

# Nautical Library

By Charlotte Peterson

## Admiration for the sport of competitive sailing



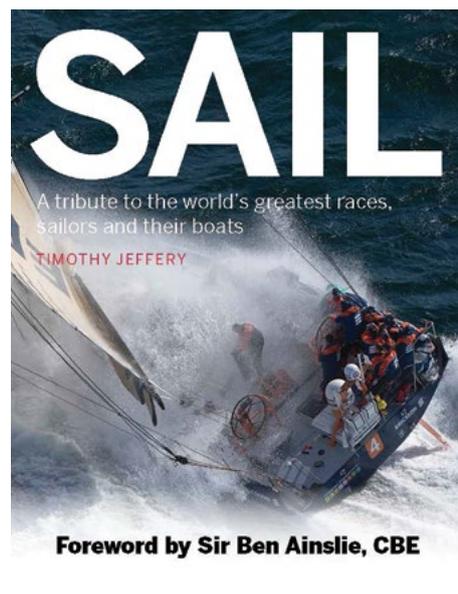
Sailing is rarely celebrated in the same way as more traditional sports. Television channels and on-line betting exist for the discussion and examination of football, baseball, golf and countless others. Even the Olympics, the pinnacle of sport, rarely dedicates much coverage to sailing. Granted, many other sports are easier to understand and focus primarily on athletic ability and teamwork to a lesser extent. Sailing combines both physical and mental excellence with teamwork on countless levels, including the design, construction and overall performance of the boats.

**SAIL: A tribute to the world's greatest races, sailors and their boats** is a beautiful, educational and entertaining read. Divided into three sections, the coverage of the races themselves accounts for more than half the book. Statistics and unique race details are presented for more than 40 races, from The America's Cup to the Atlantic Rally for Cruisers. Facets include race route maps and full-sized images that capture the essence of each race; exotic locations, extreme conditions and record-breaking feats.

Two dozen members of sailing royalty are profiled as well. Again, vital stats such as age, nationality and sailing pedigree are listed, but each sailor's history is explored in enough detail to give a sense as to how they started in sailing. Fun quotes, such as Jimmy Spithill's adopted mantra "Lead by example; from the front," offer a glimpse into each sailor's personality, not just their resume on the water.

Finally, the instruments these athletes use are profiled in the boats section. This does not cover every boat sailed in these races, but gives a general overview for memorable keelboats, dinghies, multihulls and other competitive classes.

Admittedly it is a subjective list, but in all three areas **SAIL** offers up more information than a coffee table book, while remaining approachable for readers who may not be familiar with the varied types of racing. It is arguably a gateway to seeking out more details on these events, or even taking that step off the dock and into the competition.



**SAIL: A Tribute to the world's greatest races, sailors and their boats**

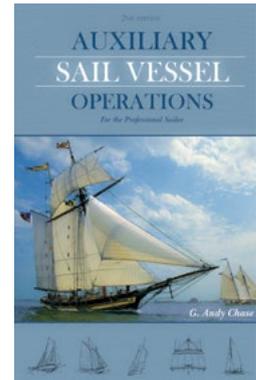
By Timothy Jeffrey  
\$37, Aurum Press

## Auxiliary Sail Vessel Operations (2nd Edition)

By G. Andy Chase, \$35, Schiffer Publishing

Part study guide and part general reference, the revised second edition of **Auxiliary Sail Vessel Operations** was written as a textbook. The information is articulately presented and is relevant to anyone working towards maritime certification, as well as competent sailors looking to improve general boat-handling skills.

This is not an introduction to sailing, but the book assumes the reader is a proficient sailor already. The numerous diagrams help to clearly demonstrate the principles being presented. The author is a professor of marine transportation at Maine Maritime, and he holds an auxiliary sail master's license for vessels up to 1,600 tons.



## Anne Bonny's Wake

By Dick Elam, \$23, Brown Books Publishing

This thriller takes place aboard a 30-foot sloop, as the single-handed sailor, Herschel Barstow plans a quiet trip around Pamlico Sound and a final goodbye to his wife, whose ashes he has aboard in an urn. Within the first chapter of **Anne Bonny's Wake**, his plans

for a peaceful week of sailing are disrupted when a topless woman appears on his boat while at anchor. The waters of the Carolina coastline are the setting for the mystery and romance that follow. This novel is a quick-reading escape and chance to experience a sailing adventure while many of us are in the midst of winter's chill.

