



NEW PRODUCTS BY ANDREW BURTON

## Piloting, Plotting, and More

THE AMERICAN PRACTICAL NAVIGATOR, OR BOWDITCH, AS IT'S ALSO known, after the author of the 1802 original edition, is a fascinating 800-page reference work that will keep those with any curiosity about the sea amused for hours on end. It explains items as esoteric as the nature and causes of the famous "green flash" at sunset (it's caused by refraction and the nature of the visible spectrum) and as basic as reading a chart; it contains in-

### Better Locking Handles

The **OneTouch Winch Handle** (\$110, for the Power Grip) from Lewmar is the first major development of the lowly winch handle in a couple of decades. Experienced sailors use

the locking mechanism on a winch handle as naturally as lifting a rum bottle, but we've all seen newer sailors struggle to get a locked handle out of a winch. The OneTouch handle changes that. It has the release trigger along the back of the handle so that merely grabbing it and giving it a squeeze will release the lock. We think the old salts aboard will also quickly come to appreciate the intuitive operation of it.



formation about almost anything a mariner would want to know about, from weather to ice navigation.

The Starpath School of Navigation presents Bowditch in a one-DVD or two-CD set called **Bowditch Plus!** (\$60), along with all nine volumes of the *U.S. Coast Pilot*; the seven-volume *U.S. Coast Guard Light List*; *Navigation Rules: International-Inland*; *Chart No. 1: United States of America Nautical Symbols, Abbreviations, and Terms*; the 42 volumes of the worldwide *Sailing Directions*; pilot charts of the North Atlantic Ocean, the South Pacific Ocean, and the Indian Ocean; the *Worldwide Marine Radiofacsimile Broadcast Schedules*, the worldwide weatherfax schedule; and all of the volumes of both sight-reduction tables (HO 229 and HO 249). And that's only the tip of the iceberg: There are more than 114 volumes in total in *Bowditch Plus!*. There's such a wealth of information that it will certainly be a much-referenced source aboard any cruising boat. And the price is a good deal, too, with the print version of Bowditch alone costing more than \$50.

Many cruisers carry bottled water for drinking and use the stuff in their tanks for washing and

### Seagull IV water purifier



ANDREW BURTON (TOP), COURTESY OF THE MANUFACTURERS