#### **MISSION TO SEAFARERS - HALIFAX**

# lying Angel Caring for seafarers around the world



**FALL 2023** 

## NAMMA CONFERENCE 2023, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

North American Maritime Ministry Association



In late August more than 100 delegates from Canada, US, Puerto Rico, Denmark, United Kingdom, New Zealand, and Australia met to explore the theme of being "Ready for the Future of Seafarers Welfare". Speakers from the US Coast Guard, Northwest Port Alliance, BC Chamber of Shipping, ICMA, ISWAN, Sailors' Society, the National Association of Catholic Chaplains were on hand to share their

visions. Themes included seafarers' mental health, maritime industry trends, volunteer and staff recruitment, spiritual readiness, and fundraising. It was inspirational to share experiences, goals, visions and to simply converse with colleagues from all over the world. To discuss challenges, share success stories, hopes and wishes for a better tomorrow was incredibly motivating. To break bread and pray together was spiritually

uplighting. We could not do what we do without our partnerships. I return from this summit with peace in my heart and the knowledge that the collaboration of partners around the world, of which I am a part, will surely better the lives of our seafaring friends. Many thanks to Dr. Jason Zuidema and his team for pulling this conference together seamlessly. We are grateful not only for the free on line training sessions, but also for the financial support often available to us. Sailing into the sunset on the tall ship Lady Bay, with the impressive skyline of Seattle with majestic Mount Rainer in the distance was awing. Please feel free to glimpse through the photos available at:

https://flickr.com/photos/124915888@N06/ Video recording links have been added on the conference.

https://namma.org/resources/conference-2023/



Namma board of directors-fantastic conference!



Revds. Judith Alltree & Michelle DePooter



Mission to Seafarers delegates from all over the world



Dcn Dileep Athaide, RD Canada Stella Maris



Morgane, Jasmine, Jennifer & Rev'd Steven

## A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FOR OUR SEAFARERS

Have mercy on me, God, have mercy, for in you my soul is taking refuge. In the shadow of your wings I take refuge, till the storms of destruction pass by". (Psalm 57:2)

During these tumultuous weather patterns, shore leave is more important than ever! By times, we are called upon for blessings on vessels. The possibility of eminent death arises more often than you would think - in fact, frequently! While our oceans are beautiful, they are powerful, and scary often on an ordinary day. Fierce storms, hurricanes, rogue waves – are more plentiful than realized. Hence we are thankful we are able to offer warmth, respite, personal communication and love to our visiting seafareres. The Port of Halifax is known internationally as a favor-

ite place to visit – so our seafarering friends tell us. We are pleased to share with you, our donors and community partners, whose support is so critical to our ministry, that we now offer visitng seafarers the use of guitars, a beat box, bikes to explore the city free of charge and a basketball court is enjoyed often. OH, have you seen our new deck.... everyone is just.......WOW!!



E M KEA crew rarely have shore leave! FEELTHE ENERGY!



Captain and E M KEA crew enjoy billiards!



GOTLAND crew enjoying shore leave at Halifax and basekball





Board member, Aurora with & William Diotte from Peru crew of Carnival Venezia



Aurora & Kelly Quispe from Venezula crew of Carnival Venezia



ONE HAWK crew ROCKED with Colm, Pat, Dianne and Madilynn!



Meet Oriana working towards her 3rd engineer ticket! She PLAYS!



MV CONTSHIP LEO – first shore leave in a very long time!



Contship Leo Crew rarely have time for respite.



Glenda Melissa crew found their way to our mission from Woodside IOL Dartmouth



August Luna crew sight seeing with mission bicycles



Deacon Art transports Vivienne Sheri D crew for boosters



Crew of ONE EAGLE enjoy mission facilities

#### SHIP VISITS ARE CRITICAL TO REACH THOSE WHO HAVE NO TIME FOR SHORE LEAVE!

Our ship welfare volunteers are trained for quality ship visits. While we endeavour to visit every vessel that enters our Port of Halifax, this may be difficult because ETA/ETD occur during the late hours of the evening and early morning. We visit vessels to converse with crew, officers and masters. We probe to ensure that crew members moral, spiritual and practical needs are being met. Is there time for respite on board, even when crew cannot go ashore for leave? What is available for leisure activities? Does

the cook have provisions to provide quality meals for crew during their time at sea? Is there a need to send money home to family; to renew a prescription; or are there needs for medical assistance. Are there special provisions we might assist in obtaining? Our brief encounters can change the life of a seafarer. We have the resources to assist in many ways. WE CARE. We arrange for crew members to be vaccinated, and continue to ensure that everyone has access to boosters. During Covid-19 we found

issues surrounding repatriation once a contract was completed. We witnessed cases of crew being on board for far too long. Should we recognize qualitative issues, we then reach out to our resources for assistance. Who do we call? Our good friends at Transport Canada and/or the ITF (International Tranportation Federation) who are able to arrange follow-up on expressed issues. Sometimes we run into the Atlantic ITF representative, Karl Risser while he is checking in with masters of vessels.



Karl Risser (left) with Deacon Art Mitchell visiting crew of M V WARNOW MASTER



Karl and Bill Blackmore (far right) meet on a Ro-Ro at Autoport

Our ministry serves seafarers of all faiths. We are called upon for spiritual guidance, requests for prayers for an ill family member at home, or a death on a vessel. Saying farewell to a colleague who has passed during the night, is sad

and traumatic. To find a mate who did not make it to duty, can be devastating. This was recently the case on a foggy Friday night requiring the Volga Maersk to make an emergency stop in Halifax. We are thankful to Deacon Art Mitchell and Father Rob Alford who, in the early morning hours of July 1st, met with the crew to offer comfort, mass and communion. As the crew bid farewell to a friend, the Volga Maersk was blessed before heading back out to sea. Such is life on the seas.





# 24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MTS HALIFAX GOLF TOURNAMENT - AVON VALLEY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Twenty-eight community teams enjoyed a fun filled day of golf at the lovely Avon Valley Golf & Country Club. The course was pristine, and the rain held off. We are thankful to volunteers and participants who gave up their day for this fundraiser. A big SHOUT OUT to Captain Jim Calvesbert, Captain Colm Stockdale, John Attersley, Michelle Megannety and Joan McLeod who pulled this event together

seamlessly. GM Dan Martin with Lydia & staff of Avon Valley G&C Club were delightful to work with. Without the generosity and on-going support of our community partners we could not offer our ministry to seafarers who deliver 90% of everything to our shores. Winners of the day included: Ryan O'Hearn - closest to the pin, Denise McFarlane – ladies closest to the hole, Charlie Doran – men's

longest drive. Rely On Nutec Canada who enjoyed their first tournament with us are winners for the lowest scoring team. We are grateful to Derek & Bonnie Kostal, who donated back their winnings from the 50/50 draw and CIMARE for donating their winnings on the GOAT BALL. Everyone involved helped raise \$18,000! BLESSED BE! Check out even more Golf tournament photos online!



Charlie & Denise



Derek & Bonnie Kostal donated their 50/50 of \$280 back to the Mission



Welcome Rely On Nutec Canada - lowest scoring team



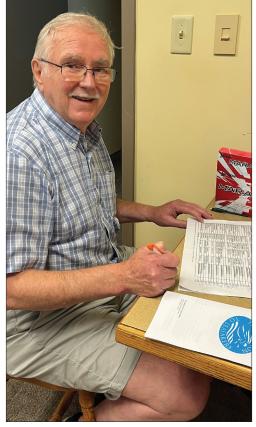
CIMARE donated Goat Ball winnings back to the mission \$210!



GFL Environmental inc. Hole in one sponsor



Thanks KMS for the many prizes & box of tee shirts for seafarers!



Captain Jim Calvesbert Scorekeeper and Board Member





Up front Michelle, Joan, Jim and Colm committed volunteers! Many thanks!

#### A prayer for seafarers

O Lord God Almighty, let your blessing be upon this ship and upon all those who will serve and sail in her. May the strength of God pilot them. May the power of God preserve them. May the hand of God protect them. May the way of God direct them. May good success, your protection and the guardianship of the Holy Angels always be with them. In times of danger be their help and defence and bring them safely into port. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.



## THERE BE A NEW DECK AT 844 MARGINAL RD.





Thanks to volunteers Norman Picton, Jamie Grigg, James Parsons with assistance from Michael Holmes, who worked diligently through rain, fog and 35 degree temperatures to create an impressive deck which enhances the ambience of our mission. We salute Susan Picton

and Aurora Ulloa-Parsons who purchased the deck's tables, chairs and rug. We are also grateful for the umbrella which was donated by Garrison's Brewery. Check-out the new basketball set up – Bud Streeter and John Attersley had a hand in that set up as well.



CMA CGM MADISON crew enjoying brewskies on our new deck!





The mission manager, along with Port of Halifax stakeholders welcome masters of cruise ships during inaugural visits. When I cannot make it, board member Aurora Ulloa-Parsons attends. The two captains loved our mini-backpacks with souvenirs from our mission.



Volunteer Glenn Taylor at the GPO Emerald

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.

### FAREWELL SUMMER INTERN MADILYNN COLLIER

We bid farewell to our summer intern who greeted seafarers during her 8 week summer position. Madilynn is a breath of fresh air and embraced our volunteer family with sincerity. She continues her studies at St. Mary's University working towards her BA, Intercultural Studies. Madilynn reports, "I have decided to join the volunteer team because of the amazing people I have met and because of all I learned. Previously, I had never really considered or thought about seafarers, and because I never thought about them, I couldn't appreciate the role they play in supplying those things we take for granted, those things we use every day. It made me realize what amazing work they do! They deserve respect and more awareness for what they do, which I suppose you could say is The Mission's mission! "Madilynn we are delighted to have you on board as a volunteer.



#### Announcements

• MtS TAKE OUT Luncheons October 19 (ham, beans, potato \$15) November 16 (Christmas dinner \$20)

- MtS Car Rally November 18th Contact Amy Allen, email: 26frenchy@gmail.com
- Mark your calendars for our Christmas Luncheon on December 6th at Pier 21 – see you there!

#### MtS Halifax VOLUNTEERS - TRULY THE BACKBONE TO OUR MISSION

John Attersley Peter Bartlett Bill Blackmore Captain Jim Calvesbert Rita Carsten

Reverend Andrew Cooke Nancy Eisener

Carolyn Graham Howard Gray Maxime Gauvin Palma Heming James Kennedy Cmdr. Bob Lancashire Dianne Lavoie-MacDonald

Joy MacDonnell Captain Michael Montgomery Bud Streeter Deacon Art Mitchell Captain James Parsons Susan Picton Norman Picton Captain Andrew Powell

Captain Peter Randall Captain Colm Stockdale Glenn Taylor Pat Thompson Aurora Ulloa-Parsons Kevin Walker

## The Mission is thankful to our sponsors!

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Maritime World Logistics Mark & Dr. Joanne MacDonald Metcalf & Company Mothers Union of NS & PE MtS Canada NAMMA NICOM IT Open Door Community Church Partner International Inc. P & H Milling Group 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 Willhelmsen Logistics ZIM Integrated Shipping Services



#### Mission to Seafarers Halifax

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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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