



**NOAA Teacher at Sea
Marilyn Frydrych
Onboard NOAA Ship *Delaware II*
September 15 – 25, 2008**

NOAA Teacher at Sea: Marilyn Frydrych

NOAA Ship *Delaware II*

Mission: Atlantic Herring Hydroacoustic Survey

Geographical area of cruise: New England Coastal Waters

Date: Monday, September 22, 2008

Weather Data from the Bridge

42.52 degrees N, 68.06 degrees W

Clear. Wind out of the NNE at 16 knots

Dry Bulb Temperature: 14.2 degrees Celsius

Wet Bulb Temperature: 12.9 degrees Celsius

Waves: 4 feet

Visibility: 10 miles

Sea Surface Temperature: 16.7 degrees Celsius

Science and Technology Log

Today was more of the same--more CTD's and trawls. Just after lunch we had our weekly fire drill. This time the fire was in the galley and Jon Rockwell, the chief cook, was supposedly overcome with fake CO₂ smoke. After everyone except Jon was accounted for the search for him began in earnest. The Hollywood style smoke machine produced smoke so thick the crew had difficulty finding Jon "passed out" on the floor of the galley. Part of the drill was lifting Jon on a stretcher up the stairs and out onto the fantail. Our station was redirected to the bridge this time where we were allowed to listen as LT(jg) Mark Frydrych conducted the exercise. I had noticed emergency firemen gear here and there in the halls. Always there was a radio charging next to the gear. That's how they communicated. All in all I was very impressed with the expertise and calmness of everyone even when plan A didn't work and plan B had to be tried. Safety always came first. For a good 45 minutes following the drill the crew and officers talked over possible improvements. There was no messing around. Everyone was in earnest and aware of the seriousness of the drill and the debriefing. Yet this group had been practicing fire drills weekly every time they were at sea.

Personal Log

I already knew three people aboard when I arrived. My son, LT(jg) Mark Frydrych, was the Operations Officer. He's the one who suggested I apply for the Teacher-at-Sea position. On a previous visit to Woods Hole I had met Erin Earley, the engineer wiper. We had hit it off then and continued to get to know each other better on this cruise. Then there was my hiking pal from Colorado, Jacquie. She and I both work at Pikes Peak Community College in the math department. She'd taken the semester off and was looking for an adventure. After applying for the Teacher-at-Sea position I learned that the Herring Legs needed volunteers. Jacquie signed up for the first two legs. This cruise was her second leg. I experienced a tremendously easy adjustment stage because of these friendships.