



NEW DATE, NEW RACE COURSE for 8th ANNUAL ELF CLASSIC

Sailors and boating fans are invited to join the 1888 racing yacht ELF for the 8th annual ELF Classic Yacht Race on Saturday, September 29, sponsored by the Classic Yacht Restoration Guild (CYRG) and the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (CBMM).

This informal no-ratings race recreates the tradition of centuries-old yacht regattas, with proceeds benefitting the educational missions of both CBMM and CYRG, to foster interest in restoring and preserving vintage boats that reflect true maritime heritage. This year's Classic celebrates the 130th anniversary of ELF's construction.

The seven previous races were held in early May, with a start in Annapolis, race across the Bay and finish at CBMM. The 2018 event will take place exclusively on the Miles River, offering land and sea spectators an unparalleled view of classic sailing yachts.

The fleet of classic yachts will join ELF in a cloud of traditional sail for a race run in the style of the 1880's, featuring the nautical version of a "Le Mans start". Captains will row their boat's tender to shore at CBMM for the firing of the starting gun, at which the captains row back to their boats, raise anchors and sails, and get underway.

Spectators and guests are welcome to watch this unique 10 AM start and spend the day at CBMM to explore the world-renowned museum, while watching the race from shore. As the race ends, captains will anchor off Fogg Cove, and row to shore to sign the race log on the deck of the Steamboat Building. A post-race reception and awards ceremony will then be held.

To be part of this unique event, boats are invited to register their classic or traditional design vessel early. Registration is limited to 30 vessels and is expected to be fully subscribed. Wooden and historic vessels will have priority if over-subscribed.

For registration forms and additional details, visit www.cyrg.org, or call ELF Captain Rick Carrion, 443-566-2212.

The Classic Yacht Restoration Guild is a 501(c)(3) non-profit membership organization that has as its mission the preservation of maritime heritage through the maintenance and operation of the sailing yacht ELF. Built in 1888 by the renowned Lawley Yard in Boston, ELF was restored to historically accurate condition by the Guild and re-launched in 2008.