## Day 27, Voyage 4, July 2, 2011

Happy Independence Day!

The day started out as all of the others. I called whales at 9:30 am. We all gathered on deck and headed for the blow about a mile away. We go just close enough to see the whale tail fluke meaning the whale would be under for a while. We never saw that whale again and never heard or saw any others. There was one faintly clicking around 7 pm. We looked, but could not find it. I attached a cool picture of Sandy in the bowsprit looking for the whale in the setting sun.

In a way, it was a much needed break as after 3 consecutive days of almost all day in the Gulf sun, the team was exhausted. They all carried out their watches but caught up on rest and cooler air in the air conditioned boat in between. By evening, most were reenergized.

Being a holiday, we also figure some of the team missing home more acutely so we try and make it fun here on the boat. Dinner is always about 8:30- 9 pm now and Sandy made a somewhat traditional 4th of July feast of corn on the cob, watermelon, hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and beans. I brought some fireworks I bought at Sam's club and lan set them up from the whale boom. Thus, we had our feast and homemade fireworks show with laughter and music and a little dancing. It was a memorable 4th, though we do miss our family and friends.

I hope your fourth was a much fun as ours.

John

P.S. We are still off Louisiana finding sperm whales. Our current location is 28 degrees 26.0 minutes North and 89 degrees 01.8 minutes West, for those who want to track us as we go. For Google maps (not Google Earth - but maps) use (include letters and comma): 28.260 N, 89.018 W

