



SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE OF PHILADELPHIA & SOUTH JERSEY

475 N. 5th Street Philadelphia, PA 19123 Phone (215) 940-9900
www.sciphiladelphia.org

Spring 2010 Newsletter

Of Special Interest:

SCI's First Annual Spring
Cruise June 19, 2010

Last chance to permanently
remember your loved ones
with the purchase of chapel
chairs

SCI is going green! Sign up
to receive future mailings
electronically



SCI is Going Green!

SCI seeks to minimize its paper mailings to save trees and save money which can be redeployed to provide additional seafarer services. Please send an email to newsandevents@sciphiladelphia.org with your contact data to sign up for our email distribution list and receive future updates from SCI electronically.



Going the Extra Mile for Seafarers

Recently, I learned of another example of how we skillfully practice diplomacy and the golden rule -- and how we enhance homeland security by softening the harshness of post 9/11 security rules.

Last week one of the crew of a ship we visit frequently called Mesfin Ghebrewoldi, our senior ship visitor, to say they were too busy to come ashore but sure would appreciate it if he bought pizza to their ship, the *Olympia Flag*.

Mr. Ghebrewoldi knew the

crew was Greek, so he went to a Greek pizza parlor in Olde City. "I told her the crew is Greek. Make them happy," Mr. Ghebrewoldi said when, acting on a tip from operations manager, Doug Campanell, I asked him to share the story

The crew was surprised and happy. "They said 'this is the way they make pizza in Greece.' They were very happy," he said.

During my long apprenticeship with Mr. Ghebrewoldi and our other ship visitors, they instilled in me the importance to

going the extra mile for seafarers. This is just one example of how we work together to do that.

By doing things like this we soften that harshness of our new rules in ways that keep seafarers important allies in keeping commerce flowing and our economy strong. Without what we and other seafarer ministries do, seafarers would be pushed toward being sympathetic to those who would harm us.

*Henry J. Holcomb
Volunteer Ship Visitor and
Board Member*

SCI's Board, Staff,
and Volunteers
wish to
congratulate Father
James D. Von
Dreele on his
appointment as
Canon for Seafarer
Ministries in the
Diocese of
Pennsylvania



Connecting Seafarers with Family

SCI has begun a new ship board communication service with the introduction of portable Wi-Fi hubs that allow up to 5 computers to link to the

internet wirelessly. This service is widely appreciated by seafarers, especially those who cannot get off their ships. With a Skype program

they can see and talk to their families over the internet, alleviating some of the stress, loneliness and isolation of seafaring.

Chapel Chairs

Now that we have dedicated our beautiful new Chapel of the Redeemer, there is still one final opportunity to permanently remember your loved ones by purchasing a chapel chair with a gift of \$500.



We will recognize your gift with a plaque on the chair. Please include remembrance details with your gift including the correct spelling of your loved one's name and whether your gift is "in memory of" or "in honor of" that person. Thank you.

If you have already purchased a chair, please contact our office 215-940-9900 to ensure we have the correct spelling of your loved one's name.

SCI's Spring Cruise on the Delaware



SCI is pleased to announce its first annual Spring Cruise on the Delaware. Learn about the Delaware River's rich history and its impact on the Philadelphia region's economy.

Join us for the afternoon Cruise which will be held Saturday, June 19, 2010 aboard the party yacht, *Ben Franklin*, docked at 401 N. Columbus Blvd., Philadelphia, Pa. 19123 next to Dave and Buster's. Boarding will begin at noon for a 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. sailing.

Ticket cost is \$35 per person for adults and \$20

for children 12 and under. Tickets include lunch and snacks. There will be a cash bar.

To make reservations or inquire about sponsorships please respond by Friday, June 4, 2010. Call, fax or email Ronnie Barlow: Phone 215-940-9900 x: 106, Fax: 215-922-0737, E-mail barlow@sciphiladelphia.org.

SCI Now Accepting Donations Online

Each year SCI cares for the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of our 40,000 visiting seafarers bringing a moment of grace to the lives of the stranger in our midst. The SCI community continues its work improving seafaring life here on the Delaware and around the world.

Today, you can make an immediate difference in the life of a mariner whose labor makes our standard of living possible. Each \$208 dollars you send provides one ship visit and transportation for one crew.

Now more than ever, we are counting on your continued financial support. Please make the most generous gift you can, by visiting us online at sciphiladelphia.org and clicking the blue "SUPPORT US" button on the home page, or send your contribution in the enclosed envelope to:

*The Seamen's Church Institute
475 N. 5th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123*

All contributions are tax deductible

Thank you in advance for your kind support!