

Fishtales, Saturday, September 29, 2012
Working Waterfront Festival

Interviewer – Markham Starr
Interviewee – Paul Costa

PC Do I have to give you my name or anything? Do I have to put my name or anything?

MS Oh yeah I'll ask you.

PC You'll do that.

MS So, what is your name?

PC My name is Paul Costa.

MS And where are you from?

PC Originally from New Bedford.

MS You came from a fishing family or...

PC No I had actually a cousin and an uncle that owned a couple of boats that were scallopers in Fairhaven, Harris. Yeah.

MS And so you have a story?

PC I have a kind of a funny fish story. When I was five, actually when I was six, for my birthday I got a new fish tackle box, and I went to the local pond here at Buttonwood Park. And I was all excited 'cause I had some new equipment and a fishing pole and a fish string and so I got all the way up there and the pond is only about probably about five or six feet deep at the edge where I was fishing and what happened was the first time I went to use a piece of the new equipment, it fell in the water [laughs] so at that point I couldn't really fish it out with the little hooks I had so I had to kind of let it sit there and hope it'd be there the following day. And I think it was the fish hook itself but I could see the shiny thing down in about six feet down and I was a little nervous at six years old to jump in and get it so me and my friends ran back to the house and I kind of frowned all the way home. But it was just a funny little fish tale. But it started my career in fishing and it ended relatively quick after that.

MS So did you did anything else in fishing after that?

PC Well, I took the boys fishing a few times. I think my oldest his career ended the first time we couldn't get the fish hook out of the fish and he decided that when we threw it back that if it didn't swim away that we were done for the day. So and we went fishing a

little while back with the youngest guy and got our fishing poles tangled in the reeds and pulled it out and snapped off the...so our days of fishing are more sightseeing than actually catch and release now.

MS So it's probably a good thing you didn't go into commercial fishing.

PC Probably a good thing I didn't go into the business, yeah.

MS And so you come down to the Festival every year?

PC No it's the first time we've actually spent a day at the Festival. Yup. We've seen it from afar last year we caught the Coast Guard training ship, we were able to catch that in the late afternoon and go on board, but this is the first year where we are actually spent a couple hours, spent a day.

MS Well thank you.

PC Alright