

Solution Explanation for Mad Dog Cryptics #2

ACROSS

1. Letter bank – DREAMERS (American hopefuls) from the letters (litters) of MADRES
5. Double definition – SOLID is both FIRM and “Do me a solid” FAVOR
8. Curtailment – AUDI (car) after removing the last letter from AUDIO
9. Reverse – PINS (needles counterpart) from SNIP (reverse vasectomy)
10. Double definition – SINKS (the Titanic goes down) and time SINKS (activities that waste time)
11. Letter bank – TATTOOS (ink) from TAOS
13. Beheading – EDGE (precipice) and LEDGE without the L (again without a loss)
14. Charades – NO LESS Florida State NOLES with the incorrect possessive NOLES'S
15. Anagram – STEINS (mugs) mixture of INSETS
18. Add a letter – ETHNIC (tribal or cultural) with N (negative response “no”) added to ETHIC (moral principles)
19. Ending – OUT (lost consciousness) appears at the end of bOUT.
20. Double definition – AUBURN (War eagle university) and chestnut (shade of hair)
22. Beginnings and Endings – CLERGY (clerics) ring (surround) CLEAn enERGY
28. Double definition – FLETCH is a Chevy Chase movie role and an arrowmaker
29. Anagram – NAAN bread is an anagram of NANA (grandma)
30. Double definition – ROOTERS are fans and pig snouts
31. Homophone – ANTIC (whimsical act) sounds like old (ANTIQUe)
33. Container – AQUA (watercolor) appears in seAQUAke
34. Double definition – ROMA are gypsies from Romania and is also the Italian name of Rome
35. Letter bank – ESSAY (paper) built from the letters in AYES
36. Homophone – BRACKISH (more salty, less fresh) is kinda like Obama (Brack) and almost (ish)

DOWN

1. Double definition – DAPPER is both sharp looking and one who daps (bumps fists)
2. Charades – AUSTERE (plain) is made up of AU (gold) and STERE (cubic measure)
3. Beginnings & cryptic alphabet – EASTERN (direction) is E (empty) and ASTERN (ship back)
4. Anagram – SARONG (tightly wrapped skirt) anagrammed (dissolved) in GROANS
5. Ending – SIS (sib – abbreviation for sibling) last part (SIS) part of getting a PHD (theSIS)
6. Word bank – every part (letter) of LINGERING (slow in parting) from the letters of GRINNEL (a college in Iowa)
7. Charades – DESIST (stop) is DE (remove) SIST (homophone of CYST)
12. Beginnings and Endings – SNIT (agitation) around a SNAkepIT
16. Letter bank – all the steps (letters) of TOURETTES (syndrome) from ROUTES
17. Curtailment – SON (offspring) is a short SONG (song without the G)
18. Curtailment – ETC (and more) is almost ETCH (engrave) but without the last letter
21. Homophone – RUHR (German valley) sounds like (echoes) RUER (one who regrets)
23. Anagram – LORETTA (Lynn) is an anagram (retotaled) of RETOTAL
24. Charades – RANSACK (pillage a village) built from took flight (RAN) and fire (SACK)
25. Charades – AFLAME (still burns) from A plus FLAME (heartthrob)
26. Letter bank – BAOBAB (upside down tree) from the feathers (letters) in BOA
27. Hidden words – EN DASH (grownup hyphen) in zENDA SHorts
32. Container – CRY (shout) is in the center (core) of the word apoCRYpha

D	R	E	A	M	E	R	S			S	O	L	I	D			
A			U			A		A	U	D	I		I	E			
P	I	N	S			S		R			S	I	N	K	S		
P				T	A	T	T	O	O	S			G		I		
E	D	G	E			E		N			N	O	L	E	S		
R				R		R		G		I		R			T		
				S	T	E	I	N	S		E	T	H	N	I	C	
				O						O	U	T			N		
				A	U	B	U	R	N		C	L	E	R	G	Y	
A				R				U		B		O		A		E	
F				L	E	T	C	H		A		R		N	A	A	N
L				T				R	O	O	T	E	R	S			D
A				N	T	I	C			B		T		A	Q	U	A
M				E				R	O	M	A		T		C		S
E	S	S	A	Y						B	R	A	C	K	I	S	H