



Flying Angel

Caring for seafarers around the world



SPRING 2023

TEARS OF JOY FLOWED FROM MY EYES – A MOTHER’S THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

February 2023 marks my tenth year as Secretary General of The Mission to Seafarers. Looking back over the pictures I have taken in that time, some of the most striking are those with the many crew I have met. Like so many migrant workers, I have never ceased to be struck by the enormous sacrifices they make, for all of us. Perhaps that period of the pandemic, when their difficulties and sufferings were so real and a bit more public, reminded us of the heroism shown in sustaining world trade. We are all so reliant on these incredible people for most of the essential and luxuries of our lives, and yet we are generally so blind to all those efforts.

While there are, of course, positives to seafarers’ lives – and many find fulfilment in them – the sacrifices are very real. Long, long months, perhaps even over a year, on contracts which take you far away from loved ones. Remote from those family and friendship networks which most of us take for granted. Distanced from those intimacies which bring comfort and reassurance. Absent from children, perhaps, whose vital growing years and milestones can be missed. Then there are the inevitable physical challenges and dangers of working in the shipboard environment, often with dangerous cargoes. The pan-

demie and the Ukraine war have reminded us of the vulnerability of crew to unexpected global crises. These often hit them with particular speed and ferocity. There is much to reflect on as we move into Lent.

Even as I write, restrictions on shore leave continue to bring hardship. The circumstances of the conflict in Ukraine have brought great pain to Ukrainian (and indeed Russian) crew, as well as families caught up in it, displaced from their homes and country. Others, of course, face deep scourges such as abandonment, usually out of sight and out of mind.

Given that sacrificial love lies at the very heart of faith, again and again I have reflected on the extraordinary “Christlike” nature of seafarer lives, though most would never claim such a thing. It is a deep and profound thing – and very humbling to most of us.

Our teams across the world are proud to be working with this truly amazing group of people. It is our absolute focus to support seafarers and their families in the midst of all their challenges – in ports, through our advocacy work, and through our growing range of wider programmes, including our excellent Family Support Networks. There are a myriad different ways in which we bring transformational help, including human connection and compassion. Here is just one little story, from Halifax in Canada, in which small things changed lives in big ways:



“One day, my son Patrick, an international seafarer sent me his ship’s itinerary. I was surprised when I read that their ship would go to Halifax, in Canada. I whispered to my port and starboard side ears that this was the ‘few and far between’ opportunity to meet my son who I haven’t seen in 7 years. After confirmation of my son’s journey, we set off for Halifax and ‘The Mission to Seafarers’ Centre.

The day my son’s ship arrived, early in the morning, Ms. Helen Glenn, picked us from the hotel personally. Our reunion with our son was expedited by the efforts of the Canadian Angels from ‘The Mission to Seafarers Halifax’ Centre. Thank you so much Ms. Helen Glenn! You are really very good and organized in coordinating our get-together. I was impressed with your remarkable energy and expeditious assistance to us to make all this possible.

You did not miss any information regarding my son’s ship situation as we found out from you that the ship would only stay in Halifax for a few hours and depart in the evening. I was so nervous, happy and

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my feeling was indescribable while I was waiting for my son at the dock. What we have been hoping for a long time as mother and son happened - we hugged and kissed each other. Tears of joy flowed from my eyes, as I really missed my son. The MtS Halifax is really a great place to visit. They gave us transportation and took care of our needs.

We were appreciative and a bit overwhelmed of the amount of support that was given to us. We were captivated by the dedication of the staff to help the seafarers."

This is a great example of the diverse ways in which we help seafarers and their families, but none of our work is possible without you, our supporters, upon whom we depend. You help us by individual donations and regular giving, you help with legacies and In Memoriam gifts, when sadly a loved one passes away, and via your churches and local communities.

In the long, hard month at sea – your care truly matters. Thank you!

We want to maximise our outreach to crew, most especially during these

times when life is very challenging for many of us, but very especially for seafarers.

As we all reflect during Lent, spare a thought for seafarers - now more than ever in need of our in-person care. Through your own sacrifice this Lent, please help us reach our goal in providing this much-needed care.

Please do help us in whatever way you can. We thank you for all your support and for your prayers.

In friendship, as ever. **The Revd Canon Andrew Wright, Secretary General, The Mission to Seafarers**

CHRISTMAS DELIVERIES BRING JOY TO ALL!

Indeed, nothing can stop Christmas! Isn't it amazing that most Christmas gifts are delivered by seafarers! We are pleased to have, in turn, delivered 1144 Christmas gifts to seafarers so that they too might feel the spirit of the holidays. The MtS shoebox campaign is our way of thanking these hidden heroes for their sacrifices and demanding work, bringing us 90% of everything we use in our daily lives. We are grateful for funding from NAMMA (North American Maritime Ministry Association, <http://namma.org/> as well as from our church and community partners.

A special thank you to Praxes Medical Group for sourcing 1200 ChapSticks for this year's campaign. We also thank the Fishermen's Friends corporation for their welcomed gifts of lozenges. The Halifax Port Authority and the Museum of the Atlantic continue to be solid supporters of the shoebox campaign. To all our donors, the gifts of hand knitted scarves, toques and mittens are very much appreciated by seafarers. We have enough toques to hand out to those in need throughout the winter months. **THANK YOU!**



Mrs. Frankie Anderson and her best friend Marie Gallant donated beautifully hand-knitted neck cowl, mittens, and scarves, in memory of Captain George Anderson. Blessed be!



Aurora, Margie, Nancy, Jenn



St. Francis of the Lakes



Aurora Ulloa-Parsons & granddaughter Sophie



Dianne Pat Rita and Anne



Helen, Catherine & Michael Holmes and Bob

PEACE ON EARTH!

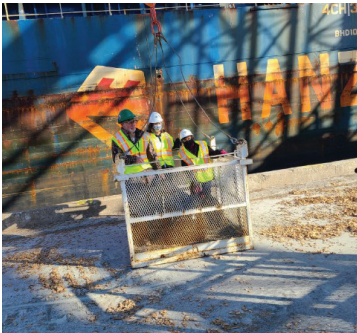
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SHEET HARBOUR PARISHIONERS DELIVER SHOEBOX GIFTS TO MV HANZEVAST CREW

Parishioners Dale & Heather Cooper and Sue Slaunwhite (in photo) delivered shoebox gifts to MV HANZEVAST crew. They are friends of Jean Webb-Clarke, the daughter of the late Joyce Webb of Tangiers. Joyce and her husband Gerard were passionate about keeping the shoebox campaign alive in this area of NS for the past 20 years. Gerard sailed the Great Lakes in the 40s/50s. In recent years Joyce's team were responsible for knitting over 3000 toques for this initiative. "Dad's biggest joy was delivering shoe boxes any time a ship arrived in Sheet Harbour. They would also deliver boxes to the Mission of Seafarers in Halifax", shares Jean. With Joyce's passing, we bid farewell to a long-time volunteer; our deepest condolences to family and friends. Joyce's legacy will continue. With the help of daughter Jean and the promise from Sue and Heather that they will help, the shoebox campaign will continue in Joyce's memory. Blessings in abundance to all!



M V POLAR CIRCLE crew receive donuts and shoeboxes after spending 3 weeks anchored in Bedford Basin. This was made possible through the joint efforts of our HALIFAX PILOTS and Atlantic Pilotage Authority.



MV HANZEVAST SPECIAL DELIVERY



AUGUSTA SUN CREW



MSC MARGUARITA



NYK ROMULUS with Rev'd Andrew

OH, THE JOYS OF SHORE LEAVE IN HALIFAX 2022



Third Officer, Rasagya Kamboj of MV Midland Trader skates for the first time at the Halifax Oval!

'I am thankful to the club for helping me out and providing their services. Cheers!



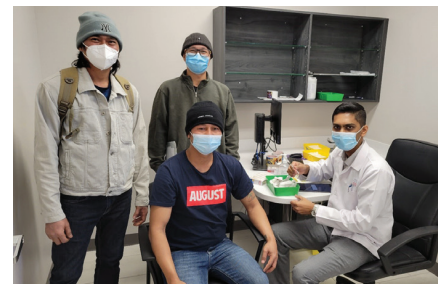
Captain Colm and Commander Bob with X-Press Irazu crew



E M KEA Crew visit with volunteer Bud Streeter



Captain Siarczynski MV Conti Courage with Pharmacist Chintan



Vivienne Sheri D Myanmar crew at Brookline Pharmacy with Chintan

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THANKS FROM CAPTAINS & CREW

Dear Helen,

The crew were able to celebrate Christmas Eve at anchorage Norfolk with a nice Christmas party. The highlight of course was the distribution of the shoebox Christmas presents from you and your volunteers. Your gifts were handed over to the crew right at the start of our Christmas evening party. Best regards, Michael Lerche, Master CGA CGM PELLEAS



Not all seafarers who visit our mission are on international vessels. Owners of sailing vessel - License to Chill, Tyler & Janet MacKenzie from Pictou Landing were storm stayed in Halifax, docked at Bishops Landing, for three days due to inclement weather. Pictured here with volunteers Deacon Art Mitchell and Nancy Eisener, the Mackenzies visited us during a walkabout of our lovely city. It was great to chat and hear stories of their sailing adventures. Fair winds and following seas! Sending best regards to Pictou Landing.



Captain Arniel Egos with NYK Rumina crew



Maersk IDAHO -crew anchored in Basin for over one month

Dear Helen, Good Day.

We sincerely appreciated your daily efforts of helping seafarers needs naturally and spiritually, and much appreciated the advance X-Mas gifts we received. On behalf of my Crew, thank you for being there! It lifted our spirits, gave a boost to our effort to continue this journey as piece of helm of the world. May GOD bless us all with his abundant love.

Best Regards, Capt. Arniel A. Egos Master of M/V "NYK RUMINA" (far left) Captain Egos was determined to grant his crew a Merry Christmas, but their visit to us was on Remembrance Day in NS. Everything was closed. We managed to donate a few Christmas decorations & shoeboxes that would eventually brighten Christmas Day for his crew. Awesome Captain!

Cob's End of Day Giving Partnership Program

Finding a Home for Every Bread

Through Cob's End of Day Giving program, our volunteers pick up Cob's end of day bread every second Friday and distribute the tasty treats to visiting seafarers as well as local charities. We are grateful to Rebecca Cripps and her team for this partnership. A marvellous way to give back to the community – breaking bread together and sharing hope. Blessings in abundance.



Joy MacDonnell bags bread and treats for delivery.

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2022 MtS CAR RALLY



1st place
Donna & Anthony Steele



2nd place
Paul & Robin Shaw



3rd place
Chris & Amy Allen

HUGE KUDOS to Elaine and Peter Selig who coordinated our 2022 Car Rally. Everyone enjoyed the route along the South Shore – from Chester Basin to White Point. Participants were thrilled to stay at White Point. Everyone was assigned a room adorned with a lovely fireplace or a view of the lake. The buffet was amazing! It was a perfect mid-November day. 29 teams registered! The 50/50 draw raised \$1550 and the winner, Rossana Wilson, gave her half back to the Mission! Congratulations and thank you very much Rossana! The Live Auction raised \$1940! Congratulations to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place rally winners (noted above). We thank our rally sponsor of the year – PSA TERMINALS.

A great time had by all! This event raised in total \$7,513.35. We thank everyone for their participation and support.

*Our **Christmas TAKE OUT Luncheon** in November, sponsored by P&H Milling with desserts provided by our Mother's Union friends, was incredible- served 220! Trevor Simms of the Halifax Marriott Harbourside Hotel cooked the delectable turkey. Our friend Cathy Holmes provided another huge batch of mouth-watering, melt in your mouth short-breads. Thanks to all for the support.*



Susan, Norman, James and Aurora working their Christmas take out magic.

100 Bluenoses Who Care DONATES to MtS Halifax

We were recently invited to attend a meeting in Mahone Bay by a group of caring Nova Scotians who want to assist charities making an impact in their communities. No PowerPoint, no visual aids, simply tell your story and the crunch - do it all in five minutes. They call themselves the 100 Bluenoses who care. They meet quarterly and at each meeting invite three charities to join them to explain what they do. After the representatives from each charity speak, the 100 Bluenoses, who are present, vote and one charity is selected. The 100 Bluenoses then write \$ 100.00 cheques to that selected charity. Volunteer Glenn Taylor agreed to drive to Mahone Bay on Thursday, January 12 to share what our ministry is all about. We were delighted to learn that the MtS was chosen as the recipient of donations. The money from the 100

Bluenosers who care will be donated over the next few weeks. It will go a long way to assist us with our ministry among visiting seafarers at the Port of Halifax.

THANK YOU 100 BLUENOSERS WHO CARE! (If you want 100% of your donation to go directly to a local charity - then this group could be for you! Check them out at <https://www.facebook.com/100Bluenosers/>)

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

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

Drop in: 844 Marginal Road.

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14th ANNUAL MtS HALIFAX CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The first in two years, our Annual Christmas Luncheon was held at Pier 21 and was a jam-packed heartwarming event. We thank Jessica Norman, our gracious MC, for keeping everything on track. It was so good to have Mike Cowie and his band with us, a Christmas tradition Mike has honoured for over a decade. Congratulations to Dean Mitchel of CME who won the Mike Cowie Trio Kitchen Party. We were delighted for the harmonic carolling of the East Coast Carollers. Pier 21 and RCR staff are great partners, and we look forward to working with them again next year. Please mark your calendars for December 6th, 2023. The Honourable Arthur LeBlanc, Lt. Gov. of NS addressed luncheon guests. We were blessed to have our Patron, The Honorable Arthur LeBlanc and wife Mrs. Patsy LeBlanc, keep close contact with us during the past few pandemic years, to ensure we were doing well. We thank His Worship, Mayor Mike Savage, for addressing our port partners and for his constant support. During the pandemic years, despite the lack of special events, we continued to present STARS to those community partners who continued to sponsor the Mission. If we missed honouring your commitment please call me direct especially if you need a new plaque or STAR. Please check out this link for photos of the Christmas luncheon! <https://lancelephoto.com/mission>



A PERSONAL OBSERVATION:

You often hear me speak of our “mission family”. That is how it feels to me. I am privileged to work alongside volunteers who are committed, caring, proactive caregivers; prepared to go the distance to look after the needs of our seafaring friends. I remember when asked about our greatest strengths during the world pandemic; Clearly to me it was the ability to adapt and constantly change, during adversities to the needs of the day. The synergies which flow among us have a nurturing effect as we draw from each other’s strengths to focus on those who need our help. I could not be prouder of our Halifax team of dedicated, energized visionaries!

We are truly blessed. - Helen, Manager Halifax MtS



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MTS VOLUNTEERS AWARDED QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLATINUM JUBILEE AWARD

We were honoured when asked by our Lieutenant Governor to nominate five extraordinary volunteers, residents of Nova Scotia, who have made a significant contribution to Canada, Nova Scotia, and their community. On December 19th, we hosted an investiture at the MtS Halifax, where our Chair of the Board Alastair Gray and I presented five extraordinary volunteers with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal. These volunteers have demonstrated exceptional qualities and outstanding service. The honour will serve as a lasting and official recognition of the dedication and service provided by our recipients. We are absolutely thrilled to be blessed with such remarkable volunteers!

- Medal Recipient, Volunteer
Captain Colm Stockdale
- Chair of the Board, *Alastair Gray*
- Medal Recipient, Manager *Helen Glenn*
- Medal Recipient, Treasurer
Sandra Attersley
- Medal Recipient, Volunteer *Susan Picton*
- Medal Recipient, Property Chair,
Norman Picton
- MtS Canada Board Member, *Bud Streeter*
- Medal Recipient, Board Member
Aurora Ulloa-Parsons



MtS BOARD MEMBER AWARDED THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLATINUM JUBILEE MEDAL

We congratulate long time MtS board member Eric Machum of Metcalf & Company who was recently presented the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal for outstanding services in International Relations to Nova Scotia and Canada. Eric has been steadfast in his support of the MtS Halifax. Congratulations Eric! On behalf of our staff, volunteers and board, we salute you and we thank you for always being there for us.



Office of the Lieutenant Governor of
Nova Scotia

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.



PEACE ON EARTH!

THE FLYING ANGEL

MtS Halifax VOLUNTEERS

John Attersley
Sandra Attersley
Peter Bartlett
Bill Blackmore
Captain Jim Calvesbert
Rev'd Andrew Cooke

Nancy Eisener
Maxime Gauvin
Carolyn Graham
Howard Gray
Palma Heming
Jamie Horton
Rita Karsten
James Kennedy

Bob Lancashire
Dianne Lavoie-
MacDonald
Joy MacDonnell
Deacon Art Mitchell
Captain James Parsons
Captain Andrew Powell
Captain Age Roren

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

Announcements



Nadia Forrest, left
presents \$10,000
donation from
ZIM INTEGRATED
SHIPPING SERVICES

Right Asterix Captain
Tim Allard, 1st
Engineer and Chief
Steward deliver a
substantial donation
on behalf of crew and
Federal Fleet Services.
COLD HARD CASH!
We are truly blessed!



- MtS AGM February 22nd, 2023 at 7PM at the Great Hall at Cathedral of All Saints 1340 Cathedral Lane.
- March 30, Beef Irish Stew TAKE OUT luncheon \$15.00
- Toast to Spring Wine Tasting Event, April 22, The Great Hall at 1340 Cathedral Lane 6:00-8:30

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.
Canadian Steamship Lines
Colley Motorships Ltd.
Diocese Synod of NS & PEI
Edmonds Landscape &
Construction Services
Federal Fleet Services/ASTERIX

F. K. Warren Ltd.
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Hotel
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ILA 269 Halifax Long Shoreman's
Association
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International Sailors' Society
of Canada

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Logistec Stevedoring
Maritime World Logistics
Mark & Dr. Joanne MacDonald
Metcalf & Company
Mothers Union of NS & PE
NAMMA
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Partner International Inc.
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PRAXES Medical Group
PSA HALIFAX
Protos Shipping Ltd

Quay Marine Associates Inc
RCR
SEIM OFFSHORE
Stewart Mckelvey
The Company of Master
Mariners
The Shipping Federation of
Canada
TK Foundation
UNIFOR Marine Workers union
Vanco Farms Ltd.
Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics
ZIM Integrated Shipping Services



Mission to Seafarers Halifax

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Website: 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.

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