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## The latest news from Sleepy Cove

### Sam, Lefty and Wade: Proprietors Wanted: women, with boat and dog. Send picture of boat to Lefty.

by Paul Esterle  
Contributing Writer

Well, it's been a slow week here in Sleepy Cove. Lefty's been workin' on the Judge's fish boat all week. Not workin' hard, just workin'. Seems like the Judge was in a big hurry to get out of the cove last week. This was right after Lefty had set the channel markers on the wrong side of the channel. The Judge shoulda known better, but, like I said, he was in a hurry.

He managed to find the engine block anchor that used to hold the old Sleepy Cove Hunting Club's duck blind in place. A storm took out the blind and the boys haven't got around to replacing it yet. Things take a long time to discuss here in Sleepy Cove.

In any case, the glancing blow off the engine block did a little damage to the outboard and the stern of the Judge's fish boat. Sam's been tellin' him for years that the transoms about gone, and now it shows. Lefty got a couple of sheets of that pressure-treated plywood to bolt on to repair the transom. He figured he'd bolt on a sheet on the outside and another in the inside and it would be as good as new, mostly.

The Judge is kinda uppity about work being down on his boat. He insisted that Lefty use stainless steel nuts and bolts and some of that fancy goop in the tubes to seal everything with. Lefty felt that the roofing

tar he usually used was good enough but, hey, the Judge was payin' the bill. At least we hoped so.

Stainless and goop not being something we stocked at Sleepy Cove, Sam had to go into town and pick up the stuff. He doesn't let Lefty go on company time as Lefty tends to gravitate over to the Duck Blind Cafe, till the next day.

Sam came back later (we suspect he gravitates to Tooties and Nancy, the waitresses there) hopin' mad. Seems like the fancy boat store raised prices again. The goop was the better part of twenty bucks a tube and the stainless steel nuts and bolts were high enough to almost give Sam a heart attack. Alvin's Groceries, Gas & Unclaimed Freight only carries galvanized fasteners.

Lefty finished up the repair when Sam finally got back. He used the roofing tar in the center of the plywood and the goop around the edges. That way what oozed out made it look like it was goop all the way through.

Sam brought back enough stainless for Lefty to put them where they showed. The rest were plain old galvanized. The repair looked almost good, and Wade reckons it will hold until the next time the Judge hits something.

Other than that, it's been a slow week here in Sleepy Cove.

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