

**LOCAL AUTHOR WENDY HINMAN WINS KIRKUS BEST BOOK OF 2017**

Wendy Hinman,

award-winning author of *TIGHTWADS ON THE LOOSE*,

garners more accolades for her second

riveting high-seas adventure:

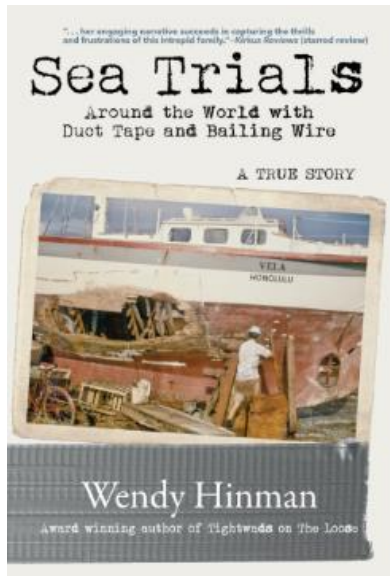
***SEA TRIALS: AROUND THE WORLD WITH DUCT TAPE AND BAILING WIRE***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

***Sea Trials: Around the World with Duct Tape and Bailing Wire* has been awarded Kirkus Best Book of 2017** by Kirkus Reviews, the elite reviewing agency. Fewer than 2% of all books earn a starred review. Even fewer are selected **Best Book of the Month** and, fewer still, **Best Book of the Year**. Wendy Hinman's second book, *Sea Trials* can claim all three. Plus, it has earned glowing reviews from *Cruising World Magazine*, *Sailing Magazine*, *Wooden Boat Magazine* and others, been featured in various gift guides, and an excerpt from it is featured in *Sail Magazine*. With rave reviews from nearly every national sailing magazine plus best-selling authors and readers, it's clear that this book has popular appeal. The buzz about this talented new author continues to build as she follows up her laugh-out-loud award winning *Tightwads on the Loose* with another compelling true story of adventure and the stubbornness of dreams.

*Sea Trials* is the timeless tale of a family and their struggle in the pursuit of a dream: to sail around the world. It's a true story of determination and survival in which parents and their

teenage kids overcome daunting challenges—from shipwreck and wild weather to threats from pirates, gun boats, mines and thieves, a broken rig, scurvy and starvation. Glimpses of the fascinating cultures they encounter along the way enhances the suspense and keeps readers of all ages hooked until the end.



***Sea Trials: Around the World with Duct Tape and Baling Wire***

by **Wendy Hinman**, award-winning author of *Tightwads on the Loose*

(Genre: Travel, Biography, True-life adventure, family drama, sailing)

**A SHIPWRECK MIGHT END**

**A DREAM OF CIRCUMNAVIGATING THE GLOBE.**

**NOT FOR THE WILCOX FAMILY.**

In 1973, the Wilcox family sets off to sail around the world aboard the 40-foot sailboat, *Vela*. Thirteen months later, they are shipwrecked on a coral reef, with surf tearing a huge hole in the side of their boat.

After years invested in saving money, preparing the boat, and learning to navigate by the stars, parents Chuck and Dawn refuse to give up. Fourteen-year-old Garth is determined to continue, while eleven-year-old Linda never wanted to go in the first place. Can they overcome the emotional, physical and financial challenges to transform from castaways into circumnavigators?

To triumph, these pioneers must rebuild their boat on a remote Pacific island. Damage sustained on the reef and a lack of resources haunt them the rest of the way around the world as they face daunting obstacles, including wild weather, pirates, gun boats, mines and thieves plus pesky bureaucrats and cockroaches as stubborn as this family. Without a working engine and no way to communicate with the outside world, they struggle to reach home before their broken rig comes crashing down and they run out of food on a trial that tests them to their limits.

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***Sea Trials: Around the World with Duct Tape and Bailing Wire***

by Wendy Hinman

ISBN 978-09848350-3-4

Paperback edition 434 Pages, including photographs and a glossary

Published 2017, Salsa Press, Paperback \$20, eBook \$5.99

This riveting story will appeal to readers of all ages: adults, young adults and even kids.

For wholesale pricing, visit Ingram or please contact [info@wendyhinman.com](mailto:info@wendyhinman.com). To order your copy of *Sea Trials: Around the World with Duct Tape and Bailing Wire*, please visit: [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), your independent book seller, <http://wendyhinman.com>.

To peruse a digital ARC (advanced review copy), please visit NetGalley: <http://netgal.ly/a6Myce> or contact us to secure a printed galley.

### **Early reviews for *Sea Trials*:**

"...The author's expressive writing captures the wonder of being at sea in all its glory... her engaging narrative succeeds in capturing the thrills and frustrations of this intrepid family. Taking in remarkably far-flung destinations such as Christmas Island and the New Hebrides, this exhilarating book should appeal to any would-be explorer who has stood at the prow of a ship and dreamed of the possibilities. Highly readable and sufficiently evocative to sense the scent of sea air in the pages." —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review). Selected a Kirkus Book of the Month (April 2017). Bestowed the title of **Best Indie Book of the Year 2017**.

"A modern, swashbuckling adventure, *Sea Trials: Around the World with Duct Tape and Bailing Wire* will quickly transport readers through a fascinating, light read out to sea aboard the *Vela*." —*Seattle Book Review*

"What a tale! The Wilcox family's epic 'round-tripper had me turning pages at flank speed. Wendy Hinman crafts a true-life adventure story as outlandish and memorable as *The Swiss Family Robinson*, with shipwreck, reefs, dengue fever, gun-toting soldiers, and teenagers who won't do their homework." —Bruce Barcott, author of *Last Flight of the Scarlet Macaw*, *The Measure of a Mountain*, and *Weed the People* and a contributor to *Outside Magazine*

"A gripping tale of a family's harrowing journey to sail around the world against seemingly insurmountable and deadly odds." —*Robert Dugoni*, the #1 Amazon and #1 Wall Street Journal bestselling author of the *Tracy Crosswhite series*

"*Sea Trials* is a skillfully told story of perseverance, ingenuity, and grit. Wendy Hinman is back with another gripping sea saga, one that's vivid enough to make you feel you're aboard the 40-foot *Vela*...or shipwrecked on a reef in Fiji. Hinman's pacing keeps the story humming along and her eye for detail helps us savor the voyage. Brief, well-placed excerpts from the family's letters read like gems in a treasure hunt." —Janna Cawrse Esarey, author of *The Motion of the Ocean*

"This true story of the Wilcox family is completely riveting and simultaneously insanely frustrating – which means it's a great book! Hinman's attention to little details like family

squabbles and disagreements or stop-gap repairs make the whole trip vivid and real and their concerns intense... you are intensely caught up in the family's decisions and dilemmas while they are facing them and can sympathize with their recurrent optimism and desire to achieve their goal. *Sea Trials* immerses you in the Wilcox's world as you share their great adventure, for good and ill. It is an adventure that, for readers, is well worth the trip." —*San Francisco Book Review*

"*Sea Trials* is a captivating narrative, full of suspense and colorful descriptions of the sailing environment. Readers of all ages will enjoy this story and the skill with which it is told." —*Sailing Magazine*

"Riveting. It is impossible to put down until the nail-biting end." —*Cruising World Magazine*

"In *Sea Trials*, fans of *Tightwads* will find the same conversational style, recounting another mix of mishaps, humor, and foreign-port intrigue. Even armchair sailors will feel their hearts race with the Wilcox family in the cockpit of their 40' Maine pinky, VELA. Hinman delivers another book to let you sail away." —*Wooden Boat Magazine*

"The voyage was extraordinary. Hinman brings the same meticulous research and attention to detail to "*Sea Trials*," engagingly drawing readers into the daily trials and family dynamics that shaped the Wilcoxes' taxing journey" —*Three Sheets Northwest*

"In a time before cell phones and laptops, the Wilcox family set out to sail around the world, but after a shipwreck, their adventure takes a dramatic detour. Thrilling, poignant, and hilarious moments surface as this family struggles to cope with each other, repair the wreck and most of all, to keep going. The only thing missing are recipes for their extreme-budget meals!" —Debra Daniels-Zeller author of *The Northwest Vegetarian Cookbook*

"A satisfying read about the costs and rewards of human endeavor and the effects they have on a family." —Jan Burak Schwert, author of *Geezers' Guide to the Galaxy: A Lifetime of Travel Encounters*

"A nail-biting adventure story."—Elsie Hulsizer, author of *Voyages to Windward and Glaciers, Bears and Totems*

"Hinman has written a compelling story of a family's quest to sail around the world, a trip that starts with equal parts of hope and hubris and becomes a survival tale as the family surmounts

one obstacle after another to keep their ship afloat." —Sharon L. Morris, Adventure Travel Writer

**NOTE: Of particular interest to the media:**

The Wilcoxes returned home to San Francisco to media fanfare in July 1978 after a five-year trial, during which they were shipwrecked, rebuilt the boat, and faced daunting obstacles, from wild weather to threats from pirates, gun boats, mines and thieves, a broken rig, scurvy and starvation. This story generated big press coverage at the time of the shipwreck (Sept 1974) and again upon the family's return after completing their voyage around the world (in July 1978).

The story went out over the AP and UPI news wire services and was picked up in various publications around the world, including the San Francisco Chronicle, Los Angeles Times, New York Times, and newspapers in Toronto and Geneva, among many others, and a television interview with Maury Povich.

*\*She will be presenting at the Seattle Boat Show in January 2018. Specific dates and times: Sunday January 28, 10:15am, Monday January 29 at 2:15pm and 3:15pm and on Saturday February 3 at 11am.*

**About the author:**

Wendy Hinman is the award-winning author of two books. Her first book *Tightwads on the Loose*, tells the story of her 34,000-mile seven-year voyage aboard a 31-foot sailboat with her husband, Garth Wilcox, the teenage hero of her second book, *Sea Trials*. She is currently the

Editor of the Writers Connection and her writing has appeared in a variety of publications. She is an inspiring speaker on turning dreams into reality—or succumbing to delusions and the crazy adventures they provoke. Her presentations are filled with humor and hard-won lessons that amuse and encourage. As a president of Toastmasters, she is a polished presenter and storyteller, who has shared her stories across various media. For more information, or to listen to/view her interviews visit [www.wendyhinman.com](http://www.wendyhinman.com).

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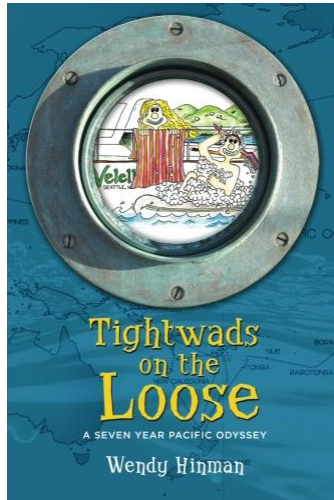
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Contact Wendy Hinman today for an interview or to present to small or large groups as a keynote speaker.

Also by this author:

***Tightwads on the Loose: A Seven Year Pacific Odyssey** features the exciting story of two vagabonds who explore far flung islands and civilizations for seven years aboard a 31-foot wooden boat and learn that a sense of humor is more important than what most might consider “necessities.”*



### **Accolades for *Tightwads on the Loose*:**

Winner of the Journey award for best true-life adventure story.

Chosen a top travel book for women.

“A light-hearted tone and unaffected style make this an entertaining tale.” [San Francisco Book Review](#)

“Dreams of freedom and adventure: For most people, they remain just that — dreams. For certain others, like Wendy Hinman and Garth Wilcox, such dreams are the stuff life is. In 2000 the couple set sail from Puget Sound for a Pacific Odyssey in their 31-foot cutter, *Veleva*. Seven years later, the couple returned home. Along the way, they logged some 34,000 nautical miles, touched 19 countries, endured typhoons, experienced close calls with freighters, potential pirates and phantom night vessels, swam in snake and crocodile infested waters and made do without refrigeration and Internet. A compelling read, “Tightwads on the Loose: a Seven Year Pacific Odyssey” flows as an adventure narrative with a “you are there” flavor. Ms. Hinman had done plenty of professional writing before the voyage: She’s as competent with the written word as she is at sea. And she clearly has a sense of humor — a necessary, conjugal survival tool within the confines of a 31-foot boat small enough to prevent her husband from standing straight up.”  
*Mike Dillon, Magnolia News*

“Lively, thoughtful and entertaining, “*Tightwads on the Loose*” offers a realistic glimpse into the ups and downs of living the cruising dream. Armchair sailors can enjoy the ride, while aspiring voyagers will appreciate Hinman’s honesty. She aptly demonstrates that like most worthwhile pursuits, long-distance voyaging is far from easy, and that’s a large part of what makes it so satisfying.” *Three Sheets Northwest Online Boating News*

“Alternately hilarious, exciting and thought provoking, *Tightwads on the Loose* tells what happens when two people with very disparate personalities set out in a too small boat with a too



small budget. *Tightwads on the Loose* will take you on a glorious romp around the Pacific.”  
[Elsie Hulsizer, author of \*Glaciers, Bears and Totems: Sailing in Search of the Real Southeast Alaska\* and \*Voyages to Windward: Sailing Adventures on Vancouver Island's West Coast\*](#)

“In this e-age of shoddy, sloppy sea yarns, it is nice to discover a wordsmith who cares how the words fall upon the page. Wendy Hinman does. She crafts each sentence with care. She is a pleasure to read. I enjoyed this book right from the title. Funny, too!” [Cap'n Fatty Goodlander, author of numerous books about wandering under sail, a featured columnist in \*All At Sea\* and an Editor-at-Large of \*Cruising World\* magazine.](#)

“Enjoy a wild ride with Wendy Hinman’s *Tightwads on the Loose: A Seven Year Pacific Odyssey*. The pragmatist and the dreamer (at one point Wendy likens herself to Tinker Bell) make entertaining travel companions, and the places they visit capture the imagination.” - [Janna Cawrse Esarey, author of \*The Motion of the Ocean: 1 Small Boat, 2 Average Lovers, and a Woman's Search for the Meaning of Wife\*](#)

***Tightwads on the Loose*** is the charming true story of a couple whose big dream is to circumnavigate the Pacific Ocean was not deflated by a small budget. Hinman’s self-effacing style and eye for the hilarious make the seven-year, 34,000-mile tale a pleasure to read. *Sailing Magazine*

More than 140 positive reviews on Amazon.

**Find out what readers** are saying on Amazon.com and at <http://wendyhinman.com/tightwads-on-the-loose/what-some-readers-are-saying-about-tightwads-on-the-loose/>.