



# MOORING LINES



A TIE WITH PEOPLE OF THE SEA

AUGUST 2009

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## WATERFRONT STATISTICS

SHIPS IN PORT: 75  
NO. OF VISITS: 71  
SEAFARERS RECEIVING MINISTRY: 450



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**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.

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Our volunteer Caroline Rimbach's brother recently was called home to be with His Lord and Savior. Caroline graciously donated some of her brother's furniture and a computer to our Center. The furnishings have been a welcome gift to our seafaring friends. They appreciate the warmth and comfort that the furniture offers. Thank you Caroline and may God's peace and comfort be with you and your family at the loss of you beloved brother.

Deacon H. Gene Lawrence  
Executive Director  
Tacoma Seafarers' Center

## GO AND TELL

"Jesus did not let him, but said, 'Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.' So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed." Mark 5:19, 20

Jesus brought healing to a man. The man was so blessed by Jesus that he wanted to follow Jesus. Pray that many seafarers will be blessed by knowing Jesus. So blessed that they want to follow Jesus everyday while sailing on the seas and while staying at home.

Jesus gave the instruction to this man to go and tell his family what the Lord had done for him. He did go and tell and people were amazed.

Pray for us that we may go to the ships and share with seafarers the wonderful things the Lord has done for us. And, please pray that we can challenge the seafarers, who trust in Jesus, to share with their families and friends how much the Lord has done for them.

Submitted by Paul Peterson

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

Rev. Ray Eckhoff

## HATS OFF

One of our volunteers, **Tom Harris**, called and asked me if he could paint our Satellite Center with some paint he had left over. It just so happens to be closely matched to our original building color. Of course I eagerly and appreciatively said "yes, yes of course."

The first thing that had to be done was to prep the building, so I loaned my pressure washer to help make that part easier. Tom then went about cleaning and getting help to accomplish the task. I hope that I do not leave off any names of those who so generously gave of their time and energy. Our Monday night volunteer **Terry Nelson, Tom's son Randy, Tom's grandson Tony** were among those who helped paint. **Josh Cheney** (just graduated from Dordt College (Christian) in Sioux Center, Iowa and now has applied to Seminary School in Portland) was also among the workers. You can see these people at work in the pictures.

**Beautification Color:** Cape Cod Gray



\*\* Volunteers are still needed to help paint the trim \*\*

I also wish to thank **Roy Blakeslee** for his tireless efforts in cleaning up the flower beds and trimming the bushes around our main Center. It had been left neglected when we thought we were going to lose our main building at the end of this year. That time frame has been extended for a couple of years.

I also wish to thank **all of our volunteers** who put in time to serve the seafarers and daily clean and keep our Center clean and welcoming. The seafarers appreciate it very much.

God' richest Blessings to all,

H. Gene Lawrence  
Executive Director

**SUMMERTIME FINANCIAL CHALLENGES**

Summertime brings some interesting challenges to us at the Tacoma Seafarers' Center. Of course the state of our National economy doesn't help. Traditionally during the summertime we experience a reduction in our donations. However, this year, that coupled with the state of the economy has presented us with a challenge with meeting our expenses. Fuel prices rise, so our fuel costs increase. We use more fans to keep cool so our electric bill increases. Many of our other expenses increase as our vendors are forced to raise their prices.

This topic is one I never enjoy talking about because I know all have been affected as well. However, I was recently reminded that if I do not inform you then no one will know our increased needs. We only have two full time staff and one part time staff on our payroll. One of the staff positions has not had a regular payday since the beginning of January of this year. I ask that you keep us in your prayers, because I know that our Heavenly Father listens and takes care of those doing His work and will.

In Christ,  
H. Gene Lawrence  
Executive Director

**A CONTINUING STORY OF JIA (JERRY), LU & WANG**

Last fall and early winter my wife Barbara and I wrote a number of articles on befriending several crew members from the **Y/M ASIA**, namely Jia, Lu & Wang. The three had a very inquisitive nature, very

outgoing and we looked forward to their visits to Tacoma. Two of them had attended a Chinese Church here in Tacoma. Their visits ended abruptly with the vessel scheduled for maintenance in a shipyard during the early part of the year. Eventually all three decided to leave the ship with the intent to obtain employment in their respective home towns in China.

Since returning to China, we hear from them on a regular basis and learn of their struggles to find a job, family health problems (Jia's father had broken his leg), studying more English, girl friends and the mention of possible matrimony. All three claim they enjoyed their visits to Tacoma and of course we miss seeing them on a regular basis, but will always keep in contact with them by e-mail. We continually get requests to visit them in China.



For those of you that support this Ministry in many ways, I know you will continue to pray for these three young men from China and all of the seafarers that walk through the door of the Tacoma Seafarers' Center will search for the faith in Jesus Christ.

Submitted by Tom Harris

**Christmas is coming !!**

No, I have not lost my mind!  
It is that time of year when we start preparing to put together the Christmas boxes for our visiting seafarers.



I will have boxes for you to pick up by the end of August. Please think about starting a little early this year. In eager anticipation of Christ's birthday,  
Gene



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NEXT TSC BOARD MEETING – **September 14, 2009**  
NEXT LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING – **August 25, 2009**

Hostesses / Potluck: **Jane Oberg & Sue Bauer**      Devotions: **Gina Goulding**

Snacks: **Sue Bauer & Gina Goulding**

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