



Life Jackets Save Lives – Yours!

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For many years, we referred to life-jackets as “PFD’s” – Personal Flotation Devices. Jeesh, can the lawyers get over it? OK, not everyone in a life jacket survives. Roughly only 15 out of 16... Conversely, if you go in the water without a life jacket, only one guy comes out. The other 15 died. Life jackets save lives. This column is about that.

The Statistics

Boaters end up in the water for a variety of reasons but the two largest – capsizes and falls overboard – comprise nearly 60% of all fatalities. Let me rephrase that. A fatality is a death – let’s not mince words like “PFDs.” Remember, for every 16 boaters that go into the water without a life jacket, only one comes out. The other 15 died.

But you are experienced. Well, another statistic I’ve seen is this. Boaters who have over 100 hours of boating experience – and are 35 or older – and who have NOT taken a formal boating safety class – account for over half of all boating accidents. Oh, they are also responsible for over half the fatalities – deaths – too. If you haven’t taken a boating safety class yet, or haven’t taken one in a long time, email me below and I will help you find one in your neighborhood...

And, if you have been smart enough to take a boating safety class, remember this. You’re not alone out there.

Unless You Had Your Life Jacket On When You Went Into The “Drink”

You’re not getting it on. Unless you try this idea, which I thank friend and colleague CAPT John Konrad for detailing.

Learn this 30-Second Lifesaving Skill!

It’s easy to don (put on) a life jacket or inflatable vest in the cabin or cockpit. Just like a coat, you stick one arm through a hole; swing the jacket around your back; then stick your other arm through the other hole.

However, this sequence of actions will be impossi-

ble to duplicate in the water. Most of your body will be submerged with just your head and shoulders exposed above the sea surface. You must use a simple, little-known method to don any life jacket in the water.

Practice this important skill in the comfort of your home. Train your crew. After two to three minutes of practice, most folks can do this in less than 30 seconds.

Follow these five easy steps.

1. Grab the collar of the life jacket. Pull the life jacket close to you. Turn the jacket so that it floats with the front pointed toward the sky. Unclip all snaps and straps.

2. Open the life jacket all the way so that it lies almost flat on the water surface. Keep the collar close to you (illustration 2).

3. Thrust each arm as far as possible through each arm hole (illustration 3).

4. Raise both arms in a smooth, fast motion above your head and slightly back (illustration 3).

5. Fasten all snaps and straps.

Practice this at home:

- ✓ Kneel down next to a table about chin height.
- ✓ Place the life jacket on top of the table.
- ✓ Follow steps 1 – 5 above.
- ✓ Practice until you can complete all steps within 30 seconds.
- ✓ Train your sailing crew.



What to Wear by Who?

USCG regulations require a life jacket aboard for very boater aboard unless they are under 13 years old. Then they have to be on. But didn’t I make the point above that if you do fall overboard and you don’t have one on, it is pretty unlikely you’ll be able to get into one? Isn’t it too late then? Yes, yes, yes! So why only have the kids wear it? And all those kids, seeing dad not wearing one, are saying to themselves, “I can’t

wait until I’m old enough not to wear one...” What a lesson you’re teaching, skipper. I’ll tell you a story that ought to bring the point home. One fine day while patrolling Moriches Bay, we came upon a family fishing in an open boat. It looked like there were children aboard and further we couldn’t see any with life jackets on. As we approached, I heard the grandfather say to one of the kids, “Get down, the Coast Guard is coming!” Unfortunately for grandpa, sound travels well over the water and I heard it at the helm. As we came alongside, I gave the wheel to one of my crew and walked up to where our boats were closest together. All I said to grandpa was, “You ought to be ashamed of yourself.” We watched, without another word, as all the children out their life-jackets on.

Oh They Are So Bulky!



Come on, bunky, are you still using the ones from the Titanic? Modern life jackets come in many sizes, many colors and are as light as a feather. You can get them in “camo” mode for hunting; you can find ones that self-inflate if you do fall in; you can get them in matching colors!

You can even get children’s style that have a loop at the collar so you can scoop them up, one-two-three, if the tyke falls in! And don’t forget one for the old sea dog – and his pet.



BTW, if you are interested in being part of USCG Forces, email me at JoinUSCGAux@aol.com or go direct to the D1SR Human Resources department, who are in charge of new members matters, at DSO-HR and we will help you “get in this thing...”

Tides for Moriches Inlet starting with May 8, 2013							
Day	High/Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Sunrise/Sunset	Moon	Time	% Moon Visible
Wed. 8	Low	12:21 AM	0.0	5:41 AM	Rise	4:48 AM	4
8	High	6:28 AM	3.0	7:55 PM	Set	6:50 PM	
8	Low	12:22 PM	0.0				
8	High	6:48 PM	3.5				
Thur. 9	Low	1:06 AM	0.0	5:40 AM	Rise	5:23 AM	1
9	High	7:12 AM	3.0	7:56 PM	Set	7:48 PM	
9	Low	1:04 PM	0.1				
9	High	7:27 PM	3.5				
Fri. 10	Low	1:49 AM	0.0	5:39 AM	Rise	6:01 AM	0
10	High	7:54 AM	3.0	7:57 PM	Set	8:44 PM	
10	Low	1:44 PM	0.1				
10	High	8:05 PM	3.4				
Sat. 11	Low	2:29 AM	0.0	5:37 AM	Rise	6:43 AM	0
11	High	8:35 AM	2.9	7:58 PM	Set	9:36 PM	
11	Low	2:23 PM	0.2				
11	High	8:42 PM	3.3				
Sun. 12	Low	3:08 AM	0.1	5:36 AM	Rise	7:29 AM	3
12	High	9:18 AM	2.8	7:59 PM	Set	10:24 PM	
12	Low	3:01 PM	0.3				
12	High	9:19 PM	3.2				

Weather Forecast E Moriches, NY (11940)

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
May 8	May 9	May 10	May 11	May 12
Showers 66°F 52°F	Showers 65°F 52°F	Partly Cloudy 68°F 52°F	Cloudy 68°F 53°F	Mostly Cloudy 70°F 53°F
Wind Speed & Direction				
12mph ENE	9mph ENE	9mph ESE	10mph SE	12mph SSW



by TONY SALERNO

FISHING WITH TONY

FINALLY FLUKE SEASON HAS ARRIVED

Well can it be that spring has arrived? The calendar says yes, but the air temperatures seem to differ. Nonetheless, the fluke seem unbothered by the chilly waters in Moriches and Shinnecock Bays as the May 1st debut last Wednesday proved the fluke are there and they are hungry. In Moriches, the area of The Narrows has been producing lots of shorts as well as a fair share of keepers. In fact, Jim Russo of the Center Moriches based open boat the Rosie had plenty of action around the boat with shorts and keepers. Jeff Rocco led the way with three keepers and 15 shorts, while Paul Scupro was not far behind with two keepers to five pounds and 15 shorts as well. Spearing and squid did the trick as well as Spro Bucktails tipped with Berkley Gulps. The Rosie will be sailing two trips a day from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and then again at 4 p.m. until dark. Both trips will be targeting fluke for the remainder of the season, however, when conditions are right, the Rosie will also be fishing flounder and will have all bait and tackle aboard included in the price of the fare.

Along the north shore, things have been a bit quiet, however once the sand eels move on to the shoals, fluking should be on fire, which can be anytime now. Both the Osprey V and the Celtic Quest fleet are gearing up for what should be a banner season since the size has been reduced to 19-inches with a four fish bag limit per angler per day.

In other news, Ridge Fire Department Company two had their first Annual Big Buck Contest and Wild Game Dinner a couple weeks back at the Ridge FD. The event was sponsored by Ducks Unlimited, Smith Point Archery and Island Wide Taxidermy. Music was provided by Cold Shot Entertainment (631) 672-2019 with the band keeping everyone on their feet with music from the 70’s to today.

The event went off without a glitch and everyone had a ball with plenty of good food, spirits and entertainment. For you hunters that want to get in on the Big Buck Contest, entry fee is \$50 with the contest running from October 1st till January. All bucks must be legal to qualify with the winner collecting 50 percent of the entry fee. For more info and registration, you can contact Jeremy at (631) 924-5550.