

in which Lane defines both “pirate” and “privateering.” By comparison, the same cannot be said of Marley’s *Pirates of the Americas*. Marley does not define “pirate” anywhere in the text: a significant shortcoming.

Without an introduction and with prefaces and some entries that require pre-existing knowledge of the topic, this reference source can leave readers feeling “lost at sea.” For example, the reader is left to ponder why certain individuals are mentioned. One can only guess that entries for “Alford, Lewis (fl. 1659)” and “Allen, Captain (fl. 1659)” are included because they are referenced in someone’s journal, in this case that of Colonel Edward D’Oyley, Governor of Jamaica (8). Moreover, the title of many biographical entries contains “fl.,” and unfortunately, this is never defined anywhere in the text, leaving readers in a quandary. By consulting the online version of the *Hutchinson Dictionary of Abbreviations and Acronyms* (Helicon, 2005), one discovers that “fl.” stands for the Latin term *flourit*, which means “he/she flourished” (8). Illustrations and maps certainly do not flourish in this encyclopedia. Maps would greatly enhance this reference source, especially for the geographically challenged.

The breadth of this encyclopedia is its best asset. The content is not based solely on the adventures of pirates, but also contains entries on those who warded them off, such as “Barreda Villigas, Felipe de (fl. 1680–1685).” Entries include an array of biographies and a mix of geographic place names and definitions, including slang terms such as “Apostles”: a military slang term used during the sixteen hundreds to describe the “charges carried in a bandolier or cartridge belt . . . usually number[ing] a dozen” (483). Duplication of entries, primarily geographic locations and vocabulary terms, occur, with entries for “Barre’s Tavern” and “Billards” appearing in both volumes. With the exception of biographical entries, most articles are a page or less in length. Entries are arranged alphabetically. Volume one, which focuses on the period 1650 to 1685, emphasizes the escapades of Dutch, English, French, and Spanish pirates. Volume two, 1686 to 1725, subtly shifts away from the Dutch and Spanish and toward the English and French. The most useful sections appear in each volume and include the following: a detailed chronology, a glossary, and a documents section, containing primary source materials. These features redeem the encyclopedia to an extent.

Unfortunately, the strengths of *Pirates of the Americas* cannot offset its weaknesses. Therefore it stands as an optional title for public, school, and academic libraries.—*Elizabeth A. Young, Research and Information Literacy Librarian, Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland*

Seas and Waterways of the World: An Encyclopedia of History, Uses, and Issues. Ed. by John Zumerchik and Steven L. Danver. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2 vols. alkaline \$165 (ISBN 978-1-85109-711-1). E-book available, call for pricing.

Editors Zumerchik and Danver approach this vast topic—interestingly arranged alphabetically under three different headings—primarily from the point of view of the use of the

world’s many manifestations of water. “History of the World’s Seas and Waterways” includes such entries as “African Rivers,” “Australian Ports” and “Harbors, North American Dams and Locks,” and “Caspian Sea.” “Uses of the World’s Seas and Waterways” has entries such as “Methane Hydrates,” “Fishing Methods and Technology,” “Pharmaceuticals from the Sea,” and “Containerization.” The third section, “Issues Pertaining to the World’s Seas and Waterways,” includes such entries as “Research Vessels and Missions,” “Storm and Flood Control,” and “Pollution.” This two-volume set has a complete index to the set in each volume, always helpful, and a chronology and glossary at the end of the second volume. Black and white photographs, maps, and prints are used throughout, if somewhat sparingly. The occasional “sidebars,” usually biographical or related to a specific conference or set of laws, are a darker gray in background than is ideal and appealing for reading comfortably. There are thirty-five contributors, mostly university professors from the United States, but Australia, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Nigeria are also represented.

The entries vary in length, but are generally well done and offer an eclectic look at the world’s oceans, rivers, and lakes, as well as the title’s seas and waterways. The size of the set precludes longer, comprehensive articles, but the editors do not pretend to cover their topics in depth in 126 entries with an average length of five pages. Interesting articles about the history of the use of waterways, natural and manmade, trace the growth of commerce, political contention, research, and recreation related to water on our planet.

The editing could have been more stringent—I found three proofreading errors in three different entries in the first hour of examination of this source. Additionally, in a comparatively short work, why are both “Coastal Tourism Industry” and a “Seaside Resorts and Tourism” among the only thirty-six entries in the “Uses” section?

For the most part, however, this is a rather unique reference source that is only partially comparable to various encyclopedias on oceans and seas, such as Richard Ellis’s *Encyclopedia of the Sea* (Knopf, 2000) or Dorrik Stow’s *Encyclopedia of the Oceans* (Oxford University Press, 2004). Its emphasis on economics and commerce and its focus on all types of waterways means that it also overlaps with such encyclopedias as Michael Luck’s *Encyclopedia of Tourism and Recreation in Marine Environments* (CABI, 2008) as well as encyclopedias on inland waters such as lakes and rivers—and even some encyclopedias on the history of technology. Recommended for high school, public, and college and university libraries.—*Judith Faust, Chair, Library Faculty, California State University, East Bay, Hayward, California*

Spaceflight: A Historical Encyclopedia. By Patrick J. Walsh. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2010. 3 vols. alkaline \$295 (ISBN 978-0-313-37869-0). E-book available (ISBN 978-0-313-37870-6), call for pricing.

Building upon knowledge acquired from writing his book, *Echoes Among the Stars: A Short History of the U.S. Space*

SOURCES

Program (M.E. Sharpe, 2000), Patrick J. Walsh offers a handsome, three-volume, 1,473 page reference set chronicling humankind's efforts to push men, women, and machines into space.

The set includes 699 alphabetically arranged entries, all presented in a very readable font with an attractive layout and design. Half are devoted to biographical sketches of astronauts, cosmonauts, and political figures and the other to topical entries. Entries range in length of only a few paragraphs to eighteen or more pages for more extensive topics. The text is illustrated with 148 black and white photographs.

The most attractive element of this set is how it offers readers the opportunity to cross-reference mission-focused topical entries with biographical sketches of crew members. Thus, for 283 (of the 355 or so) topical entries that focus on mission-by-mission descriptions of the Mercury, Vostok, Gemini, Apollo, Soyuz, Salyut, Skylab, and Space Shuttle programs, there are some 350 biographical entries for the astronauts and cosmonauts that flew in the vehicles. The content focuses on the public face of man's space programs. Thus, while the entries are well written, factual, and noncontroversial, much of the work of chronicling the American and Soviet military and classified intelligence space programs is left to future writers.

There is an enormous body of information available on the American and Soviet space programs. Indeed, all the participants knew they were making history and that historians, documentary film specialists, and archivists were typically nearby documenting events as they occurred. Thus, for someone compiling a historical encyclopedia of spaceflight, it's a target rich environment. Yet, the fact that this is only a three volume set may prompt librarians to wonder, "What's missing?" The answer is detail. Confronted with the sheer volume of primary and secondary source documents, and all the related news accounts, books, dissertations, and technical reports, plus the enormous volume of material in the NASA History Office, Walsh could easily have filled a twenty-five-volume or more set. Instead, he chose to focus only on the "stars of the show": the most well-known missions and personnel that make up the history of human space exploration.

There are, for example, few entries profiling the companies that built the facilities, laboratories, test rockets, and actual boosters and shuttles. There are no specific entries discussing the significance of the Atlas, Delta, Jupiter, or Saturn launch vehicles, or the military missile commands within the intelligence community or the Department of Defense. There's no entry describing the history and development of Cape Canaveral/Kennedy as America's prime launch facility. There are no specific entries for Tiros 1, the first successful weather satellite launched by the United States; or Telstar 1, the first U.S. satellite to beam a live transatlantic telecast; or for Ranger 7, the U.S. satellite that was the first to relay close-range photographs of the moon.

To test the inclusiveness of biographical entries, a comparison of the names given specific entries with biographical descriptions of cosmonauts posted on the official NASA website reveals that 14 of the 41 cosmonauts are not among

the 350 or so biographical entries in Walsh's set. While some of the cosmonauts were backup crewmen, some of these individuals did fly or have other prominent roles in the Russian space program. In another test of the biographical entries, a comparison of names appearing in the extensive "Biographical Appendix" of John M. Logsdon's multi-volume, *Exploring the Unknown: Selected Documents in the History of the U.S. Space Program* (NASA History Office, 1995–present), reveals that only 18 of the 199 individuals listed appear in Walsh's set.

Offsetting some of these weaknesses is the fact that Walsh includes an excellent, detailed, forty-three-page cumulative subject index and two helpful appendixes: a twenty-five-page "Chronology of Human Spaceflight" and a nineteen-page "Chronology of Extravehicular Activities (EVAs)." For added measure, Walsh provides a selective, twenty-seven-page classified bibliography with citations appearing under sixteen broad headings, any one of which would serve as an excellent term paper topic.

Formerly a member of the literature and communications faculty at Pace University in New York, Walsh's writing reflects his reporting background. Each entry concisely answers all the who-what-when-where-how questions that readers might want to know about a mission or prominent figure, and the content appears accurate, authoritative, and well crafted. This set is recommended for middle and high school libraries, public libraries, and academic libraries supporting undergraduate nonspecialists.—R. Neil Scott, *User Services Librarian, James E. Walker Library, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee*

Toys and American Culture: An Encyclopedia. By Sharon M. Scott. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2010. 418p. Acid free \$85 (ISBN 978-0-313-34798-6). E-book available (ISBN 978-0-313-34799-3).

Most people would agree that the twentieth century was a period of profound technological and cultural change. As this engaging book demonstrates, the extent of these changes can be seen quite clearly in the transformation of American toys over the course of the twentieth century. The technologies of mass production and mass communication have transformed toys from simple handmade items to the more complex mass-produced character-licensed products we see today. *Toys and American Culture* chronicles this transformation by examining notable toys, the people who created and marketed them, and the interplay between toys and twentieth century American society. This reference work includes articles for such integral pieces of Americana as G.I. Joe and Barbie, as well as an examination of the social issues relating to these toys, such as whether they perpetuate gender stereotypes.

The book is quite accessible in both writing and format. The alphabetically arranged topics include perennial favorites (Silly Putty and PLAY-DOH), more recent popular creations (Transformers and Bratz), and even fads (pet rocks). Histories of companies such as Hasbro and retailers such as FAO Schwartz are included, as are biographical articles on indi-