

54



56



38 COVER STORY WHAT'S NEXT?

What's a kid to do when the Opti is too tame? Here's what real kids think of six new boats. **By Gretchen Curtis**

44 COVER STORY EXOTIC CHARTERS: GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

See what Charles Darwin saw from the platform of a 93-foot trimaran. **By Amy Ullrich**

50 COVER STORY UPWIND MAINSAIL TRIM

Here's how to trim the power sail for better boatspeed, in words and pictures. **By David Schmidt**

54 PEOPLE & BOATS

At 53, Howie Hamlin collects championships in small boats. **By Kimball Livingston**

56 COVER STORY BEST BOATS 2007

SAIL editors award this year's best of show for innovation and forward thinking. **By Bill Springer**

{KNOW-HOW}

66 PROJECT: INSTALLING AN INNER FORESTAY COVER STORY

Reduce sail and get good performance in a fresh breeze. **By Don Casey**

68 ASK SAIL

Ball-valve installation; repairing the keel; tuning a trailersailer rig.

ON THE COVER: Bill Mauk helms his Etchells 22 at the 2006 Newport Regatta. Photo by Cory Silken

44



Contents

DECEMBER 2006 | WORLD'S LEADING SAILING MAGAZINE

» DEPARTMENTS



UNDER SAIL

10 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

COVER STORY Kimball Livingston casts his eye on the events that made 2006 a banner sailing year: records set, extraordinary courage displayed, cruisers on the move, new boats dreamed up and built.

RACECOURSE

18 On Deck

Winter frostbiting brings out the sailors who won't take cold for an answer.

20 Short Tacks

Try "gacking"; new Bermuda cruising-class trophy; blind/disabled racers

22 Cup Watch

Spying and under-the-table deals are a thing of the past for AC 32.

SAILING SENSE

30 Gear Upgrades

A new boat and new baby prompt a cruising couple to start working on their the wish list of upgrades.

32 Cruising Tips

Bolster your snatch blocks with make-it-yourself bump pads; an anchor-drag indicator; a footrest for comfort at the helm; simple care for teak decks.

36 Voice of Experience

A sudden storm turns a Wednesday-night race into an unexpected test of seamanship. **By Chris Albright**

BOATS + GEAR

62 New Boats

64 Holiday Gifts **COVER STORY**

Cool stuff for all sailors on your list: him, her, the kids, and, of course, yourself.

6 SETTING SAIL

8 PURE SAIL

26 WATERLINES

Fess up. Most marine mishaps can't be blamed on someone else. **By Tom Cunliffe**

60 SAILING MEMORIES

Sailing transatlantic with the spirit of ages past. **By Paul VanDevelder**

72 BOOK REVIEWS

Off the Hook; Knots, Bends, and Hitches; On-Board Emergency Handbook; and more.

80 SAIL AWAY

Charter news.

111 CALENDAR

112 FEEDBACK

Readers' letters.

READER SERVICES

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR + EDITORIAL INQUIRIES: SAIL values your comments. **CONTACT:** Editor, SAIL Magazine, 98 North Washington Street, Boston, MA 02114 **TEL:** 617-720-8600 **EMAIL:** sailmail@sailmagazine.com **WEB:** www.sailmagazine.com **LETTERS:** May be edited for clarity or space (please include your name and address). **SAILBOAT BUYERS GUIDE:** SAIL's comprehensive annual directory of sailboats, gear, and equipment is available at newsstands for \$6.99 or through the SAIL Store (see below). **BACK ISSUES/VIDEOS/CALENDAR/BOATWORKS:** Back issues of SAIL (last 2 years) are \$7.00 each (includes shipping in the U.S.), SAIL videos (varying prices), and SAIL's wall calendar for \$12.95 (plus shipping) are available through the SAIL Store (see below). **BOATWORKS THE MUST-HAVE MAGAZINE FOR THE HANDS-ON BOAT OWNER:** from the editors of SAIL. To subscribe call 866-836-6937 or 386-246-3342, e-mail boatworks@palmcoastd.com, or go to www.sailmagazine.com and click on BoatWorks. **SAIL STORE:** To obtain any of the above items you can order online at www.sailmagazine.com, click on SAIL Store, or call 800-828-8130 or 603-621-7945, send a fax to 413-637-5410, or write to SAIL Store, c/o Berkshire Information Systems, P.O. Box 128, Lenox, MA 01240.

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES: For questions, problems, or changes to your SAIL subscription, **CALL:** 800-745-SAIL (7245) or 386-447-6318; Mon-Fri 7:00AM to 12:00AM (ET), Sat-Sun 8:00AM-9:00PM (ET) **FAX:** 386-447-2321 **WRITE:** SAIL, P.O. Box 420235, Palm Coast, FL 32142-0235 **EMAIL:** sail@palmcoastd.com.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One-year U.S.: \$29.95, Canada: \$36.95 (U.S.), International: \$39.95 (U.S.). If changing your address, please be prepared with your old address, your new address, and a label from a recent issue. Allow 8 weeks for the change to become effective.

Occasionally, our subscriber list is made available to reputable firms offering goods and services that we believe would be of interest to our readers. If you prefer to be excluded, please send your current address label, and note requesting to be excluded from these promotions, to PRIMEDIA Inc., 745 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10151, Attn.: Privacy Coordinator.