



The Shade Tree

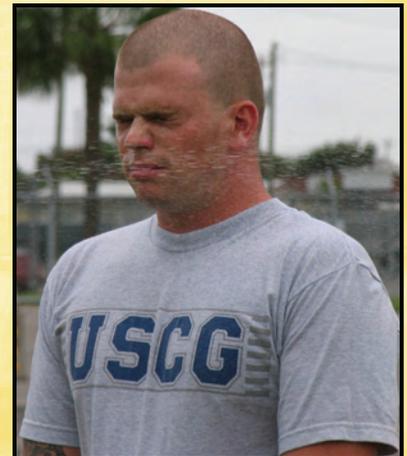
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- LE Training Week
Loads of Fun!
Tons of Pain
- Crane Weight-
Testing Galore!
- Holy Smokes! We
got a new boat...
- CGC Ingham-
Living History
- ET's Salute Late-
Great Patrick
Swayze.



Howard & Gonzales had no trouble dealing with Bogeln in the Red Man Suit. A little conversation and a big take down settled the issue.



One of the five... Richards was subjected to the OC and successfully fought off an attacker.

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Poor Parker: Thompson takes good care of his OC Sprayed recovering victim.



Chief Bullock dominated Parker with this submission technique; then they both made it big on CG Central!

“A picture says a thousand words...”, is the popular phrase– and in this case rings true. The tail end of August held a week of Law Enforcement Training for a select number of crew members. They were poked, prodded, and sprayed into a higher level of LE awareness. This brings several members very close to achieving the coveted Boarding Team Member qualification.

World's Largest Water Balloon?



Above: BM3 Bessant poses beside the behemoth.

No, Chief Sapp did not snag a hot-air balloon from the sky with his daring crane skills. Nor did our deckies attempt to break the Guinness Book of World Records for longest water balloon launch. OAK actually underwent extensive crane weight testing just a few short weeks ago. Buoy Tending has long been revered as one of the most dangerous jobs in the Coast Guard; which leads our deck force to pursue just this type of maximum limit hands-on testing of equipment. The proof is in the pudding, about 60,000 pounds of pudding to be exact. Still doubt the lifting power of our hydraulic arm? That's equivalent to lifting and holding for 10 minutes: Four adult-size elephants, or 13, 333 average-size bricks, or 330 average adult men, or 85 male silverback Gorillas. The static-load test is only a small portion of the gauntlet the crane is put through during testing. Still hungry for more facts? Chief Gittings provided plenty of info-nuggets listed below.

The Tests

- 60,000 lb static load test for 10 minutes. Conducted at 150% working load limit.
- 50,000 lb dynamic load test (125% working load limit)
- 40,000 lb rated load test (100% working load limit). 5 reps through each movement, i.e.-luff up and down, winch up and down, slew left and right.

The Facts Jack:

- The ship encounters 7-8 deg. of list when hanging 40,000 lbs over the side.
- The bag costs \$25,000 and is made in Anacortes, WA.
- The crane can move at the same speed no matter how much weight is hanging.
- The main block and hook weighs 750 lbs.
- The main wire consists of 342 smaller wires twisted together in groups of 18 strands.

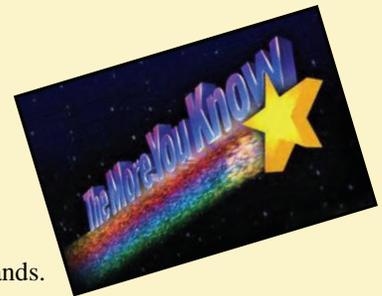


PHOTO CORNER



Black makes his get-away!



Boggeln & Roberts rack up the awards.



NOAA Buoy is NO Problem for the OAK!



Frantz & Gonzo— post Buoy Jump



Parker & BOSN with the new small boat

Out With The Old...

In with the new... Basically the fleet of Zodiac Hurricane Rigid Hull Inflatable Boats have hit their expiration dates and it is no longer cost effective to maintain and repair them. CGC OAK's early Christmas present, CG 24219, arrived August 19th complete with that brand-new boat smell. This new small boat packs plenty of performance in a pretty package. It's a 24 ft aluminum mono hull with a foam/air hybrid collar...powered by a Cummins inboard diesel engine with more horses than the Kentucky Derby. It's capable of speeds much faster than our old small boat with an excellent range. If that doesn't impress you— perhaps this will...

It's the first standard cutter boat to host a state-of-the-art shock mitigating helm & seating system... the boat was specifically designed to be C-130 transportable and weighs a few thousand pounds. Some readers may wonder if this boat is overkill for our typical missions. At least we can rest assured the next time Chuck Norris hitches a ride— we can accommodate his Delta Force mission needs. Does this boat come with stinger missiles? But seriously, nothing this cool comes without strings attached. For starters, OAK must upgrade the cradle set-up to hawse this beast—which will cost a pretty penny. Until that system is installed, our new boat sits under a shelter; her hand-picked break-in crew lays ready to spring into action.

“Does this boat come with stinger missiles?”



September 11th, 2009 Memorial Ceremony

9-11 Remembered... Honored...

At 0800 on the morning of September 11th, 2009, an eerie silence hung in the air. There was no welding, nail-gunning, or painting projects in action. Each crew member gladly took the time out of their busy schedules to stop and honor the victims and their families affected by the terrorist attacks on that fateful day. OAK crewmembers packed onto the fantail for a ceremonious salute as the National Ensign was set to half mast. Even the

historical icon, CGC Ingham, moored behind the OAK joined in on the honorable tribute. Three of our own shipmates volunteered to help the Ingham's bare-bones crew raise their American flag simultaneously with ours. Onlookers agreed it was a beautiful day and a fitting remembrance of those who died, and those who continue the fight against terrorists intending to harm innocent Americans again.

The Name is Plotner... Chief Plotner.



An interview with our newest shipmate, Stephen Wayne Plotner, is a distinct pleasure. It's not often one gets the opportunity to sit down with such a straight shooter and expert of his field. Despite his photo, Chief Plotner more than likely won't beat you up for looking at him the wrong way. In fact, our newest addition has the makings of an excellent role model and mentor for his subordinates. Hailing from his hometown of Pensacola, Florida- Plotner is well traveled thanks to his Coast Guard career taking him to Miami, Maine, Hawaii, and most recently North Carolina. Keep a sharp lookout for his

lot; he sports a shiny black Dodge Ram 3500 Mega Cab 4x4 with a 5.9 liter diesel engine. "It is stock right now, but I've got plans for it", said Plotner with a sly grin. Plotner has spent a little over 11 years in the service and has been married to his lovely wife Christina for the same number of years. "We got married two weeks before boot camp, and that worked out pretty well with the housing allowance and everything." The prospect of a solid steady paycheck and the opportunity to travel and see the Country is what sparked Plotner's interest in the Coast Guard. "My father was a Coast Guard Reservist in Mobile-

that got me plenty of exposure to what this branch was all about; once I took the ASVAB in high school the Army, Marines, & Navy recruiters wouldn't stop pestering me. The Coast Guard and Air Force never called, I knew what the CG had to offer and they weren't annoying, so I went with them". explained Plotner. OAK's newest addition has had quite a variety of jobs prior to the Coast Guard including: working at Hardees, a Bowling Alley, and a Car Wash. Plotner admits to having a little talent singing karaoke and enjoys anything outdoors like hunting, fishing, and grilling out. "I really like to cook on the grill, but my wife thinks she is better at it than me", Plotner explains. Yet again, OAK has scored big by bringing in outstanding crew members like Chief Plotner, and the year ahead looks even more promising.

Football Frenzy

Yet another touchdown for the popularity of the XO's Sport's Day initiative among the crew. Everyone looks forward to the next challenge & healthy competition.



This Ship Changed Your World...

And most Americans don't even know that CGC Ingham still floats proudly to this day or even existed for that matter. The decommissioned Coast Guard Cutter has spent the past 20 years wasting away as a floating piece of fodder in the collection at Patriot's Point. "It's a shame to see such an esteemed and highly decorated ship being taken care of so poorly," Bill Verge explained.

A tour around the ship reveals years of lack luster maintenance ranging from paint slathered pure brass ladder rails to stolen & missing dogs on port holes. "We would sit and watch people visit the Ingham and walk away laughing at how lame they thought she was... the literature on her history was almost non-existent, and the whole set-up did not do her justice", said Verge.

Walking the passageways of this once mighty ship is eerie in a way that you couldn't even imagine. "It's literally as if one day in 1988 the entire crew just up and vanished, leaving behind everything, untouched". It's true—racks are still made, charts unrolled, personal belongings in drawers, and even photo albums line the shelves.

According to Verge, the Ingham was launched in 1935 initially to conduct weather station patrols. "After the Titanic disaster, tracking Icebergs became a large priority and was one of her first assignments."

Ingham has played a role in many fascinating and world-changing events. Did you know that she is the Coast Guard's most decorated vessel, and the only cutter to be awarded two Presidential Unit Citations? Did you know that in 1942 she sank the enemy submarine, U-Boat 626? In fact, General MacArthur stood on her decks and coordinated amphibious assaults in the Pacific Theater; the spearhead of invasions throughout the Philippines. That's just a small peak into the storied past of this one old and nearly forgotten ship.

Enter Frans H. Boetes and Bill Verge—two individuals with a love for living pieces of history. The pair and their team operate the USS Mohawk Memorial Museum in Key West, Florida. In the

took action and are now in the process of returning the CGC Ingham to former glory.

"This comes out of our own pockets, it's a labor of love...the best part is presenting something people can get their hands on and really appreciate." said Frans Boetes.

Coast Guard Cutter Ingham literally steamed for 52 years of service. Patrolling the Pacific, Atlantic, and Mediterranean, she was a part of WW2, The Korean War, Vietnam, and even the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Yet she still managed to influence those around us, right here—right now. Verge explained with a smile, "You know the CO of the Gallatin? Yep, his cadet cruise was on this very ship."



"...It's like the entire crew just up and vanished, leaving everything behind, untouched..."



CUTTER OAK IS NOW ON FACEBOOK— CHECK IT OUT!

"Decora Fides Robur"

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

1050 Register Street
Charleston, S.C. 29405

Quarter Deck: (843) 554-8541
Ship's Cell: (843) 469-8750



OAK's Motto: A tripartite scroll inscribed with DECORA FIDES ROBUR (Honor, Faithfulness, Strength). *Decora* specifically denotes distinguished acts in a military context. *Robur* is literally "hard wood," giving the idea of strength a very concrete and literal meaning. *Fides* is an abstraction framed by two concrete notions (honor and strength), which are the tools through which we express our faithfulness.

The ET Movie Review

In honor of Mr. Patrick "Roadhouse, Point Break, Dirty Fricken Dancing, Ghost, & a list of other amazing movies" Swayze. We have decided to review a quintessential masterpiece of 1991- **Point Break**.

The early 90's were packed with testosterone filled movies exploding with action & goodness; Point Break was no

A little known fact- this movie was actually directed by a woman. Her most recent work is the movie "The Hurt Locker" still out in select theaters. Andy & I had mixed emotions about that one, but that is another review all together.

Ray: Point Break has something for everyone. Surfing, football, crime, drama, love and skydiving for you extremists.

Andy: Keanu Reeves plays a college football star, Jonny Utah, that smokes his knee out in a playoff football game. Then joins the FBI as a new recruit to Gary Busey's character Pappas.

Ray: What better way to nurse a football injury then a little secret OPS in the FBI?

Andy: Patrick Swayze plays Bodhi, an adrenaline sports junky surfer that follows the waves around the world.

Ray: He forms a gang known as the "Former US Presidents."- bank robbers known for efficiency and unpredictability.

Andy: I really enjoyed the cameos by the Red Hot Chili Peppers as a gang of surfer thugs.

Ray: We should touch on the romantic side of the flick by mentioning the love triangle between Jonny U, Bodhi, and Tyler played by Lori Petty.

Andy: Yeah, Swayze had dated her in the past, but due to his life style, cut things off. A bit of emotion lingers in the background which sparks some interesting scenes between the three.

Ray: I don't want to give too much of the plot away. Point Break is surrounded with just enough action and a sprinkle of love story. Really defined what movies were in that time period.

Andy: Yeah I agree, this movie really defines the 90's period w/ grunge and how the surfing era was peaking.

Andy: Mr. Swayze I will miss your movies...& who can forget the "Saturday Night" skit with Chris Farley!?

Ray: We believe this movie deserves no less than 4 prolonged blasts with one short blast sprinkled in for good measure. If you haven't seen this movie, clear your schedule & check it out!

