

## Mariette and the Herreshoff Schooners

Here is the captivating story of a long, magical cruise through time. It takes the reader on an exciting voyage of discovery aboard a remarkable yacht, the steel schooner *Mariette*, launched in 1916 and one of the last American yachting "cathedrals".

The reader will discover the secrets of this wonderful yacht, a vessel designed by the celebrated "Wizard of Bristol," Nathanael Greene Herreshoff, arguably the most brilliant and inventive naval architect of all time. Six consecutive victories in the America's Cup from 1893 to 1920 underline the outstanding talent of this larger-than-life character.

*Mariette* is a legendary boat and one of less than a handful of surviving major creations built by the Herreshoff Manufacturing Company (HMCo) of Bristol, founded in 1878 by Nathanael Greene and his blind brother John Brown.

What is the secret behind the longevity of this yachting masterpiece? Of course, the talent and know-how of the steelworkers and riveters from Bristol played a major part, but there was also the commitment of *Mariette's* 17 owners and her intrepid captains. The passion of these women and men played a vital role in the yacht's survival - and continues to do so.

Included are testimonies from many of personalities who lived the adventure. They relate many until-now unknown and - sometimes chaotic - aspects of *Mariette's* various lives. The story reveals why *Mariette* is still sailing today in a configuration virtually identical to that of 1916 and is accompanied by numerous plans and drawings.

Research for the book (and the story told) wasn't limited to *Mariette* alone. She was one of a small number of schooners designed and built by Herreshoff - and this book, illustrated with beautiful photography, looks at all of the members of this modest fleet.

During his long career, Nathanael Greene created a tiny number of schooners in relation to his total output. There were just 15, all but one built between 1903 and 1926. Nine were steel (*Mariette* is part of that legendary set), three were composite and two were of wood.

So why so few schooners and what's the reason for the "Wizard of Bristol" converting less than a dozen of his sloops and cutters to schooners when so many rich yachtsmen wanted to sail under this rig? This tale tries to discover the reason and also offers a complete inventory of these yachts, along with the stories of what happened to them through their lives. The research behind the book makes it possible for the first time for anyone to see the original construction plans and sail plans of these marvelous vessels.

On entering the confines of the Wizard's archives, another surprise awaits the passionate - a collection of unfulfilled schooner projects drawn between 1888 and 1938, the year of Nathanael death. These un-built schooners appear to show a hidden interest by this genius for a type of rig for which most evidence suggests he held no particular affection. Weird!

Herreshoff's legacy has fascinated many yachting lovers but none so much as the two enthusiasts who built *Eleonora* and *Elena* - full-size (and highly accurate) replicas of *Westward*.

In his preface, the American historian and Herreshoff specialist, **Maynard Bray**, confirms that this book "is one more important step" in understanding the work and thought processes of Nathanael Greene Herreshoff, "the genius we hold in such high regard."

## THE BOOK...

.... is the fruit of a collective effort orchestrated by **Jacques Taglang**, a lifelong yachting enthusiast. Jacques centered his research on the *Herreshoff Catalogue Raisonné* - **Claas van der Linde's** monumental compilation about Nathanael Greene Herreshoff and the work of the Herreshoff Manufacturing Company work. Claas himself has closely followed Jacques' research, helping him focus some of his development options and also providing additional information and useful corrections.

Many exceptional characters have helped compile the authentic story of *Mariette*:

**Lou Boudreau**, son of *Mariette's* two-time owner, Canadian Walter Boudreau, who was her master between 1960 and 1963 and also from 1967 to 1974

**Erik Pascoli**, skipper of the schooner between 1975 and 1990 and the man who directed the rescue and first major restoration of the yacht **Tom Eaton**, captain of the yacht between 1994 and 1997. He was responsible for the restitution of her original gaff schooner rig

**Christopher Gartner**, captain of the yacht between 1997 and 2002

**Charlie Wroe**, the current captain of the boat

We must also note the valuable contributions of:

- **John Lammerts van Bueren**. He relates the story of *Westward* and her two replicas, *Eleonora* (2000) and *Elena* (2009)
- **Llewellyn Howland III**. He brilliantly describes the art of sailing aboard large schooners at the time of Captain Nat
- **Luigi Lang**. Not only did Luigi help in much of the research but he also prepared the study of the Universal and International rules.

Many other testimonies complete this saga, such as those of **Tom Perkins**, **Chris Gartner**, **Mike Horsley**, **Jonathan Money**, **John Clyde-Smith** and **Luther Dunton**.

Photos illustrating the book include those by the talented photographer **Nigel Pert** who has followed *Mariette* for over 15 years. To these are added many vintage black and white pictures including those of **Edwin Lewick**; **Beken of Cowes**; the **Peabody Essex Museum**; the **Rochester Museum**; and the **Herreshoff Marine Museum**; plus reproductions of two works by the English artist **Jamie Medlin**.

**Kurt Hasselbalch** - the curator of the Hart Nautical Collections of the MIT - has authorized the first publication of Herreshoff schooner construction and sail plans - 35 in all.

Finally, **Maynard Bray**, a leading specialist on the Herreshoffs, offers an illuminating text on methods of steel-hull building at the Herreshoff Manufacturing Company, and has also written the preface to this landmark work.

## SUMMARY of the book “MARIETTE AND THE HERRESHOFF SCHOONERS”

Preface by Maynard Bray

PART ONE – *Mariette*: an exceptional classic yacht

Chapter 1. *Mariette*: her origin

Chapter 2. *Mariette*: the end of a marvelous era

Chapter 3. Francis Crowninshield's obsession

Chapter 4. A wandering life: 1945-1994

Chapter 5. Erik Pascoli: the rebirth of *Mariette*

Chapter 6. Tom Perkins' *Mariette of 1915*, 1994-2005: 11 years of passion

Chapter 7. *Mariette*: under full sail towards her 100th season

PART TWO – The Herreshoff schooners

Chapter 1. Rare first-generation schooners: 1867-1873

*Sachem*, 1853-54, centerboard schooner, James Herreshoff's model

*Sadie*, 1867, centerboard schooner, John Brown Herreshoff's model, Nathanael's sail plan

*Ianthe*, 1870, keel schooner, John Brown Herreshoff's model

*Latona*, 1872, keel schooner, Nathanael Greene Herreshoff's model

*Triton*, 1872, centerboard schooner, modeled by Nathanael Greene and John Brown

*Faustine*, 1873, keel schooner, John Brown Herreshoff's model

Le cas *Zaidee*, 1870, keel schooner

Chapter 2. Some conversions from sloops & cutters to schooners

The case of *Ellen*, 1888, centerboard sloop converted to schooner 1891

*Corona ex-Colonia*, 1893, keel sloop converted to schooner 1896, Nathanael Greene's design

*Rainbow*, 1900, keel cutter probably converted to schooner in 1908, Newport One-Design Seventies, Nathanael Greene's model

*Irolita II*, 1906, centerboard and keel cutter, converted to keel schooner in 1907-1908, Nathanael Greene's model

*Irolita, ex-Istalena*, 1907, keel cutter converted to schooner in 1915, New York Yacht Club Fifty-Seven Footers – NYYC 57 One-Design Class – Nathanael Greene's model

*Seneca*, 1907, keel sloop converted to schooner in 1924, P-Class, Nathanael Greene's model

*Pleione*, ex-*Peerless*, 1913, centerboard sloop converted to yawl 1923, then to schooner 1926, New York 50 One-Design Class, Nathanael Greene's model

*Venture*, ex-*Istalena*, ex-*Ventura*, 1913, keel sloop converted to schooner in 1922, New York 50 One-Design Class, Nathanael Greene's model

*Resolute*, 1914, keel and centerboard sloop converted to schooner 1925, Nathanael Greene's model

*Vixen II*, ex-*Jessica*, 1916, keel sloop converted to schooner in 1978, New York 40 One-Design Class, Nathanael Greene's model

### Chapter 3. The second-generation schooners, 1903-1926

#### 1. The Nathanael Greene Herreshoff steel schooners, 1903-1923

*Ingomar*, 1903

*Queen*, 1906

*Westward*, 1910; *Eleonora*, 2000

*Elena*, 1911; 2009: *Elena* is recreated

*Vagrant*, 1913 – 2nd with that name, known as big *Vagrant*

*Katoura*, 1913

*Mariette*, 1916

*Ohonkara*, 1920

*Wildfire*, 1923

#### 2. The Herreshoff's composite-built schooners, 1910-1926

*Vagrant*, 1910 – the first *Vagrant*

*Haswell*, 1915

*Mary Rose*, 1926

#### 3. The two Captain Nat and A. Sidney DeWolf Herreshoff schooners built in wood by the HMCo

*Harlequin*, 1925

*Rofa*, 1926

### Chapter 4. Sailing aboard big schooners in Captain Nat's time

American yachting cathedrals: the Herreshoff schooners

### Chapter 5. The unfulfilled projects: Nathanael Greene Herreshoff's designs, 1886-1938

## CONCLUSION

**DESCRIPTION** of the book (slipcase for the book and the hard bound file)

- 500 pages; hard bound cover + dust jacket

- book complete with a **separate hard bound file** containing 45 documents as:

- Three large **Nathanael Herreshoff's** plans of *Mariette* (construction, interior, sail) – some water colored of Nathanael Greene Herreshoff - folded at the format file (31 cm x 46 cm)
- 35 Nathanael Greene Herreshoff's plans (construction, interior, sail) – folded at the file format (31 cm x 23 cm)
- 2 *Mariette's* portraits chosen by photographer **Nigel Pert** – at the file format
- 2 reproductions of paintings by English artist **Jamie Medlin** - *Mariette* off the Needles and *Mariette* off Saint-Tropez – at the file format
- two large scale plans (lines and sails) designed by **Francois Chevalier** for modelers, folded at the file format

- Format of the book: : 31 cm/12,2' high, 23,6 cm/9,30' large, 4,9 cm/1,93' thick - 4,370 kg/

- 32 biographies

- 29 Herreshoff schooner data files, besides that of *Mariette*

- 35 reproductions of the original construction and sail plans selected from the Hart Nautical Collections

- A complete list of the New York Yacht Club One-Design Classes

- The list of Herreshoff's schooner wins in major NYYC races

- A comprehensive bibliography

- A detailed index of names and places cited

- A unique and comprehensive detailed index of yachts cited