



MISSION TO SEAFARERS – HALIFAX

# Flying Angel

Caring for seafarers around the world



SPRING 2022

## MISSION TO SEAFARERS HALIFAX – CELEBRATES 80 YEARS!

Dearest Friends,

Many of you are aware of our history. We have grown together, through challenging times and good ones too, always with prayers of hope, wellness, and prosperity. Our Ministry is dedicated to enhancing the lives of seafarers regardless of race, religion, gender or rank, through ship visiting, advocacy and hospitality. We offer a sanctuary where compassionate care is shared to improve physical, emotional, spiritual and justice needs. Our Mission team is proud of our accomplishments in the Port of Halifax during these extraordinary times. Our ability to adapt to change is one of the greatest strengths I have witnessed as manager over the past ten years. The Mission to Seafarers Halifax celebrates 80 years!

We are grateful to our philanthropic partners who graciously responded to our call for help in 2021. We appreciate those who understand the importance of crit-

ical services to seafarers and your commitment to the hidden heroes who bring 90% of everything to our shores. We, as you, will persevere in the face of adversity as we pray and hope for better days through 2022.

Whilst the challenges have been great, our successes have been too! As you review our newsletter you will see that we are a testament to YOUR commitment to our thriving Port!

We have enabled 208 seafarers to be vaccinated. We have delivered 1080 Shoebox gifts; our thanks to crew members visiting our Port provided, by you, our donors and partners during troubled times. You have a lot to be proud of here in our beautiful Port of Halifax. Thank you.

My wish is that we can celebrate our mutual successes before the end of 2022 in person. I speculate that our financial situation will not be so different than in 2021, and I would hope you are able to continue to financially support us. Please continue to stay safe. Blessings to you and yours.

Fondest regards,  
Helen Glenn, Mission Manager



MSC Naomi crew welcomed by Marcia & Likenson Gibson with Helen providing Christmas gifts. Cheesecakes specially requested by master were delivered.

### A prayer for seafarers

*Lord God, we depend on you for life itself. We depend on seafarers for many of our daily needs. Watch over them, keep them from danger, befriend them in loneliness and bring them safely home to those they love. Amen.*



**LIGHT AND HOPE TO SEAFARERS WHO KEEP OUR GLOBAL ECONOMY AFLOAT!**



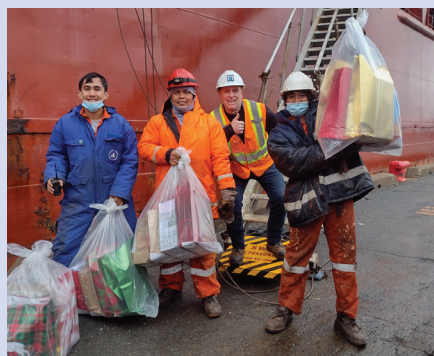
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## SEAFARERS OVERWHELMED WITH JOY FOR GIFTS OF LOVE

Our annual shoebox campaign is about sharing the joy and spirit of the holidays through gift giving to our “hidden heroes.” It is our way of thanking them for their sacrifices and demanding work delivering 90% of everything we use in our daily lives. We are grateful for funding from NAMMA (North American Maritime Ministry Association, <http://namma.org/>) through ICMA (International Christian Maritime Association) and the ITF Seafarers’ Trust ; church/community partners and the “Fishermen’s Friends” corporation. Seafarers love DONUT DELIVERIES. This is a small gesture of thanks from our Mission staff, volunteers and friends within the Canada-Philippine community, who pay for and deliver donuts to crew members.



NYK Constellation receive gifts of love delivered by John Attersley



AUGUSTA SUN crew receive gifts delivered by Howard Gray



Captain Andrew Powell delivers to TAIPEITRADER crew



MV St. Sophia crew with Deacon Art Mitchell



Captain Powell delivers to MSC Texas



ONE Houston with volunteer Howard Gray

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**CBC's Preston Mulligan** asked during a December 23rd interview, "How do seafarers feel about receiving wrapped gifts of love at Christmas?" Quite simply, "one would truly have to be there to experience the sheer joy & gratefulness." The appreciative crew of MV St. Sophia presented us with a signed preserver thanking us for our camaraderie, gifts and blessings on board their vessel conducted by Deacon Art Mitchell and Father Rob Elford. They were delighted with their stay in our Port and we were happy to share special times with them. Blessed be.



Notes of gratitude are received not only for the Christmas gift a seafarer may open but all the many ways our staff and volunteers find to help. Be it a simple prayer, to shop for provisions, coordinate critical prescriptions, arrange free vaccines and Covid tests, money transfers to loved ones in need, as well as the intangibles – smiles and friendly chatter. **YOU** make this possible. **THANK YOU!**



## BBC CREW SENT MESSAGES OF THANKS VIA FACEBOOK

"Opening gifts – once again may staff and volunteers have a wonderful Christmas and blessed year. Thanks to all of you for your kindness."

*Dear Helen Glenn, good day! Thanks for the gifts you were so thoughtful to prepare and deliver to the vessel for the crew when the time comes. Today they were distributed among the seamen, and everybody was very happy and touched by your kindness! Wishing you and your colleagues a very Merry Christmas and a very happy New year! God bless you!*

*Best regards! CaptainAngelov  
Vladimir, master of m/v "ZIM Tarragona"*

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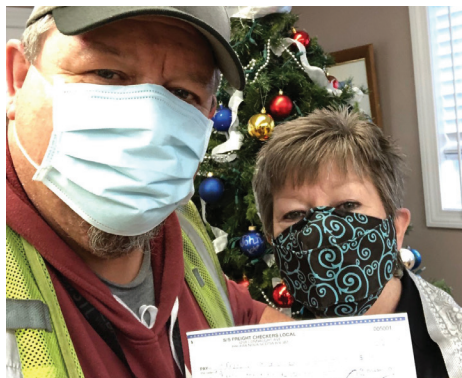


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## SHINING STARS IN OUR PORT OF HALIFAX



Captain Bernard Wentzell of the MV Asterix presents a substantial donation on behalf of crew. "The Mission does remarkable things to help the seafaring community."



Freight checkers local 1342 Chris Robichaud gifts a substantial donation to our ministry.



Captain Dan Steele delivered another HUGE cheque from Halifax Pilots. We are grateful for all they do for us.



Jessica Norman and Kim Wotherspoon deliver shoebox gifts with a promise of substantial donation from the Halifax Port Authority. Perfect timing! We are overwhelmed by the on-going support from our community partners. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, STARS who graciously delivered generous donations during these tumultuous times. The phone calls and random drop-ins are most appreciated. We are grateful that YOU understand how critical our ministry is to seafarers. A special SHOUT OUT to the Halifax Port Authority management and staff who have been generous to our ministry over the years. Providing venues for events, overseeing snow and garbage maintenance; collecting voluntary tolls from visiting ships to support us, as well as management playing an active role on our board of directors. Congratulations for our thriving seaport – our Port of Halifax!

## 2021 MtS CAR RALLY

With so many events cancelled we were delighted to hear that Jacqueline and Ronnie Twohig were keen to host this event in 2021. They plotted the course and arranged a scavenger hunt along the route. Ronnie dropped in with a bag of cash totalling \$3500. I am told it was a blast with participants ending up at the Truro Best Western for dinner and an over night stay. Elaine and Peter Selig started this event in 2017. We thank you for your ingenuity and generosity shining through a pandemic. Event sponsors were: Logistec, CBCL Engineering and Canada Steamship Lines. The major prize sponsors are: Hotel Halifax, Sutton Place Hotel, Hapag-Lloyd and the Truro Best Western. Without this support, the Car Rally would not happen. The winners were Heather Wozniak and Emily Goss, Team Double Trouble.



Winning Team

Do you recognize a few of the participants below? We thank you all! Well done!



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## OUR SHOEBOX VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



Captain Colm, Ilonka, Judy, Aurora, Pat and Anne, our Tuesday shoebox elves who work simple miracles daily.



Constable Jenn Vaters-Pace, retired Sargent Nancy Rudback, Board member/shoebox coordinator Aurora Ulloa-Parsons



Margie Guy and Marianne Nee volunteer on Thursdays and as this shot attests, can build from scratch MANY shoebox gifts. Aurora and James will wrap these gifts on evenings and weekends to catch up. Howard and Brenda were present to assist on the last weekend as well, to ensure vessels known to us

received the final gifts of the season. We are grateful to everyone who assisted with this campaign including “Fisherman’s Friends”, which we were able to include in every box again this year. We delivered 1080 wrapped bundles of joy/shoebox Christmas gifts to crew members. Blessings to everyone who contributed!



Captain James Parsons is an expert shoebox wrapper.



Colm, Helen, Pat, Ilonka, Anne, Judy, Carolyn.



Dianne Lavoie MacDonald & Emmerson Mazerolle



Constable Jenn Vaters-Pace and Joseph Loot



Captain Jim Calvesbert drove to Tangiers (not Africa) to pick up knitted scarves & toques. Joyce Webb, 92, shared that her late husband made her promise to “not forget the seafarers”. She and her team have knitted over three thousand toques/ scarves in the past few years. THANK YOU and your team. Amazing work.

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## VOLUNTEER PROFILE

## HOWARD GRAY

I was delighted to meet Howard during a month end luncheon, and was pleased to hear he was an IT expert ready to commit to a volunteer position. Now, as a mission keyholder, Howard is able, when available, to answer to requests during off hours. He assists with renovations and is part of our Property Committee. Howard was instrumental in developing the template to provide graphs for our STATS. Impressed colleagues requested the template to share. Howard can fix anything broken. We are fortunate to have this energetic multi-talented man on our team. Howard's enthusiasm towards the needs of seafarers developed quickly. He is an astute and caring person able to articulate questions and report issues which may require attention. This exemplifies why communications with our seafarers is key to sensing unexpressed concerns. Thanks for being part of our positive extended family Howard. Our Mission volunteers enjoy learning more about their colleagues, and I sense our community partners do as well.



Brenda & Howard cruising Newfoundland in the FlyingWedge

Howard shares his story....

Born in England in 1947. As a teenager the 1960's was an exciting time to grow up with the British music scene developing quickly. Used to go to church hall dances where The Who played, saw Rod Stewart, the Rolling Stones and Eric Clapton in various clubs in and around London. Met Brenda and started my career in Information Technology in 1965 when I joined Zurich Insurance Company in London as a computer programmer. Brenda and I married in 1969, had two children, Victoria, and Richard, and emigrated to Canada in 1977 when CIL (Canadian Industries Ltd.) offered me a job in Montreal.

Job hopped several times between 1981-1989 with moves to Toronto, Calgary, Belleville (ON) and Ottawa. Finally settled in Halifax in 1997 when I joined MT&T (as it was then). Retired from Bell Aliant in 2009 and in 2017 sold our (second) house in St. Margaret's Bay and moved into a new apartment building by the Hydro stone Market where St. Joseph's Church used to be. Love living on the Halifax peninsula, so many shops, cafes, restaurants, and pubs in easy walking distance. When we want to eat out it is a 5-minute bus ride downtown



Howard with EM KEA CREW

from right outside the building, no worries about parking and free to have a glass or two of beer or wine. So much for the history, what are my interests now? I am involved with two organizations, the Mission to Seafarers Halifax and the British Automobile Touring Association of Nova Scotia (BATANS). BATANS has 321 members, all of whom have an interest in British cars. I am Membership Director, Treasurer and Website Manager for the club ([www.batans.ca](http://www.batans.ca) if you are interested).

Having read all the above you might ask yourself "so why/how did Howard get involved with the Mission?" It is simple, we are friends with Norman and Susan Picton, and they talked often about their involvement with the Mission. Those discussions piqued my interest. I got involved and have been a ship-visiting volunteer ever since. I really enjoy the ship visitor role; going onto the ships, talking with the crew, occasionally invited for a meal onboard, driving them wherever they want to go, delivering Christmas Shoeboxes, etc., etc.

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## CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON TAKE OUT GRAND SUCCESS!

In November, our volunteers served 178 turkey luncheons to patrons. What a team! Special thanks you to Trevor Simms, Executive Chef, Marriott Harbourfront Hotel Halifax for working his magic for us. Salute to Cathy Holmes for donating 360 shortbread cookies to include in luncheon. A very special addition to the take-out luncheon. (Watch for March 17th!)



Susan, Jamie,  
Norman, Aurora

## MISSION RENOVATIONS

We took the opportunity to spruce up the Mission during the fall. Privacy rooms were closed off and painted for use as a shoebox storage area. The managers office, chapel, internet cafe and treatment room were painted. What an incredible team of proactive, passionate humanitarians. We are truly blessed.

More troubled waters became apparent when Norman and James ripped up the buckling tiles in our kitchen to find out where a water leak was originating. A wharf rodent had chewed a water hose under the kitchen floor causing substantial water damage. We are

grateful for plumber Mike (retired) from the Halifax Port Authority who came to our rescue immediately.

We are now preparing for the repairs at a cost of \$14,000, most of which we anticipate will be covered by insurance. We are fortunate to have multi-talented volunteers who step up to help resolve these issues. We are grateful to our pandemic partners who have gone the extra mile.

We experienced two full days of operations at the Mission without water due to frozen water pipes. Again, our Halifax Port Authority partners resolved the issue as quickly as possible. Welcome to 2022.

The International Sailors Society



## VACCINE INITIATIVE CONTINUES

We offer free Covid-19 tests, book appointments and transport seafarers for vaccines. Special thanks to Owner, Chintan Prajapati, Brookline Pharmasave for his flexibility and partnering with to accommodate the needs of crew members. While logistically complicated we have presented 208 crew members for vaccinations.

of Canada ( International Sailors' Society Canada ([sailorssociety.ca](http://sailorssociety.ca)) agreed unanimously to grant an amount equal to insurance deductible to move forward on these renovations. We are anxious to get started so we are able to utilize our kitchen again before our **March 17th, St. Patrick's Day TAKE OUT event.**



Deacon Art, Norman, Aurora, Susan, James, Jamie, Joseph

The Mission to Seafarers work worldwide in support of seafarers who have been mistreated or abandoned. Please keep the seafarers in your prayers.

## Please Donate

Website: [www.missiontoseafarershalifax.ca](http://www.missiontoseafarershalifax.ca)

Mail: Mission to Seafarers Halifax  
P. O. Box 27114, NS B3H 4M8

Drop in: 844 Marginal Road.

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# THE FLYING ANGEL

Lord  
It is night.  
The night is for stillness.  
Let us be still in the presence of  
God.

It is night after a long day.  
What has been done has been done.  
What has not been done has not

been done:  
Let it be.

The night is dark.  
Let our fears of darkness of the  
world and/or our own lives rest in  
you.

The night is quiet.  
Let the quietness of your peace

enfold us, All dear to us, and all  
who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.  
Let us look expectantly to a new  
day, New joys, new possibilities.

In your name we pray. Amen  
(New Zealand Prayer Boo, Night  
Prayer, p. 184)

## MtS Halifax ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

John Attersley  
Sandra Attersley  
Peter Bartlett  
Captain Jim Calvesbert  
Nancy Eisener

Carolyn Graham  
Howard Gray  
Palma Heming  
Joy MacDonnell  
James Kennedy  
Deacon Art Mitchell  
Captain James Parsons  
Captain Andrew Powell

Captain Age Roren  
Captain Colm Stockdale  
Glenn Taylor  
Pat Thompson  
Aurora Ulloa-Parsons  
Susan Picton  
Norman Picton  
Kevin Walker



## Announcements

- Our AGM will be hosted via ZOOM on February 23rd at 7PM. Please contact me direct should you be interested in attending. [hglenn@missiontoseafarershalifax.ca](mailto:hglenn@missiontoseafarershalifax.ca)

- Reserve your **St. Patrick's TAKE OUT luncheon for Thursday, March 17th.** Hearty Beef Stew, Fresh Roll & Chocolate Mint Brownie, \$15.00 order by March 10th [hglenn@missiontoseafarershalifax.ca](mailto:hglenn@missiontoseafarershalifax.ca)

## The Mission is thankful to our sponsors!

AON  
Associated Cargo Specialists  
Atlantic Towing Ltd.  
Atship Services Ltd.  
Atlantic Container Line  
Atlantic Pilotage Authority  
Blue Water Agencies Ltd.  
CN  
CERES  
Canadian Institute of Marine  
Engineering  
Canadian Steamship Lines  
Colley Motorships Ltd.  
Diocese Synod of NS & PEI

Edmonds Landscape &  
Construction Services  
F. K. Warren Ltd.  
Flying Angel Fund  
Freight Checkers Union 1342  
Halifax Marriott Harbourside  
Hotel  
Halifax Pilots  
Halifax Port Authority  
Horizon Maritime Services  
ILA 269 Halifax Long Shoreman's  
Association  
Inchcape Shipping Services

International Sailors' Society  
of Canada  
ITF Seafarer's Trust  
Logistec Stevedoring  
Maritime World Logistics  
Mark & Dr. Joanne MacDonald  
Metcalf & Company  
Mothers Union of NS & PE  
MV Asterix  
NAMMA  
NICOM IT  
Partner International Inc.  
P & H Milling Group  
PRAXES Medical Group

PSA HALIFAX  
Protos Shipping Ltd  
Quay Marine Associates Inc  
RCR  
Secunda  
Stewart Mckelvey  
The Company of Master Mariners  
The Shipping Federation of  
Canada  
TK Foundation  
UNIFOR Marine Workers union  
Vanco Farms Ltd.  
Wallenius Willhelmsen Logistics



## Mission to Seafarers Halifax

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Website: [www.missiontoseafarershalifax.ca](http://www.missiontoseafarershalifax.ca)  
Location: Opposite Pier 24, Ocean Terminals  
We are open 9:30-4:30. flex time when ships are  
in Port. Closed Sundays.

**Helen Glenn, Mission Manager**  
Tel: 902-456-1658  
Email: [hglenn@missiontoseafarershalifax.ca](mailto:hglenn@missiontoseafarershalifax.ca)  
**Joseph Loot, Assistant Manager**  
Tel: 902-989-3388  
Email: [jagloot@gmail.com](mailto:jagloot@gmail.com)