

# “Friends of the Seafarers”

Tampa Seafarers Center / Tampa Port Ministries, Inc. Volume 2, Issue 8  
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## Caring for the Port Community

August was a busy month at the Tampa Seafarers Center. We were able to visit 55 ships in August. We had 59 Seafarers visit the center during the month. 26 Seafarers accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior in August!!! Each month we are able to minister to approximately 1,800 crew members on cruise ships and 1,500 crew members on cargo vessels. We appreciate your prayers and support which makes all of this possible.

## What happened when Hugo Chavez got saved ?

No, not Hugo Chavez the former Venezuelan president but Hugo Chavez my friend the Peruvian who works onboard one of the cruise ships. While Hugo was working on the cruise ship he accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior and became a Christian. Hugo was eager to learn all he could about Christ and to share his new faith with all he came in contact with including his family. Hugo would often visit me while I was on his ship and look for any new Gospel tracts that I might have. He explained to me that he was emailing the information home to his wife because she was not a Christian and he wanted to see her accept Jesus Christ as Savior too. Well as time went on Hugo left on vacation and then resumed his career on other vessels but from time to time he kept in touch by phone or text. One day in October of 2012 I received a text message from Hugo praising God because his wife had finally understood the Gospel and accepted Jesus as her Savior. He was so excited and so was I when he shared the news with me. Praise the Lord!!! From time to time I would run into other Seafarers from Peru and I would ask them if they knew of Hugo Chavez and many of them had crossed paths with him on other ships and they told me he was the guy that was running the Bible study on the ship. Just this last July I received another excited text from Hugo letting me know that his daughter now has also accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior. Hugo said “Thanks to the Lord, God is working in my home and my life.” God’s offer of salvation through his Son Jesus Christ is open to everyone and Hugo Chavez has done a good job of carrying that message around the world and most importantly to his family. Praise the Lord!!!

### 2013 Tampa Port Ministries Anchor Ball - October 26th

This years Anchor Ball will be held on October 26th at 6:00 p.m. We will be celebrating at the Embassy Suites Tampa—Downtown Convention Center located at 513 S. Florida Avenue Tampa, FL 33602

This is a black tie optional gala event featuring dinner, live and silent auctions. For more information please visit our website [www.TampaPortMinistries.com](http://www.TampaPortMinistries.com)

If you would like to assist with this years event by donating items for either the live or silent auction please call the office at 813-247-5237.

If you would prefer to receive our email version of the “Friends of the Seafarers” newsletter please visit our website and sign up for our email newsletter at [www.tampaseafarerscenter.com](http://www.tampaseafarerscenter.com)

Tampa Seafarers Center, 1912 Eastport Drive Tampa, FL 33605, 813-247-5237

## Volunteer Opportunities

If you’re interested in any of these volunteer opportunities, please contact us. We’d love to talk with you about how you can use your spiritual gifts and talents to meet the needs of Seafarers visiting the Tampa Seafarers Center. God has called each of us to partner with Him in reaching the world for Christ. The world comes to The Port of Tampa — we need people who will join us in meeting them when they are here.

**Hosts/Hostesses**—Answer the phones and arrange transportation for seafarers and greet visitors to the center and make them feel welcome.

**Van Drivers**—Provide transportation from the ship to ministry center and/or shopping venues.

**Prayer Partners**—God moves through the prayers of His people. We are in need of people who will commit to praying for Tampa Port Ministries on a regular basis.

**Fundraiser Volunteer**—Fundraising is a never ending need for us so if you are gifted in this area we would welcome your help.