Restoring Elf

Presented by

Richard Carrion

Classic Yacht Restoration Guild

March 22, 2005

Presented to The Union League of Philadelphia
About Elf

- Lawley Boatworks, launched April 1888
- “30 Footer” Class: L.O.D. = 38 feet
- Made for Mr. W. H. Wilkinson
- Sold in 1890 to Mr. Henry Howard
- 1912 Lead keel donated to WWI cause
- Considered to be America’s oldest small yacht
Elf Leads the Pack

• 1888 Innovative design/construction
• 1888–1897 High gaff rig wins races
• 1893 Initiates off-shore cruising
• 1932 Van Lenneps to Chesapeake Bay
• 1965 Ches Bay Maritime Museum founded by Gus and Veda Van Lennep
• 1976 Leading Yacht in Operation Sail, Baltimore Harbor
• 1980 Best in Fleet Award: Classic Yacht Club of America

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The Racing Years: Cape Cod

Elf sailing in Marblehead, 1888

Elf on Historic voyage to Halifax, 1893

Boston Yacht Club Racing
Marblehead, Massachusetts, 1889

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Conversion to Yawl Rig

1897
Chesapeake Bay Years

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Elf Restoration Comments

- Unique design using iron floor timbers prevented hogging and preserved her beautiful shape
- Elf’s classic appeal sustained interest over a century
Elf Restoration Personnel

Graham Ero, Boatwright

John Griffiths, Consultant

Kurt Hasselbach, M.I.T. Consultant

Peter Vemilia, Mystic Seaport Museum
Elf Restoration Project
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1888 1991 2001

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1991

2001

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Shudder Plank, 2001

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Elf Restoration Schedule

- 1991 Hauled for Restoration
- 1991–2001 Futtocks and Structural
- 2001 Shudder Plank
- 2001–2004 Interior Construction
- 2004 Auxilliary and Structure
- 2005 Decking
- 2006 Launch
- 2006 Spars and Rigging
Elf Restoration Benefactors

- Maryland Historical Trust
- Cecil County Historical Trust
- Classic Yacht Restoration Guild
- Gus and Veda Van Lennep
- Peter R. Kellogg
Elf’s Future

- Flagship of Classic Yacht Restoration Guild
- Maritime Education
- Environmental Awareness
- National Historic Register
- Restoration ensures survival for another century