

THE JOURNAL OF THE  **AMERICAN SAILING ASSOCIATION**

AMERICAN SAILING

ASA MEMBERS SAILING WEEK - AKA SAILING CAMP FOR GROWNUPS

ASA is ready to kick off the summer of 2012 with a luxury sailing week for its members. Far from a rustic cabin in the woods where you may have spent a week at summer camp lies the Renaissance Vinoy Resort in St. Petersburg, Fla. It has been the pride of St. Petersburg for more than 80 years and attracts a sophisticated, well-traveled clientele with its elegant accommodations and walkable waterfront location.

Although the Vinoy is a historic hotel, it has just undergone a spectacular renovation with lavish appointments and courtyards full of tropical gardens and waterfalls. Join ASA at this landmark hotel for a special week of sailing, seminars and camp-like camaraderie.

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Photos courtesy of the Vinoy Renaissance Resort

Like the backdrop of a 1920s Hollywood movie, the Vinoy Resort's pink walls reflect the fading sunset as its lights gleam out of windows onto a yacht-filled marina awaiting members.

LIVING THE DREAM • ASA MEMBER TURNS HOBBY INTO A BUSINESS



Author Mary Maskall

My love of the water and boating really began with my grandfather. In his younger years, he and his father and brothers had been commercial fishermen on Lake Michigan and built boats during the cold winter months. He would proudly show me his scale models, plans and the tools they used in their boat building trade. As a little girl, we would go to the docks and meet the fishing boats as they came in with him pointing out to me several of the boats his family had built.

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SPRING 2012



Some of our Flotillas for 2012

We're back with a full slate of incredible flotillas this year! Check out the destinations below and then visit www.asa.com for the full schedule. Be sure to keep an eye on the online schedule, as many of these flotillas sell out quickly, and new ones are occasionally added.

Caribbean: St. Martin in the Leeward Antilles, April 20 - 28, 2012 - Enjoy interesting shops and restaurants in French St. Barts and St. Martin, relaxed West Indian atmosphere in Dutch St. Maarten, lovely beaches and marine parks in British Anguilla, and fantastic sailing between all.

Exuma Islands Flotilla in the Bahamas, April 28-May 5, 2012 - This unique flotilla is on small 21-foot Sea Pearl sailboats. Members will camp on the islands and tour them with a local guide. It is limited to ten participants.

Greek Islands Flotilla, June 9 -16, 2012 - Join ASA in the beautiful Saronic Gulf of the Greek Isles. Enjoy tavernas, shopping and relaxing in quiet bays with fellow sailors.

Victoria and San Juan Islands, June 15-22, 2012 - This flotilla will visit the historic Canadian city of Victoria. Other stops include tranquil, seldom-visited Winter Cove in the Canadian Gulf Islands as well as Rosario on Orcas Island and Roche Harbor in the beautiful San Juan Islands of northwest Washington. Wildlife abounds in these areas.

Croatia Flotillas Week 1, September 1-8, 2012 and Week 2, September 8-15, 2012 - Join us for one week or both as we cruise the blue waters of the Dalmatian coast from Split to Dubrovnik and back to Split. Historic sites, gorgeous scenery, mouthwatering food and fantastic sailing will make this a vacation you will never forget.

Grenada Flotilla, October 3-13, 2012 in the Southern Caribbean - Grenada, the Tobago Cays, and a dozen other enchanting islands call to you. Discover beautiful beaches, spice plantations, rum distilleries, coral gardens, world-class snorkeling, and superb trade-wind sailing with air and water in the 80s. This is a sailor's paradise ...

The Charley Noble

Like most of you, here at ASA we're thrilled about the upcoming start of a new sailing season. While many ASA schools teach year round, spring and summer mean thousands of new sailors getting out on the water. For us it also means lots of chances to have a great time with our members.

The feature article in this edition of the ASJ is on ASA Sailing Week, this June in St. Petersburg, Fla. We didn't



have a Members Week last year, so we'll be going all out this year, with everything from casual day sailing and relaxing by the pool to docking and man overboard lessons. Remember, sailors and non-sailors alike are welcome, so we hope to see you this summer for some fun in the sun, on and off the water.

Speaking of our members, you may have heard about the member book we're working on. Harris Connect, our partner in this project, will be contacting ASA members with an invitation to participate, and we hope you'll join in. This will be a beautiful publication full of member-contributed photographs and stories, a great addition to any sailor's library.

Finally, please take a look at the 2012 flotilla schedule in the ASA Update to the left. We'll be sailing all over this year, from US waters to the Caribbean to Europe, so there's something to suit every taste. All registration information can be found online at www.asa.com.

"Charley Noble" is the old time nautical name for the smokestack over a galley ... So I'll try to keep any "hot air" in the American Sailing Journal confined to this column.

THE AMERICAN SAILING JOURNAL

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FEATURE STORY

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More Comforts than Home

The Vinoy Renaissance Resort offers a modern retreat with a new marina, golf course and spa. It is conveniently located just a short drive from Tampa International Airport.

Many locals treat themselves to a weekend getaway to access the resort's many facilities as guests at the hotel, including a picture-perfect pool with a sparkling waterfall overlooking the marina where sailing yachts await; world-class fitness facility complete with sauna, steam room and whirlpool tubs; golf course; and spa services. The resort has a wonderful selection of award-winning restaurants from casual Alfresco's to fine dining at Fred's Steakhouse or choose to go walk about town and explore the numerous other possibilities.

Lots of Time for all the Fun

The event is one full week, from Friday, June 15 to Friday, June 22, 2012. You will have the chance to join ASA staff and ASA Certified instructors at the Renaissance Vinoy for a week of sailing and fun sponsored by the local ASA sailing schools. The activities will range from casual day sailing aboard keelboats from Beneteau, Catalina and Hunter, to docking and man-overboard skills practice. Learn teamwork in fun races or try small boat sailing, flying a spinnaker, learning new knot tying skills and more. In addition to plenty of on-the-water time to sail, there will be some comprehensive seminars on the cruising life and safety at sea plus daily clinics on everything from "Sailing Made Easy" to navigation.

Sailing, Seminars, & Fun for All!

The event will kick off Friday with an ASA-hosted welcome party at the Vinoy Resort overlooking the boats in the marina. The details of the week will be presented by our local hosts, and, like camp, you sign up for the events you want to participate in.

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(Above) Lushly appointed outdoor cabanas provide a perfect spot for members to meet for a late-night glass of wine. (Below) A historic pink facade standing beneath swaying palm trees seems reminiscent of British colonial times in the Caribbean Islands.



Ready To Go?

Go to <http://asa.com/news.html> for more information or contact: Kathy Christensen at kc@asa.com or Jean Levine at: info@twocansail.com or call 727-644-7496.

LIVING THE DREAM

continued from page 1

My love of cooking came from my grandmother. My mother was never really that fond of cooking, but grandma was and she taught me my early cooking skills. We spent countless hours baking, fixing family meals and even canning peaches and other fruits and vegetables. Although many of her recipes were rather hard to decipher with such notations as “as many eggs as you can afford,” she taught me to make many of the dishes I still prepare today.

Although I grew up on the lake, my boating as a child was fairly limited. It wasn't until I was an adult and in the corporate world that I began to really love boating. I learned to sail in Dallas, Texas, and spent many a happy weekend racing catamarans with a group of friends, the only female member of the crew. Over the years, I've spent countless hours on sailboats (and power boats) and quickly discovered the best crew position for me was in the galley.

In the early years, I can't say I really loved cooking on board, the space being cramped and inefficient. My years in the corporate world taught me to be very organized and to appreciate quality so I tried to transfer that to cooking on board. However, it seemed we always resorted to steaks, chicken or burgers on the grill for dinner and sandwiches for lunch. My real turning point came one day when I looked up from the galley and declared to my sailing companion, “If I have to eat one more bologna and cheese sandwich I'm going to throw up. I'm going to figure out how to cook in this galley!”

It was a trial and error process, starting out by preparing whole meals ahead and simply reheating them on board. But, that also was limiting as to the variety of things we could eat. I then began experimenting with some of my favorite recipes by starting the preparation at home, then simply finishing up on board. This opened up a whole world of delicious dishes that could be easily prepared on board, leaving the space, time, and garbage intensive processes to be done in my spacious and well-equipped home kitchen. One weekend, while entertaining some friends that were caterers, the comment was made, “You should write a cookbook!”

From that point on, I started to collect not only the recipes we enjoyed on board, but others I thought would convert well to my methods. Over the next few years, that box grew quite a bit. Many times, I would go to this collection and try out a new recipe. If it worked, it went back into a special file in the “cookbook box.”

All this time, I had enjoyed a very successful career in telecommunications sales, moving up the ladder to a regional sales manager position responsible for a large staff across several states. My last employer was



With products designed and proven to hold up in the punishing abuse of a boat under sail, The Yachting Gourmet has it all.

MCI/WorldCom so you can probably guess where this story is going. One day, I found myself, after many years in the industry and with the company, without a job, but a nice severance package. So, I decided to write that cookbook!

After finishing the book, I received lots of requests to appear at yacht clubs and events to demonstrate the unique methodology my recipes contain. One day, needing something for a demo, I decided to purchase it at a marine supply store. Reaching their galley department, I looked around and realized most of the items they were selling were not boating friendly, made of materials that would not stand up to the environment on board. I thought, hmmm, there might be more of a business here than just selling the cookbook. So, I began to research the marine industry suppliers online and in brick and mortar settings and found that nobody had a comprehensive line of galley-friendly cooking gear. So, I began to put one together, testing items to be sure they were durable and worked the way they claimed. After many years of helping others put together their galleys, I turned that experience and ability into a business; named after the cookbook, of course. We are proud of our products and continue to test items before putting them into the product line to make sure they will stand up to the rigors of being on a boat.

Although I love meeting people at the boat shows, yacht clubs and marina events, the favorite part of my business is helping fellow boaters outfit their galleys, whether it's a new yacht or their existing galley. Applying years of experience consulting, cooking on board and outfitting galleys allows me to bring a high level of expertise to each client. Each galley is unique and I am proud of each one. And, sometimes, I even get to go back and cook!

Mary Maskal is the CEO of The Yachting Gourmet. She is working on a series of small, subject-specific cookbooks, the first of which is The Yachting Gourmet's Docktail™ Party. Visit the online store www.yachtinggourmetstore.com, or look for them at boat shows.

PRODUCT REVIEW • MARINER'S NAVIGATION KIT

Advances in technology make it easier to navigate on the ocean. Some of us cruisers tend to rely solely on our Global Positioning System, but if you didn't bring along enough batteries or you lose the use of your GPS for some other reason, will you know where you are located, your bearing or tracking, how long it will take to get to your destination? Charting is essential on any offshore trip. When Catalina Island or the other Channel Islands are fogged in and on a weekend race, like from Newport to Ensenada or the Santa Barbara to King Harbor, I like to chart the course. So, trying out the Weems & Plath Professional Mariner's Navigation Kit was exciting.

What's Included

The kit included everything I needed, except the proper chart. It even included directions for each apparatus and instructions for a little refresher on plotting. So, first, I checked how the basic tools worked by plotting the course on the water, marking the GPS points with the Paralock Plotter and Brass Pencil Compass. The Pencil Compass comes with a regular pencil (and lead sharpener) to use with the compass/dividers. The kit also comes with a mechanical pencil with extra lead and erasers that actually erase - a great idea over a regular pencil, which typically has an eraser that tends to go dry, leaving pink marks all over the chart.

Since I have typically used a compass (commonly called dividers and used to draw circles or arcs - you probably remember using them in geometry class) to do measurements, I found that using the adjustable locking compass (dividers) with a thumb driven center wheel to make adjustments, made the job infinitely easier and probably more precise.

The Parallel Plotter on a roller made it easy to slide it across the chart, but having rubber around the plotter wheels instead of just metal serrated wheels would keep the plotter on the chart in a rocking boat. And the Chart Correction Template was useful to mark the proper shape to denote the location of a newly set weather buoy onto the apparently outdated chart.



For sailors looking for serious navigational plotting, there's nothing like a Professional Mariner's Navigation Kit from Weems & Plath.

For more information

Go to www.weems-plath.com to see more on their Professional Mariner's Navigation Kit or to order your own.

Now for the Advanced Stuff

Then, wow! I turned to the last items in the kit, The Vestormaster. After a little feeling of panic reminiscent of that feeling when I initially went to the math class that taught how to use a slide rule, everything came together.

Watch out racers. I'm now armed with the calculating tool to end all tools to calculate time, speed and distance problems, as well as to predict the apparent wind for any heading, and adjust the bearing to true course and application of compass corrections.

Thank you Weems & Plath for good, simple directions. And since I often race on other people's boats, the handy pocket tote that holds all of the essential tools makes it easy to bring all the tools from boat to boat. Good thing too, as I plan to bring it on my Croatia trip this year and the Baja Ha Ha trip next year!

Dawn Coulson is ASA certified from 101 through 105 and has her ASA International Proficiency Certificate. She is an avid sailboat racer and also cruises on ASA Flotillas and their Tartan 32 Sailboat.



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If you fly to San Diego, an SDSA.com instructor will meet you at San Diego's Lindberg Field and bring you to Shelter Island Yacht Basin. Upon arrival, you'll board one of our beautiful 30' sailboats. All are limited editions specifically purchased and outfitted to teach the art of sailing. All running rigging is color-coded and labeled. All of our yachts are equipped with all the gear sailors need to prepare for chartering including Stackpac mainsails, roller furling headsails, rigid boom vang, custom deck layouts, Yanmar and Universal inboard diesel engines, wheel steering, self-tailing winches, propane stoves, and BBQ's. There are also full linens and towels on board for your comfort. Just show up and sail. Unlike other sailing schools, our private courses do not exceed two students.

After docking each evening, your instructor departs the boat and students may stay aboard to begin experiencing the fun, privacy, and thrill of life aboard a yacht.

The seven-day 103/104 ASA Basic Coastal Cruising/Bareboat Chartering certification is our most popular program. A typical day might include a 15-mile close reach in the ocean to Mission Bay, or you may set sail for South San Diego Bay where Glorietta Bay is located. You'll learn new skills like piloting, and sailing a yacht using a chart, the buoys, and the hand-bearing compass. You'll get practice at steering in waves, and gybing in the ocean. Heaving to, reefing, man overboard recovery, docking under sail and power are all taught in this class. Students will practice planning a sailing trip on the spot with various wind and tide conditions and pick the best locations for the day. Late in the afternoon, students will dock and the instructor departs the boat.

At the end of this class, students get to bareboat on their own for two days. You'll leave with an ASA Bareboat Chartering Certificate, two days of logged bareboat time and a confidence that can only be gained through experience.

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103/104 BCC/BB	\$2,250	\$2,750	\$3,250
104/105/106 BB/CN/ACC	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$4,000
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FEATURE STORY

continued from page 3

Saturday morning begins with a half-day cruising seminar that will outline a plan to take you from sailor to live-aboard cruiser; selecting the boat and equipment, how to create your own budget, and getting started with voyage planning to the Caribbean. After a lunch break, you can sign up to go sailing and try out one of the various keel boats now with a more educated eye or just for the joy of sailing.

The Sunday topics will focus on safety at sea and include details on the safety equipment you need and how to use it, various MOB techniques, fire fighting, flares and the differences between coastal needs and offshore, plus a life-raft will be deployed in the pool so that you get a hands-on try at climbing aboard from the water. After the lunch break you can sign up to do real on the water MOB practice or just go for an afternoon sail.

Monday through Thursday, the schedule will shift from morning seminars to on-the-water skills practice. Attend a docking clinic and learn to fly a cruising spinnaker. Practice picking up a mooring ball, enjoy light air sail trim and MOB practice which includes deployment of a life sling. We'll break for lunch each day so that you can



Beyond the beautiful hotel and amazing cultural sights of St. Petersburg, previous attendees enjoyed the chance to sail the beautiful waters and explore white sand beaches.

explore the variety of dining options and join your non-sailor family members for a dip in the pool.

In the afternoon, we will gather together near the pool deck for short one-hour breakout seminar sessions such as "Sailing made Easy," "My GPS Doesn't Work, Now What?," "Nautical Knot Tying Practice," and "Learning to Read Weather Charts Simplified." Afterwards we regroup. Then it's time to get back on the water for sailing on the sea breeze.

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Included in American Sailing Week:

- Accommodations: seven nights in a standard room, double occupancy, king or two doubles featuring spacious rooms, luxurious bedding and modern amenities such as wireless Internet access, flat panel TVs, etc., with all room taxes included
- Exclusive group use of local ASA school charter yachts
- Access to the health club, outdoor pool & whirlpools, full service Vinoy Day Spa & Salon, jogging/fitness trail, golf & tennis and, of course, sailing
- Informal keelboat sailing instruction with ASA instructors
- Free Wi-Fi access in all common areas; discounted in rooms.
- Special ASA event goodie bag
- Breakfast daily
- Special ASA welcome party on Friday
- Plus \$15 per person, per day coupons that can be used for lunch or towards any meal or service at the Vinoy Resort
- Half-day cruising seminar on Saturday & half-day Sea Breeze Sailing
- Half-day Safety At Sea seminar on Sunday & half-day Sea Breeze Sailing
- Daily sailing and informal seminars
- Pirate dinner party at Cha Cha Coconuts at the Pier
- ASA farewell awards banquet



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AUTHORIZED DEALERS



FEATURED FACILITY • NORTON YACHTS

The slogan for Virginia is “Virginia is for Lovers,” and Deltaville loves boaters. The small boating village is conveniently located on the Chesapeake Bay, at the eastern end of the Middle Peninsula, on Virginia’s coastal plain. It is bounded on the north by the Rappahannock River and on the south by the Piankatank River.

Located in Deltaville, Norton Yachts offers American Sailing Association (ASA) classes to both beginners and advanced students. This third-generation marine business was founded in 1948 by Ed Norton, grandfather of its current president and co-owner, Carolyn Norton Schmalenberger. What began as a boat building business has since developed into a multi-faceted marine corporation offering new Hunter and Jeanneau sailboats, brokerage power and sail, sail charters, open and covered slips and a full-service boatyard.

The Chesapeake Bay is one of the finest sailing areas in the world. From most any shore in Deltaville, the Chesapeake Bay is within close proximity, providing excellent sailing ground. Boating, sailing and fishing are the main recreational activities. Pleasure boaters have been flocking to Deltaville since the 1940s, and today the town’s population practically triples during boating season. Many visitors transiting the Chesapeake seek Deltaville because of the many marine services available. In addition, Deltaville is one of the few boating communities that boast two West Marine stores within one mile!

Conveniently located, Deltaville is halfway between Solomon’s Island, Md., to the north and Norfolk, Va., to the south, a day’s sail each way on the Chesapeake Bay. When you look at a nautical chart of our area, you see an incredible network of rivers, creeks, streams, and salt-water marshes. In fact, during the seventeenth century, while fishing, Captain John Smith was stung by a stingray on a point in Deltaville waters. Capt. Smith was seriously injured but was saved when nearby Native Americans were able to provide a cure. Stingray Point gets its name because of this incident. This little known fact and others are part of what makes this historical community a place where sailors arrive and don’t want to



With its large and well-maintained marina offering easy access to the Chesapeake Bay, Norton Yachts offers a great place to learn to sail in historic Deltaville, Va.

leave. Capt. Smith was probably ready to leave after his painful incident, but many visitors discover Deltaville and set anchor for good.

In an area where there are an estimated 2.5 boats per person, there is an understated, simple lifestyle in the village of Deltaville. Quaint shops, tasty restaurants with fresh seafood, art festivals, baseball games, sailboat races, churches and parades are all alive and add to the town’s charm. The Deltaville Maritime Museum offers an in-depth look at the community’s heritage and hosts a Family Boatbuilding Week each summer. Deltaville is also the location for The Southern Chesapeake Leukemia Cup Regatta. With the help of two local yacht clubs, numerous participants and generous volunteers, this large community event takes place every year where sails are raised to help find cures for blood cancers. Out of almost 50 Leukemia Regattas in the country, the Deltaville regatta is frequently recognized as one of the top fundraising events. Deltaville may be small in size, but it has a large charitable heart.

The Norton family has deep roots in Deltaville of Middlesex County where generations of sea captains and boat builders have worked hard earning a living. Norton Yachts is located on Broad Creek, the first creek to port at the mouth of the historic Rappahannock River as it opens up to the Chesapeake Bay. On the north shore of Deltaville, Broad Creek is home to a dozen marinas and is designated a Harbor of Refuge by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

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FEATURED FACILITY

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A dealer for Hunter Marine since 1974, Norton Yachts has grown to be one of the largest Hunter dealers in the world. In fact, for the past 19 years, Norton Yachts has been awarded the Number One Hunter Dealer in Customer Service - Worldwide. In 1995, it seemed only fitting to Carolyn and her husband, Ken, that Norton Yachts also join forces with the leading authority in sailing instruction, ASA.

Registering for Norton's Sailing School coursework is easy and affordable. The instruction takes place on a late model Hunter or Jeanneau sailboat or on the student's boat if it is properly equipped. Offering ASA basic keelboat to bareboat courses, beginners and advanced students learn the ropes through hands-on instruction. The navigation courses are taught during the winter months when thinking about sailing naturally warms students up.

Norton's instructors take the Deltaville "laid back" approach when it comes to teaching. The instruction is comprehensive yet relaxed, and the sailing students are encouraged to have fun while they're learning. The dedicated, professional USCG captains are also ASA-trained instructors. A long-time instructor at Norton's,

For more information
 For more information on sailing classes, call (804) 776-9211, visit www.nortonyachts.com; send an email to school@nortonyachts.com; or just drive over to Deltaville. You'll find them right where they've been anchored for over sixty years.



Norton and Deltaville's "laid back" approach appeals to sailors looking to enjoy their days on the water.

Capt. Brad Sindle, has been named one of ASA's Outstanding Instructors of the Year in 2005, 2006 and 2008. Norton's Sailing School has also been recognized as one of ASA's Outstanding Schools of the Year.



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Flotilla... Experience the beautiful Apostle Islands National Lakeshore during the June summer solstice with Northern Breezes' Flotilla Captain Steve Burns. Our flotilla is reasonably priced. What a way to experience the summer solstice in one of the top five cruising grounds in the U.S.!

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SAILING DESTINATION

St. Petersburg, Florida • By Capt. Jean Levine



The Dali Museum offers a unique cultural experience.

The west coast of Florida offers turquoise green waters gently lapping along pristine white sand beaches, a place where some of the most magnificent sunsets in the world can be experienced. As sure as the sun sets into the sea, not a day goes by that you can't see the dolphins rolling and playing in your bow wave. Set sail from a marina based in St. Petersburg and you will find a cosmopolitan city that offers a Mediterranean feel and the gateway to sailing upon the smooth Gulf of Mexico waters. The inverted pyramid of the St. Petersburg Pier is a sailor's landmark, which invites you to come ashore and explore the many sidewalk cafés and night life. Anchor off the

sea wall just to the north and listen to live music from the waterfront park which lies at the foot of the Vinoy Renaissance Resort and Marina or spend the night at the dock and enjoy the resort.

Adjacent to the resort are several parks with walking trails under the shade of some of the most beautiful banyan trees and a trellis of bougainvilleas guiding you to a wonderful selection of sidewalk cafés and restaurants. You can browse the art galleries and museums; Chihuly the world famous glass sculptor, the Florida Craftsman gallery, the Holocaust Museum, the Morean Art Center or take in the Museum of Fine

Arts or the world famous Salvador Dali museum.

Experience the Sailing Life

As a sailor, you walk out to the marina where your sailing yacht awaits, and in just minutes, you are in open water sailing. Summer sailing offers a unique blend of weather conditions to hone your skills, or if you are new, get a "Whitman's Sampler." Light air in the morning offers a great time for skills and drills such as docking practice, man-overboard drills and learning to fly a spinnaker. Afternoon can bring an occasional thunder squall that enables you to get a taste of heavy weather for a brief hour, then settle in for a spectacular sunset sail in a moderate

St. Petersburg Travel

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breeze. If you choose, you can sail south from the St. Pete Pier and under the Sunshine Skyway Bridge, which crosses the mouth of Tampa Bay and looks like a tall ship with perpetually golden yellow sails. Then drop anchor for the night in the Manatee River.

The next morning head west to visit Egmont Key at the mouth of Tampa Bay, dropping anchor on the east side of the island to dinghy ashore and explore the beach on the western shore. The western beach shoals and is a wonderful place to find sand dollars and take a dip in the Gulf of Mexico's refreshing water. Although it is not a good anchorage for overnight, this state park and wildlife refuge lets visitors roam 19th century ruins from the Spanish American war. This unique natural barrier island has great history with Fort Desoto, which once defended the entrance to the bay from invaders. It is home to the Tampa ships' pilots and the area's other historic lighthouse and is only accessible by boat. From Egmont Key sail offshore out the ships channel north (mind the sand bar on the north side of the channel) then visit the Don CeSar, the "Pink Palace" hotel on the beach.

Spend a Day at the Beach

Visit one of the area's most popular beach destinations. St. Pete Beach is where the gentle surf laps your feet as you stroll barefoot down miles of soft sand beaches looking for sea shell treasures like sand dollars or baby conch in the shadow of the historic Don CeSar Beach Resort. There the "Pink Palace" meets the sugar white sands. This National Register landmark can be seen for miles. By sea you can



(Above) Sailors taking a dinghy into shore can enjoy the fabulous wildlife that abounds in the pristine waters of St. Petersburg. (Below) A banyan tree's aerial prop roots hang down from a tree so massive that three sightseers can easily shade themselves beneath its immense canopy of large, glossy leaves.

have an easy day sail from Egmont Key to Pass a Grille, and in settled weather, anchor right off the beach.

If you are in the mood for some direct beachfront fare, you can't beat The Hurricane restaurant, famous for its fresh fish caught daily, and roof top bar, Stormy's. There you can sip your umbrella drinks as you watch the sun setting into the Gulf of Mexico in search of the famous green flash.

Take an Eco Tour

Continuing your sail, enter the ICW thru Pass A Grille channel and head north into Boca Ciega Bay where, nestled on the north shore, you will find Kayak Nature Adventures where you can arrange for a kayaking tour. If you have time, you can sail north to Clearwater City Marina and visit the Clearwater Marine Aquarium.

continued on following page





Natural activities abound in St. Petersburg, from walking a sunset beach (above) to kayaking beneath the famous mangrove forests of South Florida (below).



SAILING DESTINATION

continued from previous page

St. Pete through ASA Members Week

A great way to get a sample of the area for sailors and non-sailors alike is to join ASA for Members Week this summer in St. Petersburg, where you can get a taste of it all — sailing, eco tours and the most beautiful beaches in the country. Visit asa.com.

It is famous for rescuing a bottlenose dolphin named Winter, the real-life inspiration for the movie *Dolphin Tale*. Winter lost her tail (and nearly her life), when she became tangled in a crab trap. The world watched as Winter got a prosthetic tail and has since inspired thousands around the world with her will to survive. You can spend a day visiting the aquarium, meet Winter, and get personal with the other rescue dolphins, sea turtles, otters and even go for behind the scenes tours and interactive programs like Trainer for a Day, Day with a Dolphin, and the Dolphin Encounter.

There are many great activities to choose from in the area, including checking out ASA Sailing Schools and Charter Companies such as Sailing Florida Charters, Flagship Sailing, Adventures in Sailing, SailTime Tampa Bay, Seaduced Watercraft Adventures and SmarterSail. Check them all out on the ASA website at: http://asa.com/find_a_sailing_school.html.

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FEATURE STORY

continued from page 7

Evening activities include the popular ASA-hosted Pirate Party and BBQ overlooking Tampa Bay from the rooftop at Cha Cha Coconuts. Meet up with new friends and pick out a new sidewalk café to rendezvous for dinner or join a ghost tour of the historic hotel. The ASA-hosted week will close on Thursday night with another dinner and prize party. Friday depart for home or ask about adding on a weekend charter after Members Week from one of the local ASA schools to get a certification or just bareboat charter and explore further on your own.

It's also the perfect vacation for a non-sailing spouse. If you are not a sailor, you can just sit by the pool and read your favorite book, sip your umbrella drink or explore this walking town, taking in the art and culture, shopping and movies.

Do it all or just enjoy doing nothing soaking up the pampered lifestyle at the Vinoy Renaissance Resort. It is a place the whole family can enjoy. A great way to get a sample of the area for sailors and non sailors alike is to join the ASA for Members Week this summer in St. Petersburg, where you can get a taste of it all — sailing, eco tours and the most beautiful beaches in the country.

Law of the Sea

By Dave Lumian

Senate Bill 1657 is The Sport Fishing Restoration and Boating Trust Fund (SFRBTF) also known as the “Wallop-Breaux Act” is about to get some needed help. The SFRBTF funds millions of dollars a year for programs to support boating safety and clean boating.

Senator John “Jay” Rockefeller of West Virginia has introduced the “Sport Fish Restoration and Recreational Boating Safety Act of 2011” known as Senate Bill 1657. The Trust Fund directs some of the funds from the Marine Fuels Excise Tax to pay for recreational boater education programs such as the US Coast Guard Auxiliary and the US Power Squadron. It is important for Senator Rockefeller to receive emails and letters supporting S 1657. Please consider writing a message to Senator Rockefeller supporting S 1657. Send mail to:

Senator John Rockefeller
531 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Or email to: senator@rockefeller.senate.gov

BOOK REVIEW • SAILPOWER

Title: *Sailpower – Trim and Techniques for Cruising Sailors*

Author: Peter Nielsen

Publisher: Sheridan House; 2004

Pages: 160 in hardback

Most of us who love sailing already have a library of books on our favorite sport. But when I started thumbing through the pages of Peter Nielsen's *Sailpower – Trim and Techniques for Cruising Sailors*, I knew this book was a keeper. While many books have been written about sail trim, most seem more oriented to the advanced racer and are not very useful or practical to new and intermediate level cruising sailors. Most of us just want to know how to trim our sails right and get the most out of our boat.

Quality Illustrations and Clear Language

There are two characteristics about this book that I love. First, the quality of the illustrations and photography are superb. Second, the friendly, clear language is concise and easily understood. The author combines these two qualities throughout the book to make key points and technical concepts easy to understand. Some of us learn verbally, and some of us learn visually. This combination of text explanation with graphics is the best of both worlds.

The book starts out with an easily understood explanation of how sails work, and then moves on to the rig. Most of us wonder just how tight those stays should really be. The author provides the explanation and a method to adjust them. Practical tips include a section on how to improve and maintain your rig.

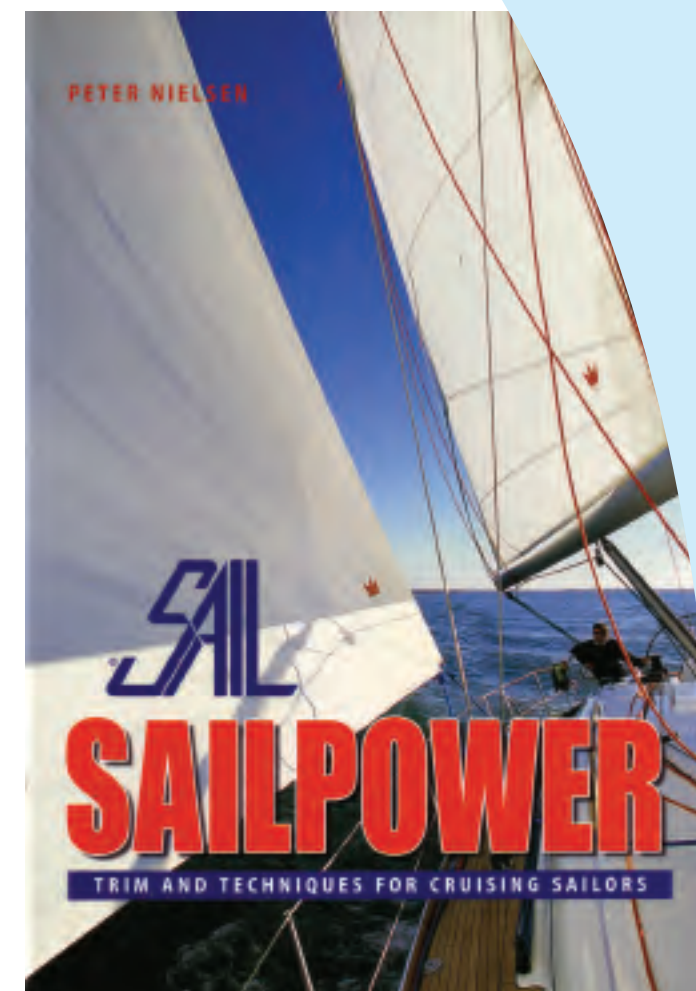
Of course it is the sails and their trim that are at the heart of the book. Here the author does a fine job of explaining what you need to know about the headsail and mainsail and how to trim them with the trimming tools that we have on a typical sailboat.

I especially liked the practical tips tossed in throughout the discussion. For example, I learned that my telltales are not located correctly on my headsail.

The author advises “If your genoa doesn't have telltales, fit some right away. Position them at a quarter, halfway and three-quarters up the luff of the sail. They are the most important headsail trimming aid.”

Advanced Topics

Some of the more advanced topics include spinnakers, reefing systems and alternative sail plans including



With its fantastic illustrations and easy-to-understand text, Sailpower is sure to be a must-read for sailors looking to get better performance out of their boats while cruising.

cutters, ketches and yawls. Strong wind sailing techniques and storm sails are explained. A separate chapter titled “Easy Upgrades” is my favorite. Here the author lists six enhancements that give a big “bang for the buck.” These include adding a traveler, genoa cars, a backstay tensioner, a kicking strap, winches and better blocks. After reading this material, I plan to make several of the suggested improvements to my boat.

I really like this book and recommend it highly. It is practical, easy to read, and useful to a very wide audience. If you need help fine tuning your sailing check out *Sailpower – Trim and Techniques for Cruising Sailors*; it should get you up to speed.

Carl Amonett works as an agricultural research scientist for the USDA in central Texas. He sails and races a Chrysler 22 sailboat on nearby Lake Belton and Stillhouse Hollow Reservoir.

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INSTRUCTOR TIP

By Captain Elayne White

Top Five Maneuvers to Practice Every Sail

There are at least five maneuvers I suggest we practice during *every* sail. Besides being fun, these maneuvers should be safe, smooth and instinctual so not only will you look like a pro, but you will *be* a pro.

M.O.B. - Obviously we want this maneuver to be instinctual. We must nail it in spite of the pandemonium and chaos that may be on board. By doing this maneuver every sail, we will be well prepared for the various weather conditions we may experience.

Heave To - How many times I have done this and why could be an entire article in itself. Besides lunch, or a quick fix, I like to practice this maneuver because it is FUN!

Jibing - I love to jibe. It should be practiced numerous times every sail. Sheet in the main so the boom crosses the center line smoothly, quietly and safely. Also, try jibing while steering with **ONLY** your sails. Lock off your rudder to the centerline and practice it!

Backing out of Irons - Practice backing out of irons. Remember which side of the boat to sheet in your jib in order to sail onto your desired tack. It is also a good idea to practice sailing backwards in case you may need to drop a long string of seaweed.

Docking & Springing - Many of us dock into a slip, but practice docking alongside both starboard to and port to and then springing off. You don't want to be a dock banger leaving scuff marks along the side of your hull.



Practicing docking on both your starboard and port sides in good conditions can help when you have to dock in less than ideal ones.

Remember to utilize your prop walk!

For a quick refresher of these maneuvers, review your *Basic Keelboat* and *Coastal Cruising* textbooks. By practicing these simple maneuvers during every sail, they will become instinctive and besides gaining experience, it will assure that your sailing days are safe and fun for everyone. Happy Sailing!

Captain Elayne White has served as the director of The Boys and Girls Club of Venice sailing programs, has sailed thousands of miles as a certified ASA 101, 103, 104, 105, and 110 instructor and now works as an ASA sailing instructor and as a tour boat captain for Splashers Ocean Adventures in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii.