

## Seamen's Church Institute "Christmas on the River" 2015



### GIFT ITEM COLLECTION

Last year, SCI's "Christmas on the River" outreach supplied holiday gifts to some 20,000 mariners aboard more than a thousand towboats, dredges, buoy tenders and passenger vessels up and down this nation's river system. This year we intend to reach even more vessels and crews and, with the help of our friends and partners, we'll do just that. All year long legions of knitters have been hard at work making thousands of warm, attractive hats and scarves as gifts for mariners this Christmas. SCI chaplains have arranged with the companies to deliver COR boxes to each of their vessels, containing a knit scarf or hat for every crewmember aboard, and topped off by a flurry of handwritten cards and other small gift items donated by churches, individuals or businesses. And it's in this last part where we can *really* use your help. Suggestions for COR items are the list below; most can be found at local supermarkets or dollar stores.

- Handmade Christmas Cards (created by children, teens or adults)
- Unscented, colorless lip balm
- Unscented, hypoallergenic hand lotion (2 – 4 oz. bottles, preferably SPF 15+)
- Sealed packages of holiday candies, cookies or treats
- Brain-teaser or puzzle books like Sudoku, crosswords, word searches
- Decks of playing cards
- Facial tissue (personal size)
- Microwave popcorn
- Chewing gum (sugar-free preferably)
- DVD's of recent, first-run movies or TV series (new/used)
- Paperback books (new/used) esp. Westerns, action adventure, techno-thrillers, sci-fi, history
- Smoking cessation items/materials
- Personal-size New Testaments, Bibles, devotionals or prayer books
- Writing paper & pre-stamped envelopes in re-sealable bags
- USB flashdrives (blank OR w/uploaded music mixes, TV shows/films, books, etc.)
- Vouchers/coupons for restaurants, retail stores, sports tickets, training courses
- Individual kits: first aid kits, sewing kits, eyeglass repair kits, shoe polish/lace kits

**DEADLINE: Friday, Nov. 20, 2015.** Except for *gently* used paperbacks & DVDs, we can't accept used/unsealed items. To arrange pick-up, please contact the SCI river chaplain nearest you:

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