



MISSION TO SEAFARERS – HALIFAX

Flying Angel

Caring for seafarers around the world



SUMMER 2025

MtS VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Thanks to our Patron The Honourable
Mike Savage, ONS The Lieutenant
Governor of Nova Scotia

We are so grateful to His Honour for his steadfast support to MtS Halifax. Michael John Savage was installed as the 34th Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia on December 13, 2024, commencing his role as His Majesty King Charles III's representative in the Province. Our volunteers are known to Mike who has been stellar in his support to MtS Halifax for over a decade. We salute our volunteers for their dedication, commitment and hours of service.



The Honourable Mike Savage, ONS



Vice-Chair, MtS Halifax, Dylan A. F MacDonald



His Honour and Helen Glenn, MtS Halifax Manager



John & Sandra, His Honour, Elaine & Peter



Dianne, Jogrett and Mike



Margie, Marianne and Joy



Karl Risser with daughter Angelina



Jack, Mike and Joy



Dave, Dianne, Joy, Elizabeth, Colm, Helen

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SHORE LEAVE IS CRITICAL TO MENTAL HEALTH AND PHYSICAL WELLNESS

Our mission in Halifax is a favorite amongst many seafarers... so we've been told.



(Photo left) Crew members from the MSC Cagliari IV relaxing on deck with hosts, summer student Jack H (back left) and NAMMA Intern Mike C (back centre). These crew members were granted their lawful rights to shore leave, thanks to ITF Kyle (Montreal) and ITF Karl (Halifax), for their interjection after communications with assistant manager, Joseph Loot. Seen above at MoneyMart where USD can be converted to CAD funds and money sent home to family. Their vessel will sail to Asia and go to drydock in China. (Photo right) Crew hoped to return to Halifax thereafter. They absolutely love sightseeing in Halifax. Fair winds and following seas.



The AUGUSTA LUNA crews' first trip back in over six months. They were gifted a treadmill delivered by volunteer Captain Michael Montgomery



AUGUSTA LUNA crew enjoy basketball



E M KEA Captain & crew rocking it



CMA CGM J ADAMS at Citadel Hill



John A delivers Cobs to ONE MEISHAN crew



ONE MANHATTAN crew enjoy respite



ONEGO GLOMMA helps with Cobs delivery

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WHY IS SHORE LEAVE UNDER ATTACK?

Seafarers' essential right to have respite on shore is under attack from growing pressures in the industry. A picture portrays a thousand words. Respite includes billiards, basketball, brewskies and conversations with volunteers who have a sincere interest in ensuring a great time during shore leave as well as a listening ear.



Captain Takanori and crew of ONE MINATO



MSC SAGITTA crew share sea stories with Mike



MSC ELENA crew enjoy brewskies and camaraderie



Mike with crew of MARSGRACHT. The ship crossed the Atlantic from Italy to unload just one plane tail at Fairview terminal and returned quickly to Europe



Sathi Mondal has been on contract with VIKING NEPTUNE for five years. She was excited to find clothing and essentials for seafaring women in our Free Room



Mike with Glenn and a crew member on the ATLANTIC SAIL



Mike Cudjoe and Joseph Loot on the WAY FORWARD



MSC AQUARIUS crew were very excited for first visit in Halifax



Mike with crew of MSC Manzanillo



CMA CGM ZEPHYR & volunteers Ryan & Rita



Jacqueline C member (left) with CANBERRA III crew members



Karl Risser, National Coordinator, ITF

Dear Lord,
Bless the maritime industry and all who work within it. Keep them safe, strong, and united as they navigate the seas. Guide their efforts for a prosperous and peaceful future. Amen.

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On 25 June, the global maritime community comes together to celebrate the Day of the Seafarer. This year, the campaign launch was 'My Harassment-Free Ship', a bold initiative to promote a culture of respect and zero tolerance for bullying and harassment at sea. **Captain Rex D. Hechanova**, MV NYK Meteor shared the protocol on his ship.

“Seafarers are able to focus better in a harassment-free workplace than in a workplace that’s riddled with issues. Moreover, cooperation among seafarers is better in a harmonious work environment. Such workplaces also promote good seafarer relationships. In a harassment-free workplace, seafarers trust their employers more. They prefer to use internal channels for addressing their grievances. Rather than filing a complaint with the authorities directly, they will approach management first. The costs of dealing with harassment complaints internally are much lower than following the legal route. Consider the following costs: litigation: resources diverted for handling the lawsuit: time spent addressing the lawsuit... A harassment-free work culture can eliminate such expenses.”



For twelve years our Fil-Can Friends have celebrated The International Day of the Seafarer by providing authentic spring rolls, noodles and desserts free to crew members visiting on this day. Our community partners celebrate by ordering take-out lunches. We are grateful to Elizabeth Eustaquio-Domondon for taking the lead on this initiative. FB page address. Sponsors include: VisMin Association of NS and FilCan families: Cecile Ilagan, Mercidita Valdez, Vilma Balatero, Maria Montejo, Grace Enriquez, Cecile Sepidoza, Jolito Taranza, Tinay Bacloa, Gloria Sangalang, Allano’s Catering and Maynard Fabian of Kabayan. Photos tell the story!



Chris Hall, President, Shipping Federation of Canada with the crew of the EAGLE II



Aurora, Nadia, Vilma, Elizabeth, Susan



We are truly blessed!



The crew of the ONE MACKINAC did not have time for shore leave however John Attersley delivered Cob’s Bread with Mike C to the very happy crew

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MtS Halifax volunteers Susan Picton, Aurora Ulloa-Parsons, John Attersley, Jack Hall, Mike Cudjoe and special guests all the way from Norway: Susan and Norman Picton's daughter Joanne and granddaughter Nadia helped with the luncheon.



MtS Volunteer John Attersley & Chris Hall, President, The Shipping Federation of Canada



Lunch on the deck



Nadia & Joanne



Aurora, Jack and John, our organized packers



Elizabeth Eustaquio-Domondon, luncheon lead host, with Jolito Taranza (air Jordan t-shirt) and wife Janet (far left) with visiting seafarers



The International Day of the Seafarer

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A SEAFARERS' STORY- A TESTAMENT TO HOW YOUR DONATION HELPS!

*"When you're down and troubled
And you need a helping hand
And nothing, oh, nothing is going right
Close your eyes and think of me
And soon I will be there
To brighten up even your darkest nights."
—(Carole King)*

What do you do when you've just gone through nine of the worst days of your life including life altering surgery in a foreign land, on the other side of the world from your home and family? What do you do when you realize you'll never be able to work again in a career to which you've dedicated fifteen years of your life? What do you do when you have to start putting your life back together realizing you have a family with three daughters to raise? If you're Rolando Cinco, a Filipino seafarer sitting in a Halifax hotel room, having just lost the sight in one eye and the other one badly compromised, you ask your ship's agent to contact the Halifax Mission to Seafarers. Whether Seafarer Cinco knew the words or not to James Taylor's famous song, written by Carole King, he knew the Mission was the friend he needed.

Indeed, like the words in the song, upon getting the phone call, Mission Assistant Manager Joseph Loot immediately set off to meet with Rolando, to learn of his troubles and to offer a helping hand. Rolando had been travelling from Brazil to Quebec on the bulk carrier MV Destiny. On March 27th, in his role as a fitter and even though he was wearing face and eye protective gear, Rolando was struck in the eyes by parts of the machine he was using when it basically exploded in front of him. Unable to be airlifted to a nearby hospital in Florida, Rolando was brought to Halifax where the Canadian Coast Guard picked him up. He was rushed to the Eye Care Centre at the QE11 on March 31st where he underwent emergency surgery. Sadly, doctors were unable to save Rolando's right eye and his left eye now only provides him 30/70 vision. On April 4th he was released from the hospital and transferred to the Lord Nelson Hotel.



That's when, for the first time since his accident, Rolando found himself on his own.

After assessing Rolando's needs, Joseph bought Rolando dinner. He returned the next day with a 20 GB Sim Card and \$100.00. By this time Rolando had been transferred to a second hotel and flight arrangements were being made to get him back to the Philippines once doctors had cleared him for flying. The following day Rolando met with Karl Risser (ITF) and MtS assistant manager Joseph Loot to review the next steps Rolando would have to take. That included an introduction to filing compensation and benefits claims.

On April 7th, Rolando was brought to the Mission where he was able to converse with other Filipino seafarers from ONE Minato and the Tropic Lissette. Rolando had a long road ahead of him but as of that phone call to the Mission on April 4th, he wasn't travelling it alone. To reference James Taylor's song 'he had a friend.'

"You just call out my name, And you know wherever I am

I'll come running, oh, yeah, baby, to see you again
Winter, spring, summer, or fall

All you got to do is call, And I'll be there, yeah, yeah,
yeah! You've got a friend."

—Glenn Taylor, Volunteer/Historian

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PHILANTHROPY: THE EFFORT AN INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION UNDERTAKES BASED ON A DESIRE TO IMPROVE HUMAN WELFARE.

We are blessed with community partners who care passionately and assist us to care for our seafaring friends from all over the globe who visit our beautiful Port of Halifax. Please note at the back page of our newsletter where all our community STARS are listed. These partnerships are pivotal to MtS Halifax!



The Open Door Community Church in Spryfield oversees a Ministry of Reachout Society for Humanitarian Aid. We thank Laura Sutherland and her family for their substantial donation to MtS Halifax in support of our efforts to help seafarers, essential key workers, who bring more than 90% of everything to our shores. Seafarers experience loneliness and mental health issues combined with limited access to internet and often times shore leave.



Kevin Piper, President of ILA 269 Halifax Longshoremen's Union continues to support our mission events as well as sponsoring our mission van, not to mention the shoebox campaign. Thanks Kevin



MtS Halifax Volunteers Aurora and Susan were on hand at The Pier to share information on what we do best – assisting visiting seafarers. Captain Sean Griffiths, CEO, Atlantic Pilotage Authority made the draw. They donated a Tidal Bore Rafting Excursion with overnight accommodations for four and sold tickets for One Port City Day. That initiative raised over \$1300 for MtS Halifax. Congratulations to Jaime Campbell, F. K. Warren who won this exhilarating excursion. Thanks to Colin Conrad for purchasing the tickets for his staff. Special thanks to sponsors CN and PSA Halifax for their support to MtS Halifax. Their help contributes immensely to seafarers needs.



The Halifax Seaport celebrated it's first inaugural call of the 2025 cruise season when they welcomed the stunning Silver Dawn, Silversea Cruises to the Port of Halifax. Representatives present were from Parks Canada NS, NS Indigenous, Tourism Enterprise Network, Mission to Seafarers Halifax. Captain of the Silver Dawn here with MtS volunteer Susan Picton



The Mission to Seafarers works 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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WELCOME – MIKE RUNNY CUDJOE – NAMMA INTERN!

We are grateful for funding from the North American Maritime Ministry Association to offer this opportunity.

My NAMMA internship with Mission to Seafarers, Halifax, offers a meaningful and immersive experience in front-line humanitarian service, community outreach, cross-cultural engagement, and maritime welfare support. As part of the team, I regularly assist in welcoming visiting ships and providing care and support to seafarers from around the world. Seafarers often spend months at sea, separated from their families and familiar environments, and our role is to ensure they feel seen, supported, and connected during their time ashore. I take part in a range of services, including offering transportation to local amenities, helping seafarers access basic supplies, facilitating communication with loved ones, and simply being a compassionate presence for those who need someone to talk to. These interactions continually highlight the emotional and psychological toll of maritime work, and reinforce the importance of culturally sensitive, person-centered care. This experience is enhancing my ability to engage in cross-cultural dialogue, while deepening my understanding of the social and human dynamics that shape global labour systems. It is a profoundly humanizing

experience that continues to strengthen my commitment to inclusive service and advocacy in both local and international contexts.”

– Mike Cudjoe, Master of Marine Management Candidate, Dalhousie University



12 Storey 9-month-old Swedish flagged car carrier, Way Forward Chief Cook Dennis & Messman with our gentle giant Mike Cudjoe.



unique, there is always something to learn and new people to meet. I'm lucky to work with so many volunteers who make this work possible, both as ship visitors and as in-house watchkeepers. Through my positions here I have been able to assist with both sides, and everything else in between. Thank you to everyone here for welcoming me back this summer!”

– Jack Hall, Bachelor of Science/Psychology student

Jack Hall, seen here with the crew of the GRANDE MAROCCO, has donated his Saturday afternoons throughout the university year as a volunteer for MtS Halifax. We are extremely pleased to have him back this summer, made possible through a Federal Summer Student grant. Jack's enthusiasm is refreshing and it is truly delightful to have him on our team. “*This is my second summer working at the Halifax Mission to Seafarers, and I am very excited to be back. It has been a year since I first got involved here, and during my time I've been very fortunate to get a unique look inside the global maritime industry. From serving refreshments to seafarers at the mission, to sharing a meal with them in the ship's mess, it is always a privilege to spend time with seafarers to hear about their lives onboard. Every day at the mission is*

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VOLUNTEER PROFILE – *GLENN TAYLOR*, HISTORIAN & VOLUNTEER EXTRAORDINAIRE



We introduce the infamous historian and ship welfare volunteer - Glenn Taylor! He has been an avid part of our volunteer family for close to nineteen years. He has played numerous roles during his tenure, including Santa! While he does not recall exactly when he walked through the doors of the mission and offered to volunteer, he remembers his initial assignment was the Wednesday evening shift with former volunteer Bernie Leonard. Glenn's shift is now on Thursday mornings.

After 34 years with the Halifax School Board, Glenn, a school principal, retired to become a tour guide with Ambassatours. It was while working on the waterfront during cruise season that Glenn spotted the Mission to Seafarers.

In the past few years, we discovered that Glenn's passion for history

combined with 34 years in education and 12 years working as a tour guide provided him with the skills and knowledge to support the MtS in a new role. That developing role is as a public speaker who shares our story with various audiences such as the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, the Masons of Fairview, the Atlantic School of Theology, churches, as well as community and youth groups.

His presentation to the Masons of Fairview and 100 Bluenosers Who Care in Bridgewater resulted in substantial donations to the MtS Halifax. Presentations at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, Dartmouth Boy Scouts and local church groups resulted in greater public awareness of what we do as well as increased donations to our 'free room' and our Christmas Shoe Box Campaign.

While Glenn has spent time in numerous museums and archives researching the Halifax Mission to Seafarers and then sharing what he has uncovered with others, he points out it's a two-way street. One aspect to his time with us that he values more than most is what he learns from his fellow volunteers. Whether it was John Attersley explaining how

the engines on the Titanic worked or Captain Jim Calvesbert explaining how ships are loaded differently in salt water and fresh water, or Aurora Ulloa-Parsons explaining how Christmas shoeboxes are put together, it all ends up at one time or another becoming part of one of Glenn's presentations.

Over the past almost two decades Glenn has seen Mission operations evolve and so it is too with the staff and volunteers. Glenn says that his willingness to take on new assignments is no different from all the other volunteers and staff. He believes that's a big reason why the Halifax MtS is so successful and why it's so rewarding to be part of the MtS team.

Glenn Taylor epitomizes everything volunteerism is about. His passion and love for communicating with seafarers and touring them around our beautiful Port brings joy to his heart. Glenn is an articulate writer and I'm thankful that he proofs our newsletter. Glenn has a wicked sense of humor. We have a lot to celebrate about this incredible humanitarian. Glenn Taylor – you are simply the best! I and our incredible team are grateful for all you do.

MtS VOLUNTEERS SHARING AND CARING

Take out lunches continue to be exceptional fund-raisers with community stakeholders placing well received orders and sometimes dining in our Seafarers Lounge. Norman barbecued over 150 burgers for the June event whilst the rest of the team pulled everything else together. We are truly blessed with awesome volunteers who do an incredible amount both at our lovely mission and at community events.



Bud, James & Norman



Aurora, Carol & Bud
packing lunches



Susan & Aurora kitchen team

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MtS VOLUNTEERS SHARING AND CARING

We bid farewell to our dearest Carolyn Graham, after eighteen years of donating her time as Tuesday watchkeeper. Carolyn spent seventeen years within the HRM teaching before switching to ESL for fourteen years. She is retiring to devote her time as NANA to her two beautiful grandchildren, Kenny and Graham. She is seen here with Tuesday colleagues (Captain Colm, wife Elizabeth to his left, Carolyn, Rita, back row, Pat, Helen and Dianne). Our Tuesdays will never be the same without your wisdom and your divine sense of humor. Happy retirement and thank YOU! YOU are SPECIAL!



THE BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC



Was the longest continuous military campaign in World War II which ran from 1939 to the defeat of Nazi Germany in 1945. It represents a chapter in naval history of World War II. Volunteer Maxime Gauvin laid a wreath on behalf of MtS Halifax, accompanied by WREN, Joy MacDonnell. Joy is our Saturday morning watchkeeper extraordinaire.

CAPTAIN COLM STOCKDALE – CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Captain Colm Stockdale awarded Honorary Life Membership, St. John's Ambulance, in recognition of valuable and gratuitous service during

an investiture at Government House. Presented by His Honour, Lieutenant Governor Mike Savage, ONS. Well deserved Captain Colm Stockdale. Thank you for your long-time and continued service to MtS Halifax! We look forward to seeing you back soon. Blessings!

SPECIAL SERVICE MEDALS – PRESENTED BY REAR ADMIRAL JOSEE KURTZ

Federal Fleet Services and the crew of CSS Asterix were honoured in February. Why? Asterix personnel received the Special Service Medal for their role in Operation PROJECTION while in consort with the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) and NATO allies during 2023. The medals were presented by Rear-Admiral Josée Kurtz to Captain Andrew Powell (right photo) and Captain Dale Pomroy, as well as Chief Officer, Matthew Henri & Second Officer, Dan Ruthford. Andrew has been a member of our MtS Volunteer family for almost a decade, he shares “The highlight of my career was joining the Asterix in 2021 as Chief Officer, and then promoted to Master. “To be able to say that I have participated in naval exercises that contribute to global peace is personally rewarding and gives me great job satisfaction. Bravo Zulu to all!



Rear-Admiral Josée Kurtz & Captain Andrew Powell

<https://federalfleet.ca/2025/02/19/special-service-medal-expedition-cdr-article/>

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COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS ARE CRUCIAL TO OUR FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Captain Tim Allard & Chief Steward Mark Dawson of the Asterix visited MtS Halifax and presented Helen with a cash donation. They held a fund-raising draw on board MtS Halifax for a gifted charcoal BBQ and donated the funds to MtS Halifax. We congratulate Brianne Fancy - the lucky winner of the BBQ. Federal Fleet Services and the crew of CCS Asterix have been avid supporters of MtS Halifax for which we are most grateful.



EXEMPLARY SERVICE MEDALS

His Honour, on behalf of the Canadian Coast Guard presented to Capt. Greg Wilkie (top right) and Capt. Doug Rowe (bottom right) Exemplary Service Medals for their service with the Canadian Coast Guard. We salute them both for their dedication to MtS Halifax. Captain Doug Rowe is a past-volunteer and continues to support MtS Halifax. Congratulations!



We were pleased to see these Master Mariners of the Atlantic together on the MV ASTERIX. These esteemed captains have been generous supporters within the Port of Halifax. We have so much to be grateful for. BZ!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



We bid HAPPY RETIREMENT to Rev'd Judith Alltree and welcome the Rev'd Eric Phinney as the new Regional Director of Canada. Congratulations Eric.

We are very thankful for the recent \$8,100 grant from the International Sailors Society of Canada. Thank YOU!

 **Check us out at
MtS Halifax.**

We are grateful to our property team who have been very busy with facility projects including:

- Building a new wheelchair accessibility ramp
- Building a new garbage bin
- The garden shed was moved to build a new base

Many thanks to all involved, particularly Norman Picton, Bud & Carol Streeter, Jim Kennedy, Mike Cudjoe, Jack Hall and Aurora Ulloa-Parsons.

Details in next newsletter.

- SEA SUNDAY is celebrated on July 13th, but can be honoured any Sunday of the year.
- Annual Golf Tournament at Avon Valley Golf & Country Club scheduled for September 9th, 2025
- TAKE OUT luncheons tentative dates are September 18th, October 30th and November 20th.
- Annual Christmas Luncheon at Kenneth Rowe Hall on December 3rd, 2025.

MtS Halifax VOLUNTEERS - TRULY THE BACKBONE TO OUR MISSION

John Attersley	Carolyn Graham	Joy MacDonnell	Captain Andrew Powell
Bill Blackmore	Howard Gray	Captain Michael Montgomery	Captain Peter Randall
Captain Jim Calvesbert	Palma Heming	Deacon Art Mitchell	Caroline Scott
Reverend Andrew Cooke	Abdirahim Ibrahim	Captain James Parsons	Bud Streeter
Nancy Eisener	Rita Karsten	Aurora Ulloa-Parsons	Carol Streeter
Maxime Gauvin	James Kennedy	Susan Picton	Captain Colm Stockdale
Ryan Grant	Dianne Lavoie-MacDonald	Norman Picton	Glenn Taylor
			Pat Thompson

GRATEFUL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!

100 Bluenosers Who Care	Federal Fleet Services/ASTERIX	ITF Seafarer's Trust	RCR
100 Women Who Care	F. K. Warren Ltd.	LeeWay Marine	SEIM OFFSHORE
AON	Flying Angel Fund	Logistec Stevedoring	Stewart McKelvey
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Atlantic Container Line	Halifax Pilots Corporation Ltd	MtS Canada	The Shipping Federation of Canada
Atlantic Pilotage Authority	Halifax Port Authority	NAMMA	TK Foundation
Blue Water Agencies Ltd.	Horizon Maritime Services	NICOM IT	UNIFOR Marine Workers union
Canadian Steamship Lines	ILA 269 Halifax Long Shore-	Open Door Community Church	Vanco Farms Ltd.
Colley Motorships Ltd.	man's Association	Partner International Inc.	Wallenius Willhelmsen Logistics
CN	Inchcape Shipping Services	PRAXES Medical Group	ZIM Integrated Shipping Services
Edmonds Landscape & Construc-	International Sailors' Society	PSA HALIFAX	
tion Services	of Canada	Quay Marine Associates Inc	



MISSION TO SEAFARERS HALIFAX

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Tel: 902-422-7790 Fax: 902-420-9786
Website: www.missiontoseafarershalifax.ca
Location: Opposite Pier 24, Ocean Terminals
We are open 9:30-5:30. LATER WHEN SHIPS ARE
IN PORT. Closed Sundays.

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Joseph Loot, Assistant Manager
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