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Official Business

Quiz Time

Last month we asked about "*Rummage Sale*".

From the French "*arrimage*" meaning ship's cargo. Damaged cargo was sold at a *rummage sale*.

This month tell us what you know about "A Square Meal"

Crossword Answers

Across

1. SCUPPER
4. HALYARD
8. POT
9. CIA
10. BILGE
12. FRAME
14. MAINSAIL
16. CHOCK
18. NW
20. AFT
21. LADDER
23. NE
24. LEEWARD
26. STAYS
27. STAR
28. SHEER
29. BOW

Down

1. SEA
2. PORT
3. HATCH
4. HULL
5. LINE
6. DRAFT
7. JIB
8. PORTHOLE
11. GUNWALE
13. MAST
15. IN
17. KID
19. FENDERS
22. EAST
25. WEST

I've had a request for a little more humor. Got a favorite boating story or joke??

The sailor walked into the galley and poured himself a cup of coffee. As he sipped it , he looked out the porthole and said, "It looks like rain." Upset the cook yelled at the sailor, "For the last time, it's coffee!"

A man fell overboard from his little boat, and was thrashing around in the water when another boat pulled up. -"Jump in, we'll save you" - they screamed. -"No" - cried the drowning man, - "God will save me". The scene was repeated twice and then a helicopter hovered over the man. -"We came to rescue you" - yelled the pilot. -"No, God will save me" - was the response again. The man drowned, and as he crossed the Pearly Gates, he ran straight to Jesus. -"I placed my faith in You, and You let me drown?!" ""Hey!" said Jesus. "I sent three boats and a helicopter".

Q. What's the difference between a lawyer and a dock line?

A. One should be whipped at both ends: the other keeps your boat tied to the dock.

Did You Know??

"In our courses we say that different PFDs have different pounds of buoyancy. What does that mean?"

A buoyant apparatus is anything that can float and hold up weight. For instance, if you had a Type I PFD that is required to have 22 pounds of buoyancy, it would be capable of supporting 22 pounds of dense material such as lead, iron, gold, granite, etc. It would not let the material sink to the bottom. If we tied a 20 pound anchor to this PFD, what do you suppose would happen? If you guessed that it would hold the anchor off the bottom you would be correct.

How can this PFD with 22 pounds of buoyancy hold up a two hundred pound person in the water?
You have to do the math! Let's take the example of a 200 pound person. Approximately 80% of the body is water. Water in the body has no weight in water. So now we are down to having to support only 40 pounds.
 $200 \text{ lbs.} \times 80\% = 160 \text{ lbs.}$
 $200 \text{ lbs.} - 160 \text{ lbs.} = 40 \text{ lbs.}$
But the PFD only has a buoyancy rating of 22 lbs. How can it hold up 40 lbs?
On average our bodies also have 15% fat and fat is lighter than water.
 $200 \text{ lbs.} \times 15\% = 30 \text{ lbs.}$
 $40 \text{ lbs.} - 30 \text{ lbs.} = 10 \text{ lbs.}$

Now you can see that the average 200 pound person only weighs about 10 pounds in water. The 22 lbs of buoyancy in your PFD is more than enough to keep the person afloat.

From BoatU S

As a BoatUS Member from Alexandria, Virginia was watching a yard worker power-spray the bottom of his boat prior to winter lay up, a family of four muskrats hopped out of his boat's exhaust and waddled indignantly across the parking lot and jumped into the water. It was quite a surprise for the Member and even more of a surprise for the yard worker, whose face was only inches away from the flying rodents. After making sure there were no more surprises, the Member peered into the exhaust and found grasses, oyster shells, assorted crab parts, and-no one can explain this-a Phillips head screwdriver. He also found a large hole had been chewed in the exhaust just above the waterline. The Member has since vowed to visit his boat more often.