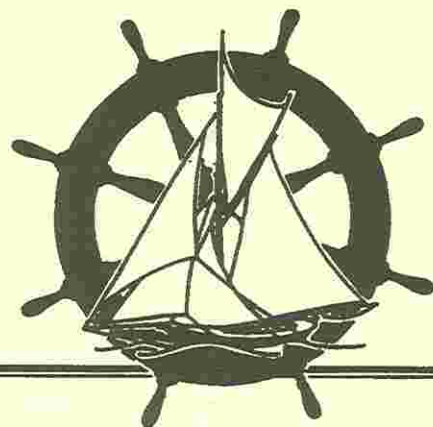


THE HELM

Spring, 2000



A PUBLICATION OF THE CLASSIC YACHT RESTORATION GUILD, INC.

President's Message

... by Rick Carrion

Elf, past and future



I am delighted to report the extent of our progress. ELF's hull planking has been completed, as good or better than the original. We have painstakingly renewed each plank and futtock, copying the original configuration without compromise. Her shape has been meticulously preserved. Details such as mitered plank ends at the transom, and mitered transom planking have been duplicated. This detail alone added time to the effort, but was done traditionally to reduce weather exposure to the plank ends, or end grain (a real innovation). It was cause for a shudder plank celebration. Thank you each for attending.

Since the shudder plank celebration, we have cut, fitted, sanded, routed and set the deck carlings. I must interject that I was shocked to go below, with the original flush deck layout. In that I am 6' 2", it was like hitting a brick wall at a high rate of speed when I realized how little head room we were going to have. OUCH!! (She must have been designed for little "Elves.")

Graham Ero was featured recently in *Chesapeake Bay Magazine*, May 2000. We expect him back on the job in early June, since he left in February 2000 to finish other commitments. We have been trying to coordinate a multitude of other projects: engine installation, tank fabrication, corporate sponsorship for mate-

rials plugging, and plugging, and more plugging.

We still need help. The process is an experience gained. It is not a job all the time, but an adventure that provides satisfaction and pride of a job well done. Part of the fun can be learning a traditional skill while helping the restoration process.

If you find you are unable to help, please feel free to stop by and see our progress. I look forward to sharing the experience and excitement with you.

Shudder Plank Celebration

The shudder plank is traditionally the last plank fitted and installed. Usually it was located at about the waterline and was slightly oversized. When hammered into place it would tighten up the planks above and below. While hammering the plank into place the vessel would shudder, hence the name.

It was great to see so many members attend our celebration. The hull completion was an important milestone in the restoration process for me. It renewed my spirits and confirmed that the many months/years of hard work were really coming together.

It meant a lot to me to be at this point in the project. I dedicated the hull restoration to Gus Van Lennep. Gus and wife Vida owned ELF from 1932 to 1941 and were like adopted parents to me, providing a guiding light in the darkness.

Matching Donations

Members can sometimes have their donations matched. You may be currently working for an employer that will match your in-kind donations. If so, we will be more than glad to provide any paperwork needed to verify our 501 (c) (3) tax exempt status and fill out any necessary forms. Chase Manhattan Foundation has been very helpful matching a member's donation of \$1,250.

Wood Sale

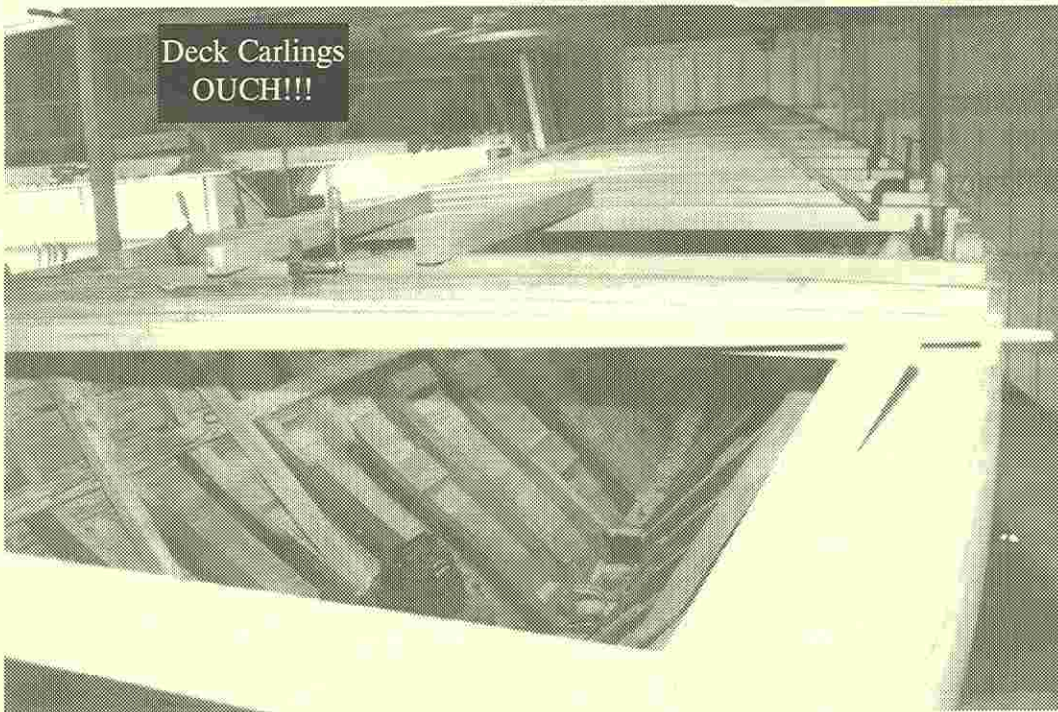
Over the winter I was able to market several thousand board feet of Cherry Lumber. This is part my continued personal efforts to raise funds. I still have several thousand board feet of white oak and other timbers, most of which are very wide, up to 27". Other stock is available. If you have special needs, I may be able to acquire the timber and cut it to your specifications.

Maryland Historical Trust Grant

Looking toward future needs, we applied to the Maryland Historical Trust for a grant of \$42,500 to be applied to the the rigging, sails, spars, and re-launching. We should hear about our grant status in early July. With continued help from the Maryland Historical Trust we hope to be able to re-launch by next June in order to participate in Tall Ships 2001 and other maritime activities.

Sneak Box 12

A gentleman in the Miles River Area near St. Michael's, Maryland, is trying to encourage a one design fleet. His vessel of choice is the Sneak Box 12, once a very popular class. As an incentive to get people to restore and sail in regattas, he is willing to donate \$5,000 to a non-profit organization of your choice, hence, the Guild. Let me know of any Sneak Box 12's that may be restorable and available. Also, if one becomes available, would you be interested in restoring and campaigning her under the Guild flag?



Workshops

Throughout the summer and fall, we will have some sort of workshop activity each weekend.

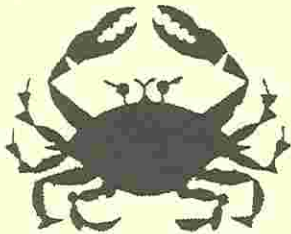
Call ahead to confirm your attendance.

410-275-2819.

Stay late for potluck dinner.

Plans are under way for our annual

Crab Feast



Details will be forthcoming in our summer newsletter.

It will be held on a Saturday in early to mid August.

Plan to come by boat, car, horseback, or swim.



Port View of Planking Contours



Photos by Deborah Albers

Mariner's Attic

Over the years we have had a variety of gear donated. Some we need, and some we can make available for your projects.

Call 410-275-2819 to check availability and make an offer.

Your purchases will benefit the restoration of ELF.

Wood Needs

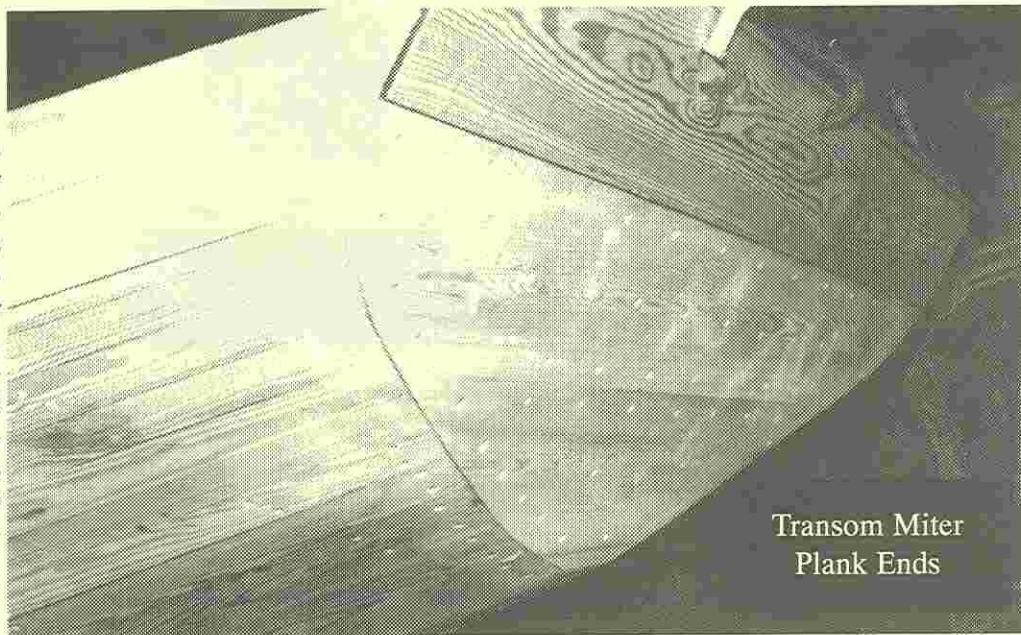
We are still in need of a solid mast, spars, and bowsprit. If you know of any solid 35 foot mast and other spars that may be available at your local marina or boatyard, please let me know A.S.A.P. I need to acquire them now to facilitate our scheduled 2001 launch.

We are also trying to find heart pine decking material. Most of what is available is from Resawn Timbers, and is very expensive. Our current price is coming in at \$7.00 per board foot. So let me know of any available Long Leaf Yellow Pine.



M & E Marine

I must say that I am sorry to see M & E Marine hardware holding a chapter 11 bankruptcy sale. But I have purchased major volumes of expensive bronze and stainless fasteners, thru-hull fittings, couplings, and other hardware. The list goes on and on. Most have been purchased for literally pennies on the dollar. Several items were purchased at deep discounts and I will make excesses available to you. We may help fill your material list for you next project.



Transom Miter
Plank Ends

This summer there will be near enough tall ships on the east coast to walk deck to deck from Miami to Halifax.

Two groups have organized two separate rallies, with ships from around the world racing or sailing in company to celebrate the millennium. Their published schedules are below (though rumor has it more cities may be added), and both organizing groups have web sites worth checking-out.

OpSail 2000

<http://www.opsail2000.org/>

San Juan, PR, May 25-29

Miami, FL, June 7-10

Norfolk, VA, June 16-20

Baltimore, MD, June 23-29 (half fleet)

Philadelphia, PA, June 23-29 (half fleet)

New York Harbor, NY, July 3-9 (main event)

New London, CT, July 12-13

Portland, ME, July 28-31

American and International Sail Training Association

Tall Ships 2000

<http://tallships.sailtraining.org/2000wrld.htm>

Bermuda, June 9-12

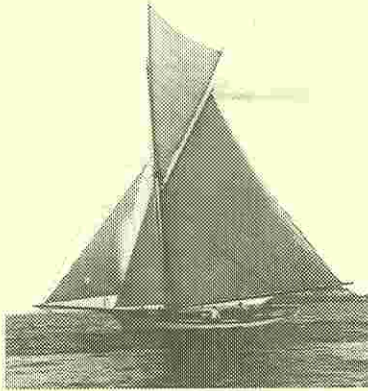
Charleston, SC, June 16-21

Wilmington, DE, June 22-25

Newport, RI, June 29-July 11

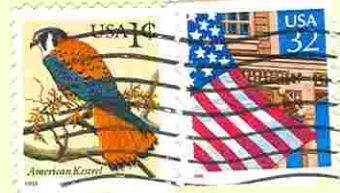
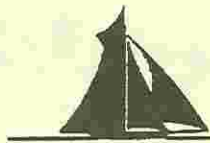
Boston, MA, July 11-16

Halifax, NS, July 19-24



ELF 1888

THE HELM



The Classic Yacht Restoration Guild, Inc.
P.O. Box 237
683 Pond Neck Road
Earleville, MD 21919-0237

Brian McCandless
243 West MAIN ST
EIKTON, MD 21921