



NOAA Teacher at Sea
Elizabeth Eubanks
Onboard NOAA Ship DAVID STARR JORDAN
July 22 – August 3, 2007

NOAA Teacher at Sea: Elizabeth Eubanks

NOAA ship DAVID STARR JORDAN

Mission: Catch rates of pelagic sharks comparing J hooks to Circular hooks in support of The Relative Abundance of Sharks Survey

Date: Day 7, July 28, 2007, Saturday

Pacific Ocean – South of San Clemente

Weather Data from the Bridge taken at 1500 (3pm) - Deep Sea Temp at (2000) 8pm

Visibility: 10 miles

Air temperature: 19.0 degrees C

Sea Temperature at 5000m: 6 degrees C

Sea Temperature at surface: 20.3 degrees C

Wind Direction: 270 W

Wind Speed: 16 kts

Cloud cover: clear –some cumulus, cirrus

Sea Level Pressure: 1013.7 mb

Sea Wave Height: 1-2 ft

Swell Wave Height: 2 ft



Blue Shark with an everted stomach.

Science and Technology Log

The mortality (death) rate has spiked a little – very sad. We brought in a Blue shark last night that had everted (thrown up) its stomach. Sometimes sharks do this when they eat something bad, like a hook. Most times they just suck it back up. It isn't a common thing to happen and obviously it is a last extreme measure to feel better. It is probably dangerous to throw up your stomach when you have all of those teeth it needs to get passed to leave your mouth. When the scientists first saw the shark, they said it would be okay. We were all hopeful, but by the time it got on the ship it had died. Of course as always when there is a mortality, paper work is filled out and researchers use so much of the shark, so that is the good part.

Personal Log

Simplify, Simplify.

-Henry David Thoreau

One "simplify" would have sufficed.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson, in response

Life on this ship is simple. I have not looked in full length mirror since I boarded. Actually I haven't seen myself too much below my chest even. Well, a couple of times in a photograph I saw my full body. Makeup, jewelry, matching clothing, high fashion, hats, they just aren't important out here. In fact I did boycott the hats for a few days, because



Bedrooms on board the DAVID STARR JORDAN - mine is the bottom bunk

ever since I shaved my head I felt like I looked funny in a hat – like a boy. Oh well, too bad. It is so sunny out here so I need to wear my floppy hat to protect my skin. I need to wear Rob's knit hat, because it gets equally as cold. My shirt sleeves smell fishy some of the time. But instead of washing the whole shirt, I was

the sleeves. Quite often I sleep in the clothes – hat and all I wore all day if they aren't dirty, because for some reason it is so chilly in my room. I live in the same clothes day after day if they don't smell fishy. We eat what we are fed and get called to eat by an

extremely loud bell. We sleep in small, simple bed. I washed a batch of clothes yesterday – sheets included. It all went in one load and took me about 5 minutes to put away.

We work at certain hours and relax or help out, read or wander about the ship, watching the ocean for creatures. We aren't at the grocery store choosing what food to buy or shopping at a mall. We aren't talking on the phone or watching a whole lot of TV, we do have to pick movies sometimes though (500 choices – now that is complicated). Dovi, one of the Doctoral students did not take a shower or change his clothes until yesterday (mid trip). I didn't get too close to him, but didn't notice him smelling from a distance. Simple life.

I imagine the most extravagant thing about living on this ship is the fancy food we get to eat and the huge choice of movies—and the no-brainer—being in contact with sharks. Of course I am definitely putting some time into my hobby – photography and boy have I got thousands of interesting shots. I like it. I can easily see how people make this life style a permanent one. The hardest thing about it is missing your family and I do miss Rob and Hooch! Now my goal is to bring parts of this life style with me when I return to land, that will be the challenge and goal! How is your life simple and how is complicated?

Oh happy day,
Elizabeth Eubanks

Please direct your emails (questions for me and answers to my questions) to the email address listed below. I will **NOT** be checking my yahoo email account until I return to land!

elizabeth.eubanks.atsea@jonems.jordan.oma.noaa.gov

Question of the Day

Make a list of things that complicate your life.

Make a list of things that simplify your life.

Question of the trip

Which hook, the J or Circle will catch more sharks?

Please make a hypothesis. Utilize resources to justify your hypothesis.

-----Yes, you get extra credit for this.