

# ISC Seafarers' Log

The Official Newsletter of the International Seafarers' Center

"Meeting Seafarers' Needs Since 1982"

**Meet the Newest Members of the ISC Administrative Team**

Inside This Issue

Meet the Newest Members of the Administrative Team	1
Director's Message	2
What a Privilege was Mine	3
How Times Change	4
Volunteer Party Photo Gallery	5
Port-As-Classroom	6/7
Silent Auction Rewards	7
Sad Goodbyes and Welcoming Hellos	9
Southeast Georgia Health System	11
Christmas-At-Sea	12

I would like to take this opportunity to officially welcome Doris Wadd and Diane Brewer to our "family" here at the International Seafarers' Center. As you will see as you read these ladies' brief "bios" below, they are no strangers to the comings and goings of a seafarers' center (although for different reasons).

I, as one of my first official tasks as the Executive Director, wish to say "WELCOME ABOARD! We are glad you are here."

Blessings,  
Vicki

**Doris Wadd**, our new Assistant Volunteer Coordinator, moved to the Brunswick area four years ago, with her husband Mel, from central Florida. She's been a volunteer at ISC for over three years now. You may recognize her as the "Pink Lady". When asked why she loves pink, she replied, "Because it is Bright & Cheerful, makes others feel Happy, and helps people to Remember her".

**Diane Brewer**, the new Office Administrator, has lived in the area for about 17 years. Prior to that she worked on cruise ships that traveled the world and became very familiar with the convenience and comfort that can be found at Seafarers' Centers. She lives with her adult daughter and two cats.

ISC Calendar

Save The Date: International Night Out	9/22
CoastFest ISC booth 10 AM - 4 PM, Dept. of Natural Resources, 1 Conservation Way	10/7
Deadline for articles for our Fall newsletter	10/7



**A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR...**

*Vicki West*



They say that reflection is good for the soul. If that is true, then my soul should be in very good condition. Let me explain. From the moment I put in my application for the Executive Director's position, until this present moment, reflections of the last five years have flooded my thoughts.

I should probably start at the beginning. I moved, with my 2 dogs, to Brunswick from Chillicothe, Ohio February 24, 2012. I believe that Brunswick was and is a divine appointment in my life. Upon arriving, I met with my soon to be Pastor, who was one of the three original founders of the International Seafarers' Center, and he advised me that Brunswick was a port city. Of course, I knew what that was?!... Wait a minute: not so much, being I was from central Ohio. He explained what a port city was and then the light bulb went off and I knew why I was in Brunswick: this is a port for the Nations. I knew I was right where I was supposed to be. As we continued talking, Pastor advised me that I should go to the Seafarers' Center to volunteer. So, on March 1, 2012, I became a Volunteer.

I began volunteering three days a week and fell in love with every aspect of it (ship visiting, driving and hospitality). My passion for the seafarers grew every time I was with them. Their stories of the sea and love for their families were touching and heart-wrenching at the same time. I would talk with Val, and tell her stories of why I came to Brunswick and she saw that my passion was genuine and sincere. After a year of volunteering, I was offered the position of part-time Office Administrator. An-

other year went by and I was offered full time employment with the added responsibility of being the Assistant Volunteer Coordinator. For the last three years I have been trained in the operations of this center and have enjoyed the friendship of the staff, our awesome volunteers, and of course our Mariner friends. So now to this moment.

In May of 2017, I was offered the position of the Executive Director of the International Seafarers' Center and, with great humility, I, Vicki Lynn West, accepted. I am honored by the Board's confidence in me and their encouragement for me. As we move forward, with a firm foundation beneath us, I am believing that with the amazing team I am privileged to have around me in staff, volunteers, and a phenomenal Board of Directors, ISC will continue in a positive, upward motion in the years to come. I look forward with great enthusiasm to what lies ahead for this amazing ministry. As it says in the Bible, Matthew 19:26, ".....But with God all things are possible." Forward we go!

**Life certainly is an adventure and we are going to enjoy the journey!!**

**Amazon Smile**  
 Don't forget to select the  
**International Seafarers' Center**  
 as your supported charity when you  
 shop at:  
[www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)

**Board of Directors**

- William B. Dawson**  
*President*
- George Yarborough**  
*Vice President*
- James Vivenzio**  
*Treasurer*
- Rick Haines**  
*Secretary*
- Ron Adams**
- Robert Graham**
- Norman Haft**
- Patrick Holladay**
- Jack McConnell**
- Rev. Becky Rowell**
- Chris Wynns**

**ISC Staff**

- Vicki West**  
*Executive Director*
- Robert Randall**  
*Director of Volunteer Services*
- Diane Brewer**  
*Office Administrator*
- Doris Wadd**  
*Asst. Volunteer Coordinator*
- Fraidell Fenster**  
*Store Keeper*
- Dolores Vendette**  
*Finance Administrator*
- Joan Samuelson**  
*Newsletter Editor*

**Published by**



## What a Privilege was Mine

By Vicki West

On June 11, 2017, I had the distinct privilege of attending the “90” Birthday, at the Jekyll Island Conference Center, for one of the sweetest people I have ever met. His name is Norman Haft and it is my honor not only to have him sit on the Board of the International Seafarers’ Center but to call him my friend.

As members of his family, and friends over the years, spoke of this wonderful man and the accomplishments in his life, it became very apparent to me that Norman was just as extraordinary as I had thought him to be. His heart for people and his strong desire to see justice prevail have been a mainstay in the amazing life of this man.

The lives Norman has touched are too numerous to even begin to mention. But those he has touched will be changed by his goodness and love. I, for sure, am one of those people. Here’s to you, Norman Haft, for a life well lived and may we enjoy your company for years to come.



## How Times Change

By Linda Haines

I have volunteered at the International Seafarers' Center for nineteen years. It began when my husband Rick was asked 22 years ago to run an operation for Cadillac Motors at the Port of Brunswick. How lucky we were to be offered this job! He could retire after five years and continue to live here. At a party we were introduced to the then head of the Seafarers' Center and I found my calling.

Back then we were in a very old trailer across the road from the current center at Colonel's Island. The floor was rotten in places and many summers animals would climb in and die, leaving an unbelievable smell. There were only two of us volunteering, and we shared two days a week. Back then only one ship could dock at a time and they would only show up maybe two or three times a week. The store only carried drinks and chips and cracker snacks. We had three telephone booths and no Wi-Fi. We'd open at 8 AM and close when the ship left. If they wanted to go shopping you would just stick a "Back Soon" sign on the door.

Finally the Georgia Ports Authority decided to build our current center. Because of the increased space we decided to follow other centers and have a small store. Being a woman who loves to shop, I took on the buying. Now that the Port is so busy it takes a couple of us to do the buying. I still volunteer every Monday morning and shop every week and a half.

I love being part of this great ministry. For the last five years I have run the silent auction at the International Night Out, with help from Muriel, Vicki, and Dolores.

And of course I have to give a big thanks to my husband who "does what I tell him to do", plus he is a Board member and also on its Executive Committee.



**Georgia Ports Authority**  
WE DO MORE

## Gateway To The World

Read more about why America's businesses are choosing Georgia's ports at [gaports.com/gatewaytotheworld](http://gaports.com/gatewaytotheworld).

# VOLUNTEER PARTY - LOW COUNTRY BOIL

## Photo gallery





**“Ocean going ships will always inspire young minds to raise their head and look to the horizon and over the seas.”**

***Captain Jan Eriksson, Master of M/V AIDA***

In late March, Jack McConnell spoke to the Episcopal Churchwomen of Christ Church, Frederica to thank them for their generous grant to Port as Classroom (P-A-C). He gave a report on the program, bringing them up to date on the progress of the project. A portion of the grant funds was used to print an informational pocket-sized brochure of P-A-C explaining the goals of the program, highlights of class experiences, and students' tributes about the program. A sample: *“I wish I could be in seventh grade again so I could take Port-as-Classroom again!”* The brochure was designed as part of the end-of-year class project by Grace Daniel, a seventh grader from Risley Middle School.

During the last week of April, nearly 80 eighth grade students (divided into two groups) from Tallulah Falls School visited and toured the Colonel's Island facilities of the Port of Brunswick. General Manager Bill Dawson explained the loading and unloading of the various agricultural products that come to Brunswick and how important the work of the Department of Agriculture is in recognizing and inspecting cargo to protect against disease and infection. The tour continued to the berths where the large car carriers dock to learn all about the automobiles or heavy earth moving equipment and

even military vehicles that are loaded. It was amazing to the students that hundreds of vehicles can be loaded/unloaded and the ship can be ready to depart within 4-6 hours of docking, many times never staying overnight. Mr. Dawson also made a strong point about the importance of tide changes and channel depths while maneuvering in and out of Brunswick.

The second part of the tour was the visit to the Mercedes-Benz automobile processing facility. The students got the thrill of a lifetime seeing numbered Mercedes racing cars used in race track testing and a group of “Georgia Red” vehicles to be delivered to the new Atlanta Falcons Mercedes-Benz Stadium. They also got to sit in and take pictures, listen to the radio, and hear the subtle “purr” of the engine of the new AMG GT S model. The students were told the model they were enjoying had a price tag of \$171,000 and is the most fun to drive - top speed of 193 mph!

As with all students visiting the facility, the importance of education is emphasized. No matter whether in technical analysis, bodywork, or logistics management, there are many opportunities at a company like Mercedes. **Continued on page 7...**



Continued from page 6...

Tallulah Falls School is an independent co-educational boarding and day school, located in the Cherokee Mountains in northeast Georgia. It serves students in grades 5-12. This is the fifth year P-A-C, the Port of Brunswick, and the Brunswick Women's Club have collaborated with the school for graduating eighth graders to see and learn about the agri-bulk products and automobile activities on Colonel's Island.

In May, Mercedes-Benz was again the site for a school trip. This time seventh grade students from Risley Middle School enjoyed the last field trip of the school year by visiting the processing facility. On this day, students got to see three Mercedes models that were being prepared for 2018 release. What a special experience to be able to touch, sit in, and hear the engine of a model not yet even on the showroom floor!



The students paid close attention as it was explained to them how important education is to the Mercedes company. Both technical school and college accreditation is very important when Mercedes hires employees. They were interested to learn that many employees have been with the company over 25 years, enjoying "perks" with longevity such as driving a Mercedes and opportunities to travel or work world-wide.



## SILENT AUCTION REWARDS

By Gail Cowan

The saying goes, "good things come to those that wait". It was true for bidders at the 2016 International Night Out (INO) 2016 Silent Auction.

Kay and Dave Hanson bid and won the 'Mary Musgrove Picnic'. It took eight months to arrange for the picnic as there was always "one thing or another" to prevent our getting together. Finally the date was set for May.

As part of the 2016 Silent Auction, Gail Cowan, an ISC Volunteer, offered a picnic package which included a picnic for four, the picnic basket and a talk by Gail about Mary Musgrove. Gail is a volunteer at Fort Frederica and gives interpretative talks about the Creek/Anglo female interpreter for General Oglethorpe.

On May 15th, Kay and Dave Hanson and Nancy and John Hamilton met under the Live Oaks at Fort Frederica. The day turned out to be

idyllic - not too hot, not too cold, no bugs and a nice breeze. The conversation flowed easily and all seemed to enjoy the fried chicken, slaw and trimmings. After eating, Gail (in colonial dress) talked of Mary Musgrove. Much historical discussion followed. John, in addition to being a volunteer for the Seafarers', is also a docent at the Lighthouse tower, thus he had much to add. Dave, as a retired Methodist minister, knows much about the Wesley brothers and had much to add.

The afternoon ended amicably. We hoped to meet again, possibly at the 2017 INO. No more eight month waits.

Gail is going to offer the same package at the September 2017 International Night Out. She hopes there will be several bidders so that we can increase the income for the Seafarer's mission.

# 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

[www.goiap.com](http://www.goiap.com) | 1 Joe Frank Harris Blvd, Brunswick, GA 31523 | 912.264.8131



*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](http://www.maritimeclub.org)

## Sad Goodbyes and Welcoming Hellos

By Vicki West

Dolores and Claude Vendette have been with the ISC for over 4 years and have been vital to the success of this Ministry.

Dolores has served as our Finance Administrator and Claude has been extraordinary in carrying out numerous construction projects at all of our facilities, in addition to visiting ships.

It is therefore with a deep sense of loss that on August 7th, 2017 we will say goodbye to Dolores and Claude. The decision was made, by both of them, to move closer to their youngest son Joel, which means they will make their new home in Palm Springs, California.



These pictures, taken at International Night Out, are the essence of Dolores and Claude: loving life and each other. It is with great joy for them but with a heavy heart for the ISC that we bid them farewell.

**YOU WILL BE MISSED!!!**



Myles Kilby, an accountant here in Brunswick, will take the reins of Finance Administrator as of August 1, 2017.

**WELCOME ABOARD Myles!**





# 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](http://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			

### 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!



### 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

### Free Prostate Screenings from Southeast Georgia Health System

About one in seven men will face a prostate cancer diagnosis in their lifetime, and about one in 39 men will die of prostate cancer, making it the third leading cause of cancer death among American men, according to the American Cancer Society. While prostate cancer can be a serious disease, most men who are diagnosed actually do not die from it. In the United States alone, there are more than 2.9 million prostate cancer survivors thanks to early detection and treatment.

In support of early detection, Southeast Georgia Health System is offering free prostate cancer screenings in Brantley, Glynn and McIntosh counties during Prostate Cancer Awareness Month this September. Screenings will also be available in Camden County on August 26 at the Community Health and Wellness Fair.

Early prostate cancer usually has no symptoms. When symptoms do occur, they may include a need to urinate frequently, especially at night, difficulty starting or holding back urination, inability to urinate, weak or interrupted urine flow, painful or burning urination, erectile dysfunction, painful ejaculation, blood in urine or semen and frequent pain or stiffness in the lower back, hips or upper thighs. Numbness or weakness in the legs or feet, or even a loss of bladder or bowel control from cancer pressing on the spinal cord are also signs of prostate cancer.

Early detection is essential to successfully treat prostate cancer. The relative survival rate is over 96 percent if found and treated early, proof that screenings do save lives. The free prostate screenings provided by the Health System include a digital rectal exam (DRE) and prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test. The purpose of the rectal exam is to feel the prostate gland to determine if there is an area of firmness. The PSA blood test looks for elevated proteins produced by the prostate. A physician will review the DRE and PSA results together to determine if further testing is needed.

Appointments are not necessary for the free screening. Men age 40 or older, or anyone with a family history of prostate cancer, are encouraged to attend. Results will be mailed to participants. The screening schedule is as follows:

**Saturday, Aug. 26, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

Camden County Recreation Center, 1050 Wildcat Dr., Kingsland

**Tuesday, Sept. 12, 4-7 p.m.**

Brantley Family Medicine Center, 21300 Hwy. 82, Suite C, Waynesville

**Tuesday, Sept. 12, 4-7 p.m.**

McIntosh Family Medicine Center, 1022 Miller Lane SW, Darien

**Thursday, Sept. 14, 4-7 p.m.**

Southeast Georgia Health System Outpatient Care Center, 2500 Starling St., Brunswick

For more information, call 1-855-ASK-SGHS (855-275-7447) or visit [sghs.org/screenings](http://sghs.org/screenings).



307 Newcastle Street  
Brunswick, GA 31520  
(912) 267-0631  
[www.seafarerscenter.org](http://www.seafarerscenter.org)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
US Postage Paid  
BRUNSWICK, GA  
PERMIT 612

## SAVE THE DATE

Come and party with us at our  
17<sup>th</sup> Annual International Night Out

September 22, 2017

Morgan Center, Jekyll Island

6 p.m.



Join us on this incredible food voyage from the United States of America to Central America and from Europe to the Far East. Pair these delectable cuisines with a free flow of wine and beer from around the world.

Dance to the jazzy tunes of Michael Hulett and the Coastal Empire Orchestra.

Win fabulous silent auction items!

Great fun awaits so don't hesitate!

Tickets for this event are \$100 each.

Call (912) 267-0631 to reserve your tickets. Space is limited so call now.

This year there will also be a LIVE AUCTION!!

### 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.