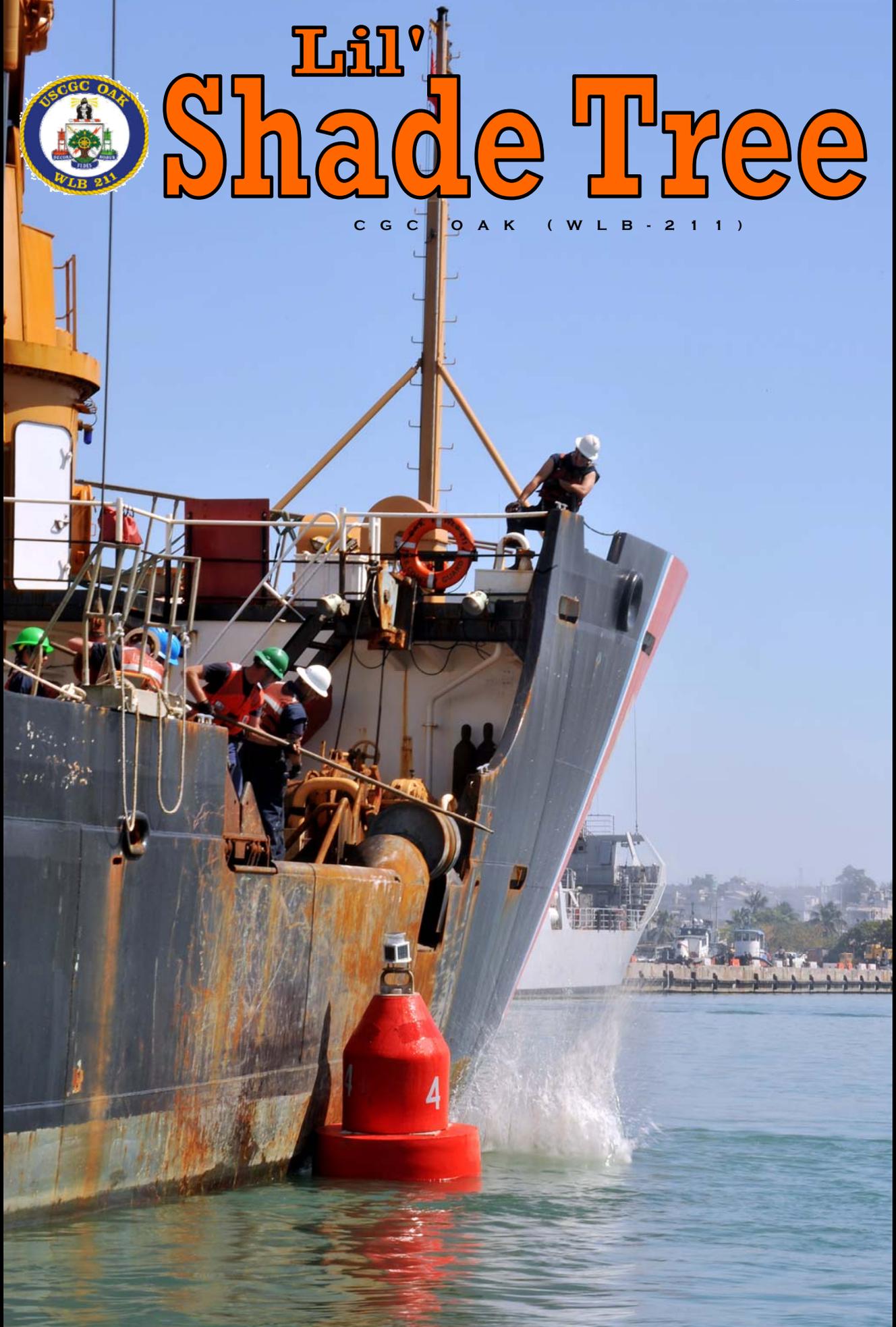




Lil' Shade Tree

C G C O A K (W L B - 2 1 1)



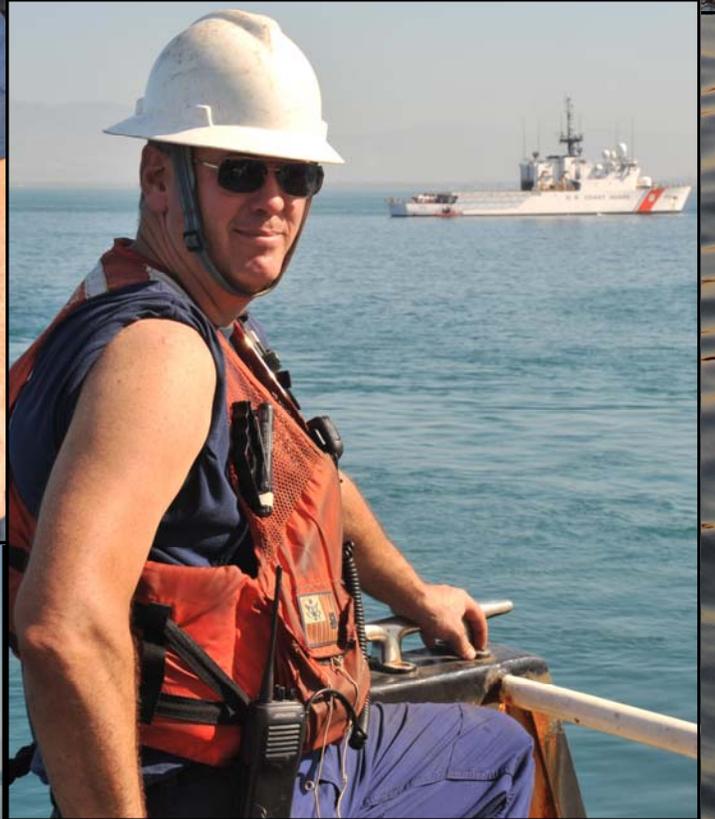


Top Left: Chief Gittings follows the checklist to a tee before position checking and setting buoys in the Port Au Prince harbor.

Top Right: Even though the US Coast Guard is participating in the massive relief effort for Haiti, our Aids to Navigation work remains the same. The circle of knives is a time honored and salty tradition for all involved to know that everyone is prepared and ready to cut you free from any dangerous situation.

Lower Left: BM2 Kozora and crew help guide a sinker as it is dragged across the deck.

Lower Right: BM3 Gonzales mounts a high tech lighting system onto a foam buoy; not a typical practice, but with all the vessel traffic in and out of Port Au Prince it is deemed necessary.



Top Left: LTjg Ferreira is the pillar of OAK's temporary Vessel Traffic System. By tracking the vessels entering and exiting the harbor plus assigning anchorages— relief supplies get delivered to the people faster while keeping ships safer.

Above: EM2 Furr hands out bottled water to a fisherman in need while patrolling in the OAK 2 small boat while EM2 Joseph converses with locals approaching the OAK.

Top Right: YN3 Abraham and BM2 Frantz are ready for their close ups after a morning of small boat patrol work.

Lower Right: BOSN works on his sweet Farmer's Tan while supervising the Buoy Deck.



Top Left: BM2 Boggeln monitors a water transfer between the Dutch ship *PELIKAAN* and the *OAK* from our small boat.

Middle Right: LT Vandenheuvel and LT Turfboer, brothers in Dutch heritage, share all things “XO” on the bridge of the *OAK*. Many crewmembers received tours of each ship during this international exchange sharing cultural differences and good times.

Lower Left: Bridge to Bridge; both ships fit together surprisingly well while CDR Glander and LT Vandenheuvel talk shop with the CO of the *Pelikaan*.

Photos provided by: PA3 Brandyn Hill