Elf, past and future

President's Message

Life Is Good

... by Rick Carrion

I want to start by saying I am feeling great; life is good. My outlook toward the future couldn't be better. It is great to report progress is being accomplished with Elf material and funding acquisition.

When Graham finished the deck carlings last spring we took a break in the physical work. The restoration project has seemed like a marathon or triathlon. I welcomed the break to kind of catch my breath, rejuvenate my soul, and prepare for future restoration activities.

Through the recent pause in work, many new members came aboard, we made new contacts for materials and funding. We are still in need of wood and other materials for the restoration.

As needs arise I am trying to get different people, companies, or organizations to sponsor a specific facets of the restoration. That could include items like spars, rigging, rope, sails, sail cloth, or any portion. We have had several successes and need to continue to work hard to meet our spring 2000 launch goal.

Graham an I are currently planning to reactivate the restoration process early this spring.

We are at a point where members will be able to participate more actively in the restoration and learning process. As usual there is always something to do. So, if you have some time to spare I feel certain I can always find a tool to fit your hands and a worthwhile restoration experience. You may have skills that we need or even acquire some new ones through the process. Our members' efforts and contributions will help to make sailing ELF a reality sooner. I look forward to the day when I can take you sailing down the Chesapeake Bay, up the coast, or just out for a picnic cruise.

Elkton High School Students meet with Gov. Glendening to discuss Smart Growth
Students Working for the Bay

Recently I attended the Governors Environmental Youth Summit with several of my students. Former Maryland Governor, Harry Hughes, keynote speaker in the morning session introduced everyone to the concept of urban sprawl and graphically presented Maryland’s historical perspective. This set the tone for the day. Students then moved to breakout sessions to encourage them to consider several issues that have an impact on them. The purpose of the sessions was to develop a positive environmental ethic.

During our lunch presentation Maryland Governor Parris Glendenning identified his Smart Growth Plan. Students understood the benefits for everyone to encourage intelligent and sensitive development or redevelopment in areas that had been abandoned, such as industrial complexes or neglected housing sites. Several real success stories were shared from around Maryland.

During our afternoon session my students were given a real development challenge. After a brief introduction, students worked in small groups to design a total waterfront community on 200 acres. Then they presented their ideas to the owner. There were several interesting fresh concepts that students introduced that the owner and developer particularly appreciated.

Students took the main idea home: Maryland is working to curb sprawl by redeveloping outdated, previously developed lands. They realized many positive environmental benefits to our beloved Chesapeake Bay, while creating viable economic advantage, and opportunities. What a wonderful seed to plant in young minds.

$5,000 Challenge

In an effort to encourage continued support and membership, I have decided to match all contributions and membership donations to a maximum of $5,000. Please feel free to be generous now with your end-of-the-year contributions. It is vital to show membership support since this is a major factor associated with future grant success. Also I must say at this time it has been truly uplifting to see renewed interest many of you have shown with your recent contributions. All your efforts help to get Elf launched in a timely fashion.

Elf is an historically significant vessel. All of us want to see her return to her original glory. Your help can allow this to happen soon.

You will be a part of not only the restoration process, but be able to experience her in the water. In addition, you will have the satisfaction of knowing you were a significant part of restoring a bit of American History.
The Classic Yacht Restoration Guild Vision

The Classic Yacht Restoration Guild is a non-profit membership organization dedicated to the preservation of traditional watercraft, both power and sail. Yacht restorations are accomplished through a combination of member donated skills and resources. A cooperative educational setting is provided by the Guild for all members who wish to acquire or sharpen boat maintenance and restoration skills. Our membership is diverse. Each member can participate either as an instructor, a student of restoration techniques, a participant in Guild sailing events and cruises or as a supporter through dues and donations. The Guild also offers a variety of resources and skilled professionals who are qualified and interested in helping you connect with the right people to assist with your project.

Work on our flagship ELF currently involves restoration of the original rig, deck, and cabin configurations. In addition, the Guild has received donations of many small craft which are used as demonstration and education projects. Ships carpentry, rigging, mechanics, and fine wood finishing are all topics covered by periodic workshops held while restoration projects are underway.

Once a guild vessel is made seaworthy, the true pleasure of operating historic or significant small craft begins. Members are encouraged to sail Guild vessels with emphasis on instruction of boating safety, piloting, navigation, and the maritime history of the Chesapeake Bay. The Guild plans several cruises to maritime and waterfront festivals every season. Members serve as crew and staff displays at these events.

As a non-profit organization, the Guild always welcomes tax-deductible contributions. For example, the Guild received a 1963 vintage Lightning class racing sailboat and a large library of titles on boat building, maintenance, and maritime history. Also, donation of items used for restoration or fund raising are also tax deductible.

With a growing membership, the Classic Yacht Restoration Guild looks forward to increasing activity and good times. Please ask a member for further information and details.

Calendar of Events

December 9 -
Board of Directors Meeting
4:00 PM
Rick’s Home

December 23 -
Organizational Meeting for Winter and Spring Restoration Projects

Potluck dinner to follow the above events.
Call to indicate interest.

410-275-2819

“Arm Chair Sailor/Supporter”

We define this as anyone who has an interest in our programs and may want to be less active but send support and encouragement. As a member you may become actively involved in restoration projects, a casual observer at workshops, or simply enjoy reading about events. At any rate, your contributions assure our continued success.

Boats for Sale

• Lightning, fiberglass, need some work (Best Offer)
• Lightning, wood, need minor work (B.O. above $2,500)
• 15' Runabout 35hp Johnson, needs work (B.O.)
• Pringell 16' Catamaran, needs minor work (B.O.)
• Flying Scott Jr. minor work (B.O.)
• Catalina 22 (B.O. above $2000)

Please Post

We are enclosing a list of some current wood needs. We would appreciate you posting or distributing the list to marinas and those who might be able to help us in procuring the materials needed.

Our primary needs are spars, bow sprint, and other rigging components. Please give serious consideration to chatting with your local marina manager to see what might be tucked away somewhere. Ask them to contact us directly.
THE HELM

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