



The Anchor

A window into the ministry to seafarers who keep global commerce flowing

**Seamen's Church
Institute**
of Philadelphia and South Jersey

Spring 2020

From the Executive Director

Helene Pierson, Executive Director

Bringing Hope in the Time of Uncertainty

Dearest Patrons and Generous Donors,

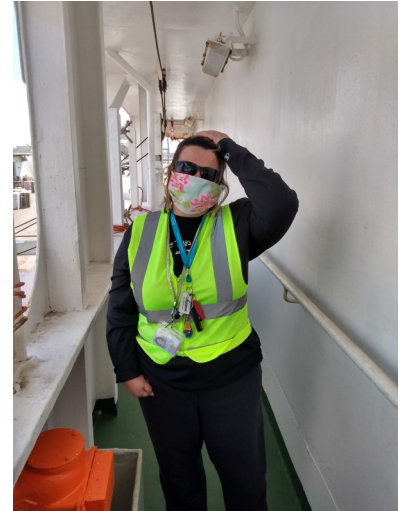
As we head into yet another month of quarantine due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, we understand that many people around the country, and around the world are nervous about an uncertain future. Fortunately, thanks to the help of our tireless seafarers, and our generous donors, there is a bit of hope lighting up the darkness.

Many people don't realize how much we rely on our seafarers in today's society. Without these ships regularly going in and out of the harbor, we're unable to get access to vital resources to sustain our quality of life. During this time of quarantine, we need our maritime workers now more than ever. That is why we here at the Seamen's Church Institute are working tirelessly to uphold our mission of providing a safe haven for seafarers, advocating for fairness and justice for seafarers, and delivering much-needed resources to the maritime community.

In this issue of The Anchor, you'll learn about recent happenings within SCI during this difficult time. Read all about our recent commendation and luncheon honoring Captain Scott E. Anderson, Commander of the Coast Guard Sector Delaware Bay. We also shed some light on recent measures we have been taking to provide seafarers with necessities while still maintaining the best safety practices per CDC guidelines.

Find out all about these exciting events in this edition of The Anchor, and don't forget to visit our web page to learn more about how you can help the maritime workers during these trying times.

In solidarity,



My United Kingdom debut: With our volunteer chaplain David Reid's connections across the pond, we were asked to film some local footage for BBC use during the pandemic.

Gifts from people like you allow us to minister to 35,000 seafarers annually. Please consider a gift to SCI. You may use the envelope included or visit us online at www.scphiladelphia.org. For gifts of stock, contact Cindy Ryan at 215-940-9900 x 104 or cryan@scphiladelphia.org

2020 Spirit of the Port Award Annual Luncheon honoring :
Captain Scott E. Anderson
Commander, Coast Guard Sector Delaware Bay



Shown from left to right: On the dais for the event were Michael Cureton of Norton Lilly and Vice President of the SCI Board of Directors Vice-President, Joseph V. Martella, Philadelphia Area Port Director for the United States Customs and Border Patrol, Helene Pierson, SCI Executive Director, Tracey Anderson, spouse and much more! of the honoree, Captain Scott E Anderson, United States Coast Guard, Rev. William Rex of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, and Captain David K. Cuff, recently elected President of the Pilots of the Delaware River and Bay, and President of the SCI Board of Directors.

On March 5, 2020, we honored Captain Scott E. Anderson, Commander, Coast Guard Central Sector Delaware Bay, at our annual Spirit of the Port luncheon at Auletto's Inn in Almonesson, NJ.

Captain Anderson has served in the United States Coast Guard for over 25 years, and as Commander of the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Delaware Bay and Captain of the Port in Philadelphia since 2017. He oversees more than 750 Active Duty, Reserve, and civilian personnel and works alongside 2,100 Coast Guard Auxiliary volunteers who execute the Coast Guard missions of marine safety, security, and environmental protection across much of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and all of Delaware, out to 200 miles offshore.

On this day, just seven days prior to when the World Health Organization declared a pandemic, Captain Anderson spoke humbly. He acknowledged the work of others and downplayed his own significant contributions over the years. He listed the challenges that had happened in this area over just a few short years from hosting the Democratic National Convention thru to the last one he would face—Coronavirus. Few of us in the room knew much of anything about the quick spread of this disease. With Captain Anderson's leadership, the supply chain that comes through the port terminals of the region has certainly not been unscathed, but we have fared well in what is likely the first round of the pandemic.



We are proud to honor Captain Anderson for his leadership and for the way he epitomizes the spirit and humanity of our regional port community.

We are so thankful the 3rd grade students of the Maritime Academy Charter School (the MACs!) joined us to sing, especially the United States Coast Guard's Semper Paratus!

A Big Thanks to all our Sponsors!
All proceeds from the event support SCI's mission of service to seafarers.

Keep Calm and Carry On

Cargo ships continue to arrive in our Delaware River ports, bringing much-needed supplies from all over the world. We are providing our staff and volunteers with the best safety equipment we can acquire, and our new motto is "Safety ** Short Visits ** Social Distancing."

This means we continue to reach out to seafarers in a different way. Instead of boarding every ship as soon as possible after arrival, we say "Welcome to Philadelphia," by delivering a bag of soft pretzels and spicy mustard, along with our contact information and a list of services we are still able to provide.

We drop off WIFI hotspots so seafarers can be in touch with home; we offer transport to essential destinations; and we serve as personal shoppers for groceries and other supplies. Very important in this time of stress, our chaplains are available by phone for counseling and by prayer. In addition to worries for their families, seafarers are anxious about their own health, and we have a mechanism for anyone to confidentially report hazardous conditions including an illness that is not receiving proper attention.

We are grateful to the U.S. Coast Guard, to terminal operators up and down the river, to agents, pilots, docking pilots, and all who are supporting our region's supply chain, for helping assure that we have access to the seafarers we serve. They need us now more than ever.



Where There's a Will There's a Way!

Seafarers on the LPG Tanker CLIPPER MOON gave us a long list of items they needed from Best Buy, and we raced to get them to the ship at Sun Marcus Hook before she was scheduled to depart. Unfortunately, the store's system crashed, the on-line order had to be re-done, and we missed the boat, so to speak.

With help from our friends at Delaware Pilots, our Executive Director Helene Pierson was able to get most of the items picked up at Best Buy in Dover, DE, 20 minutes before the store closed. The team at Lewes Pilot Station helped wrap and hoist them from the pilot boat onto the ship at the mouth of Delaware Bay, just in the nick of time.

THANKS TO DEL PILOTS staffers: SUE SMIDT, CARRIE BRADLEY, AND IRVING WALLS!

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Mark Your Calendar!
SCI's 10th Golf Classic has been
rescheduled.

August 31st, 2020
Manufacturers' Golf & Country Club
Fort Washington, PA

If we can go forward with the new date, we are working on
tournament modifications to keep you safe.

For up to date information visit our website at
www.sciphiladelphia.org or social media pages:



[Instagram.com/seafarersmissionphilly/](https://www.instagram.com/seafarersmissionphilly/)



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During these difficult times.....



*We now greet seafarers with bright
yellow happy face shirts since our
smiles are hidden, and on the back,
we thank them and represent the
Philly icons.*

Please consider a donation today.
Thank you for your continued support to our seafarers and SCI!!