

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

Preparing for the Future



MISSION STATEMENT

The Seamen's Church Institute advocates for the personal, professional, and spiritual well-being of merchant mariners around the world. The Institute promotes safety, dignity, and improved working and living conditions for millions of men and women serving in the maritime workplace. Founded in 1834, the Institute is a voluntary, ecumenical agency affiliated with the Episcopal Church.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

On the brink of our 175th year, we at the Seamen's Church Institute have been building upon storied traditions as we forge new paths for the future.

Piracy and mariners' rights require legal expertise and our pastoral care today just as they did in 1834. Century-old sextants occupy honored spots on display in our Water Street Gallery as we upgrade simulators in Paducah, Houston, and Newark. Our ministry, which began when commerce and shipping were growing at explosive rates in lower Manhattan, goes global as we extend our service to other ports.

While 2008's global economy became more dynamic than anyone would imagine, SCI experienced a strong year of mission to international and inland mariners. More than ever, I believe SCI's generations of success have come from tapping into our roots while adapting to the challenges of global commerce. I hope you share my belief as you read this Annual Report.

In 2008, several positive forces came together:

- ▲ Our mission to train future maritime leaders bore fruit when chaplain intern, the Rev. Megan Sanders, joined our Port Newark team, along with a seminary field education student and legal interns from Tulane University School of Law and the University of Charleston School of Law;
- ▲ Our port and river chaplains responded to more than a dozen serious injuries or fatalities, bringing support and solace to traumatized coworkers;
- ▲ Our Center for Seafarers' Rights staff began developing new anti-pollution training curriculum for port chaplains and addressed the growing scourge of piracy as a fundamental assault on seafarer dignity;
- ▲ Our Paducah maritime education team replaced its simulator projection systems (thanks to a grant from the West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board) and received funding to overhaul its firefighting field

(thanks to Fireman's Fund) and massive overhaul of simulation hardware and software (thanks to leadership gifts by Ingram Barge Company and AEP River Operations), projects scheduled for completion in 2009;

- ▲ Our knitters increased their volunteer numbers and bounty to complete more than 17,000 *Christmas at Sea* and *Christmas on the River* gifts for mariners;
- ▲ Our Port Newark International Seafarers' Center underwent roof replacement and asbestos/lead abatement as prelude to major construction set for completion in September 2009;
- ▲ Retired mariners came to our Water Street headquarters each month for fellowship, recreation, and comfort during life's passages;
- ▲ Our special events team organized incredible fundraisers celebrating our common bonds throughout the church and maritime communities;
- ▲ Our leadership team began conversations with other port hospitality centers to consolidate operations and best practices in the administration of facilities and ship-visiting chaplains.

As you read this Annual Report, I hope you experience the excitement and renewal of our pastoral care, advocacy, and education programs. Our staff touches individual mariner lives amid celebration and tragedy. Our facilities are upgrading to strengthen hospitality or new simulation safety and security opportunities. None of this could happen without your prayers, sweat equity, and material support. Especially during these challenging times, I appreciate all that you do for SCI and the mariners we serve.

May God bless you, our donors and supporters, for your generosity.



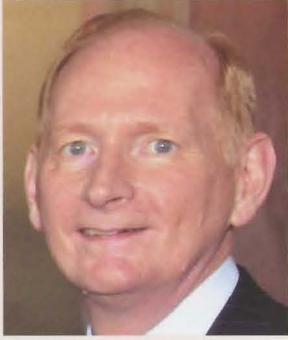
David M. Rider

The Rev. David M. Rider
President & Executive Director



PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD



As 2008 came to a close, SCI saw a smooth transition of Trustee Board Chairs, thanks to the tireless efforts of retiring Chair George M. Isdale, Jr., known affectionately to us as Dooie. In this Annual Report, let me publicly thank Dooie for his years of trustee service, including, during these last years, as Chairman of the Board. I pledge to do all I can to extend Dooie's love and concern for SCI's mission, staff, trustees, along with its temporal strength and reputation. Let me also offer heartfelt thanks for several trustees retiring after more than a century of combined service. Together, they have navigated a generation of oversight and philanthropic generosity to SCI and will continue as friends and honorary trustees. Thank you, Grace Allen, Arthur Armitage, Richard Berry, and Gale Chen.

On a regular basis, SCI's trustees balance fiduciary oversight with a passionate desire to strengthen our service to mariners. We rejoice that spending follows careful controls and remains within budget. We work hard to secure additional support needed for programs and capital priorities. We thank you for gifts of all sizes that enable us to continue our work.

New challenges and opportunities demand our best efforts today and in the future. Seafarers continue to face loneliness and danger as they tirelessly perform their jobs. New environmental and security regulations can tax their nerves, threaten shore leave, or cause temptation to short-circuit important rules. Terrorism and—increasingly—piracy risks burden the soul while requiring new training. In all these situations, SCI seeks to support and provide creative solutions to enhance mariner morale, safety, and quality of life. With your prayers and support, we redouble our efforts for the coming years.

David S. French
Chairman of the Board

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HIGHLIGHTS OF 2008

CHAPLAINCY



PORT NEWARK

Dedicated in 1961, SCI's International Seafarers' Center in Port Newark has provided international seafarers, Port workers, and truckers a welcoming place away from home for many years. Seafarers from all over the world know that when in America's busy Port of New York and New Jersey, they can relax, stretch their legs, communicate to home via the Internet and telephone, and see new, friendly faces. SCI connects thousands of mariners each year with the comforts and conveniences available ashore at the International Seafarers' Center.

The International Center extends the hand of friendship and pastoral concern. SCI chaplains, with interfaith and cross-cultural backgrounds, assist thousands of seafarers on tankers, cargo ships, and passenger liners.

In the renovated facility, the new Port Newark Maritime Education Center will equip mariners with the requirements for advanced licensing. At SCI's prime Port location, the Center will meet the challenges faced in the new millennium of global transportation, including maritime security, using innovative technology.



PN Construction

For nearly five decades, SCI's International Seafarers' Center has provided hospitality to mariners, truckers, and Port workers with a chapel, restaurant, conference rooms, telephones, Internet, recreation lounge, basketball courts, and soccer field. Like a proud ship in need of dry dock, however, the facility is undergoing a multi-million-dollar renovation.

New technology will provide more Internet and phone access; upgraded recreation areas will enhance relaxation and community; refurbished meeting rooms will offer gathering spaces for large and small Port groups; and a new fitness center, including indoor exercise equipment and showers, will enable a welcome respite from the rigors of the job.

As a leap of faith in its mission, SCI has begun construction in 2008 while the Institute secures funding.

Construction Development

The Port Newark International Seafarers' Center buzzed with activity in 2008 and not just because of seafarers coming and going. Construction on the Center, which will serve the needs of those visiting the Port for many years to come, progressed each day. Work crews, architects, inspectors, and Port officials worked alongside the temporary building that houses SCI's services to seafarers during construction.

Mariner's Wellness Center Gift from The Starr Foundation

SCI offers opportunities for seafarers to rejuvenate while visiting the Port of New York and New Jersey. SCI's renovated International Center will house a modern Wellness Center equipped with accommodations for physical conditioning and fitness. In 2008, The Starr Foundation made a gift to SCI of \$500,000 to help underwrite the costs of this new facility. SCI greatly appreciates the generosity and partnership of The Starr Foundation in making this vision a reality.



INTERNATIONAL SEAFARERS' CENTER, PORT NEWARK

2,424 Ships visited in the Port of NY & NJ

33,596 Seafarers visited onboard those ships

17,078 Seafarers, truckers, and port workers used Seafarers' Center (Currently under construction, SCI continued to serve mariners during renovation with a smaller, transitory space in the back part of the Center.)

25,545 Seafarers transported by SCI vans

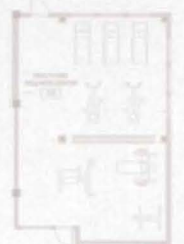
18,246 Books and magazines placed aboard ships in port

2,990 Money Transfer/Wire Transactions

583 Seafarers sought personal, pastoral, and vocational counseling

93 Religious services held onboard vessels

0 Ships not allowing Chaplains to visit





Myanmar Crews Connect Home with SCI's Help

Chaplains at the Seamen's Church Institute visit thousands of seafarers during the course of a year, serving their spiritual, emotional, physical, and legal needs. Once in Port, one of the first things a seafarer wants is to call home to speak with a spouse, a daughter, a son,

or a father or mother, to know that all are well and to hear their voices after a long, lonely time at sea.

SCI Chaplains once again recognized the importance of this ministry as they offered hospitality to crews from Myanmar following the cyclone which devastated the agricultural "rice bowl" of their country.

Chaplaincy Training Program Links Maritime Ministries Around the World

Through its Chaplaincy Training Program, SCI works with others to establish new seafarers' ministries in ports where such programs do not exist. Graduates of SCI's Program initiated the Seafarers' Center in Vitoria, Brazil and a seafarers' center in Paranagua, Brazil.

This past year, the Executive Director of SCI, the Rev. David M. Rider, went with Douglas Stevenson, Director of the Center for Seafarers' Rights, to visit the Brazilian centers. SCI continues to support the chaplains it trains around issues of spirituality, human dignity, and seafarers' rights. Thriving port ministries in Paranagua and Vitoria represent the best of this tradition.

House of Bishops Donates Cell Phones

This year, when the bishops of the Episcopal Church went to the Lambeth Conference, a meeting of bishops of the Anglican Communion held every 10 years, they went equipped with a Church-issued cell phone to use.

Upon returning to the States, the leaders no longer required the phones. So, what do you do with over 100 cell phones? The bishops donated them to SCI to help seafarers stay in touch with loved ones back home.

Community Partnership with Jersey Cares

Community support from individuals and other organizations strengthens SCI's ministry. In 2008, the not-for-profit organization Jersey Cares donated over 500 winter coats to the Institute to distribute to seafarers in the Port of New York and New Jersey. Other groups—churches, maritime organizations, and companies—also contributed to SCI throughout the year by volunteering and organizing the collection of items for mariners.

“The environment of our work and the longing for our families, amid the vast oceans, makes our work very difficult. But still, we keep going on for them and to give them a bright future. This is the reason why we are here working on board. That's why we always work safely to avoid dangers and accidents, so we can go back to them.

And once again, the presence of Christmas was shown to us by the gifts you have given. These gifts remind us that kindness can be found anywhere we go. And for the people who made these gifts, every strand and stitch of effort that you put into it are very well appreciated by each of the crew. These things gave us more reason to celebrate Christmas happily. And may this simple message of appreciation and thanks touch your hearts the way you touched ours.”

—Mark, *New Century 2*





CRUISE SHIP TERMINAL SERVICES

Each year, SCI's Passenger Ship Terminal Hospitality Center staff members welcome thousands of cruise ship workers docking in New York and Brooklyn. SCI provides pastoral care and business services such as wire transfers, calling cards, Internet, and cell phones whenever any cruise ship arrives.

Cruise ships can carry crews numbering over 1,000. Precious hours for shore leave provide a connection to the outside world, and SCI operates on the front lines to greet the men and women of the cruise ship industry, providing a friendly face and useful information.



Crew members use new wireless capabilities at SCI's Hospitality Center at the Brooklyn Cruise Ship Terminal.

SCI's Cruise Ship Center Goes Wireless

Thanks to donations by Cunard over the past two years, SCI's Hospitality Center for cruise

ship workers in Brooklyn incorporates wireless Internet capabilities, 24 new telephone lines, and new, comfortable cubicles. Thousands of cruise ship crew members can reach loved ones at home using an array of technology.

Cruise ship crews must stay onboard ship where they live and work for the length of their contract which could be from three months to one year.



SCI HOSPITALITY CENTERS - PASSENGER SHIP TERMINALS IN MANHATTAN AND BROOKLYN

1,011 Money Transfer/Wire Transactions (Manhattan)*

2,885 Money Transfer/Wire Transactions (Brooklyn)

97 Cruise ships served by SCI in Manhattan*

53 Cruise ships served by SCI in Brooklyn

* SCI's PST in Manhattan was closed from January to mid-July for renovations by the NYC Economic Development Corporation.



Ministry on the River is the nation's only network of pastoral care available to more than 30,000 inland mariners.



MINISTRY ON THE RIVER

Ministry on the River provides hospitality and pastoral care to mariners and their families. SCI runs the only network of pastoral care available to the nation's more than 30,000 inland mariners, and it operates 24-hours-a-day, seven days a week. The program includes boat visits, counseling services, fellowship, and collecting and distributing gifts for Christmas and Easter. Using the resources of chaplains and volunteers nationwide, SCI makes sure that, no matter where their rigorous work takes them, mariners have someone on whom they can depend.

SCI's Chaplains on the River blog (chaplainsblog.seamenschurch.org) connects river mariners to each other, chaplains, and the public.

Children can *Adopt a Towboat* as a civic or school pen pal project, and congregations can find outreach and prayer resources for SCI's unique ministry.

Young people contribute to the work of SCI

Children from St. Mark's Episcopal School in Houston and from Girl Scout Troop 7495 in Pasadena, TX got on board with SCI's ministry in 2008. They made Christmas cards and packed gift boxes that went to a local towboat company. After Christmas, the fourth-graders took a harbor boat tour and visited SCI-Houston, which included a hands-on demonstration of the simulators.

MINISTRY ON THE RIVER

2,371 Mariners met or assisted by chaplains

379 Boats visited

9,578 Books, videos, newsletters, and newspapers distributed

585 Bibles/New Testaments distributed

1,894 Volunteer hours logged from Pittsburgh to New Orleans and the Gulf Region

8,483 individuals on **1,192** towboats received *Christmas on the River* packages onboard their vessels; **41** congregations (representing **7** different denominations in CT, KY, IN, WV, MS, LA, OH, MO, VA, NJ, MN, PA, TX, CA) **4** schools, and **58** companies in **79** locations made *Christmas on the River* possible

1,342 boxes of Easter on the River packages distributed



"Are You Called to be a Missionary?" Workshops

With three full-time *Ministry on the River* chaplains, even if they worked around the clock, it would remain impossible to give complete coverage to the thousands of miles of rivers in the United States and the mariners who work on them. SCI relies on a network of volunteers to support this ministry.

In the fall of 2008, SCI sponsored three workshops, designed as education and training grounds for persons interested in *Ministry on the River*. Participants discovered how they could contribute to this important ministry of the Institute through becoming River Friendly Churches and collecting and distributing items for working mariners at Christmas and Easter.

"We on the *MAGNOLIA* have just finished the last of the hard candy from the wreath sent at Christmastime by the Episcopal Church in Vicksburg. Each time I saw it or ate a piece of candy from it, I was reminded of all the work volunteers put in to provide those for us. Please let them know, for me, how much we appreciate those little things. We enjoy our work, but it is sometimes hard to be away from home when holidays are going on, ice storms are hitting, etc. It's nice to know someone is thinking of us and is there to offer support if and when needed."

—Bob Reynolds, *M/V Magnolia*



MARITIME EDUCATION

SCI has trained mariners since 1899. In the Twenty-First Century, SCI gears itself toward refining the skills of already seasoned captains, pilots, and mates on a myriad of vessel types and dedicates itself to enhancing the safety of mariners, vessels, and the environment. To date, SCI has taught more than 100,000 mariners. For a complete course catalog with descriptions, visit SCI's website, seamenschurch.org.

SCI also assists mariners with licensing, MMD & TWIC requirements, employment assistance, finding schools for licensing upgrades, and assists mariners with entry-level applications.

SCI-HOUSTON SEMINAR FOR ACCIDENT INVESTIGATORS

Since 2003, SCI has provided continuing education to office personnel such as marine supervisors and port captains who are responsible for a mariner's life onboard. In May 2008, SCI offered a one-day seminar as part of its ongoing Professional Development Seminar Series, "Cognitive Interviewing for Accident Investigators," for inland towing industry personnel tasked with investigating marine incidents.

Tailoring the seminar to industry needs, Dr. Ronald Fisher, Professor of Psychology at Florida International University and a cofounder of the Cognitive Interview Method, created an accident scenario using SCI's simulators and trained participants in using this method.

TWIC CHANGES MOVING AROUND PORT

New security procedures now require port workers, including longshoremen, truckers, port employees and others, to obtain a biometric credential issued by the US government called a TWIC (Transportation Worker Identity Credential). In 2008, SCI helped mariners and others navigate the new application process. In SCI's e-newsletter *Mariner's Regulatory and Compliance Notifications*, SCI counselors answered common questions about USCG/TSA regulations influencing mariners' credentials.

NEW DIRECTOR OF SCI-HOUSTON

This year, the torch passed from one leader to another at SCI's Center for Maritime Education in Houston, TX. Captain Stephen Polk, Instructor and Assistant Director at SCI since 2007, assumed the position of Director at SCI's Center for Maritime Education Gulf Region, following the retirement of Captain William Douglas from the position at the end of July 2008.

BUDDY COMPTON APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF INLAND TRAINING AT SCI-PADUCAH

As Director of Inland Training in Paducah, Captain Buddy Compton teamed up with Captain Greg Menke and Dr. Jay Downs Siska to further develop and teach Advanced Pilothouse Management Training classes, as well as other courses at SCI's Center for Maritime Education in Paducah, KY.

"This improvement to the simulator will put SCI's training ahead of any simulator in the world—both technologically and conceptually—with direct benefits to our industry."

—Mark Knoy,
President of
AEP River Operations



To date, SCI has taught more than 100,000 mariners.

MARITIME EDUCATION

1,116 mariners from **24** different companies received training at SCI-Paducah

262 mariners received fire fighting training at SCI-Paducah

620 visitors to SCI-Paducah

656 mariners from **14** different companies received training at SCI-Houston

644 visitors to CME-Houston

1,200 mariners at SCI-New York received counseling



Eric Larsson, SCI's Director of Maritime Education, gives a tour of the virtual bridge at SCI's Center for Maritime Education in Paducah.

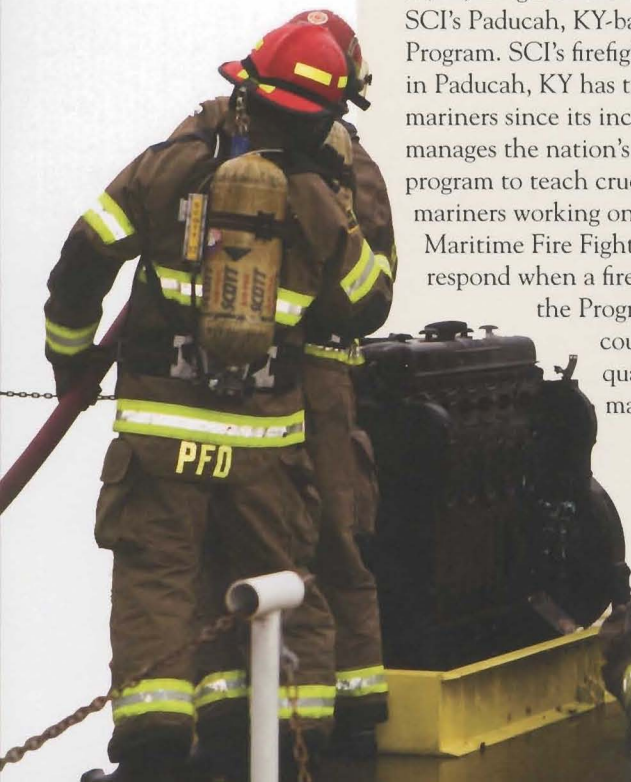
SCI is the only organization that has a specifically-designed program to teach crucial firefighting skills to mariners working on the inland rivers.

NEW PADUCAH SIMULATOR PROJECTION SYSTEM

In August 2008, the inland river industry gathered at SCI's Paducah Center for Maritime Education to celebrate the installation of 14 new commercial projectors in two of SCI's simulation theaters used for maritime training. SCI co-sponsored the event with the West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board, which granted \$250,000 of the \$400,000 cost for the new projection system.

SCI UPGRADES FIRE FIGHTING TRAINING FACILITY

The Fireman's Fund Insurance Company awarded a \$30,000 grant to SCI to assist renovations at SCI's Paducah, KY-based Marine Fire Fighting Program. SCI's firefighting training facility in Paducah, KY has trained more than 1,500 mariners since its inception in 2001. SCI manages the nation's only specifically-designed program to teach crucial firefighting skills to mariners working on the inland rivers. The Maritime Fire Fighting Program trains crews to respond when a fire event occurs onboard, and the Program offers USCG approved courses, enabling mariners to qualify for certain merchant mariner documents.



FURTHER, MAJOR UPGRADES TO PADUCAH SIMULATORS

Building on the West Kentucky Workforce grant, leaders from Ingram Barge Company and AEP River Operations revealed in late 2008 that their companies would lead the effort to fund other important upgrades in Paducah.

SCI will replace all computer simulation hardware, software, and radars in May 2009, and with the replacements, new towboat models can perform operations previously not possible with existing technology. The upgrades enable the simulators to replicate light boat work and close maneuvering. The Center will update its geographical databases as part of this upgrade, including the creation of a new Paducah, KY database. Also, with new technology comes a strengthened capacity for river security, using simulation equipment to meet current and future needs for this type of training.

USCG ANNOUNCES CENTER OF EXPERTISE IN PADUCAH



In large measure due to improvements in SCI's Paducah Center for Maritime Education, the United States Coast Guard chose Paducah, KY as a location for its Center of Expertise, an honorable distinction as a top training center in the United States. Paducah's USCG Towing Center of Expertise will serve to ensure safe towing operations along the inland river waterways. The announcement came from Rear Admiral James Watson, Director of Prevention Policy for the United States Coast Guard, at the 2008 River Bell Awards Luncheon.



LAW & ADVOCACY

SCI has advocated for merchant mariners' rights throughout its 174 years of service. The Center for Seafarers' Rights (CSR) serves as SCI's advocacy arm, coordinating legal assistance, seafarers' rights education, and prevention programs on behalf of the world's merchant mariners. CSR operates in the dynamic environment of the maritime world, continuously adapting to changing realities.

SCI HOSTS MLC ROUNDTABLE

In May 2008, SCI hosted a roundtable discussion on the United States' progress toward ratifying the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006). The MLC, 2006 consolidates more than 65 labor conventions' recommendations into one 'superconvention' that seeks to simplify the ratification process and strengthen the enforcement mechanisms for protecting seafarers' rights.

Participants in the roundtable included stakeholders from industry and government, and dialogue focused both on how the MLC, 2006 evolved, and the possible benefits and disadvantages of US ratification. SCI provided a trusted setting for open, candid dialogue among colleagues from across the spectrum of interests in the maritime industry.

JAG VISITS SCI

The Judge Advocate General of the US Coast Guard, RADM William D. Baumgartner, visited operations of SCI in New York and New Jersey in August 2008. RADM Baumgartner sat down with the Executive Director of SCI and the director of SCI's Center for Seafarers' Rights. The three leaders reviewed ongoing and prospective collaborations between the US Coast Guard and SCI.



RADM Baumgartner, Judge Advocate General of the US Coast Guard, descends the gangway from a RoRo vessel docked in the Port of Newark during his visit to SCI in August 2008.

“I’m continually impressed with the genuine, heartfelt concern that SCI has for the mariners who form the backbone of our maritime transportation system. We owe those mariners so much. I am so glad that the Center for Seafarers Rights and the dedicated port chaplains from SCI are here to look out for their rights and their needs.”

— RADM William D. Baumgartner,
Judge Advocate General and
Chief Counsel of the
United States Coast Guard



SHARING ANNUAL SHORE LEAVE SURVEY RESULTS

Referencing SCI’s 2008 shore leave/terminal access survey, SCI attorney Deborah Blanchard spoke at the 2008 Women’s International Shipping & Trading Association conference held in October 2008 in New Orleans, LA.

The 2008 report indicated that approximately 20% of vessels visited during the survey week had one or more incidents of shore leave denial or lack of terminal access due to factors such as lack of visa, exorbitant security fees, or agent restrictions. CSR has worked with chaplains, industry, and governments to ensure that seafarers have the greatest access possible to the “elemental necessity” of shore leave. Initiatives include promoting the ratification of the International Seafarers’ Identity Document Convention, ILO-195 (200), and current US House and Senate bills that would prohibit charging fees to individuals to transit a terminal.

AN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION INITIATIVE

With a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, SCI will create an environmental education program for seafarers visiting or sailing from the Ports of New York and Massachusetts. In 2008, SCI began a collaboration with Massachusetts Maritime Academy and the chaplains serving the Ports in the two areas. From these discussions, SCI will produce a series of pamphlets for distribution to mariners that focus on US marine pollution laws and equip Port chaplains with the information they need to help the seafarer.



SCI's Center for Seafarers' Rights is the world's only free legal-aid service devoted exclusively to the needs of merchant mariners.



SCI RESPONDS TO ABANDONED SEAFARERS

For several years, SCI has monitored and worked toward ending the problem of abandoned crews. The Institute's roundtable report, entitled "There's No Place Like Home: Repatriating the Industry's Seafarers," became the definitive reference on the topic of repatriation and was used as a key resource in the first meeting of Joint IMO/ILO (the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization) Expert Working Group on Seafarers' Claims for Personal Injury, Death, and Abandonment.

A revised convention was debated at the eighth meeting of the Joint IMO/ILO Expert Working Group in July 2008. The proposal submitted contained interlocking conditions of port entry, having the potential of ensuring widespread compliance with the financial security system requirements.

Later in the year, Douglas Stevenson advised the United States Delegation to the Legal Committee of the International Maritime Organization where discussions on the proposed mandatory requirements continued.

CSR COLLABORATES WITH OTHER MARITIME MINISTRIES

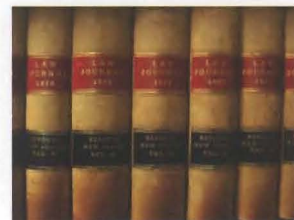
SCI's Center for Seafarers' Rights administers the world's only free legal-aid service devoted exclusively to the needs of merchant mariners. Because of this distinction and the important role SCI plays in developing international policy and recommendations, the Institute offers counsel and training to others around the world.

This year, Douglas Stevenson taught at both the Houston International Chaplains' School in February and at the ICMA Seafarers' Ministry Training in Hong Kong in October. He also developed a training program for chaplains on the MLC, 2006 and presented it at ICMA Regional Conferences in Sweden, Germany, and at the August NAMMA Conference in Boston.

CENTER FOR SEAFARERS' RIGHTS

SCI collaborated with Charleston School of Law and Tulane Law School to provide hands-on learning opportunities for student interns at its Center for Seafarers' Rights in New York City.

In 2008, SCI handled **87** new cases involving work-related issues, such as death benefits, security restrictions, repatriation, wages, and working/living conditions.





Douglas B. Stevenson with the Most Rev. Silvano Tomasi at the Roman Catholic Archbishop's residence in Switzerland. Tomasi is the Apostolic Nuncio, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations and Specialized Organizations in Geneva and to the World Trade Organization.

DEVELOPING MLC, 2006 ENFORCEMENT GUIDELINES

For two meetings in Geneva, Switzerland in September, SCI's Director of the Center for Seafarers' Rights examined and deliberated the implementation of international standards contained in the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC, 2006). The International Christian Maritime Association (ICMA) sent Stevenson to lead a delegation to develop guidelines for the enforcement of what is sometimes called the "Seafarers' Bill of Rights."

MLC, 2006, a comprehensive, landmark agreement between governments, ship owners, and seafarers, provides solid and uniform rules for workers, employers and governments involved in commerce at sea. It sets international requirements for the working and living conditions of the world's 1.2 million seafarers. SCI and ICMA participated in the development of MLC, 2006 and strongly support its ratification, implementation, and enforcement.

WMU INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

SCI Staff Attorney Deborah Blanchard presented a paper at the World Maritime University (WMU) International Symposium on "Selected Issues in Maritime Security" in Malmö, Sweden in November 2008. The Symposium included a number of international maritime law experts who examined a variety of maritime security issues, including piracy and maritime terrorism.

Blanchard spoke on the issue of mariner recruitment and retention and the possible adverse impact of maritime security policies and criminal prosecutions of seafarers on creating and sustaining a skilled maritime workforce.

ICMA PIRACY RESOLUTION: WORKING TO END SCOURGE OF PIRACY

Recent attacks on merchant shipping by Somali pirates have attracted worldwide attention. SCI has worked on issues of piracy for over two decades—recording cases, providing assistance to victims of these cases, and advocating to international organizations for tough standards to reduce instances of hijacking.

In 2008, CSR Director Douglas Stevenson, helped craft a new resolution with the International Christian Maritime Association (ICMA). The resolution included a pledge from ICMA and its member organizations to cooperate in accomplishing anti-piracy initiatives, which includes SCI's and other maritime ministries' promise to support the seafarers and families affected by piracy.

SCI actively engages in work to eliminate this frightening and challenging threat, including increasing awareness of the issue and working in partnership with the industry to ensure the protection of seafarers' welfare.



CHRISTMAS AT SEA

Since 1898, during the Spanish American War, volunteers for SCI have collected, packed, knitted, and distributed gifts to mariners who are miles away from home during the holidays. Each year, SCI delivers Christmas gifts to an often unrecognized workforce of the global economy: the world's mariners. At the center of the Christmas package sits a handknit cap and scarf. Knitting comes (like the mariners SCI serves) from various locations, knitted by volunteers and collected at SCI Headquarters in New York.

Knitting groups around the country connect with SCI in weekly knitting meetings at churches and at knitting-sponsored events. Through online sites like Ravelry and the CAS blog (blogs.seamenschurch.org), the Institute works with hundreds of these groups to make the program effective.

KNIT 4 LENT CHALLENGE

SCI invited faithful knitters and groups across the country to include *Knit 4 Lent: 4,000 Hats in 40 Days* as part of their Lenten discipline in 2008. SCI initiated this challenge to knitters in its year-round collection of hand-knit and crocheted hats for mariners working during Christmastime.

CAS FASHION SHOW

In July 2008, attendees at a *Christmas at Sea* gathering in New York had an opportunity to see firsthand some knitted fashions modeled on a makeshift runway at SCI Headquarters at the first annual CAS Fashion Show. Showcased items represented some of the most interesting knitting submitted to the Institute during the year. The show gave knitters the chance to showcase their artistic creations, which are given away to mariners working on the world's waterways.

A NEW WAY TO GIVE FOR CHRISTMAS

Along with knitted items, CAS gift packages also contain useful items for the mariner—things like shoelaces, fingernail clippers, and sewing kits. In the past, SCI purchased these items to include with the contributed knitted items. Beginning in 2008, however, SCI gave those who wanted to donate a little something extra or those who wanted to participate in the Christmas gift program but who are not knitters a way to get involved.



CHRISTMAS AT SEA

8,632 Knitted gifts to deep-sea mariners

8,374 Knitted scarves to America's river mariners

140 Knitted gifts to Retired Mariners & Merchant Marine Veterans

SCI also distributed assorted sundry items donated through the Christmas Gift Drive (children's cards, candy, toiletries, chewing gum, popcorn, hot chocolate, and books)—enough gifts for **14,000** of the mariners we served in 2008

17,164 Total gifts

continues on page 16



(Top) A typical delivery of mail during the height of donation season at SCI in New York.

(Bottom) A community of knitters from Laclede Grove in St. Louis, MO with CAS Program Director Jeanette DeVita.



KNITTING FOR MARINERS BY THE LIGHT OF A LIGHTHOUSE

In November 2008, a group of CAS volunteer knitters gathered for a special event in Greenport, Long Island. The local yarn studio and store in the center of town, Now and Zen Yarns, sponsored the event, bringing together knitters to Greenport's historic East End Seaport Museum. Program Director

Jeanette DeVita spoke at the event about the historic connection between knitting and life at sea—a sea history shared by Long Island's North Fork and Shelter Island, where many of the participants for the day's event were from.

“The secret to my hat productivity is to carry my knitting with me everywhere and to thereby take advantage of those odd moments to complete a few stitches or a few rows. I've found this practice carries some side benefits as well. It opens up opportunities to talk about SCI with those who take notice of my knitting. And it also—and this is the most surprising—makes trains and buses arrive faster.”

—Margaret Lee,
Volunteer Knitter for
Christmas at Sea





SPECIAL EVENTS

Special Events contribute significantly toward funding for the Seamen's Church Institute. Maritime companies, churches, and individuals dedicated to SCI's mission come together at these occasions to celebrate, rally support for the work of the Institute, and, at times, discuss important issues facing the world's maritime workforce. In 2008, SCI hosted the following Special Events:

THE 14TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT IN NEW JERSEY

Monday, May 5, 2008
at the Maplewood Country Club
in Maplewood, NJ

THE 31ST ANNUAL SILVER BELL AWARDS DINNER

Thursday, June 12, 2008
at Chelsea Piers in New York City
2008 Honorees
Michael Grey, Silver Bell Award
William O. Gray, Lifetime Achievement Award
Paul S. Edelman, Distinguished Law Award

SET SAIL WITH THE YOUNG FRIENDS OF SCI

Tuesday, July 15, 2008
on the Top Deck of SCI's New York Headquarters



PADUCAH GOLF CLASSIC

Thursday, August 21, 2008
at the Drake Creek Golf Club, Ledbetter, KY

PILOT BOAT HARBOR CRUISE

Tuesday, September 16, 2008
aboard Pilot No. 1, the New York

THE 4TH ANNUAL MARITIME TRAINING BENEFIT LUNCHEON

Wednesday, October 22, 2008
at SCI-Houston
Ed Emmett, Harris County Judge,
Keynote Speaker

THE 9TH ANNUAL RIVER BELL AWARDS LUNCHEON

in support of SCI's Ministry on the River
Thursday, December 11, 2008
at the Walker Building, Paducah, KY
2008 Honorees
Norh Whitlock, River Bell Award
Ray Eckstein, River Legend Award

CHRISTMAS AT SEA GALA & AUCTION

Tuesday, December 2, 2008
at New York Yacht Club

(L) Members of the Sandy Hook Pilots Association before the Pilot Boat Harbor Cruise.

(R) Over 1,000 supporters of the Seamen's Church Institute attended the 31st Annual Silver Bell Awards Dinner on Thursday, June 12, 2008, at Chelsea Piers in New York City.



PILOT NO. 1

Pilot No. 1, the New York.
Photo courtesy Sandy Hook Pilots Association.

SCI'S HERITAGE: CELEBRATING 175 YEARS IN 2009

CHAPLAINCY



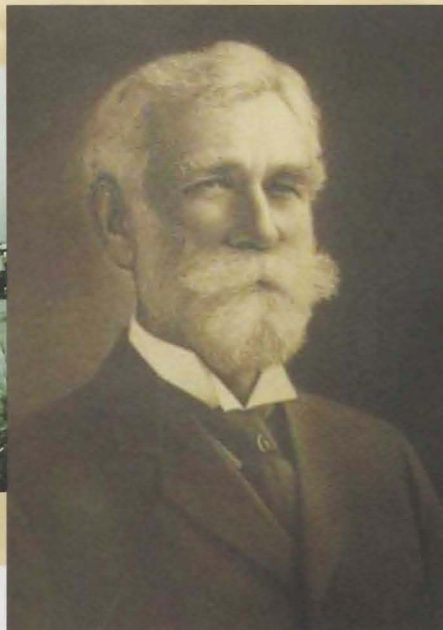
Over the years, the Institute moored three floating chapels along New York's East River. SCI Chaplains did not stay holed up in these churches, however. They went out in the Port to visit ships as they came in from around the world. SCI Chaplains and volunteers ship visit today, and SCI's chapel in the Port of New York and New Jersey developed into more than just a chapel. It is a multi-functional International Mariners Center, currently undergoing a massive renovation.

MARITIME EDUCATION



Specialized nautical training started at the Institute's Merchant Marine School in 1914. In addition to navigational training on ships, SCI offered classes on the roof of its then headquarters on South Street. The Navigational School later moved to using computer simulators, pictured here with early equipment in New York. Today, SCI-Houston and SCI-Paducah offer classes using state-of-the-art technology, and thanks to support from two leading river transportation companies, SCI has begun planning extensive upgrades to the simulators in Paducah.

LAW & ADVOCACY



J. Augustus Johnson served on SCI's Board of Managers from 1892-1914, as well as being the Chairman of the Committee of Legislation. He advocated strongly for seafarers' rights. Over the years, a seaman knew that if he was being treated unfairly, if his wages were being withheld, or he was hurt while onboard, he could contact the Center for Seafarers' Rights and obtain aid. In the Twenty-First Century, SCI leads in advocacy for the merchant mariner. SCI has co-authored several important, wide-ranging international initiatives with international organizations and government agencies.



2008

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

*“Well done,
good and
faithful
servant!”*

—Matthew 25:21



Every good steward prepares for the future. Wise men and women, acting decisively and responsibly with the resources they have been given, share in the happiness of their forbearers' planning.

At SCI, we have inherited the gifts of 175 years. Dedicated people have contributed to future generations of the maritime industry. Through the Emancipation Proclamation, the opening of the Panama Canal, two World Wars, and Armstrong and Aldrin as the first men on the moon, SCI has served mariners, the behind-the-scenes workforce of an expanding, interconnected world.

As the world has changed, so has SCI, striving to stay ahead of the game, protecting and caring for the mariner. Leaders of the Institute have

not rested on successes of the past by burying acquired resources. SCI has remained at the forefront by continually reinvesting its assets in the future of the maritime community.

SCI has made good use of the heritage it has received. Over the decades, the Institute exercised an entrepreneurial spirit and invested wisely. With judicious pruning, calculated risks, and eyes on long-term goals, SCI has grown to be North America's largest and most comprehensive maritime service agency.

Today, we aim to continue the stewardship that has brought us to this point, and we ask for your help as we prepare for the “sea changes” that face another 175 years of commerce on the world's oceans and inland waterways.

Because you believe in the work and mission of the Institute, we need your time and talent to help our investment grow. Consider how, at this time, making a financial contribution to this important work will increase the yield of our labors. Use the enclosed envelope with this Annual Report, and SCI will put your money to work serving mariners for ages to come.

Celebrating Wendy Shadwell's life and legacy, her close friends shared food and stories at a luncheon in September at the Seamen's Church Institute in New York.



PLANNED GIVING: THE JANET LORD ROPER SOCIETY

Seafarers served by SCI will benefit from a bequest of \$100,000 given by Wendy Joan Shadwell. SCI recognized the gift at a luncheon honoring Wendy in September 2008.

The legacy left by Wendy and her parents, Phyllis and Howard, will carry on forever in the lives of seafarers every time a knitted hat or scarf from *Christmas at Sea* warms a mariner's heart.

Planned giving is an option no matter what your income level. The gift you leave to further the causes you feel strongly about could be of any size. If you would like to learn more about planned giving, please contact us. Together we can work to ensure that service to mariners continues well into the next century.

SCI'S ARCHIVE PROJECT

In 2008, in preparation for its 175th Anniversary, the Institute began organizing its archives. Old photographs, chaplains' logs, and seafarers' documents from the Institute's developing years were originally stored at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York. Now housed in a climate-controlled room at SCI's headquarters, Archivist April Hegner, has been carefully leafing through the pages of SCI's history and digitizing many of the historic photographs and documents. From this treasure trove of photographs, April Hegner has created slideshows to be viewed on SCI's website, making the images of SCI's rich history readily available to the public.



This photo from SCI's Archives shows the heritage of the Institute's mission, caring for the world's merchant mariners through many generations.



SEAFARER AND RIVER FRIENDLY CHURCHES

Congregations across America join with SCI to become Seafarer and River Friendly Churches. These churches commit to helping SCI through prayer, service, gift collection and distribution, and financial support. River Friendly Churches minister to real needs of fellow humans and extend welcome to mariners in their community.

SCI provides worship resources for congregations of all denominations wishing to offer a Mariners' Sunday Service, and SCI Chaplains are available to speak to church, youth groups, and other organizations about the ministry to mariners.

SCI NEW ADMINISTRATOR FOR LIFE SAVING AWARDS

In January 2009, SCI assumes the administration of the 160-year-old Life Saving Benevolent Association (LSBA), an organization rewarding

heroic individuals involved in lifesaving water rescues. LSBA, independent and with its own Board of Directors, has been closely tied to SCI for years, holding its annual ceremonies at SCI's Headquarters. Previously, Atlantic Mutual managed LSBA, processing applications and assisting the Board. In 2008, LSBA approached SCI, North America's largest mariners' service agency, about continuing these administrative responsibilities in the future.

SCI agreed to deepen its relationship with LSBA. LSBA will remain independent and fulfill its mission of recognizing rescuers, and SCI will assume the clerical and organizational responsibilities for the Board. As part of the tasks in its new role, SCI will process and validate the applications LSBA receives, coordinate meetings of the Board, and assist the Board in determining the reward recipients.





SUSTAINING AND SUPPORTING SPONSORS SOCIETIES

In 2008, SCI announced new levels of corporate giving: Sustaining, Supporting, and Contributing In Kind Sponsorships. Sustaining Sponsors provide unrestricted financial support of \$100,000 or more per year. Supporting Sponsors contribute at least \$50,000 per year, and Contributing In Kind Sponsors provide SCI with goods or professional services in excess of \$25,000 annually. Our corporate sponsors strengthen SCI's chaplains' ministry, legal advocacy, and maritime education programs.

SCI SALUTES OUR SUSTAINING SPONSORS:

- AEP River Operations 
- Ingram Barge Company 
- Overseas Shipholding Group, Inc. 
- and an anonymous donor

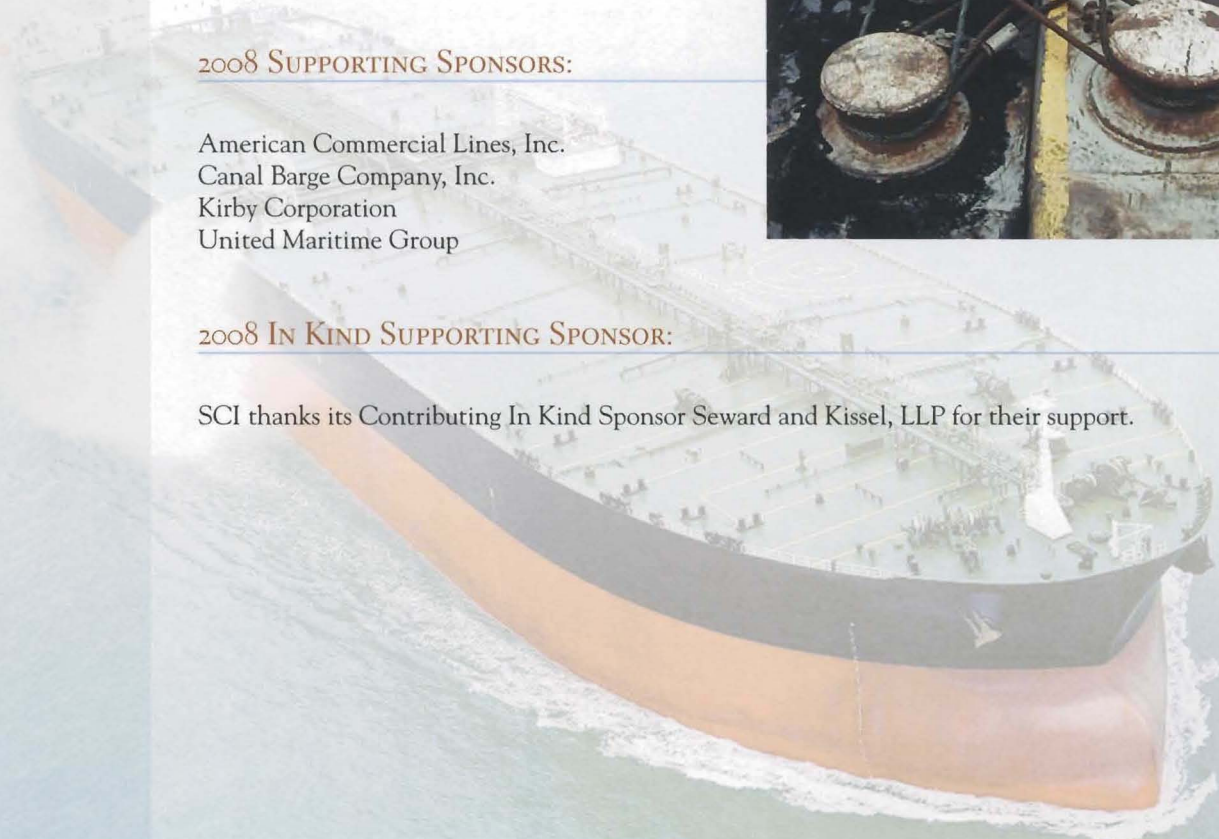


2008 SUPPORTING SPONSORS:

- American Commercial Lines, Inc.
- Canal Barge Company, Inc.
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2008 IN KIND SUPPORTING SPONSOR:

SCI thanks its Contributing In Kind Sponsor Seward and Kissel, LLP for their support.





SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY

2008 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

(in thousands)

	2008	2007
Support and Operating Revenue:		
Contributions and grants	\$ 3,351	\$ 733
Program service revenue:		
Maritime Education and Training	1,732	1,730
International Seafarers' Center	306	564
Investment income, net	315	392
Special event income ¹	1,047	1,192
Other income	398	534
Total Support and Operating Revenue	7,149	5,145
Expenses:		
Program services:		
Maritime Education and Training	2,084	1,875
Ministry on the River	215	255
International Seafarers' Center	1,474	1,799
Chapel and Outreach	48	69
Policy, Advocacy and Law	386	373
Total program services	4,207	4,372
Supporting Services:		
Management and general	2,126	2,063
Fundraising & Communication	993	1,232
Total supporting services	3,118	3,296
Total Expenses	7,326	7,667
Deficit of support and operating revenue over expenses	(176)	(2,522)
Net realized and unrealized gains on investments	(8,733)	1,494
Estimated loss at Port Newark Facility	-	(1,000)
Changes in net assets	(8,909)	(2,029)
Net assets at beginning of year	47,306	49,334
Net assets at end of year	\$38,396	\$47,306

¹Net of direct benefit to donors of \$225 in 2008 and \$201 in 2007

This information has been extracted from the financial reports of The Seamen's Church Institute.
Copies of the 2008 Audited Financial Statements may be obtained by writing to:

THE SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE
Controller
241 Water Street
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