

Subject: Inductee Nomination

Date: Monday, April 1, 2013 11:24 PM

From: Dan McGrath <dan@mcgrathadvertising.com>

To: <lee.tawney@nshof.org>

Lee,

I submitted a nomination using the online form but did not receive a confirmation. The browser hung up like it was unable to complete the request. You probably got it but just in case this is it.

My name is Dan McGrath

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Nominee: Henry Howard

Henry Howard

Though his contributions to the sport (he called it his hobby) of American sailing have faded from history Henry Howard's participation in and promotion of yachting, both in cruising and racing sailboats, is well know to long time Classic Yacht Restoration Guild members through his association with Elf early in his yachting career. He was the second owner of Elf and much of what we know of Elf's early history comes from what he wrote in his autobiography Charting My Life.

Henry Howard owned Elf for almost eight years having purchased her from William H Wilkinson who had her built in 1888 to race in the 30 footer class off Marblehead. Howard was the youngest member of the Eastern Yacht Club at the time having been admitted in 1888 at the age of 19. Elf was Howard's third boat having started at an early age messing about in boat. In his book he describes his life with Elf, just out of college, living aboard and commuting from Marblehead to his job in Brookline. Included among the many adventures he describes are descriptions of the Saturday afternoon races to Cape Ann which literally started when the doors of the commuter train opened at the Marblehead station and the yachtsmen, who got off work at noon, scrambled down to their waiting dinghies to row out to their boats, set sail and head off. This was the inspiration for the Classic Yacht Restoration Guild sponsored Elf Classic yacht race. He also described a cruise he took to Halifax on Elf with some young Eastern Yacht club members which achieved much notoriety in the press and which he claims promoted the almost non-existent sport of cruising off-shore in small boats. Howard sold Elf after eight years because he got married but not owning a boat did not slow him down much. The following year he made a cruise down East with his wife and three month old baby aboard the 30 foot cutter Norma. Norma was loaned to him by George

Upham who sold him his first car, a 1987 Whitney Steam Carriage.

Henry Howard remained active in the Eastern Yacht Club being named chairman of the racing committee in 1902. It was then he got the idea to organize class racing between American and German yachtsmen. Although the reception of the powers to be in both America and Germany was cool. Howard persisted and the first races commenced at Marblehead in 1906. After negotiations with the Kaiserlicher Yacht Club in Kiel the Sonder Class was selected for the competitions which were held in Kiel in 1907. In the mean time while on another business trip to Spain, after visiting the Royal Yacht Club in San Sebastian and a fortuitous meeting with King Alphonso another international yacht race was organized with the Spanish following the races in Kiel in 1907. Howard served on the racing committees which were composed of members of the hosting and visiting yacht clubs often serving as President of the committee. In addition to King Alphonso through his association with these yacht races Howard met numerous high ranking and notable people including Prince Henry of Prussia and Teddy Roosevelt. This international competition, with races in Marblehead, Germany and Spain, continued up until WWI.

Henry Howard did extensive cruising with friends, on loaned boats and on his own vessels. He had two yachts named Alice. The first was the 42' LWL Stamford one-design schooner class which he bought in 1913 and sold in 1920. She was designed by Cox and Stevens. With her Howard won many races including the Championship cup for the schooner class three years running. He cruised her down East and as far south as Beaufort, SC. "To tell the story of our cruises on the schooner Alice would take a book." He says in his autobiography. Three years after retiring from business, after much planning and careful study, he launched his next boat, also named Alice, in October of 1924. She was a 52' LOA auxiliary centerboard ketch designed by John Alden and Commodore Ralph Middleton Monroe (interior designed by Cox and Stevens) and built by A.C. Brown Sons. In the 22 years he owned her Henry Howard cruised the entire Eastern seaboard, the Bahamas and most of the West Indies. In March of 1938 National Geographic published an article Henry Howard wrote of his "most outstanding cruise to the West Indies" entitled Southward Ho in the "Alice".

In addition to his autobiography Charting My Life, Merrymount Press, Boston 1948 Henry also wrote The Yacht Alice Twenty Years After and a Cruise in the West Indies, Dodd Mead & Co., New York, 1944. He also contributed numerous magazine articles to such publications as Yachting Magazine and Yachting Monthly.



