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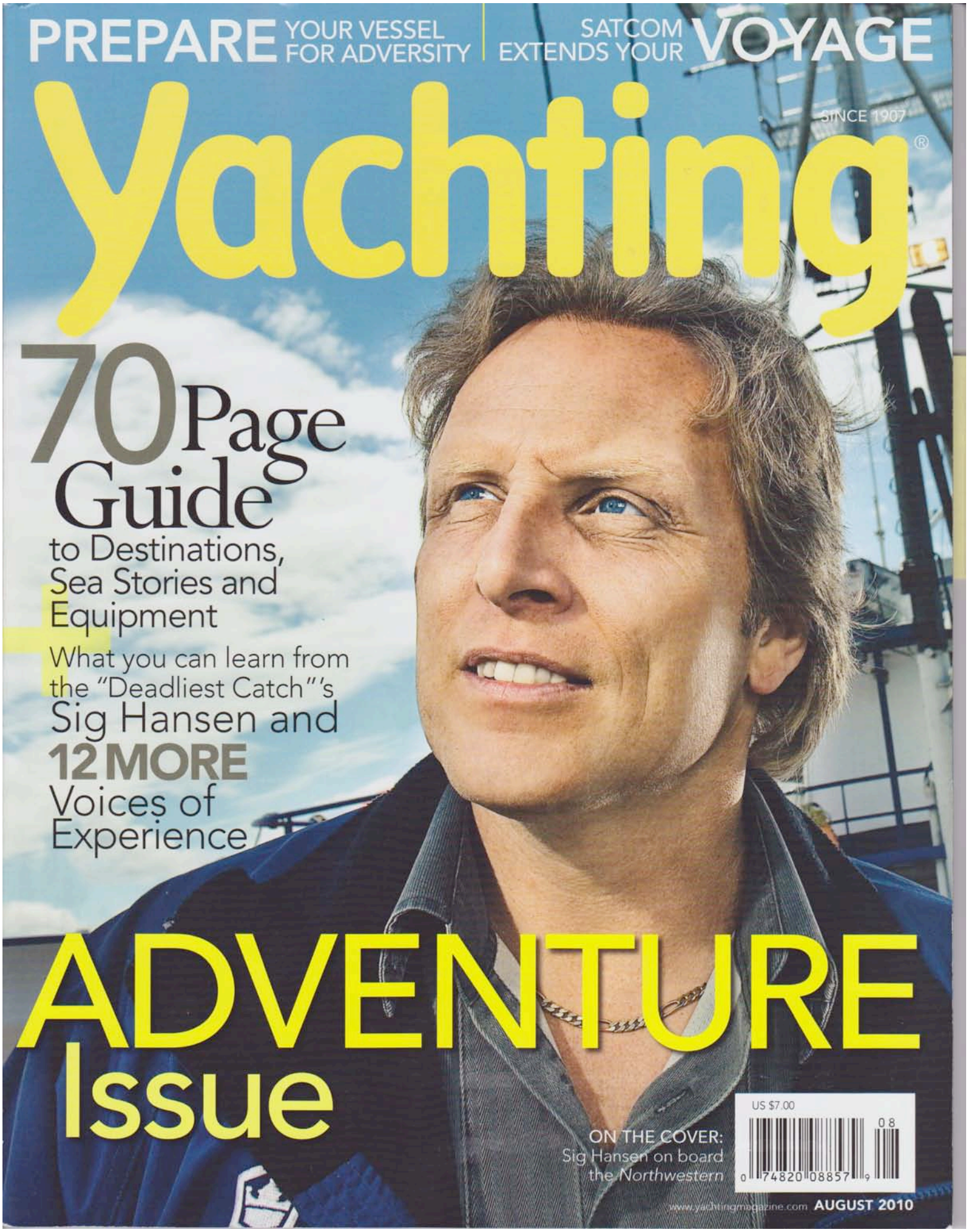

ADVENTURE Issue

ON THE COVER:
Sig Hansen on board the *Northwestern*

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Herb McCormick and Jim Leishman were photographed by Ed Carreón in Santa Barbara, California, on May 18, 2010.

SEEING THE SEA

Herb McCormick, former editor of *Cruising World*, serves as a watch captain on the *Ocean Watch*, a 64-foot Bruce Roberts-designed steel cutter skippered by Captain Mark Schrader. *Ocean Watch* circumnavigated the Americas—including Cape Horn and the Northwest Passage—to call attention to the interconnectedness of the waters that surround the continents and how intertwined our lives are with the sea.

"There's a lot of debate about climate change," says McCormick. "I'm not a scientist, I'm a sailor. But I do know that boats are traversing the Northwest Passage that couldn't make it before."

Ocean Watch's mission is tied to the many people on the American coastline that derive their livelihood from the sea. "In Barrow, Alaska, the issues that are affecting a subsistence whaler, for instance, are very different than what the specific problems are for a fisherman in southern Patagonia," says McCormick. "The problems between those two guys are very different but, at the end of the day, the way their lives are affected is very similar."

"I have so much more of an appreciation for what the problems are in the ocean," says McCormick. "And how much we have to really start to pay attention to this amazing resource that's sort of *out of sight, out of mind* for so many people because they don't get to go out—they don't have the opportunity to go offshore."

For more information, visit www.aroundtheamericas.org.

SMALL BOAT, BIG PRODUCTION

"We'd already had Nordhavns circumnavigate," says Jim Leishman, partner and vice president of Pacific Asian Enterprises, builder of Nordhavn yachts. "But this was our smallest model. We wanted to upload daily reports and we would have [readers] go onto our website and follow this thing. We thought that it would be quite dramatic and be in real time and nothing would be edited. It would be breakdowns of all the stuff we dealt with. We were lucky throughout the process and stayed on schedule and it turned out to be probably one of the funnest things I've ever done."

Leishman and a rotating company crew took the 40-foot production boat around the globe to set the record for smallest powerboat to circumnavigate. "It was just kind of a technical marvel in our minds of what a 40-foot modern little motorboat could do," he says. "The idea of putting us on the Internet and letting everybody participate and educate our company staff, it all worked out."

Keeping the crew safe was Leishman's top priority. "We were at the Raffles marina in Singapore and we had our new crew there and we had two days of provisioning for the next leg," says Leishman. "So I was talking to the harbormaster, and this guy had long hair and a big mustache and I was asking him about the security in the area and was there any problem? We'd heard about the pirates along the Straits of Malacca. He said 'Ah, don't worry about it." And I came back the next day and I asked him again and he said, 'Listen, I used to be a pirate, they're not going to bother you, they're all after the commercial guys.'"

For more information, visit www.nordhavn.com.