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MAKING HISTORY IN THE CFVS PROGRAM

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On August 18, 2003, the CFVS Program made history when the M Department's CFVE Division arranged for the first Regional "C" School to be held at Pier 36, US Coast Guard Station in Seattle Washington. Traditionally, CFVE Schools are held in TRACEN Yorktown; however, it was felt that a regional school might better capture the unique problems encountered when examining fishing vessels at regional sites.



CFVE School students

Mr. Dan Hardin, Area Coordinator for D13-Washington and Ann Melton, Branch Chief for PacArea, Northwest Region teamed together to select the most qualified applicants, to secure the necessary funding and to find a location suitable for the classroom and hands-on training.



Dan Hardin AC D13

Many people applied for the "C" School and from the list, 19 Auxiliarists, 2 Coast Guard Civilians and 4 Active Duty members were chosen. The criteria were simple; to train those members who will be most likely to perform exams after their training. Dedication to the mission was imperative.

Participants came from California, Oregon, Washington and Hawaii. If the CFVS Program shows increased participation from the graduates of this regional school, then others may follow.



CFVE School students

The "C" School offered a variety of classes, such as: Drill Instructor training, Stability and Damage Control training. Federal Regulations related to commercial fishing examinations, survival techniques at sea and more. Students were able to get hands on experience at Pier 36 by actually boarding and inspecting a commercial fishing vessel at port. They also met a fishing captain who gave a first hand account of his disaster at sea and how he worked to save the lives of his crew. At the end of this school, students left with a wealth of knowledge and first hand experiences, now armed with the necessary tools to perform CFVS exams in their areas.



Drill Instructor Training



More fun with the immersion suit



Immersion Suit practice



Getting it on! (A challenge)



Damage Control training



Drill Instructor training



Drill instructor training



CFVEs in action.



Signals practice

For the CFVS Program, another goal has been accomplished, another milestone cemented. To Dan Hardin and Ann Melton, a huge **"BRAVO-ZULU – A JOB WELL DONE!!"** Thank you for your time, your expertise and dedication to the Coast Guard, the Auxiliary and to the CFVS Program



CFVE Class- Seattle

To view the photos of the First Regional CFVS "C" School, go to this **web site:** www.pbase.com/annmelton/cfve_school. Scroll toward bottom of page.