Tacoma Rd. has approximately 1/2 acre adjacent on the north of our building there. We have been told by Port officials that we may build on this piece of property. However, as we have experienced at our 1225 E. Alexander site, the Port may have to, at some later date, have us relocate once again as need arises. With this in mind it has been decided that using modular buildings would be most practical because of the ease of relocating such structures.

The Port has told me that we will not have any definitive plans available for approximately 60 to 90 days from now. They have seen the plans we have drawn up for a 4,500 square foot building and are at present intrigued with our proposal. We pray that things will work out so that we will best be able to serve the seafarers from this new location. We do not at this time have any figures of costs that we may have to bear. Please keep us in your prayers.

H. Gene Lawrence

Resource Supply

Three years ago out of your generosity we were able to get a large supply of Bibles in Filipino dialects. Our supply is so low now that we may run out of Scriptures to give seafarers. We would like to make another order which would cost around \$400 for several different dialects. If you can help, we and the seafarers would be grateful.



Ministry Van

We received a large donation toward a 15-passenger van with which we can serve the seafarers. However, we are \$7,000 short. The service to take seafarers shopping is very much appreciated by them. And, it is



useful in our making friends with the seafarers to share with them. **Thank you** very much for any help toward this project.

Prayer for Paul Peterson

Paul will be going to the Philippines and Taiwan in March. He hopes to meet several seafarers and their families and visit seafarer ministry personnel in those countries.

Please pray for the trip and a safe return.

H. Gene Lawrence



NEXT TSC BOARD MEETING – TBA
NEXT LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING – **March 24, 2009**
Devotions: **Addie Stern** Hostess: **Catholic Daughters**
Cookies/Snacks: **Joyce Bassett** **Everyone Bring a Cookie Package**



TACOMA SEAMENS' CENTER
1225 EAST ALEXANDER AVE.
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