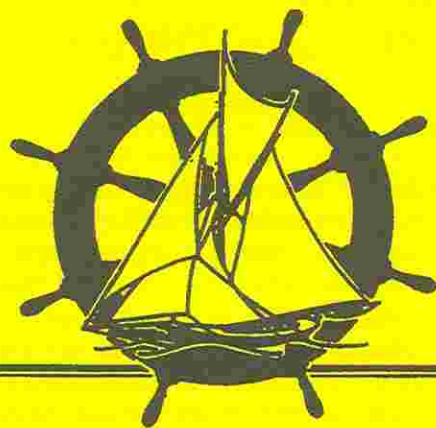


THE HELM

Summer, 2000

A PUBLICATION OF
THE CLASSIC YACHT RESTORATION GUILD, INC.



Elf, past and future



President's Message

"Don't Count Your Chickens"

... by Rick Carrion

On Tuesday, July 25, I called Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) to inquire about the status of the grant that we applied for. Due to formalities I was not told our ranking status since it was about to be announced by the secretary of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. In further conversation I was told Elf is being featured in the MHT newsletter and was offered extra copies. After the call I thought "WOW!" things are looking great with the grant and it was hard to stay only cautiously optimistic. For the next two days I was beside myself waiting to read the anticipated good news. On July 27, (my 49th birthday) I received the letter and excitedly opened it in the post office only to find we were granted \$--0--. I was kind of shocked after all the effort and the build up. OH WELL.

Sometimes it is hard to stay optimistic with such disappointments! I realized I must do everything to keep moving forward, but sometimes it seems as though we become becalmed with a flood tide moving toward the rocks.

After thinking about what had happened and where to go from here I felt it necessary to find out how to improve our chances prior to the next grant cycle. We did receive a "potentially fundable" ranking, and MHT encouraged us to reapply. Upon further inquiry I discovered that MHT only provides funds for renewed portions of structures. When writing the grant I requested funds for the transportation of Elf to the water and the actual launching. (Something that is rarely done with other types of structures)

This disappointment has set us back somewhat. I do plan to reapply for the next grant cycle, making changes in several categories. Another aspect I am working on is acquiring additional support in advance. Other members and I have started campaigning to obtain restoration materials, time commitments and, of course, other sources of funding. The more we get from other sources the less we will need to request from MHT and we hope, the better our chances will be for future funding from MHT. If you know any specific sources of possible funding please forward them to me and I will go to work!

Thanks,

Graham's Letter

Elf's life now seems to be as renewed as her new pine planking. In the past, all she seemed to have was a past: a famous designer, previous owners, places she'd been, storms weathered, accidents survived, lots of history and the ravages of time. All the things that depressed and discouraged were the things that also motivated and inspired Rick and his friends.

Now Elf has an undeniable future as well as a wonderful past. As she stands now, for anyone to see, Elf is a powerful presence. Before she seemed to struggle to stay a float, now she looks like she would float on the water like a bird.

The locust deck beams are set in place and sanded smooth. Now we are discussing deck material like we discussed planking material a few years ago.

There is still a lot left to do but I feel a growing level of excitement. Installation of the auxiliary, mast, and rigging are all complex undertakings. There are still hardware and deck detailing as well as interior layout, but it no longer feels as overwhelming as it once did.

Elf's new presence is urging us all to the water's edge.

“Annual Crab Feast #? and BBQ”

This year's crab feast is scheduled for September 9 with September 16 reserved as a rain date. The Crab Feast will be held from 1 pm until . . . We are very fortunate to be invited back to the Cherry Grove Farm beachfront on the Bohemia River. Many Thanks to Mrs. Betty Ward for extending this opportunity. To everyone who has attended before, you know how wonderful it is to eat crabs, swim, sail, kayak, or simply relax with old friends. To all new members and friends, you are in for a real treat! This is one of the most wonderful settings on the Bay to enjoy an afternoon with friends and Maryland's best eats. Please mark your calendars now and call to reserve your crabs in a true Cecil County, Maryland Paradise.

It is very important that you call 1-410-275-2819 to make your reservations.

Cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members, children under 16 are admitted free. Please realize this is a fundraising effort for the Elf restoration. Your attendance is greatly appreciated. Just remember you are helping in the Elf restoration by enjoying a day of fun and eating some of Maryland's best: BLUE CRABS.

Please consider bringing any special treat to share, your beach chair, your boat, and any swimming gear. I sincerely hope you can join us to make this event another great success.

“Wood for Sale”

Over the past several months I have sold several thousand board feet of my personal lumber stocks to help generate funding for Elf's restoration. I still have thousands of board feet of white oak and other high quality lumber. If you are in the planning stages of a project, I may also be able to help you cut your lumber list of large and unique sizes.

I will soon be cutting white oak timbers for three different restoration projects. Let me know, as soon as possible, your specific lumber needs. (1-410-275-2819)

“Membership”

It has been very uplifting to see our paid membership and donations begin to rise again. I want to thank everyone for your continued and renewed support.

“Board of Directors”

At a convenient time during our crab feast I would like to hold a brief board of directors meeting. Directors and members are asked to contribute ideas for discussion.

Also please consider nominations to expand our Board of Directors. (Possible self-nominations?)

Calendar of Events

September 9 - Crab Feast
(Rain date September 16)

September 30 - Decking Workshop

October 14 - Painting Workshop

October 28 - Hull Fairing

November 11 - Board of Directors - Meeting

All of the above events, except for the Crab Feast, will be held at ELF Workshop.

**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 sends 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, needs some work (Best Offer)
- Lightning, wood, needs minor work (B.O. above \$2,500)
- 15' Runabout 35hp Johnson, needs work (B.O.)
- Prindle 16' Catamaran, needs minor work (B.O.)
- FJ racing dinghy, needs minor work (B.O.)
- Catalina 22 (B.O. above \$2000)

“Interlux”

I am very happy to welcome aboard our latest corporate sponsor; a world famous marine finishes company, Interlux. We look forward to using Interlux products to develop a “Show Quality” finish, and a mutually beneficial partnership.

The Classic Yacht Restoration Guild Vision

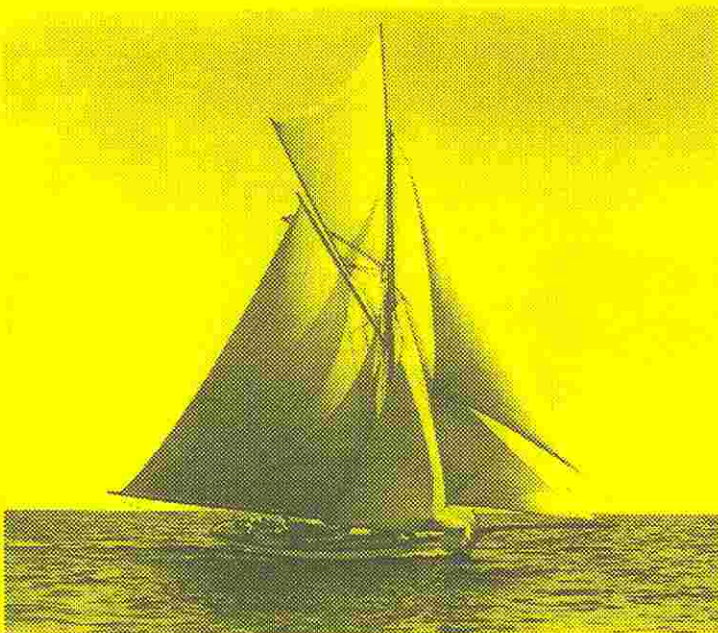
The Classic Yacht Restoration Guild is a non-profit membership organization dedicated to the preservation of traditional watercraft, both power and sail. Yacht restorations are accomplished through a combination of member donated skills and resources. A cooperative educational setting is provided by 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.



Reprint from Maryland Historical Trust *In Context*

Aside from holding easements on houses, mills, bridges, lighthouses, and monuments, the Maryland Historical Trust also holds preservation agreements on historic ships such as the U.S.S. Constellation, the U.S.S. Sanctuary, the steam tug Baltimore, the skipjacks Sigsbee and Elsworth, the buyboat Annie D, and the yacht Elf. Easements are created by a deed which is recorded in the local land records. Because ships are not attached to land, MHT cannot hold an easement on them. Instead, MHT holds a vessel preservation agreement on them including the same covenants contained in MHT's standard easement. This agreement is filed with the Coast Guard as a "ship's mortgage".

The Yacht Elf was designed for racing by George F. Lawley. It was built in 1888 by Lawley and Sons of South Boston, Massachusetts, a firm well known in the yachting world of the late 19th century. The Elf was part of the thirty-footer class with a hull length measuring 35'8". The hull is a deep draft wineglass type ballasted with iron on the exterior. The planking is white cedar laid on white oak ribs. The decking was teak or black locust laid in strips. It carried a large high gaff main sail with a club topsail! above it.

The Elf was originally owned by: William H. Wilkinson, a prominent figure on the American yachting scene during the 1880s and 1890s. Wilkinson was a pioneer in the use of wire-rather than rope-rigging. After successful racing seasons in 1888 and 1889, Wilkinson sold the Elf to twenty-one year old Henry Howard in 1890. In 1893, Howard sailed the from Marblehead, Massachusetts to Halifax, Nova Scotia and back. At this time off-shore cruising in small yachts was almost unknown. It is because of this cruise that Mr. Howard was credited with starting the sport.

After this famous voyage, the Elf saw many changes through a series of owners. In 1897, its rigging was changed to a yawl with gaff sails, most likely to give it a more competitive racing advantage. In 1912, a Lathrop gas engine was added to the vessel, changing the boat weight and cabin layout. By 1937, the Elf had been changed from a yawl to a cutter. Sometime after 1955 it was returned to the yawl rig that it sports today.

In 1971, Richard Carrion, founder of the Classic Yacht Restoration Guild, purchased the Elf. This non-profit organization is dedicated to the preservation of traditional watercraft, both power and sail. The guild seeks to educate interested persons ion the art of shipbuilding, restoration, and maintenance. For more information on the Elf or the Classic Yacht Restoration Guild, contact Richard Carrion at 410-275-2819.

"Mast and Spars"

We are still in need of a solid mast (40 feet), bowsprit, gaffs, boom, and topmast along with other solid rigging pieces. Please keep this in mind while visiting and talking to marina owners and operators and let me know if you locate any available stock.

ANNUAL CYRG CRAB FEAST DIRECTIONS

Directions:

From the North:

Take I 95 or US 40 to Elkton. Then take 213 South. Cross the second major bridge (Bohemia River). Take immediate right on Glebe Road, then see below*.

From the South:

Cross the Bay Bridge at US 50 & 301 split. Take 301 North for about 25 miles. Take left on Maryland 313 toward Galena (at yellow flasher). 313 becomes Maryland 213 North in Galena. Follow until just before Bohemia River Bridge (second major bridge). Take a left before bridge on Glebe Road.

* Follow Glebe Road for about 1.5 miles to Cherry Grove Road. Turn Right. Follow for about 1.7 miles and turn right again onto a dirt road. This will be marked for the Crab Feast. Follow straight for about 1.2 miles to the beach.

Please drive slowly; we will be guests on private property.

THE HELM



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