



The Annapolis Book of Seamanship: Fourth Edition

By John Rousmaniere

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Completely revised and updated to address changes in technology, this new edition is the definitive guide to the art and science of sailing.

Since the publication of the widely hailed first edition in 1983, *The Annapolis Book of Seamanship* has set the standard by which other books on sailing are measured. Used throughout America as a textbook in sailing schools and Power Squadrons, *The Annapolis Book of Seamanship* thoroughly and clearly covers the fundamental and advanced skills of modern sailing. This edition of *Annapolis* is a major overhaul. Over half the book has been revised; old topics and features have been updated, and many new ones have been introduced. The design has been modernized, and many color illustrations have been added.

As big and detailed as *Annapolis* is, the wealth of technical information (including dozens of step-by-step instructions) is presented here in a way that is uniquely readable; it's both useful and easy to use. This is because John Rousmaniere and artist Mark Smith bring to *Annapolis* decades of experience both as sailors and as professional communicators.

Annapolis emphasizes the standard skills and proven methods that eliminate error and confusion, ensure security in emergencies, and allow every sailor more time for enjoyment on the water. Much has changed on the water since 1983 when this book was originally published. Black buoys are now green, the Global Positioning Satellite navigation system (GPS) is almost universally used, new types of anchors and sails have appeared, safety skills and gear are vastly improved, many more women are commanding boats, and catamarans and trimarans are common where only monohulls used to sail.

But for all these modern developments, the basic skills and spirit of sailing have not changed at all. Sail trimming, keeping up steerageway, maintaining the dead reckoning plot, heaving-to -- these fundamentals are as important now as ever and receive much attention here. Among the innovations in this edition are:

*** Basic skills in early chapters:** Fundamental sailing and boat-handling skills and gear, which are introduced in chapters 1, 2, and 3.

- * **"Hands On" segments:** Three dozen special sections, each devoted to a particular seamanship problem and an expert solution.
- * **More how-to tips:** Additional rules of thumb that guide a crew quickly and successfully through seamanship problems.
- * **New coverage of multihulls:** Advice on evaluating, anchoring, and handling catamarans and trimarans under sail (including in storms).
- * **More on emergencies:** New material on emergencies, safety, and heavy-weather sailing, including a section on preparing a docked boat for a hurricane.
- * **Equipment updates:** Expanded coverage of the use and care of modern gear and hardware, including radar, GPS, rescue devices, and asymmetrical spinnakers.
- * **Terminology:** Full definition and illustration of major terms when they're first introduced, with alternative language provided in parentheses.
- * **Gender:** The use of feminine personal pronouns, which reflect the fact that more women are captaining and sailing boats than ever before.

From navigation and seamanship to boat and gear maintenance, from pleasure cruising to heavy-weather sailing, here is the definitive, state-of-the-art guide that provides systematic step-by-step techniques to see you through every situation on deck and in the cockpit.



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Editorial Review

Review

Yachting magazine A volume that any sailor or would-be sailor simply must own.

American Sailing Association The beauty of the book is that it is both a superb reference manual, which any sailor -- regardless of experience -- will want to own, and a readable, practical introduction to sailing for the beginner. A joy to behold. The most complete and best reference book on the sport that has ever been available.

Chuck Hawley West Marine Products *The Annapolis Book of Seamanship* is thorough, well written, and nicely illustrated. Not just a repeat of tired old sailing methods of thirty years ago, it integrates the classic techniques (storm tactics, navigation) with the modern (Crew Overboard Recovery, modern anchors, and electronics). I highly recommend this book and encourage anyone to buy it if they want to improve their sailing skills.

Sail magazine *The Annapolis Book of Seamanship* is about practically everything that has to do with sailing and sailboats.

Yachting magazine [Rousmaniere's] chapters on sail trim and weather, in particular, are the best that I can recall reading.

Sea magazine The piloting part is unusually thorough and understandable and could serve as a text all by itself. The individual chapters on sailing in heavy weather and handling emergencies are recommended reading for all who sail.

Great Lakes Sailing Scanner magazine If you buy one book on sailing this year, this is the one to get.

Sailing Canada magazine Mark Smith's line drawings are models of the kind -- clean, clear, and vital. It is not just one of the very best available.

Tony Gibbs *Dolphin Book Club News* Once in a great while a book comes along which is so original that it stands outside normal comparison. *The Annapolis Book of Seamanship* is such a work....A remarkable achievement, a first-rate book in every way. It will almost certainly become -- in short order -- the standard to which succeeding volumes are compared.

From the Author

New material in *The Annapolis Book of Seamanship* (page xi)

The 4th edition of *The Annapolis Book of Seamanship* is an extensive update and development of its predecessors. One-third of the text is new, and so are many photos (almost all of Mark Smith's brilliant drawings remain). Through all this, the book's mission has not changed. The aim for 30 years has been to advise you the sailor on essential gear, skills, and attitudes that will enhance your pleasure and safety wherever you sail, in whichever boat you sail. Among the things haven't changed are that Chapters 1 and 2 continue to provide basic knowledge to help you get started, with much more detail in

subsequent chapters. There are more "Hands On" sections with their tips and checklists. A continuing theme is that while modern equipment is a fine thing to have and use, some traditional skills and methods remain important.

Equipment updates run throughout the book. The chapters on the boat, sails, rigging, and heavy weather include many new developments in gear and in methods, but the sections that have undergone the most change are the ones on electronic instruments and on safety.

The early 21st century has seen the introduction of three GPS-enabled systems: locator beacons, the Automatic Identification System (AIS), and Digital Selective Calling (DSC), which is the backbone of the U.S. Coast Guard's Rescue 21 system that have transformed the ways in which we communicate on the water.

The chapters on health, safety, heavy weather, and emergencies have been completely overhauled to take account of new knowledge about seasickness, hypothermia, fatigue, and other crucial health issues, along with new developments in planning for and managing emergencies and calling for assistance.

This edition features a considerable amount of knowledge acquired from four sources with which I have been extensively engaged for many years. Many lessons have been learned in these reviews, and they are reported here.

1. On-water tests. I helped organize and wrote the report for the Crew Overboard Rescue Symposium, held on San Francisco Bay in 2005. This was a significant four days of testing a vast range of safety equipment and methods used in cruising and racing monohulls and multihulls, and in powerboats. Later, when safety concerns turned to sailing dinghies and other small boats, I participated in and wrote the report for tests of sailor retrieval, capsize recovery, and entrapment hold on Long Island Sound in 2012.

2. Hanson Medal reports. Nearly 200 sailors have been awarded the Arthur B. Hanson Rescue Medal by the Safety-at-Sea Committee of U.S. Sailing Association (U.S. Sailing). Each announcement contains a detailed report on the accident. I have served as coordinator of the Hanson Medal program and as a member of the Safety at Sea Committee for many years.

3. Safety seminars. Since speaking at one of the first large safety seminars, held at the U.S. Naval Academy in January 1980 (my subject was lessons learned from the 1979 Fastnet Race storm), I have moderated or spoken at more than 100 of these events, ranging across the country as well as in Canada and England. They include Safety at Sea seminars sponsored by U.S. Sailing, Cruising and Seamanship seminars sponsored by North U (the educational arm of North Sails), and Suddenly Alone and other yacht club safety training events.

4. Inquiries into incidents. I sailed in the stormy 1979 Fastnet Race and wrote a book, *Fastnet, Force 10*, about it. My later storm book, *After the Storm*, concerns accidents and their consequences in maritime history. More recently there have been highly detailed reports of inquiries into seven accidents: the fatal grounding of *PriceWaterhouseCoopers* off Australia (2009); the fatal capsize of a 420 dinghy at Annapolis, Md. (2011); the fatal capsize of *WingNuts* in a race on Lake Michigan (2011); the capsize of *Rambler 100* off Ireland (2011); the fatal grounding of *Low Speed Chase* off San Francisco (2012); the fatal grounding of *Aegean* off San Diego (2012); and the evacuation of a sailor from *Seabiscuit* during the Newport Bermuda Race (2012). I wrote or co-authored the reports on the dinghy, *Wingnuts*, and Newport Bermuda Race incidents.

All this should not be read to mean that there are more accidents today than in past maritime history. Rather, many sailors are working harder to learn from accidents - which is a good sign that the future may be healthier and safer for all of us who go to sea for pleasure and challenge.

John Rousmaniere

About the Author

John Rousmaniere has written more than fifteen technical and historical books. A former contributor to *Yachting* and *Sailing World* magazines, he has lectured at hundreds of Safety-at-Sea seminars sponsored by the US Sailing Association and West Marine. He lives in New York City.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Gary Gonzales:

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important work, like looking for your favorite e-book and reading a reserve. Beside you can solve your trouble; you can add your knowledge by the guide entitled The Annapolis Book of Seamanship: Fourth Edition. Try to stumble through book The Annapolis Book of Seamanship: Fourth Edition as your buddy. It means that it can to be your friend when you truly feel alone and beside that of course make you smarter than in the past. Yeah, it is very fortunate to suit your needs. The book makes you considerably more confidence because you can know everything by the book. So , we need to make new experience as well as knowledge with this book.

Clara Bearden:

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your own personal free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book could be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the e-book untitled The Annapolis Book of Seamanship: Fourth Edition can be great book to read. May be it can be best activity to you.

Gary Spengler:

The reason why? Because this The Annapolis Book of Seamanship: Fourth Edition is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will zap you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book beside it was fantastic author who have write the book in such incredible way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning entirely. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book have such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking means. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I were you I will go to the reserve store hurriedly.

Jacki Warner:

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