Spring 2022

ISC Seafarers' Log

The Official Newsletter of the International Seafarers' Center

"Meeting Seafarers' Needs Since 1982"

Inside This Issue

Heroes of the MV Golden Ray Rescue Ceremony	1
A Note from the Executive Director	2
INO 2022 Donors	3
INO 2022 Sponsors	4
INO 2022 Committee Members	4
Anything for Our Seafaring Friends	5
GPA and Wallenius Wilhelmsen: The Brunswick Port	6
INO 2022 Photo Gallery	10/11
Volunteers are Needed	12

ISC Calendar

Call to volunteer today	Do it!
Training to resume soon	in May

Heroes of the MV Golden Ray Rescue Ceremony

by Vicki West

The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) recently joined with the Glynn County American Legion to honor and recognize the first responders who were responsible for saving and caring for the crew of the MV Golden Ray when it rolled over in the St. Simons Sound, September 8, 2019.

With approximately 100 guests in attendance, 30 individuals and organizations were recognized for their valiant and unselfish efforts in behalf of the crew of the Golden Ray.

The International Seafarers' Center was one of the recipients, and I, Vicki West, was privileged to receive the honor. As the honor was received, I acknowledged my amazing staff for the above and beyond time and attention they gave to taking care of and supplying items needed which were donated by our outstanding community to the seafarers.

What an honor and great privilege to be part of this outstanding organization in our amazing community.

Vicki West, ISC Executive Director, representing the Seafarers' Center , receiving the honor ...

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR…

Vicki West

To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven. Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NKJV)

Welcome to "spring" in Southeast Georgia. The seasons may change, but the Bible says that our Lord never changes. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. It is time to set the "earthly" clock to "spring" forward. Here at the International Seafarer's Center, "time" is always on "spring" forward. The mandate of the ISC, "taking Christ to the Nations," is always moving forward and upward for His glory.

During these last two years, our volunteer pool has been very limited due to the "virus." But, as always, the needs of our seafaring friends take precedence and our fantastic, faithful, confident volunteers stepped up and went above and beyond to handle all the needs. Although at times, the hard places seem to be everywhere, new life will always emerge. Providing a concierge service, becoming an Amazon hub and acquiring unprecedented Walmart shopping skills arose to give "life" and hope to those seafaring friends that were trapped aboard their vessels. Thank you volunteer family, **YOU ARE ALL AMAZING**!! Now, as the virus winds down and the restrictions appear to be lightening for the seafarers on board these ships, our need for volunteers is certainly on the increase. Van drivers will once again be needed as our precious seafarers will be wanting to shop, eat out and sightsee. If you are up for the adventure of a lifetime, call Peter Boyton at 912-269-9230 or stop by 307 Newcastle Street and say hello. We would love to meet you.

Making a comeback this year was our ever popular event of the year, The International Night Out. Thank you to the management and event staff of the King & Prince Golf and Beach Resort for working with us to make this fundraiser a success. To my staff and board, **YOU ARE ALL AWESOME**!!! To Linda Haines for all her work on the silent auction and to Brad Brown for his superb auctioneering skill, I applaud you!! Thank you to Jim Patrick for taking wonderful pictures to document this event. Moving forward with our vision to **LIVE LOCAL-REACH NATIONS**, we have begun implementing a volunteer chaplaincy program. Thank you to Rev. Bob Kasting, Lord of Life Lutheran Church, for coming on board to join our program. If you are a pastor or priest (retired or not) and would like to join us, please call 912-267-0631.

Now in closing let me just say....

THE BEST IS YET TO COME!

Numbers 6:24-26," May the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you and give you peace."

God bless you all.

Blessings,
Vicki

Board of Directors

William B. Dawson
President

George Yarborough
Vice President

Rick Haines
Treasurer

Jack McConnell
Secretary

Brad Brown
Nick Hart - *Emeritus*
Matthew Henderson
Redonnia Jackson
Capt. Phillip Kempton
Robert Miller
David Proctor
Joe Willie Sousa
Greg Wellstead

ISC Staff

Vicki West
Executive Director

Peter Boyton
Director of Volunteer Programs and Services

Sherry Conner
Office Administrator

Doris Wadd
Asst. Volunteer Coordinator

Linda Sanders
Store Manager

Michael Lawson
Finance Administrator

Joan Samuelson
Newsletter Editor

Printed by

PREMIER PRINTING

INO 2022

SILENT AUCTION DONORS

A Moveable Feast
Ace Garden Center
Anne Conner
Arte's Pizza
Beachview Club Hotel
Bill Dawson
Brittany Durrance
Brunswick Actor's Theatre
Brunswick Floral
Captain Phillip Kempton
Catch 228
Chubs Diner
Coastal Georgia Inshore Charters
Coastal Outdoor Adventures
Concrete Creations
Courtyard / Residence Inn, Jekyll
Cunningham Jewelers
Daddy Cate's Coffees
David Proctor
Days Inn & Suites
Delaney's Bistro & Bar
Demere Grill
Driftwood Bistro
Fancy Q
Fiddlers
Fox's Pizza
Frederica House
G.J. Ford Bookstore
Gail Cowan
Georgia Sea Grill
Golden Isles Bracelet Co., Inc.
Golden Isles Carriage & Trail
Gratus Mobile Detailing
Greg Wellstead
Harris's Steak & Seafood
International Auto Logistics
International Auto Processing
Indigo Coastal Shanty
Jack McConnell
Jekyll Island Authority
Jekyll Island Boat Tours
John & Mary Fedorchak
Larry & Carolyn Waldhauer
Mallery Street Café
Marshside Grill
Matted Ox Axe Throwing
Mellow Mushroom
Memorable Pets
Mercedes Marsh
Mullet Bay
Pat Stokes
Pearls of LaShelle
Pet Exchange
Peter Boyton
Pizza Inn
Porch
Red Bug Motors
Redonnia Jackson
Reid's Apothecary
Richard Watson
Rick Haines
Robert Miller
Rummage
Sherry Conner
Silver Bluff Brewing Co.
SouthEast Adventure Outfitters
Southern Soul Bar-B-Que
Sunrise Grille
Sweet Georgia Juke Joint
The Coastal Symphony of Georgia
The Half Shell
The Island Players
The King & Prince Resort
The Market on Newcastle
The Village Oven
The Westin
Tipsy McSways
Tortuga Jacks
Tribuzio's Grille
Turtle River Pottery
Vicki West
Weber's Growler Factory
Wee Pub Beach
Wild Adventures
Willie Jewell's Old School BBQ
Zachry's Riverhouse

LIVE AUCTION DONORS

Coastal Georgia Inshore Charters
Doris Wadd
George Yarborough
Margaritaville Holding
Little St. Simons
Matt Henderson

CHARITY BUZZ

Sea Island Acquisitions

Wallenius Wilhelmsen

INO 2022 SPONSORS

ADMIRAL SPONSOR
Christ Church Frederica
International Auto Processing/
International Auto Logistics, LLC

CAPTAIN SPONSOR
Fram Renewable Fuels, LLC
Georgia Stevedore Association
Georgia Ports Authority
Southeast Georgia Health System
St. William Catholic Church

COMMANDER SPONSOR
Feedport USA, Inc.
Frederica Baptist Church
Logistec, USA

Commander Sponsor cont...
Ports America
St. Simons United Methodist Church
Seaboard Construction
Stevedoring Services of America
W.W. Solutions
Wallenius Wilhelmsen Ocean

CHIEF MATE SPONSOR
Remnant International Ministries, Inc.

ENSIGN SPONSOR
Brunswick Bar Pilots Association
Ocean Petroleum

THIRD MATE SPONSOR
Bill & Wanda Dawson
Rick & Linda Haines
George Yarborough & Lynn Hamil
Matt & Tiffany Henderson
David Proctor & Mercedes Marsh
Jamie & Redonnia Jackson
Capt. Phillip Kempton & Patty Kempton
Jack & Jeanne-Earle McConnell
Robert & Suzanne Miller
Greg & Nancy Wellstead

INO 2022 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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 20th Annual International Night Out:

Chairman/Co-Chair
Vicki West
David Proctor

Sponsorships
Bill Dawson
Matthew Henderson
Robert Miller
David Proctor

Live Auction Coordinator
Vicki West

Silent Auction Coordinator
Linda Haines

Silent Auction Team Members
Sherry Conner
Van & Tami Black
Bradley Hoyt
Linda Sanders
Pat Stokes
Doris Wadd
Vicki West

Live Auctioneer
Brad Brown

Event Volunteers
Van & Tami Black
Gail Cowan
Mary Diem
Don & Jeanine Gehringer
Rick & Sharon Hindery
Susan Irwin
Redonnia Jackson
Carolyn Morgan
Vic Peirce
Pat Riccardi
Jeff & Iris Shadrick

ISC Board and Staff

Our special thanks also go to Stan Walker and the Coastal Empire Orchestra and Ernie Elam for sharing their gift of music and to the staff and management of The King and Prince Beach Resort for their unwavering support and wonderful cooperation that made the evening memorable and almost delectable.

Anything for Our Seafaring Friends

by Vic Peirce

There are times when the International Seafarers' Center is asked to perform an unusual and complicated task. One of those events happened on Friday, January 14, 2022. That morning, the ISC received a call from a ship's agent asking if the ISC could transport a seafarer from the Mercury Ace to a Southeast Georgia Health System (SHGS) facility for a PCR test. That PCR test was required for the ship to enter China. Executive Director, Vicki West, immediately went to work and arranged for the testing at SGHS. There was only one problem; the seafarer, the chief engineer aboard the Mercury Ace, had only arrived in the US the night before and did not have the proper visa documents to exit the port at Colonels Island. And the ship was scheduled to depart at 14:30 (2:30 p.m.) to sail to China via the Panama Canal.

What ensued was considerable coordination and multiple phone calls among the port police, the ship's agent, ISC headquarters, and the ISC driver waiting to transport the chief. After many phone calls, the proper documentation was secured, and the chief was cleared to leave the port. But another problem; it was now after 1100 with the ship scheduled to leave at 14:30. Upon arriving at the SGHS Immediate Care facility, the ISC driver found all parking spaces full of cars with people seeking Covid testing. Rather than wait, the driver and chief marched right into the lobby and, fortunately, found the waiting room empty. Vicki had alerted the staff at the Immediate Care facility to the tight schedule and the chief received his PCR test. By the way, this test was the chief's third PCR test taken in the four days he traveled from his home in the Assam region in the northeast of India to Brunswick.

The outcome was as hoped – the seafarer had his negative PCR test, he was back on board so the ship could depart on time, and the company had all the documentation in place for the ship to be able to call at a port in China. Many thanks to the Colonel's Island Port Police for arranging proper documentation and to the staff at SGHS Immediate Care for expediting testing and the results delivery to the ship's agent. The ISC received a thank you note from the ship's agent, "Vicki and Vic, thanks again for all the help yesterday making an impossible situation possible!" Mission Accomplished!

MV Mercury Ace

GPA and Wallenius Wilhelmsen: The Brunswick Port

The Georgia Ports Authority published a press release on March 9, 2022, titled "GPA increasing Brunswick's annual capacity to 1.4M vehicles" (https://gaports.com/press-releases/gpa-increasing-brunswicks-annual-capacity-to-1-4m-vehicles/):

From the press release:

"We're expanding berth and terminal capacity at both Colonel's Island and Mayor's Point so that we are ready to take on additional trade," said Griff Lynch, GPA executive director. "The investments we are making will lay the groundwork for job growth and new opportunity in the Brunswick region."

As the nation's second busiest hub for Ro/Ro cargo, behind only Baltimore, the Port of Brunswick moved over 650,000 units of vehicles and heavy machinery in Calendar Year 2021, an increase of 10 percent over the previous year.

"A testament to the trust customers have in the Georgia Ports Authority and its partners across the logistics community, the Port of Brunswick delivered an outstanding performance this year – despite economic headwinds," said Governor Brian P. Kemp. "In the coming years, Georgia's posture as the number one state for forestry and as a global leader in the automotive industry – for automakers of both combustion and non-combustion engines – will continue to strengthen, and I'm confident given the exemplary leadership and hardworking Georgians who keep cargo moving, that the Port of Brunswick will continue to be a driving force behind the Peach State's success."

At the State of the Port event, hosted by the Brunswick-Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce, GPA Chief Administrative Officer Jamie McCurry outlined a $150 million development plan. GPA will add a fourth berth at Colonel's Island, 360,000 square feet of new warehousing, and 85 additional acres for auto processing. The new pavement and buildings are slated to be complete in 2023. The additional auto storage on the south side of the island will increase the terminal's annual capacity from 1.2 million to 1.4 million vehicles.

"Home to more than 20 automaker brands, Colonel's Island is poised to become the Southeast's premier autoport," said GPA Board Chairman Joel Wooten. "With more room to grow, better connections to inland markets, and an operation dedicated to Roll-on/Roll-off cargo, Colonel's Island is the region's busiest gateway for autos and machinery."

The new berth, recently approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will include a concrete deck and system of mooring dolphins extending Ro/Ro vessel berthing space from 3,355 feet to 4,630 feet. Construction is anticipated to begin at the end of 2022 and take two years to complete.

In addition to growing the auto trade, GPA will upgrade near-dock storage areas to better accommodate heavy machinery used in agriculture, construction, and warehousing operations."

This from Wallenius Wilhelmsen:

"Wallenius Wilhelmsen intends to operate phase 1 of the projects by the end of 2022 and then phase 2 of the projects by the end of 2023. The growth will account for roughly an additional 35 new jobs at first and increase in 18 months to an additional 60 new jobs."

International Auto Processing
goiap.com | 1 Joe Frank Harris Blvd. Brunswick, GA 31523 | 912.264.8131

INTERNATIONAL AUTO PROCESSING
IAP
BRUNSWICK, GA

IAP Group of Companies
Proud Sponsors of the International Seafarers' Center

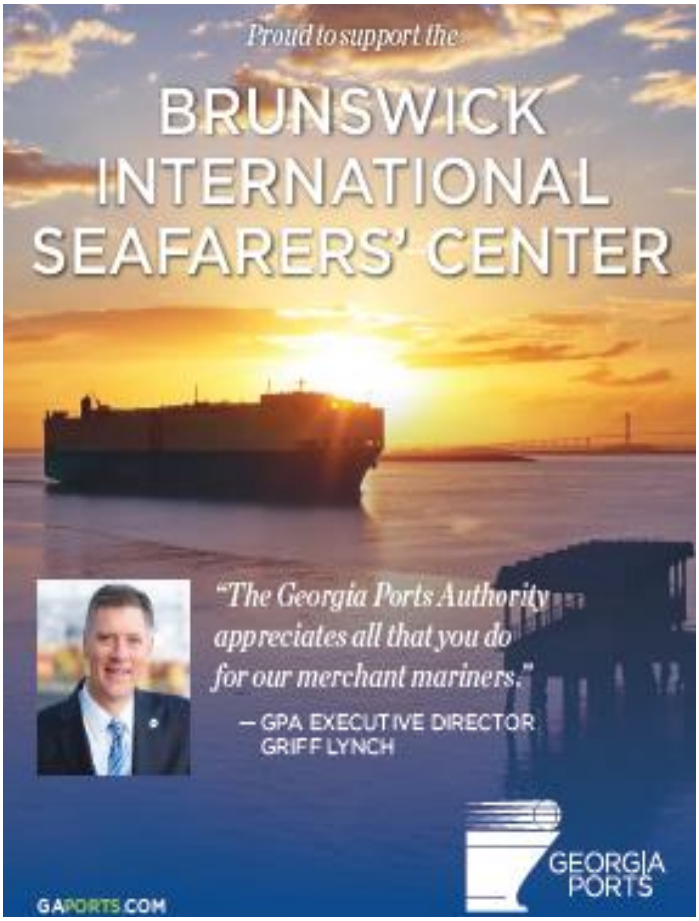
IAL
INTERNATIONAL AUTO LOGISTICS

International Auto Logistics
pcsmypov.com | 110 Office Park Ln St. Simons Island, GA 31522 | 912.280.6000

COME SEE WHAT GOD is doing at
Frederica Baptist Church
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.
fredericabaptist.com | 912.634.2833
New Location! (Summer 2022)
65 Marsh's Edge Lane
St. Simons Island, GA
Current Location: 1700 Frederica Road, SSI

GEORGIA
GSA
GEORGIA STEVEDORE ASSOCIATION
• SHIP • THRU • GEORGIA'S • PORTS • AND • SAVE •

seaboard™
A Division of Plant Improvement Company, Inc.



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

What's better than being one of the best?

Brunswick Campus
Ranked 9th
Large Hospital Category

Camden Campus
Ranked 5th
Small Hospital Category

Being two of the best!

We are honored that *Georgia Trend* has recognized the outstanding work of our leadership and team members by naming our Brunswick and Camden campuses to its Top Hospitals list.

So when you're looking for a hospital that can provide exceptional health care for you and your family, look for one of the best. Or, better still...two of the best.

SOUTHEAST GEORGIA HEALTH SYSTEM
sghs.org

To learn more about our career opportunities, visit **sghs.org/Careers**

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2022

PHOTO GALLERY

Photos continued on page 11...

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2022 PHOTO GALLERY continued...

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.

- Psalm 107:23-25, 28-30

christ church
frederica

6329 Frederica Rd. • St. Simons Island, GA 31522 • 912-638-8683 • ccfssi.org

ISC International Seafarers' Center

307 Newcastle Street
Brunswick, GA 31520
(912) 267-0631
www.seafarerscenter.org

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

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!

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.