



# MOORING LINES



A TIE WITH PEOPLE OF THE SEA

MARCH 2010

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## WATERFRONT STATISTICS

SHIPS IN PORT: 48  
NO. OF VISITS: 48  
SEAFARERS RECEIVING MINISTRY: 455



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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**  
John Thurber, President  
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Ed Egan  
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

On 19 February 2010, Ed Egan and I visited with the new Real Estate Director for the Port of Tacoma. We introduced ourselves and gave him an overview of who we are, what we do and how this impacts the Port of Tacoma. The Director of R.E. stated that he knew who we were and how important we are within the Maritime Industry in the Port of Tacoma. We talked about what had been told to us regarding having to vacate the building that we owned at 1225 E. Alexander Ave. We also talked about our site at 1118 Port of Tacoma Rd and the adjoining corner property that we had been told that we could expand on.

To make things simple, I will say that the corner property at Port of Tacoma Rd and 11th Street has already been contracted out to another entity. We are told, however that for the next 5 years, there is no pressure on us to move or have our building at 1225 E. Alexander removed. We are told that if and when we are required to move that we will be given adequate notice and that the Port will give us every assistance possible to facilitate our movement.

In service to Christ,

H. Gene Lawrence  
Executive Director

## I REMEMBER YOU

Last Monday evening a young Seafarer from a K-Line ship came in the door with an extra warm and happy smile. He did look more familiar than the other crew members, but I didn't know why. The driver for the evening then took them shopping and when they returned I asked him if he would take the current "Daily Devotions" to all the Seafarers on his ship. He said he would be happy to do that and when I asked

how many they could use, he said, "only 17 because I already took one for myself from the desk" (which he then showed to me).

Then he looked intently at me and said, "I remember you."

I was here over four years ago on the **Verranzo Bridge** ship and he pointed to a picture on the wall of that ship with all the crew, showing me where he was in the group. This beautifully framed picture was donated to our Center by the Captain and crew depicting all waving goodbye to us.



I was so delighted that he recalled that previous visit, of over four years ago, to me as that ship was on it's last voyage to Tacoma and all the West coast. In the future, it would be sailing only to the East coast.

Knowing we would most likely never be seeing one another again, the ship's entire staff came over to the Center with dinner for all of us, extending their deepest thanks for all we had done for them over many years time. Several officers and crew members spoke with tear in their eyes - - and we volunteers had tears as well. It was great to have one Seafarer return that day.

LORD, LAY SOME SOUL UPON MY HEART,  
AND LOVE THAT SOUL THRU ME;  
AND MAY I NOBLY DO MY PART  
TO WIN THAT SOUL FOR THEE.

Submitted by Donna Eckhoff

**IT'S GREEK TO ME**

For some, technology, computers, internet is Greek to them and maybe for you. But, for one Greek captain it's not Greek. But, the internet can be used to find a Greek church.

We loaned our WiFi internet to a ship in port and on Saturday night the Captain searched on the internet for a Greek church in the area. Then he printed out a map and followed the directions given and he walked to downtown Tacoma to the church.

The Captain went on to say that the youth in Greece do not try to follow God and that is a real problem. He has colleagues who are trying to reach out to the youth in Greece. Thank God for an old salty seaman who has a genuine concern for young Greeks.

He received our Greek Bible gratefully. He also deserves to have the Jesus movie in his own language.

Submitted by Παυλ Πετερσον (Paul Peterson)

**IMAGINE THIS!**

I am sitting in my nice, warm, dry home in Western Washington. It is raining outside harder than usual for our area. I feel very secure knowing I don't have to go out in this weather. When I do have to drive in it, I remember the words my mother said when I went out while growing up: "Be careful; you're precious!" I feel reasonably safe inside the car, knowing that, as I am cautious, I will most likely avoid any danger. And, of course, my trust is in God to help provide protection.

Now, imagine how seafarers feel during the months of every winter. First of all, they are out on an ocean with waves that might tip those huge ships up to 40 or so degrees, almost turning them over on their sides, moment by moment, possibly hour after hour. Seafarers have told us that they not only experience seasickness and trouble walking from place to place, but if the tipping is 30+ degrees, they will be thrown out of their beds as they try to sleep. They have to perform their jobs regardless of how much sleep they didn't get. There is only unpredictable water under their ship so they don't "feel" safe no matter how many years they know their ships have stayed afloat in these rough seas. We are told "winter" lasts longer than three months each year.

Each one of these seafarers is precious, not only to God but to many family and friends. They do these jobs as a sacrifice for their families to provide better than they could working a job that is in their homeland and on firm ground. They know this, but it doesn't make the winter experiences any less frightening. During the winter, when the seafarers walk into our Center, they don't complain or seem shaken at the moment. But, invariably when asked about conditions on the seas, they have stories to tell.

We tell you these things to ask you to pray faithfully for the seafarers, especially during the winter months. God wants to see them seek His face during all hard times and that is our prayer, too. Please also ask that their loved ones would also be at peace during these experiences.

Submitted by Sue McCarty



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

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

Devotions: **Shirley Muntz**

Hostess: **Gloria Dei**

Cookies/Snacks: **Evelyn Skuza**

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