

Name of person Interviewed: Alan Cass [AC]

Facts about this person:

Age (if known) 60

Sex Male

Occupation Fisherman (retired)

If a fisherman (if retired, list the ports used when fishing),

Home port New Bedford

and Hail Port (port fished from, which can be the same) New Bedford

Residence (Town where lives)

Ethnic background (if known) English / Irish / Portuguese

Interviewer: Janice Gadaire Fleuriel [JGF]

Sound tech: Chelsea Jenney [CJ]; Olivia Paiva also present

Transcriber: Janice Gadaire Fleuriel

Place interview took place: New Bedford Harbormaster House

Date and time of interview: Saturday, Sept. 27, 2008

INDEX (minutes:seconds) / KEYWORDS

KEYWORDS: English; Irish; Portuguese; New Bedford; Scalloping; Alaska; Anchorage; Seward; Aleutians; Starry Flounder; Salmon; Fishermen's strikes; Fishing vessels; Scallopers; Bad weather; Shacking; Mate; Skippering; Federal observer work; Marine reports; Monk fish; Regulations; Fishermen's union; Norwegian; Shore engineer work; Boat delivery work; Galveston; Bequi; Haiti; Changes in technology New Bedford fleet; Mosquito fleet; Draggers; Trash fish; Wooden vessels; Canadians; Magnuson Act; Georges Bank; Steel vessels; Oil rig opportunities; Scallop cutting; Injuries on board; Drugs on boats; Fines for catch overages; Drugs on boats; Council process; Offshore Mariners; Teamsters; New Bedford's Fisherman's Union; Seafarers; Shares system

[Start of Interview]

[00:00]

Family background; Getting into fishing (scalloping); Military service / Marine Corps; Ice company work; Early scalloping trips and vessels; New Bedford an eclectic port compared to others seen in service around the world

[04:59]

Fishing in Alaska early 1970s; Description of Seward; Aleutians; Alaskan earthquake damage; Description of Kodiak;

[10:08]

Coming back to New Bedford; Fisherman's strike; Fishing vessels / scallopers; Bad weather experience; Coursework; Applying for job with New England Air; Deciding to stay in fishing; Mate work; Skippering; Fishing vessels;

[15:10]

Fishing vessels; Buying a boat; Divorce / losing his boat; Logging in Vermont; Machine work; State house work; Federal observer work; U Mass economics degree; Marine research reports; Monk fish; Getting back into fishing; Regulations; Fewer crews needed because of days at sea; Fishermen's strikes; Strike negotiations; Changes in fishermen's benefits / supports;

[19:55]

Fishermen's union; Learning boat skills from father-in-law / Norwegian fishermen; Shore engineer work; Boat delivery work / Galveston / Bequi / Haiti; Haiti boat delivery experience;

[25:09]

Haiti boat delivery experience (cont'd.);

[30:15]

Haiti boat delivery experience (cont'd.); Haiti traditional fishing vessels / practices; Changes in technology New Bedford fleet; Mosquito fleet; Draggers; Trash fish; Wooden vessels; Canadians; Magnuson Act; Georges Bank; Steel vessels; Oil rig opportunities;

[35:25]

Won't miss the work; Good at scallop cutting; Captain's job involves many things; Tending injuries on board; Drugs on boats; Fines for catch overages; Brother became a head prosecutor for NOAA;

[40:19]

Drugs on boats; Young fishermen getting into drugs later; Council process; Offshore
Mariners; Fishermen's strike; Union breaking up; Teamsters; New Bedford's
Fisherman's Union; Seafarers;

[45:10]

Fisherman's union; Shares system; Possibility of vessels transitioning to oil work;
Fishermen's connection with the water;

[End of interview]