

**Susie Hill**  
**NOAA Teacher at Sea aboard ALBATROSS IV**  
**July 23-August 3, 2007**

**Date:** August 1, 2007

**Time:** 9:18 a.m.

**Air Temperature:** 16.4° C

**Sea Temperature:** 18.1° C

**Relative Humidity:** 100%

**Barometric Pressure:** 1012.8 millibars

**Windspeed:** 2.70 knots

**Water Depth:** 83.3 meters

**Conductivity:** 42.72 mmhos

**Salinity:** 32.03 ppt

This morning was awesome! We were on our way to Canada and we see whales! There were about 4 of them scattered around the ship. Unfortunately, they were too far away from the ship to get good pictures. We think they were humpback or fin whales by the shape of the flukes (or tail fins) and the way they arched their back.

The best place to get a great view of the wide ocean or see big marine life is the bow, or front of the ship. The bridge is also up there. This is the command center where the ship's officers sail the ship. There are six NOAA Corps officers aboard the ship including Commanding Officer (CO), Steve Wagner, and Executive Officer (XO), LCDR Kurt Zegowitz. Kurt has many responsibilities as XO including sailing the ship (of course), supervising the four Junior Officers, managing the ship's budget, being the ship's Safety Officer, being the Dive Master, and serving as Acting CO if Steve is unavailable to sail. Formerly known as the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Corps before 1970, the NOAA Corps is recognized as one of the seven uniformed services of the United States. The officers manage the vessel and work together with the scientists to ensure that the scientific missions of each ship are accomplished.



Chris Daniels, Operations Officer, and Kurt Zegowitz, Executive Officer on the bridge sailing the NOAA *ALBATROSS IV*