

ISC Seafarers' Log

The Official Newsletter of the International Seafarers' Center

"Meeting Seafarers' Needs Since 1982"

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ISC Calendar

Volunteer Training 307 Newcastle Street Brunswick, Georgia 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM	11/16
ISC Volunteer Christmas Party St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church 5:30 to 7:00 PM	12/14
Deadline for articles for our Winter newsletter	1/6
ISC will be participating in the Brunswick Stewbilee	1/27

The 17th Annual International Night Out

A Huge Success!

By Jeanine Gehringer

The 17th Annual International Night Out was a kaleidoscope of unique cuisine, fun music, and auction items. A live auction done by Ron Wilcox added a new dimension to the fund raiser evening. Three items went up for the live bid: a pilot boat excursion, private dance lessons, and a two night stay at Margaritaville Beach Resort. Ron is a retired Baptist preacher who volunteers his talent to help worthy non-profit causes.

Numerous silent auction items included gift certificates from several restaurants and many coastal island merchants. Other prizes were hotel resort stays, Island Sweet Shop treats, a Coastal Outdoor Adventure certificate, theater tickets from The Island Players, Tideland Kayaks excursions, Three Oaks Farm and Equestrian Services, Inc., - just to name a few.

Executive Chef Dale Ford and Chef Eric from the food and beverage department at the Jekyll Island Hotel planned and prepared an excellent menu. Three food stations served world renowned choice appetizers. The Scandinavian station served delicacies of Swedish meatballs and three fish choices. The Greek station offered

Greek salad, Greek chicken souvlaki lamb shawarma, crispy pita with an olive tapenade, and grilled vegetables. The American station featured prime rib of beef with horseradish sauce au jus, herb roasted pork loin, BBQ free range chicken, and cowboy beans with bacon. Each station was accompanied with a free flow of paired wine and beer. A fourth station offered a delicious array of world-over desserts which consisted of French petit fours, sweet biscuit strawberry shortcake, and crepes to order with delicious fillings from which to choose.



Vicki West, ISC Director, with William Dawson, ISC President

Continued on page 5...

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR...

Vicki West



Well....What can I say? If the old cliché “Three strikes and you’re out” was true I would no longer be the Executive Director of the ISC <LOL>. BUT, I am still here and this journey certainly is an adventure. These first three months have been a real eye-opener for me and a trial by fire. That being said, I LOVE MY JOB!! I have had so much encouragement and support from the staff, volunteers and the Board members. Truly we – and I mean *we* (such a team effort) – have put the Bible verse “I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength” (Philippians 4:13) to the test and have found that IT IS TRUE!

So much, in spite of all the distraction, has been accomplished in this short time. I have met many new friends in the business world with great possibilities for partnering ventures. We have a new church on board as a monthly sponsor. Captain Phillip Kempton of the Jekyll Island Dolphin Tours donated their boat to us for a sunset dolphin cruise which would have given us the opportunity to speak with leaders from several churches in the area. But alas, the weather did not cooperate. We will reschedule. Making the most of every opportunity, when a donor of clothing came in, we began to speak of other ways to help the center and interest in possibly helping renovate our Colonel’s Island facility came up. YAY God. In another unexpected encounter, Robin, from Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta, called and advised of an anonymous donor who might be donating a rather large sum of money to the ISC. These are all just possibilities at this point, BUT I am BELIEVING God for the increase!

Lastly, our biggest distraction came to visit on September 11, 2017. Irma was not invited but came on in anyway. This could have decimated our annual fundraiser, the International

Night Out, BUT GOD. Again, the outcome was amazing and even more of a success than we could imagine. A huge thank you to the management and event staff of the Jekyll Island Club Hotel for making all things work together so well. To my Staff and Board, YOU ARE ALL AMAZING!! To Linda and Rick Haines for all of their hard work on the silent auction, I applaud you!!

Therefore, as the first quarter of my tenure ends and the second begins, excitement and expectation is our anthem. Pursuing the mandate of the ISC to take Christ to the Nations, we continue moving boldly forward. Jim Patrick and I have been working on a new video to secure more business and corporate sponsorships. It is an exciting project and should be completed by the time you read this. Thank you, Jim, for all of your hard work.

Exciting times are ahead as we secure the foundation and forge ahead to higher ground!!

LIVE LOCAL. REACH NATIONS.

**Blessings,
Vicki**

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Don't forget to select the
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The ISC Board and Management would like to express our heartiest thanks and gratitude to the following sponsors, donors and volunteers who contributed to the overall success of our 16th Annual International Night Out:

ADMIRAL SPONSOR

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Melanie Spivey
Dolores Vendette - Guest Volunteer
Richard Watson

ISC Board and Staff

Our special thanks also go to Michael Hulett, Stan Walker and the Coastal Empire Orchestra for sharing their gift of music and to the staff and management of the Jekyll Island Club Hotel for their unwavering support and wonderful cooperation that made the evening memorable and most delectable.

INO 2017 SILENT AUCTION DONORS

Ace Garden Center	Home 2 Suites by Hilton	Pet Exchange
Bennie's Red Barn	Indigo Coastal Shanty	Potsey Walker
Bill Dawson	Island Sweet Shoppe	Quality Inn Jekyll Island
Blackwater Grill	Jack & Jeanne-Earle McConnell	Red Bug Motors
Brogen's South	Jekyll Island Authority	Richard and Gail Cowan
Brunswick Actor's Theatre	Jekyll Island Hotel	Rick and Linda Haines
Brunswick Country Club	Jekyll Island Boat Tours	Sandcastle Café & Grill
CJ's Pizza	Kay VanLandingham	SouthEast Adventure Outfitters
Café Frederica	King & Prince Beach Club & Golf Resort	Sea Island
Christ Church Frederica	Little St. Simons Island	Sea Palm Resort
Coastal Georgia Inshore Charter	Loco's	Southern Soul BBQ
Coastal Kitchen	Maggie Mae's	Sue Gertis
Coastal Outdoor Adventures	Magnolia Garden Club	Sugar Marsh Cottage Specialty Confections
Daddy Cates	Mallery Street Café	The Half Shell at the Pier
Days Inn and Suites JI	Margaritaville Holdings	The Island Players
Delaney's Bistro & Bar	Marshside Grill & Bar	Three Oaks Farm And Equestrian Services
Driftwood Bistro	MAS Tacos & Tequila	Tideland Kayaks
Fancy Q Sushi Bar & Grill	McGarvey's Wee Pub Beach	Tramici
Foxes Pizza Den	Millhouse Steakhouse	Vicki West
Frederica House	Nalley	Village Inn and Pub
Georgia Sea Grill	Nancy Moody King	Westin Hotel & Resort Jekyll
G.J. Ford Book Store	Nazzaro's Italian Cuisine	Zachry's Seafood & Steak Restaurant
Halyards	Outback Steakhouse	
Hampton Inn Jekyll		

**TO OUR SILENT AUCTION SPONSORS, ABOVE
THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

The 17th Annual International Night Out A Huge Success continued...

Michael Hulett, along with Stan Walker and the Coastal Empire Orchestra, set the mood with music while guests casually visited the food stations and viewed numerous selections of silent auction items. The fun-filled evening concluded with guests enjoying the jazzy and romantic dance music.

An informal survey indicated the crowd was a variety of first timers, as well as many returning supporters. Most of the food servers were returning staff. However, Jesse at the Scandinavian station, and Barbie at the desert station were first time servers for the special evening. Both expressed excitement to be part of the celebration. Melody Bradley and her spouse were first time attendees. It was the second time for Bob and Susan Irwin. Rosemarie and Heinrich Weiss and Roy and Kathleen Turner were returning supporters who have come for several years.

INO Photo Gallery
Photos courtesy of Don Gehringer



INO Photo Gallery continued...



SAVING SEAFARER LIVES (AGAIN)

By Robert Randall

On the evening of September 2, a Saturday, on the Labor Day holiday weekend, the RO-RO vessel Grand Orion docked at Colonel's Island and was visited by ISC volunteer Jo Scott. She was told of a crew member having a large growth in his neck who had run out of his medicine and needed to see a doctor. But the ship would be leaving the following afternoon, a Sunday!

Normally we would have transported this seaman to the Emergency Room since, not being doctors ourselves, we could not tell whether or not his symptoms might indicate something life-threatening. Because my wife is a thyroid cancer survivor, I knew this could be very serious. But, unfortunately, 3rd Officer Morales had no U.S. visa and therefore could not leave his vessel without special authorization from Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and an armed escort.

While Jo went back to the ship to gather more information, I began working on this by contacting the agents for the vessel. The crew was being handled by Chris Wilson of Terminal Shipping Company, an agency with which we rarely work. Mr. Wilson had already been trying to arrange for transporting Mr. Morales to a doctor, but CBP flatly refused to allow it.

It was up to the International Seafarers' Center to work with our partner agency, Southeast Georgia Health System (SGHS), to get medical help for Mr. Morales.

I contacted our liaison at SGHS, Mr. Brendan Hunt, to start the process of finding a doctor who could come to the ship on a Sunday. I was not very hopeful we would succeed.

Sunday morning volunteer Sharon Hindery went back to the ship to re-assess the need. There was no question that Mr. Morales needed to see a doctor. His Captain, Marvin Glenn B. Garces, was very concerned for his crew-member and was willing to do whatever it would take to help him out. Mr. Morales had a prescription for thyroid medication written in

Mexico, where he had obtained all of that medicine available at that port, but it had run out 10 days earlier and his condition had been worsening ever since. No pharmacy in the U.S. would re-fill that prescription and they had been unable to get a new one written at the U.S. ports where they had previously docked. And their next port would be overseas.

While volunteer Rick Hindery took Captain Garces to open pharmacies, to no avail, I tried contacting SGHS, the duty nurse, and their on-call doctor to see if we could at least get a new prescription written so that we could replace Mr. Morales' medication. We also put our Executive Director's church to work praying for the situation. By late Sunday morning we had success; the on-call doctor would write the prescription but, even better, Dr. Maisara Kobaisy agreed to see Mr. Morales onboard the Grand Orion. Hallelujah!

I met Doctor Kobaisy (a Canadian originally from Syria working here in the U.S. - truly international) at the visitor lot at Colonel's Island, got him through Security, and escorted him to the ship. He examined Mr. Morales, determined his condition was probably not immediately life-threatening, and called in a prescription for medication. Because none of the pharmacies with which we usually work (which have agreed to third-party bill for medicines) are open on Sunday, Captain Garces agreed to purchase the medication using ship's cash.

Continued from page 8...



Photo courtesy of Grand Orion Deck Cadet Angel M. Del Rosario

Saving Seafarers Lives (Again) continued from page 7

I drove to Walgreen's, got the medicine, and delivered it to the Captain and Chief Officer, who were extremely happy to receive it. They passed it along to Mr. Morales who, we soon learned (*see below*) would be sent home to the Philippines from their next port of call. I informed SGHS how to bill via Terminal Shipping Company. Volunteer Carolyn Kelly provided hospitality for the rest of the afternoon, until the ship sailed at 6 PM.

So many people were involved in helping this miracle to happen (It was a Sunday, after all.), but I'm especially grateful to Dr. Kobaisy for taking his time on a Sunday, on a holiday weekend, to come see a sick stranger. Once again, God's love was made flesh. Everyone was so happy! Praise the Lord.

To: Mr. Robert Randall
 Fm: Master of M/V Grand Orion
 Dd: 04/Sept/2017

Dear Mr. Robert Randall,

First and foremost it's a pleasure to greet you and your staff with a very pleasant day.

Our lady departed safely yesterday at 1800hrs 03/Sept in your good port of Brunswick with happiness from our crew esp. the 3rd officer.

And also glad to inform that his repatriation is arranged in our next port of call. Hopefully he can have his full recovery during his vacation and to be with his family during this difficult times.

We will make also a report to our company that vessel's crew should have valid US Visa when calling United States. In order to avoid any difficulties when emergency situation arises as what we had been experiencing.

In God's constant guidance and providence, we are happy to have an angels in our back with the presence of Seaman's Center volunteers providing us full support and assistance which what was not being given by our local agents in USEC ports.

In behalf of the Grand Orion family, we are very much thankful and our great appreciation for all the help you given us. Also for Dr. Maisara Kobaisy who spare his time for our 3rd officer check-up.

Pls see below msg from our manning company extending their deepest gratitude; For the copy of the

video taken by crew we will need to transfer it first or compress the file due to email capacity is limited to 2MB which cannot send the video due to large mail capacity when attached.

Will revert. Thank you and God bless us all!

Thanks and Best Regards,
 Capt. Marvin Glenn B. Garces
 Master of M/V Grand Orion

CREW MANAGER 1-17-E1912

Dear Captain Garces,

Good morning,

Below is well noted with thanks and please pass our deepest gratitude to the attending doctor and staff of seaman's center for the matter.

Hoping that the medicines have now onboard for 3/0 Morales would be of great help and sufficient enough to reach the next convenient port and hoping for the improvement of his condition .Will coordinate with WSS whether Walvis bay is convenient for crew replacement and revert .

Best Regards,
 Capt. Corbilla
 Crewing Manager
 Abosta Shipmanagement Corp.
 8/F Jemarson Place
 1626 PILAR HIDALGO LIM ST.
 MALATE MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Everyone at sea deserves a safe harbor.

The International Seafarers' Center (ISC) creates a safe harbor for merchant mariners traveling through the Port of Brunswick. The ISC provides resources for visiting seafarers to rest, relax, and receive help if needed.



Proud Sponsor
of the International Seafarers' Center

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The Golden Isles Maritime Club is the only community organization dedicated to supporting Brunswick's local maritime community. It is a principal supporter of the International Seafarers' Center, the Golden Isles Maritime Day, Port-as-Classroom project and other educational and historical initiatives.

Interested in joining the club...check out our website at www.maritimeclub.org

**If You Read Only One Book In Your Life ...
Make It This One**
Doris Wadd

One afternoon the new boarding agent for one of the shipping agencies came into our Newcastle Center to introduce himself and get acquainted with us. While we toured our Center we discussed all the services which we offer to our seafarers at both our facilities. The Agent expressed his pleasure at our being here for the seafarers.

When we got to the library I showed him our shelves of Bibles in 50 different languages. I explained that all the books, including the Bibles, are free for the seafarers. He commented on the Bibles being in so many different languages and then his eyes lit up. "Oh, you have French!" he exclaimed. He told me that he had been born and raised in France so French was his first language. I asked him if he would like a French Bible.

His response was immediate: "Yes!" He said he did not have one and there had been times in his life when he sure could have used one. He said that he felt the meaning so much more when reading the scriptures in his native language.

During the rest of our Center tour he clutched his new Bible to his chest.

When he was ready to leave, my new Agent friend thanked me for the tour and his new Bible. With emotion in his voice, he stated that his father had told him that if in his life he could read only one book to make it this one.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!

Have a passion for the maritime life? Enjoy learning about world cultures? Like making new friends?

Call us at 912-267-0631 to find out how you can be involved in our mission.



Volunteer or Donate, we need your support. Please call 912-267-0631 today!



Gateway To The World



Read more about why America's businesses are choosing Georgia's ports at gaports.com/gatewaytotheworld.



**WANTED!!
GOOD MEN'S CLOTHING**

Our clothes closets for the seafarers are nearly empty. Are yours full?

Bring your donations to our main Center at 307 Newcastle Street in Brunswick.

The seafarers will thank you.



SOUTHEAST GEORGIA HEALTH SYSTEM

Health System Debuts Minimally Invasive Hip Surgery

Southeast Georgia Health System is entering a new era of surgery, offering hope to people with chronic hip pain or impaired hip mobility. According to Beau Sasser, M.D., minimally invasive hip arthroscopy is a new frontier for arthroscopic surgeries.



A board-certified orthopaedic surgeon with Summit Sports Medicine & Orthopaedic Surgery, a strategic affiliate of the Health System, and medical director of the Health System's Sports Medicine Program, Sasser performs hip arthroscopies on the Health System's Brunswick Campus. "We will springboard this technique to help patients with limited hip motion or chronic hip pain delay the need for a total hip replacement," he says.

An alternative to traditional open surgery, the procedure requires just two to four small incisions. Using an arthroscope (similar to an endoscope), Sasser examines and treats the hip joint. This "hip scope" contains a tiny camera that projects images from inside the joint onto a display monitor. During this exploratory stage, Sasser diagnoses the problem. If treatment is appropriate, he then inserts surgical instruments through the arthroscope. Guided by a close-up view on the monitor, he repairs torn labral cartilage, removes damaged tissue or performs other techniques as needed.

This minimally invasive method has several advantages. For patients, the tiny incisions, hip-specific instruments and advanced imaging techniques mean less pain, blood loss and scarring. More importantly, arthroscopies help preserve hip function. "This approach isn't used in lieu of a hip replacement. Instead, we use it to preserve hip function or in some cases, prevent the need for hip replacement. It's always best to preserve the natural hip joint when possible because a hip replacement is a mechanical device with a limited lifespan," says Sasser.

People in their 40s to 50s with tears in the labrum (the cartilage or tissue around the hip joint) can benefit from hip arthroscopy, as can young athletes with chronic hip pain from a labral tear. In addition, arthroscopies can correct hip impingement, or impaired mobility, resulting from a bone spur. If the hip joint is severely degenerated from arthritis, or deformed due to hip dysplasia, arthroscopic repair is not sufficient. In those cases, a total hip replacement is generally the best method to achieve long-term pain relief.

Hip arthroscopy requires general anesthesia and patients should prepare for a long recovery. "Rehabilitation lasts four to six months, which is much longer than other arthroscopic procedures require, but the anatomy of the hip joint is complex," says Sasser. For patients willing to invest the time, he believes the results are worth it. "Previously, we had limited treatment options for certain patients. As a sports medicine doctor, I focus on prevention, so I'm excited to offer this option to patients who are candidates for hip arthroscopy," he says.

To find out if hip arthroscopy is right for you, or to schedule a consultation, call Summit Sports Medicine & Orthopaedic Surgery at 912-466-7340 or visit sghs.org/summit to learn more.



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CHRISTMAS-AT-SEA

Give a Gift to a Seafarer this Christmas!

Collect any 15 items from the list below and place them in a ditty bag or wrapped shoe box.
 Drop your gifts off at 307 Newcastle Street, Brunswick, GA 31520
 or call (912) 267-0631 for more information
www.seafarerscenter.org




Clothing	Toiletries	Medical / Health	Stationary	Food	Other
<i>(size S to L)</i>	Shampoo / conditioner	Tylenol / aspirin	Pencils / Pens	<i>(non-perishable in sealed packages)</i>	Bibles (English)
Socks	Soap / Body wash	Chap stick	Phone cards (\$5 at ISC)	Crackers / Pretzels /	Novels – all languages
Handkerchiefs	Toothbrush	Baby oil	Note pads / envelopes	Nuts	Flash/Thumb Drives
Gloves	Toothpaste	Band-Aids	Pencil sharpener	Gum / Candy	CDs, DVDs (new or used)
Knit caps	Shaving cream	Antibiotic ointment	Post cards	Raisins	Playing cards
Baseball caps	Razors	Deodorant	Address book	Dried Fruit	Sudoku puzzle books
T-shirts	After-shave lotion	Bath Soap (bar or liquid)	Highlighters	Canned meat (pop-top)	Key chains
Scarves	Combs	Hand Lotion	Book marks	Juice	Sewing kit
underwear (size M)	Manicure kit	Kleenex	Calendars <i>(upcoming year)</i>	Mints	Flashlight with batteries
undershirts (size M)	Small scissors	Vaseline		Popcorn	
Long Johns (size M)	Lotion	Q-tips			
Jackets (size M-L)	Hair Gel	Toothbrush			
Sweaters (size M-L)		Toothpaste			

ISC MISSION STATEMENT

The ISC mission is to provide seafarers with a safe harbor that they can call home. The ISC provides services that meet the spiritual, emotional, physical and material needs of seafarers who visit the Port of Brunswick.