

ISC Seafarers' Log

The Official Newsletter of the International Seafarers' Center

"Meeting Seafarers' Needs Since 1982"

NEW VOLUNTEERS

By Doug Powell

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ISC Calendar

Volunteer Christmas Party UMC Brunswick, 5:30 - 7:00	12/9
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Doug and Lynnette Powell began their volunteer service with ISC in summer 2022 after making initial contact with Peter Boyton, Director of Volunteer Services back in 2021. Both are retired and live on St. Simons Island, in the same neighborhood where Doug grew up. They moved to the island in February, 2022.

Doug was a Baptist minister for 37 years and an adjunct professor of Christian Education for 12 years (after earning his PhD in 2008). Lynnette is a former hairdresser, insurance adjustor, and Special Education paraprofessional. Doug and Lynnette most recently served First Baptist Church, Garland, TX (16 years), previously in churches in Douglasville, GA (11 years), San Bernardino and Bakersfield, CA (10 years). They have two grown daughters who reside in Seattle, WA and Melbourne, FL. The Florida daughter is married to a rocket design engineer with Blue Origin.

Since moving to the Golden Isles, they have been active as members at Frederica Baptist Church (a regular contributor to ISC) and have enjoyed reconnecting with friends and family on the island and the surrounding area. In addition, they now enjoy following the Georgia Bulldogs from a much closer vantage point. Each Thursday afternoon, they gladly find their joy in serving the Lord and others through the Seafarers' Center on Colonel's Island.



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

**FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD
THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON, JESUS**

By Vicki West

How many of us would give our life for a really good person let alone a sin-filled one with very few, if any, redeeming qualities? Jesus did so willingly. **Because He gave.**

During this CHRISTmas season, please consider making a year-end donation to the International Seafarers' Center. Because of your ongoing generosity, help for seafarers coming to our port yearly, continues as we move forward.

Due to the pandemic, along with extreme increases in gas prices and skyrocketing inflation, our donations are currently at one of the lowest points in the last five years. That being said, our dedication to the welfare of the seafarers and being a respite in their storm never changes. With your generosity the seafarers will continue to enjoy free clothing from our clothes closets and free WI-FI. In addition, we will be able to gas-up and maintain our three vans to provide transportation to the many seafarer-requested destinations. In many cases, the seafarers on the big car carriers do not have time to go to town, so we stock our store with Filipino snacks, essential hygiene products, undergarments and socks. Bandanas are also very popular as well as batteries, flashlights, souvenirs and soft drinks.

The life of a seafarer can be a hard one. Isolation can be a real problem. Each ship is visited upon arrival at any of the three terminals in the Brunswick Port. Our volunteers ask questions and observe to make sure all is well aboard the ships. Spiritual needs are one of the top priorities for the ISC. Each ship visited receives a bag filled with pocket New Testament Bibles, Bible promise books and a Jesus DVD.

So...your next step...use the enclosed envelope for your one-time donation or mark it for a new monthly donation. For even greater convenience, visit www.seafarerscenter.org/give.html to make a difference today!

Thank you so very much for your generosity!

Blessings,

Vicki

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NOW YOU KNOW

By Peter Boyton

KaMin Performance Minerals, with world headquarters in Macon, Georgia, is one of the largest kaolin clay product manufacturers in the world. Their product line is solely focused on kaolin clay, particularly fine and ultrafine kaolin. KaMin normally ships out of Savannah. However, in August they had two shiploads of kaolin clay in SuperSacks that needed to ship out of Logistec in Brunswick due to port congestion in Savannah.

Kaolin (china clay) is a hydrated aluminum silicate crystalline mineral (kaolinite), formed from weathered granite that once sat below the earth's surface.

It is one of the most common minerals on earth and can be easily identified by its fine particle size and plate-like structure. The world's largest reserves of premium kaolin are located in the United States along Georgia's fall line and in Brazil. KaMin owns plants and mines in both locations.

After processing, KaMin kaolin ships to customers across the globe. You can find KaMin kaolin clay in paper, paint, rubber, plastic, ink, adhesives, sealants and many other products. Kaolin clay is also used in many cosmetics, particularly mud facemasks. The orders that shipped out of Logistec went to Japan and Cartagena, Colombia.

SuperSacks are tubular sacks with no side seams with a strap design that allows for easy forklift access. Logistec received some equipment for handling the SuperSacks with their own forklifts, as well as a rig for the ship cranes to facilitate the loading. The majority of the SuperSacks were one metric ton, but some half-ton bags were included in the shipments.

Semi-trucks delivered 3800 metric tons, all in SuperSacks, to Logistec during the months of June and July. In August MV Sloman Dispatcher, a small bulk carrier, loaded 600 SuperSacks for Japan. MV Happy Dragon loaded the remaining 3200 metric tons later in the month for Cartagena, Colombia. Both ships took a long time to load - a different type of loading for Logistec to deal with. Now you know!



PHOTO GALLERY...ANNUAL BOARD VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LOW COUNTRY BOIL



A SHIP VISIT AT COLONEL'S ISLAND

By Jeff Shadrick

One thing an International Seafarers' Center (ISC) volunteer knows is – you never know what will happen when you go to Colonel's Island to visit a ship. Such was the case on June 16, 2022 when I visited the **Orion Highway**. This 656 foot, Roll On-Roll Off car carrier was arriving from the Baltimore, Maryland port. The ship's company consisted of 23 crew, nine Eastern European officers and 14 Filipino ratings with one of them female.

The Orion Highway has a global assignment and knows Brunswick is the best shopping for them “in the whole wide world.” It was obvious the ship's crew had well planned this stop in their itinerary. They had ordered packages totaling hundreds of dollars from Amazon for delivery to the ISC's Newcastle Office and had a large Walmart order ready to go after they docked.

They were really looking forward to getting to Brunswick Port. Being confined to a ship due to COVID-19 creates a big, really big, need for Retail-Therapy. Their Walmart shopping list was created using Walmart.com. The order list had product descriptions with pictures, the isle number and prices. What also really surprised me was the product selections. Special meats, gourmet cheeses, also cream cheeses and sour cream for special sauces. They obviously planned some good and tasty meals.

Looking over the shopping list it was easy to see I had better take an ice chest in the ISC van. There is an extra-large one at the Newcastle Center. I purchased all they wanted for \$446, and took the items back to the Orion Highway. The third officer came down to check the inventory and collect their goodies. Much of it was frozen and packed into this large ice chest along with frozen shrimp. I suggested they just roll the ice chest up and unload it in the galley. The third officer told the two seamen with him to get in the back of the ISC van, then he hopped in the front seat and said, “drive to the top deck.” Off we went; driving as cautiously as a teenager with a new driver's license, so as not to bounce due to the ceiling being so low to the ISC van. The third officer hopped out and moved the emergency cones the longshoremen use to keep them on the right lane when loading and unloading cars.

When we reached the top deck, the two seamen rolled the ice chest into the galley and unloaded it. They left me with parting words of thanks and hoped I would not get lost driving back down to the ramp off the ship. Now this volunteer wonders, “What will happen the next time I go to Colonel's Island to visit a ship?”



OPEN HEARTS AND HARDWORKING HANDS

BY Vicki West

WOW, is all I can say. The church has left the building!!!! On Saturday, September 24th a group of five people from St. Simons Presbyterian Church came and labored for the Lord. The two gentlemen spread 18 bales of pine straw and the ladies added snacks and perishables to over 60 shoe boxes to get the ISC ready for Christmas-at-Sea. This was very helpful as our volunteer pool is low.

Then on Sunday, September 25th a group of 10 girls and three adults came and washed and cleaned the inside of our three vans. These girls are the tenth-twelfth grade class from First Baptist Church of Brunswick. This group of hard working teens labored in the heat of the day and never once complained!!! Thank you girls for your hard work!!!

For both these amazing groups, again, a heartfelt **THANK YOU!!!**



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Supporting our Seafarers across the oceans, our unsung Heroes



St. William Catholic Church
2300 Frederica Road, St. Simons Island
is proud to sponsor
our local Seafarers' Center!

I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,
 And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by,
 And the wheel's kick and the wind's song
 and the white sail's shaking,
 And a grey mist on the sea's face, and a grey dawn breaking.

I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide
 Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;
 And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,
 And the flung spray and the blown spume,
 and the sea-gulls crying.

I must go down to the seas again, to the vagrant gypsy life,
 To the gull's way and the whale's way,
 where the wind's like a whetted knife;
 And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow-rover,
 And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.

- John Mansfield

Christ Church, Frederica
is proud to sponsor the
International Seafarers' Center!

Some went down to the sea in ships, doing business on the mighty waters; they saw the deeds of the Lord, his wondrous works in the deep. For he commanded and raised the stormy wind, which lifted up the waves of the sea. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he brought them out from their distress; he made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed. Then they were glad because they had quiet, and he brought them to their desired haven.



Psalms 107:23-25, 28-30



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frederica

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Christmas at Sea

Share the Spirit of the Season and bring joy to visiting seafarers by donating 15 of the items below in a cloth ditty bag or PLASTIC shoe box.



Clothing

- Socks
- Handkerchiefs
- Gloves
- Knit Caps
- Scarves
- T-shirts

Toiletries

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Soap/Body wash
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Shaving cream
- Razors
- Combs
- Manicure kit
- Small scissors

Medical / Health

- Tylenol / Aspirin
- Chapstick
- Band-Aids
- Antibiotic ointment
- Deodorant
- Hand lotion
- Kleenex
- Vaseline
- Q-Tips

Stationeries

- Highlighters
- Post-Its

***No Chocolate Please (It melts)**

Food

- (non-perishable in sealed packages)
- Crackers/Pretzels/Nuts
- Gum/Candy
- Raisins
- Dried fruit
- Canned Meat (pop-top)
- Mints
- Popcorn

Other

- Bibles (English)
- Flash/Thumb drives
- CDs, DVDs
- Playing cards
- Sudoku puzzle books
- Sewing kits
- Flashlight w/batteries

Creative Courtesy of Brunswick News Publishing Co.



Gifts may be dropped off at 307 Newcastle Street Brunswick, GA 31520

For more information: (912) 267-0631 • www.seafarerscenter.org



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HURRICANE IAN

by Rick Hindery

I made my final run to the grocery store on Wednesday, September 28th. Ian was rapidly approaching Florida and after living through Matthew and Irma, we anticipated a very unpleasant next few days. Shelves were emptying fast and the D batteries I was looking for were in short supply. Two stores later, I found the batteries. I bought a couple of extra gallons of bleach for the expected major cleanup.

Sharon said I could buy some type of treat to brighten our days if we ended up trapped in our house, so I dropped the largest container of cashews I could find into the cart.

There was no shortage of items on the shelves at the ISC center on Colonel's Island though. We've had trouble with the supply chain, but every Sunday, Linda Sanders and husband Rich Wright arrived about noon with the van packed with staples and treats to stock the shelves and brighten the hearts of the visiting seafarers.

The previous Sunday, September 25th was beautiful in Brunswick, but our visit with the crew of The Crystal Ace gave us a preview of what might be coming our way in the week ahead. On a 21-day run from Korea, the ship had met Ian in Puerto Rico. For the next few days, they played keep away as best they could, finding relative safety as they reached the east side of Florida where they made their run up the coast.

Their sister ship Mermaid Ace was our next visit that morning. Their situation was very different. We were their last US port. They would be heading south to the Panama Canal and thence on to the Pacific.

These ships need all the space they can find as they ride out the storms. Even using the east side of Florida as a shield and trying to stay hundreds of miles offshore they had to deal with 30-foot seas.

So, if you knew you were heading into hurricane alley in a few hours, what would you do? If you were part of the crew of the Mermaid Ace, you headed to the International Seafarer Center at Colonel's Island.

As the ship discharged cars, the crew used our internet to reach out to home. Brave faces and pleasant tones covered any anxiety as these young seafarers spoke to wives and children. Some of the crew played guitar and sang as they spent the afternoon. Some prayed. Almost everyone filled shopping baskets with treats.

Over the past six years, we have dined aboard ships from time to time and the food is great, but in times of tension, you need something to look forward to, so just like us with our cashews, the mariners loaded up with treats that they could not get aboard. "Cocochito" from Thailand, "Oishi Prawn Crackers" and "Wow Maui Garlic Peanuts" filled their carts along with Snickers bars and packs of cookies. We have been wishing seafarers safe travels with every visit and as they headed back aboard our words were never more sincerely spoken.

As the week progressed, we thought of the ships we visited. Like most residents of Glynn County, we watched and waited as Ian approached Florida. Like most of you, we felt sorrow for our southern neighbors and thankfulness that our worst fears never materialized. Our personal worries were over while at Colonels Island this past Sunday, October 2nd. All three berths filled, with more ships off the coast waiting for space to discharge cars and load US made vehicles for trips to Europe and Asia.

The Glovis Superior had confronted Ian on its run from Freeport to Brunswick. To avoid Ian, Glovis Superior motored 300 miles off our coast. Talking to the crew, we learned that they waited adrift, only powering the ship

Hurricane Ian continued on page 11...

Hurricane Ian continued from page 10...

with generators. They only ran the engines when they needed to reposition the ship to keep the bow pointed into the constant waves. Even at a distance of 300 miles out the ship bobbed in 20-foot waves.



The crew spent their free time with us until they left our safe harbor bound for Panama. With our eyes on Ian, they were more aware than we of Hurricane Orlene, now ashore in western Mexico. Meanwhile, with only two hours of shore leave, five crewmembers from the Asian Majesty wanted to go into Brunswick. We set out on our trip to Walmart, but the van changed direction when one on the crew saw the sign for "Five Guys". Sir, can we stop to eat please? Of course my answer was yes, and for a short while I acted as chauffeur. We searched for shoes and stethoscopes, swim fins and goggles to take to a child back home. The third officer's girlfriend thanked me as he spoke to her by cell phone on a call back to the Philippines. By 2:00 p.m. the crew was back on board and off to Philadelphia.

Our ships are underway now and we wish them safe travels. As I write, there are two disturbances off the coast of Africa. The National Hurricane Center says there is a 70% chance that one will develop into a hurricane, the season is far from over! We think we will stay in Brunswick and ride out any tropical storms or category one events. Storms beyond that threshold will find us packing up and evacuating. Seafarers do not have that option. The one place they do not want to be is on our dock, so it is off as far out to sea as they can be. This week the crews talked of being on a seesaw, of bobbing like a cork. Sharon asked every crew the same question and it seems no one gets seasick, but everyone gets homesick.

So, we will continue volunteering. Every guest will be a VIP. We will represent the generous people of Glynn County as best we can and will offer every seafarer "Boy Bawang Corics" and all the "Agua do Coco Con Pulpa" that their hearts desire. We understand that in times of crises, you need something from home to make you happy and everyone deserves a treat to look forward to.

As for us, we did not lose our electricity during the entire Ian event. The daily tides and accompanying storm surges did not even fill our back yard, nor did the 4-6" rain-fall materialize. As for our emergency supply of cashews, they are gone. I opened them almost as soon as I arrived home on Wednesday. Situations can be tense and a treat along the way makes a world of difference.





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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.