



CYRG Update – November 2020

HELLO from Captain Rick!

In the hope that this finds all of you safe and healthy, I thought it is time to bring you up to date on how ELF and CYRG are coping with the pandemic, and take a look ahead to what we hope will be an active 2021, back on the water. We have all seen our worlds turned upside down, making planning anything difficult, especially since we are subject to the rules of the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (CBMM). As many know, we did NOT rig ELF this year, patiently awaiting better times. She sat at dockside all year, with very limited opportunity to maintain her, and the painting and varnishing we do every year.

In the next few weeks, I will reconstruct the winter cover that was destroyed in a storm and start winterizing the boat and engine. Once covered, work begins on resurfacing the deck, starting with stripping the decks of finish, and building up oils before next season. As always, I am very grateful for anyone who can offer a hand, and while ELF will stay in St. Michaels this winter, let me know if I can help with transportation. There is always something to do on a wooden boat to keep her in the spotlight. Your support, in all the many forms it takes, is deeply appreciated.

In light of all the Covid-related problems this year, I do not want membership dues to be an issue for anyone, so I have suggested to the board that dues be forgiven for the year—a bye-year, so to speak! Dues will be reinstated when there is some sort of return to “normalcy”!

Regardless of what you have been able to contribute in 2020, you are always appreciated by us and we hope to see you aboard in 2021. And as you start your online holiday shopping, please remember to designate **Classic Yacht Restoration Guild** (cyrg.org) as the beneficiary of your purchases through Amazon Smile. It’s amazing how those dollars add up!

Finally, many of you know, this was my 50th year with ELF as owner, restorer, captain and campaigner. I do not know how many more years we can keep ELF going, but I am committed to a few more years, God willing, and will continue to seek opportunities to campaign her. Now, more than ever, your support is critical to our mission, and we can’t wait to welcome you back on board in 2021. I am optimistic that we will see the light getting brighter with the coming of the new year, and Covid will finally loosen its grip on our lives. As our ancestors have reminded us, this too will pass, and hopefully soon!

Be SAFE!

Capt. Rick