TREASURE TREACHERY
On The 1715 Fleet

...a FICTIONAL piece for Adults and Teens, by Ernie “SeaScribe” Richards. Take a ride with three adventurous divers as they poach some coins from the ballast pile of a 1715 Fleet Spanish shipwreck. This tale of diving, daring, and deception on Florida’s “Treasure Coast” first appeared as a serialized work in Treasure Quest Magazine in 1997 and 1998 ... but it now has an added twist!

Excerpt:

“Sondra skillfully pulled the cruiser away from City Dock, entered the channel, and headed for the inlet. It was getting close to dark, so the boat traffic had lightened, and the seas were returning to their evening calmness. The big silver disc of a moon had begun its ascent from the eastern horizon in the hazy, peach-gray dusk. Once out of the inlet and clear of the south jetty, Sondra advanced her throttles and turned the wheel to the right. There was barely a ripple on the evening waters, and with another increase of the revs, Corsair did what she did best... got up on a plane and cruised.”

“Half an hour later Sondra switched on her running lights and the radar. Nighttime was now dropping its black velvet curtain with a vengeance. The sweeps on the radar screen showed Fort Pierce Inlet quite a distance behind her. And it showed the stacks at the nuclear power plant off to her right. She checked the chart she had laid out on the table, and she swung Corsair’s bow to a new heading...”

Critically reviewed for EN RADA by John Brandon, A. K. Craig, David Crooks, Taffi Fisher, James Miller, Ellie Richards, Bob Weller, and Bev Wotring in 2001, Treasure Treachery sat on the “back burner” of our files until 2015, the 300th Anniversary of the loss of the 1715 Fleet, and ... it contains many of the reviewers’ suggestions.

This illustrated “novelette” relates its facts and its fiction in 48 5.5” x 8.5” pages, which includes an introduction to the now-famous maritime calamity.

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