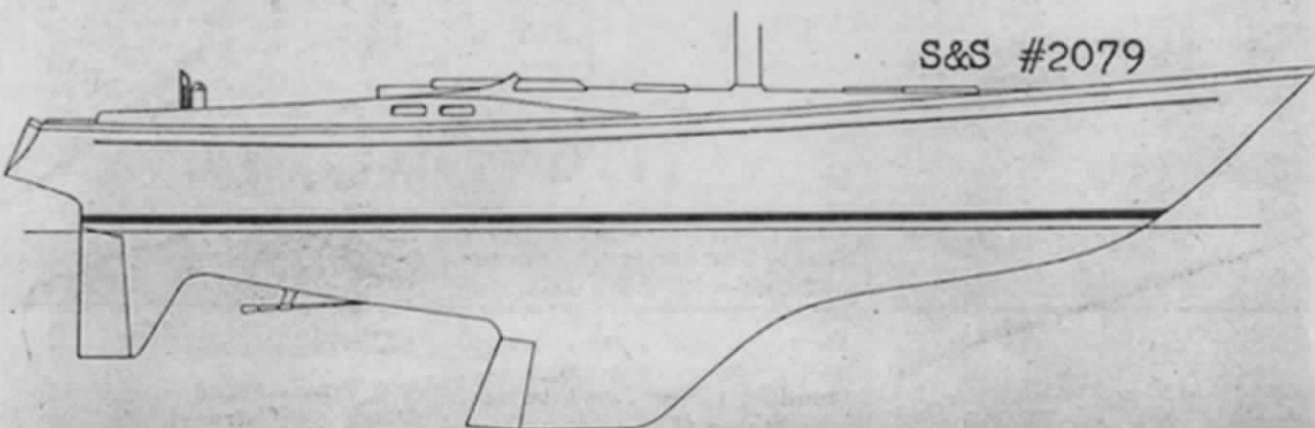


with Anthony Churchill

OFFSHORE



New Swan 48 bustles around 10R

YET ANOTHER Swan will be gliding through the world's race results next season. And by the look of her she might be the most successful jug collector so far out of the range of five Sparkman and Stephens designed Nautor Ky-built Swan yachts.

A 48 footer, she is fractionally longer on the waterline than the Swan 55, which indicates the general trend towards shorter overhangs. The estimated rating—some 2.3 ft under the lwl despite the lofty 60 ft rig—should make her extremely competitive and shows Stephens' careful approach to the rating problem. Indeed, the bustle, first used by Stephens as a method of reducing quarter wave drag is pro-

gresively being developed as a method of reducing the rating by divorcing the "measured" counter from the underwater lines and therefore the waterline length of the boat.

This 48 footer, although not the latest from the New York firm, seems to have taken this concept a stage further from boats such as Morning Cloud, with her rudder post only some 4 ft from the end of the counter. Interestingly, the skeg hung rudder design has changed from the earlier days of low aspect ratio shapes, to a deep up and down blade, which apart from increasing the "lift" characteristics of the blade should produce lighter steering.

The keel is a rectangular shape with a hard toe and a long flat putting the ballast low down and as central as possible.

The most obvious "hard" race feature of the boat is the blister type deck seen on Morning Cloud giving an unobstructed working area for the crew and yet providing headroom below.

To provide the best possible surface the whole deck is "planked" in teak veneer. In order to get some light below—a problem with flush deck boats—the blister is flattened in way of the companionway so the cockpit coaming runs forward to provide a blended-in deckhouse.

Like all the Swans, she is no stripped out machine below and features twin toilets an owners' stateroom (situated aft of the companionway) a dinnette style saloon and a comprehensive galley. Loa, 48 ft 1 in, lwl 39 ft, beam 13 ft 7 in, draft 7 ft 9 in, displacement 34,000 lbs, ballast 14,000 lbs, sail area 1,059 sq ft.