



NOAA Teacher at Sea Kimberly Pratt Onboard NOAA Ship MCARTHUR II July 5 – 24, 2005

Interview 8

“Electronic Guru’s”

The MCARTHUR II is fortunate to have two very talented men handling its electronics and surveys. They are Electronic Chief Clay Norfleet and Sr. Survey Tech Lacey O’Neal.



Electronic Chief Clay Norfleet is responsible for all the radar, radio, Simrad, computers, networks e-mail communication and ship cell phones. Clay comes to NOAA after an extensive career in the US Navy. In the Navy, he conducted torpedo research and traveled extensively. His favorite port was Seychelles, 200 miles east of Madagascar. He enjoys his position with NOAA and likes the camaraderie with his shipmates. He will be sailing with the MCARTHUR II to Hawaii and

then will be boarding the Oscar Settee, sailing to Guam and Saipan to lend support to NOAA personnel. Clay is used to extended time at sea. In the Navy, he was out for 9-10 months at a time and one time he didn’t see land for 124 days. While in port in San Francisco, he plans to shop for things for the ship. His advice for someone wanting to be an Electronics Tech would be to get certifications before applying,

Another talented man works in the dry lab, surrounded by beautiful photos of Humpback, Killer Whales and dolphins.

This man is the very helpful Sr. Survey Technician, Lacey O’Neil.

Lacey helps the oceanographers do their work. He runs the computers for the CTD, SCS system and also runs the ship store. He’s been on both the McArthur and MCARTHUR II for a combined 7 years. He was previously in the military serving as a paratrooper. His hobby is photography, so being on the



MCARTHUR II gives him an opportunity to take great pictures of marine mammals. He

also enjoys going to Hawaii with the ship and gets to meet a lot of interesting people.

Photos:

1. Lacey O'Neal
2. Clay Norfleet