

ISC Seafarers' Log

The Official Newsletter of the International Seafarers' Center

"Meeting Seafarers' Needs Since 1982"

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ISC Calendar

GI Maritime Golf Classic Jekyll Island Golf Club Jekyll Island, GA 7:30 am	5/11
Blessing of the Fleet Mary Ross Park 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	5/11
Volunteer Training By Appointment	5/15
Maritime Day Remembrance St. Simons Pier Time TBD	5/22

A VISIT ABOARD THE MORNING CRYSTAL

by

*Michelle Johnston , President of CCGA
Johnny Evans, Vice president of CCGA*

Mighty. Enormous. Imposing. These are some of the words that come to mind as we think about our introduction to the *Morning Crystal*, a vehicle transport ship we toured on March 20, 2019. Our day began with Vicki West and her staff welcoming us to the International Seafarers' Center on Newcastle Street. As we walked through the Center, we could see the clear dedication to service and ministry in every corner. The heart of the Center could be seen and felt through the recreation, worship, and supply spaces offered to ship personnel.

After a short van ride and smooth check in through security, we could see that the heart of the Newcastle Street center had a twin at the dock. The Colonel's Island space is a welcomed respite from the work on the ships and sea. We soon left for a tour on the *Morning Crystal*, guided by ship staff who were welcoming and excited to have us onboard. The massiveness of the ship was difficult to fathom, even while onboard. Learning about the ship's journeys, controls, and systems turned us into children, in awe of the ship and the stories of sea travel, combatting pirates, and avoiding harsh seas. The first and second mates on the ship were patient tour guides, answering all of our questions and teaching us about their work.

Continued on page 3...



On the bridge of the Morning Crystal...

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR...*Vicki West***ROLLING STONES AWAY**

Genesis 29:3, "When all the flocks were gathered there, they would then roll the stone from the mouth of the well and water the sheep....."

At the Crucifixion, the Bible says the veil was rent (torn) from top to bottom so we have complete access to God! Then three days later the "stone" was rolled away and Eternal Life is our inheritance!! These "freedoms" were given to us at no cost BUT purchased at a tremendous cost to the Father and the Son. Life changing forever.

The Port of Brunswick is undergoing major renovation. Of course, this will provide more available storage for vehicles waiting for loading and discharging. This is a major undertaking and I want to personally thank Bill Dawson for the way he has handled this with such grace. Truly Brunswick is and will certainly remain a major player in the shipping industry. Kia, who we have partnered with for ten years, is now exporting their new three row, eight passenger SUV, the Telluride, from our port!

As this increases ship traffic, it will also increase our outreach to more seafarers coming to the port. To help meet the spiritual, physical, material and emotional needs of our friends, all the renovations to the inside of our Newcastle site are complete and provide a very peaceful and welcoming environment. We are a Ministry of Presence and our need for volunteers is always a very high priority. Without our volunteers we would not be able to continue our mission. Please consider spending a few hours a week making a difference in thousands of lives from around the world. Join our family of volunteers TODAY!!

Acceleration continues in every area at the ISC. Volunteerism is up, community partnerships are maintained and new opportunities are being added all the time. We have added another Chaplain to our program. Welcome Father Joey Buencamino. The Golden Isles Maritime Club has now merged with the ISC. Please join this venture at our yearly golf outing, Golden Isles Maritime Community Golf Classic, by playing or being a sponsor. (See flyer in this newsletter)

I want to personally thank every organization, church and individual who faithfully donates. Your donation allows the ISC to "Take Christ to the Nations" by meeting the spiritual, material, physical and emotional needs of our maritime friends. If you are not on "board" as a donor yet, there is no better time than today to join with us in LIVING LOCAL-REACHING NATIONS.

Since we have Jesus, the Living Water, living in us, just as the shepherds of old would roll the stone away from the mouth of the well and water the sheep, let us "roll" the gravel, rocks, stones from our mouths and let the Truth, the Living Water flow abundantly from our wells (our spirits) to the Nations that visit our ports daily.

**Blessings,
Vicki**

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A Visit Aboard the Morning Crystal continued from page 1...

Our tour of the Wallenius Wilhelmsen Solutions operations center showed the significant impact of the Brunswick port on the local and US economies. From learning that millions of cars are processed annually to seeing everything from a Nissan all electric car to an Aston Martin helped us to understand the impact of the Brunswick Port. Even more impressive was the Wallenius Wilhelmsen team's support of the International Seafarer's Center.

As new faces in the community in our leadership roles at the College of Coastal Georgia, we were like so many others in this area who have limited understanding of the incredible services and support provided by the International Seafarers organization in this area. Our eyes have been opened to the fascinating operations of these large transport ships and to the extensive work on the ground taking place through companies like Wallenius Wilhelmsen. Even more so, our lives have been enriched by seeing first-hand the dedication and passion of the team of staff and volunteers associated with our local Center. What a treasure!

LOVE AND TECHNOLOGY

By Clay Hoffman



Volunteers receiving technology training...

On February 21st, we held a volunteer training at the Newcastle center that was well attended. We focused on educating our volunteers further regarding the technology that has been implemented over the last year.

Concerning technology, we discussed the point of sale system that we are using, our scheduling software called Volgistics, and the Lycamobile SIM cards that we offer. The point of sale system is working great. Like all technology, it is constantly changing, so brief refreshers are needed from time to time to effectively operate the

checkout kiosk. **If you missed the training and would like a refresher, please call to schedule a time to come in, and one of us will walk you through a 30 minute refresher.** The idea behind using the scheduling software is to make scheduling more fluid, and to allow all of us to see what is going on in real time from any internet connection. Although the core of the training concerned technology, we also talked about making it a point to visit the crew instead of the ship upon our initial visit. We also talked about sharing our personal testimonies with our seafaring friends. With ships coming and going very quickly these days, it is sometimes difficult to have meaningful conversations with the seafarers. Our mission statement is to "Take Christ to the nations", so when there is an opportunity to spend time with the seafarers, we encouraged all volunteers to share their personal testimonies. You never know when your story will have an eternal impact in the life of someone else.

**Blessings,
Clay**

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ISLAND VISITORS

By Linda Sanders

It was a beautiful, warm Tuesday in January as I prepared to drive several seamen from the Horizon Hwy. As usual, they wanted to go to Ross, Target and Walmart. However, a young Ukrainian woman and man were requesting something out of the ordinary. They wanted to visit an island and have lunch.

I decided that St. Simon's Island and its Pier Village was the perfect place! As we crossed the causeway, I showed them Morningside Marina and the pilot boats. I explained to them about the tree canopy that makes St. Simon's Island so special. I pointed out the Sea Island Golf Course, and told them about the RSM Classic golf tournament. We drove into the village and they immediately asked for restaurant recommendations. I pointed out my favorite restaurants and their respective food specialties. When we reached the pier, they asked to spend the next two-and-a-half hours on the pier and in the village.

Later, when I picked them up at the pier, I asked them why they had wanted to spend time on an island. They told me that the days on the ship are always the same – the same people, the same walls, and lots of time to be bored when not on duty. They explained that they wanted to see new sights, different people, and eat different food. While they said they had a good chef on the ship, they craved more European style food. Their chef was Asian and most of the ship cuisine was Asian. They reported that they had enjoyed a delicious seafood meal at the Sandcastle Restaurant.

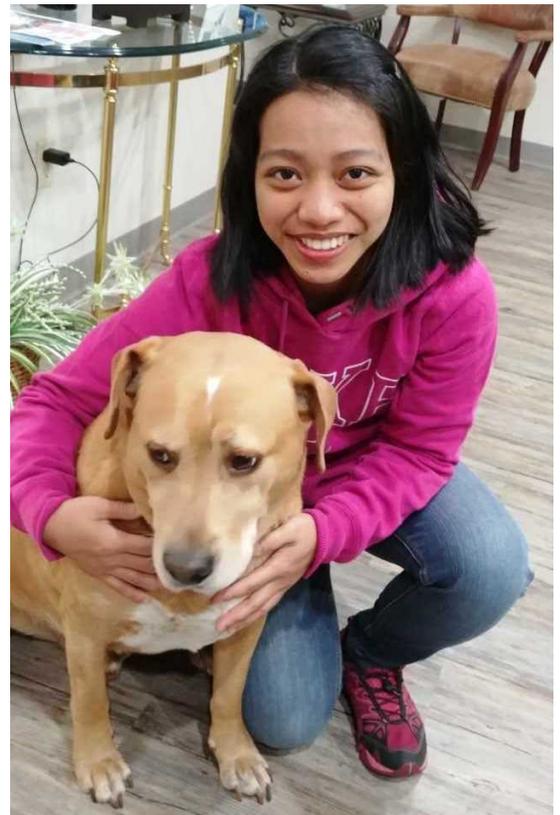
As we returned to Colonel's Island, they talked about their education and the differences in their lifestyles and the USA way of life. They said that I was fortunate to live in such a great country. I totally agree!

NO STANGERS HERE

By Buddy (translated by Vicki West)

Hi, my name is Buddy (I am the dog in the picture). I have been the International Liaison at the ISC for over two years now. I LOVE my job. Never meeting a stranger is my goal. Making EVERYONE know that they are welcomed and loved by all here, at the center, is my utmost intention. Grace (the young lady in the picture) is one of my new friends. Grace Ann Lidawan Acyapat, known as Grace, by her friends (that's me, of course) was an ordinary seaman aboard the Star Kirkenes. When she walked into the ISC, I knew she was anything but "ordinary." I was curious about this person with a smile that made my heart happy. As I walked toward her, she bent down and began to summon me, "Come here, come here, Buddy." Wow, she knew my name!! Grace's pats were soothing and she even gave me a massage. What else could a dog ask for, well maybe a treat LOL!!

Thank you, Grace for making my day. I hope I made yours as well. Come back and see me soon!!





St. William Catholic Church

2300 Frederica Road
St. Simons Island

*Rev. Msgr. John Kenneally,
Pastor*

“We, the community of St. William Parish,
St. Simons Island,
led by the power of the Holy Spirit,
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to serving God and our brothers and sisters in Christ
by living the message of the Gospel.
We believe we are called
to share our time, talents and our material gifts
as an outward sign
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TRAGEDY AT SEA

Dear Friends of the ISC, this article is from several months ago but I share it now so that you may know how important our Ministry is and the value of being a supporter and partner with us.



Search efforts have continued for two missing crew members of the Panama-flagged car carrier Sincerity Ace following a significant vessel fire in the middle of the Pacific.

US Coast Guard, Navy and good Samaritans aboard merchant vessels continue the search for the crew members after the fire which occurred on New Year's Eve while the vessel was some 1,800 nautical miles northwest of Oahu, Hawaii. The master of the Sincerity Ace, managed by Shoei Kisen Kaisha, reported a significant vessel fire, ongoing firefighting efforts, and an intent to abandon ship.

Good Samaritans aboard four merchant vessels rescued 16 of the 21 crew on Monday. Three of the five missing mariners were reportedly located but remain in the water "as they are unresponsive and unable to grab onto life-saving equipment to be brought aboard," USCG said.

Search efforts are focused on the two remaining potential survivors in a search area of 5,832 square nautical miles. Weather conditions on scene were reported as 15 to 18-foot seas and winds at 17 mph with reduced white caps improving visibility.

Sincerity Ace, which was on a voyage from Japan to Hawaii, is currently adrift on the high seas. A salvage plan is being formalized and commercial tugs have been dispatched by the company.

Not one of us "landlubbers" could ever begin to imagine the perils our seafaring friends endure on a daily basis- intense waves, hurricanes, sea squalls and dissension among crew members are just mentioning a few. That is why we here at the international Seafarers' Center NEVER take our responsibility of Taking Christ to the Nations lightly. Meeting the Spiritual, Physical, Emotional, Material needs of seafarers and speaking life, through the TRUTH of the Bible is a huge responsibility and an amazing privilege that God has commissioned us to do. We truly are a respite and safe haven in the midst of the storm.

That being said, we can ONLY continue to be effective through the tremendous outpouring of your generosity to us. Providing transportation to approximately 14,000 seafarers yearly is very costly and maintaining and keeping gas in three vans is expensive. These "tourists" that come to our Ports, gave into our economy, last year, \$335,000. Providing hospitality and ship visiting also takes money (electricity, water, building maintenance, etc.) as well as a large number of volunteers.

During this Easter Season, when Jesus gave His everything to provide Salvation, Redemption, Hope and a Future to a lost and dying world, let us all be willing to give a portion of our money and/or time to help those who are less fortunate. Please use the enclosed donation envelope for your donation. To sign up as a volunteer, go to our website www.seafarerscenter.org or call [Clay Hoffman](mailto:Clay.Hoffman@seafarerscenter.org) at 912-267-0631. You will NOT regret either decision.

May the Great Favor and Blessing of our Great and Glorious God continue to shine His face upon each person and on this Great Nation, America! LIVE LOCAL-REACH NATIONS

Blessings,
Vicki West
Executive Director
International Seafarers' Center
(912) 267-0631307- Newcastle St., Brunswick Ga. 31520

POLARIS ACE

By John Samuelson

We recently had some folks, Matt & Mary Colie, from Detroit staying with us for a few days. Matt used to be an engineer aboard Great Lakes Freighters dating back to the coal fired days of shipping. When I suggested we visit the Polaris Ace, with a possible trip to the engine room, Matt's face lit up like he had just found a gold coin. We were granted entry onto the ship and met with the 2ND officer, Honorato, one of the 21 Filipinos aboard. He happily showed us around the ship including the bridge, wings, dining spaces, gym and the empty auto cargo decks.

While in the crews dining space, the chief engineer came in looking for some coffee. There must have been some magical chemistry between the engineer types because we were invited to tour the engine room, something very few of my visits have included despite my many requests. The usual response is "our regulations do not allow non crew members into the engine space".

Matt was like a kid in a candy store upon viewing the engine controls and the monstrous engine itself. He remarked how clean the space was and how quiet, although with two generators running, I thought it was very noisy.

It was a very successful tour of the Polaris Ace and we thanked Mr. Honorato profusely for his hospitality and time.



From left to right Mary Colie, John Samuelson and Matt Colie

MEET THE ISC NEW ASSISTANT STORE MANAGER

Marsha Wooten is no stranger to the military motto "Adapt and overcome". She has moved roughly 29 times and prefers the warmer climate. She graduated from Old Dominion University with a Bachelor's in Human Services Counseling. She is married to John Wooten and has two children; Noah Langston, a sophomore at OSU Lima, and Abbee, a senior at Glynn Academy. She's been in Brunswick since 2007 and loves God, music, food, dancing and sharing the many gifts and talents God blesses her with to bless others. She's always been fascinated by others' stories and where they come from. You never know what you can learn from someone with an open mind and open dialogue; hence how God led me to this position, deeming a great fit! God is Good - All the time.



Golden Isles Magazine Visits Port as Classroom

By Jack McConnell



*Jack McConnell, PAC and Bethany Leggett, editor
Golden Isles Magazine*

For two days in March, we were fortunate to have Bethany Leggett, Editor of Golden Isles Magazine, visit us at Risley Middle School. On March 5th she began her visit by addressing the Art of Interviewing, a forerunner of a ship visit by the class. She introduced the session by asking, “What is an interview?” and “Who gives interviews.” She then gave examples such as actors, sports figures and band members. To get a feel of how an interview is conducted she asked how many watch news broadcasts. (Interestingly, but not surprising, very few said yes!)

She explained that an interview is basically a “bunch of questions about a certain topic.” Then, to give a first person example, Bethany asked the class to ask questions about her. These few minutes were a fun time for the students – they learned about her family, where she went to col-

lege, why she selected journalism as a profession, her favorite color and that she has a puppy. She explained how those answers provided the foundation or skeleton upon which to begin developing a good article. She told them that being a good interviewer is like being a good detective – you ask the right questions and you’ll get the right answers!

Bethany then showed pictures of LeBron James and said, “You know this person, what questions would you ask him?” Hands went up immediately across the room. She reminded them again that the answers you get will depend on the questions you ask! She then introduced the idea that the person who is doing the interviewing will determine the type of questions asked. For example, writers collect information by asking questions of one or more people and need to ask specific questions. This is called open-ended questioning.

She then segued into “what to ask?” To conduct a good interview you need to do your homework so you can get the information you want and know why it’s important to know it. If someone is talking about a topic you don’t understand, ask them to explain. If it’s something they know a lot about, they’ll be excited to tell you more!

Whew! After all this information, she challenged the students by asking, “How do you ask a question?” Her approach is to first gain the trust of the person being interviewed by always being respectful, really listening to their answers, seeking a clarification if needed, and thanking them for their time.

Bethany then moved on to how to keep the conversation going strong by explaining the use of direct and indirect questions. Ask a direct question if you want a fact like, “what is your job?” Then, asking an indirect question will give you extra information and the roadway to build on your story. An example of an indirect question is, “Can you tell me what you like most about your job?” A mix of direct and indirect questions can help the reporter “connect and collect” to different kinds of information.

Continued on page 9...

Port-As-Classroom continued from page 8...

She ended the presentation by addressing the use of quotations, both direct and indirect— a very important part of an interview. A direct quote is what someone actually said, and an indirect quote paraphrases what someone said. A good quote gives credibility to your story.

After such an exciting presentation, Bethany ended by having the students review interviewing so they would be ready to write a story about a person using quotes!

Bethany's second visit March 12 "put it all together" which will be the subject of the next report of her visit to PAC!



PAC 7th grade students at Risley Middle School

OH! WOW! IT'S A LUAU!
Spring Volunteer Party 2019
By Sherry Conner

On Thursday, April 4th, volunteers, staff, board members and friends of the International Seafarers' Center gathered together for an evening of relaxing fun and fellowship!

Vicki West, ISC Executive Director, welcomed guests and Tom Scott, Port Chaplain, asked God's blessing on the food and the evening.

Our theme, *Oh! Wow! It's a Luau!* was a huge success! Several volunteers and staff wore brightly colored Hawaiian-styled clothing and the smell of delicious Hawaiian side-dishes and desserts filled the fellowship hall of the First United Methodist Church. Succulent brown sugar glazed ham, mango sticky rice, pineapple casserole and many more were enjoyed by those in attendance.

Good food and good friends...what more could you ask for!

Special thanks to Linda Haines and Doris Wadd for the beautifully decorated tables. We were transported to Hawaii the moment we entered the room.



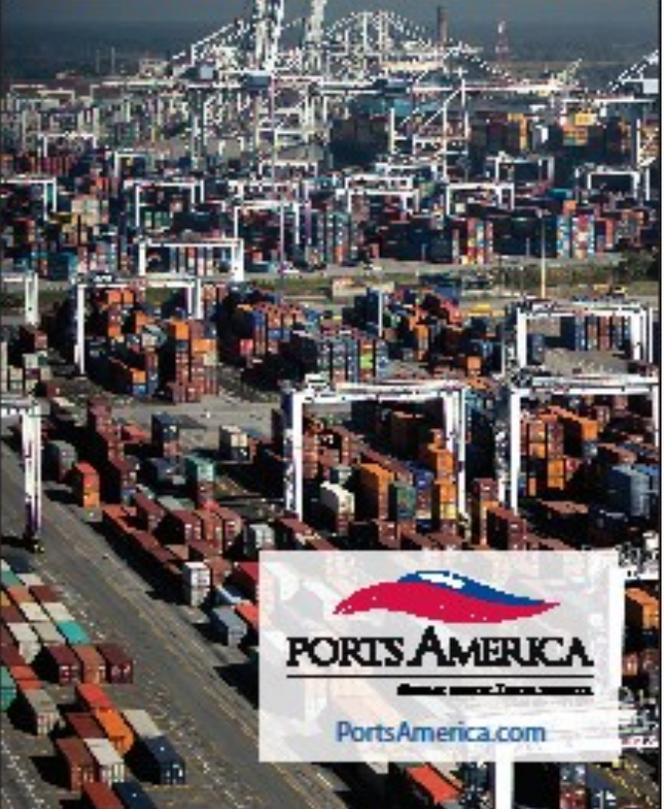


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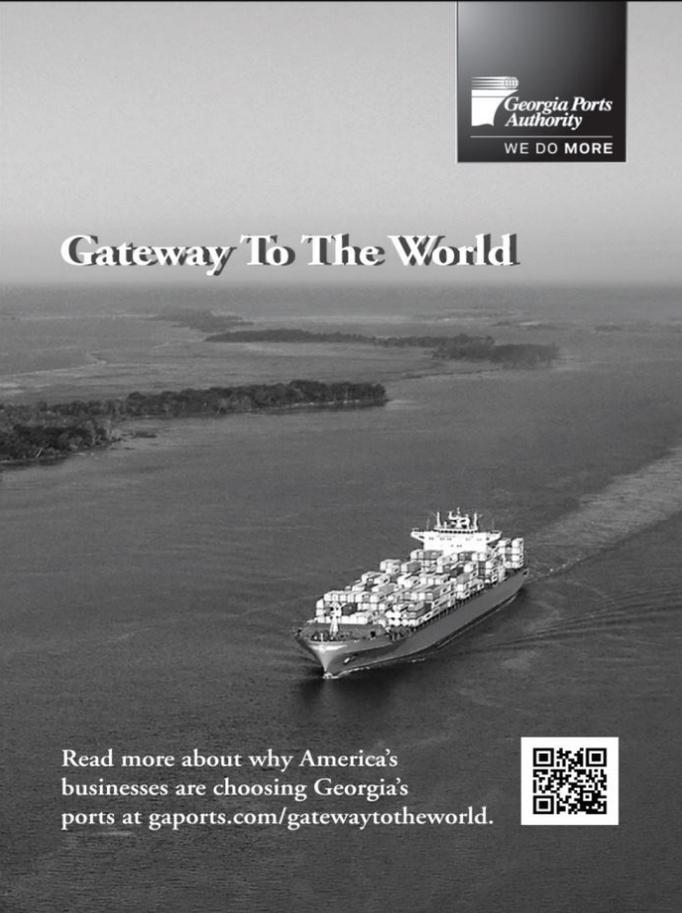
We want to thank the International Seafarers' Center for their amazing work. We are proud to be part of this awesome organization.

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

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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.



Psalm 107:23-25, 28-30



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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.