



MOORING LINES



A TIE WITH PEOPLE OF THE SEA

FEBRUARY 2010

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WATERFRONT STATISTICS

SHIPS IN PORT: 59
NO. OF VISITS: 58
SEAFARERS RECEIVING MINISTRY: 545



Edited By: Deacon Gene Lawrence
Managing Editor: Lorraine Stargel

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
John Thurber, President
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Herb Bauer
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Judy Mandt

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.

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

Rev. Ray Eckhoff

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

I pray that everyone has had a good start for the new year. With the beginning of the New Year comes hopes and aspirations for better and brighter things to come. However, we must never lose sight of the fact that our Gracious God is in control and we must always put our faith and trust in him. That being said, I pray that this new year will provide a rosier picture financially for us. This past year was the most challenging that I personally experienced since being the Executive Director. We ended the year **\$3,438.69** in the red. That does not, however, take into account that we were unable to meet our payroll obligations to the tune of \$28,500.00. This is not a very good thing to have happen and cannot continue to happen if we want to continue to grow and fulfill our obligations to those whose fulltime ministry efforts are needed. Please pray for our financial health and well being.

One of our long serving Board members has had to resign as a result of family needs. We thank **Doug Wolford** for his many years of selfless service to our Center. It is with deep regret that I have accepted his resignation, on behalf of the Tacoma Seafarers' Center Board of Directors. Doug's absence from our meetings will be felt, and I for one wish him all the best and say, 'Thank you Doug for your service and friendship!'

If there are any among our readership that may be interested in serving our ministry as one of the Board members, please let me know.

I shall insert an email here from my good friend and brother in Christ, Captain Lu King-Kong. His ship and crew are now sailing a different route and we do not know when, or if ever he will sail into Puget Sound again.

Dear Gene & Paul, Good day!

Re: Jerusalem & Bethlehem (Jan/14) visited

Miss you very much! Hope see you soonest
Thanks God provided me the good chance to brought 5 crewmembers to visited the Holy City.

The manger,.....crucified place all appeared in front of us. We silently sit there for a while. Felt the Holy Spirits full around us.

Now, we're more interested in Bible reading.

Dear Gene & Paul, how's plan a Holy City trip?

Dear Gene,
22:00PST, I pray everyday for your health.

Many thanks and highly appreciated your good assistance.

M.V.Hatsu Envoy Capt. Lu

May God Bless you all in this New Year.

H. Gene Lawrence
Executive Director

LOVE IS THE GREATEST

A Filipino seaman wrote the following poem, encouraging loved ones back in the Philippines to love those who go out to sea in ships. Tacoma Seafarers' Center exists to extend that love to seafarers so far from home.

Loving a Seaman

Loving a sailor: a high price to pay.
Loving him truly is hard when he is away.
It's being alone with nothing to hold,
It's being young, but feeling so old.

Having whispered his love for you
And whispering back that you love him too.
There comes a kiss and a promise for more,
As his ship slowly glides away from the shore.

Reluctantly, painfully letting him go.
But it hurts your feelings from wanting him so.
Watching him leaving full of tears,
Standing alone with your hopes, dreams and fears.

It's sending a letter, with the stamp upside down,
To a far away love, to a far away town.
It's going to church to kneel and pray,
And really meaning the things you say.

Being in love will foster your dreams
Of that far away sailor, your mind fairly beams.
Days go by, no letter for a spell,
You wait for some words to hear that he is well.

Weeks are like months, months are like years,
You'll wait for the day when you'll have no more tears.
Days go by slowly, how many have passed?
Then you realize: it's here at last.

Yes, loving a sailor is bitterness and fears,
Loneliness, sadness, despondent years.
Loving a sailor isn't much for fun.
But it's worth the price when the battle is done.

And remember he is thinking of you everyday.
He's sad and lonely while he is so far away.

So love him and miss him and hold your head high.
Be strong and have faith. Wipe those tears from your eyes.
'Cause your man's a seafarer like that old ancient trader.

By James Carlo C Bautista

Submitted by
Paul Peterson
Tacoma Seafarers' Center

OLGA from The UKRAINE

While delivering Christmas boxes to the **PEREGRINE**, I met Olga who happened to be the Chief Cook on this vessel. All of the crew were from the Ukraine and it was their first time in Tacoma. While on the ship, the Captain had ordered a Fire Drill and I asked him if I could stay on board and take some pictures. The Captain had no objection so I had a chance to watch and take pictures of the drill.



Olga, short in stature, was right in the midst of all the activity during the drill, but she had no problem handling all the ropes, pulleys, fire hoses and keeping up with the other male crew members on board. The procedure was extensive, but not once did I see this very personable lady falter in her assigned duties.



I have a suspicion that none of the crew, including the Captain, would question her on her cooking abilities and, if they did, Olga would probably "whip up" a meal for the crew that would not be pleasant for their palate.

Submitted by Tom Harris

NEXT TSC BOARD MEETING – **March 1, 2010**

NEXT LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING – **February 23, 2010**

Devotions: **Judy Mandt**

Hostess: **Zion Ladies**

Cookies/Snacks: **Trinity Lutheran**

Special Event: **Love Packages**

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