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Schooner

ERNESTINA-MORRISSEY

One Ship, Many Lives

The Official Vessel of Massachusetts

2019 Annual Report

Schooner Ernestina-Morrissey Association (SEMA)

Photo Credits:

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MISSION

The Schooner Ernestina-Morrissey Association, Inc. (SEMA) is a 501c(3) not-for-profit corporation with the purpose of raising funds to provide for the maintenance, equipment, manning, programming and operation of the Schooner *Ernestina-Morrissey* as a sail training vessel, school ship, and educational enterprise.

SEMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Greetings from SEMA's Board of Directors! I am pleased to write the 2019 President's letter on their behalf, as well as representing the hardworking crew carrying out the re-build of the *Ernestina-Morrissey* and our committed champions who diligently advocate for her return to the waters of Massachusetts.

I was reminded recently of a quote by Kurt Hahn who was the founder of the original Outward Bound School. In it he states that "the aim of education" is to foster the development of qualities including, "an undefeatable spirit" and "tenacity in pursuit". These traits mean to me the embodiment of enduring optimism and unyielding persistence in the face of challenge. I believe they represent SEMA today and over the many years of consistently working towards our goal to see the schooner rebuilt and returned to her role as an educator and ambassador. They also tie into the *Ernestina-Morrissey's* legacy of having survived many lives through the tenacious spirit of the people that believed in her various missions and have been unyielding in seeing her survive so she is now one of the few historic, Essex-built schooners left in existence. A true "Phoenix of the Seas"!

SEMA witnessed significant milestones in the progress of the schooner's restoration project in 2019! November saw the completion of Phase I encompassing the entire re-build of the schooner's hull. Phase II planning is also finalized with all SEMA's partners on board as we await the final step in the legislative process shifting her into the capable hands of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy. In September, legislation that was introduced in June was passed by the Massachusetts State Senate. Now, we patiently await the action of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and the passage of Bill S.2328, "An Act to Preserve the Schooner *Ernestina-Morrissey*". SEMA has never been more confident that this bill will soon be passed into law and actual work will begin on Phase II of the restoration!

I hope you enjoy reading the contents of this year's report and that you are heartened by its essence of enduring optimism and unyielding persistence that SEMA and her part-ners consistently display as we collectively strive toward our goals for the bright future of the historic *Ernestina-Morrissey*!

With much gratitude,

Julius Britto, President of the Board



AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

SEMA Honored by the USS Constitution Museum

On September 12th, the USS Constitution Museum held their Salute to Maritime Heritage. The Schooner Ernestina-Morrissey Association had the great honor of receiving the notable “Don Turner” Award, which is given annually “to a person or team of people, professional or amateur, who have contributed significantly to efforts to preserve important vessels or who have made significant contributions to our knowledge and understanding of ship design and construction.”

SEMA was chosen because it has “demonstrated dedication to preserve, protect, and restore the ship. While pursuing the fundraising needed for the restoration, the Association continued to contribute to public education about the ship’s history, documentation about her restoration, volunteer maintenance, and consistent advocacy for her rich archives of historic records and objects.”

President Julius Britto and Secretary Mary Anne McQuillan proudly received the award on behalf of all SEMA members, donors and supporters who have helped give voice to their conviction that to honor her past and serve the Commonwealth in the future, the schooner must be SAILING! As part of the ceremony, Mary Anne presented highlights of *Ernestina-Morrissey*’s history and photos chronicling Phase I rehabilitation work on the vessel, which is now fully completed. Julius acknowledged all of the individuals who have worked so hard during the lengthy effort to see the schooner upon the waters of Massachusetts and beyond once again.

SEMA is proud to be in the company of previous recipients of this recognition and thanks the Board of Trustees of the Museum for acknowledging the importance of the *Ernestina-Morrissey* to the Commonwealth and the Nation.



Photo Credit: USS Constitution Museum All rights reserved. Used with permission.

WoodenBoat Magazine Coverage

The lives of the Schooner *Ernestina-Morrissey* were recently chronicled in a three-part series by WoodenBoat magazine entitled, “A Schooner for the Ages: The six charmed lives of the *Ernestina-Morrissey*”. Author Randall Peffer artfully tells the tales of this sole surviving, 19th century Grand Banks schooner from 1894 until present. The articles incorporate engaging prose and beautiful photographs from each significant period making for three great reads.

Part 1 of the series examines the years of the vessel as an Essex-built, Gloucester fisherman, her role as a freighter and Arctic explorer, and the years she was a warrior during World War II. Part 2 covers the *Ernestina-Morrissey* when she was a Cape Verde packet and as an educator in local waters. Part 3 of the series discusses the current rehabilitation of the vessel in great detail.

The Schooner Ernestina-Morrissey Association is looking forward to the completion of the schooner’s rehabilitation and the day when she is launched into the future and begins writing “the rest of her story.” If you are interested in reading the series, past digital and online issues are available from WoodenBoat Magazine at Woodenboat.com.

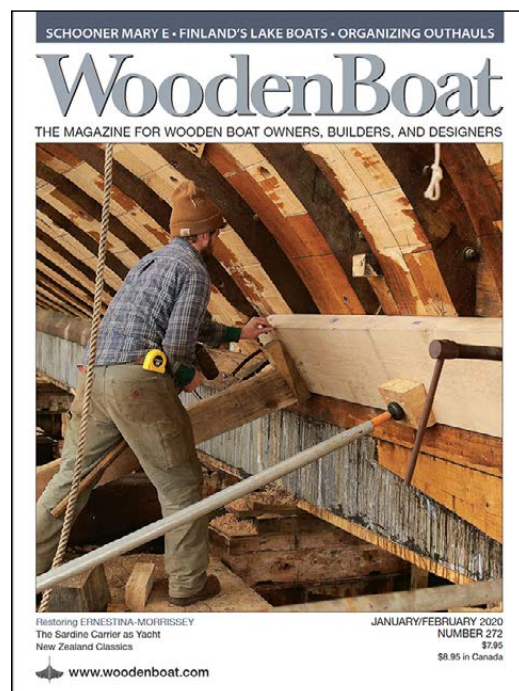


Photo Credits Opposite Page: 1) Sandra Britto 2) Mary Anne McQuillan 3) John Fialkowski. Photos copyright 2018–2019. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

PROJECT UPDATE

April 28, 2020 marked five years since the *Ernestina-Morrissey* was hauled out of the water and up the railway at Boothbay Harbor Shipyard! Forward progress on the schooner's rehabilitation during this time has been slow but steady, especially during the past two years. A big milestone for SEMA was completion of Phase I, the entire rebuild of the schooner's hull, in late 2019. The photos in this report are a true testament to the quality of workmanship that has been achieved thus far. In addition, SEMA's partners the Massachusetts Maritime Academy (MMA) and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) began working together in the planning process for Phase II, the outfitting of the rig and below decks. Once Bill S.2328, "the Act to Preserve the Schooner *Ernestina-Morrissey*" passes the House and is signed by Governor Baker, work at the Shipyard will recommence and ownership of the vessel will shift from DCR into the capable hands of MMA!

“ I've been involved with this project for many decades. I've never been more excited, and never been more optimistic.”

— JOHN BULLARD, LONGTIME LEADING ADVOCATE



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ADVOCATE SPOTLIGHT

The New Bedford Sea Chantey Chorus sings praises of the *Ernestina-Morrissey* through the years.

New Bedford Harbor Sea Chantey Chorus has been an enduring champion of the Schooner *Ernestina-Morrissey* since it was first founded in 2000. The chorus is directed by Tom Goux, a current advocate and past organizational facilitator and educator for the schooner. The Chorus has remained the local face of the *Ernestina-Morrissey* through “the ebbs and flows” of her sailing years and dockside years, and most recently, during her time away undergoing rehabilitation.

The Chorus is a harmonious, non-auditioned civic choir that is still going strong today. Its 30 active and dedicated members meet weekly from February through May, and then perform throughout the summer and fall months. The group offers a full program enjoyed by thousands of listeners during the last 20 years. The New Bedford Harbor Sea Chantey Chorus website describes the chorus this way:

“The repertoire includes a variety of chantey’s and songs that reflect the rich maritime heritage of New Bedford and the region...Their performances feature chanteys (work songs) of the Yankee sailor and whaler, along with ballads and ditties of global mariners and coastwise communities in North America, the Cape Verde Islands and the British Isles.”

Tom has maintained strong connection with the *Ernestina-Morrissey* for more than 35 years. Like him, many of the members are volunteers in support of the rehabilitation of the schooner, which they proudly vocalize as they sing in a united group. The Sea Chantey Chorus is hopefully awaiting the schooner’s return to the waters of Massachusetts, and of New Bedford specifically, so they can perform aboard the schooner in true character once again.



ADVOCATE HIGHLIGHT: Captain David Thompson

“*Ernestina-Morrissey* is just having a rest right now as she is rebuilt. When she’s complete her placement at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy will be a great fit, especially with her being used for experiential education classes out of New Bedford in the summers.”

— CAPTAIN DAVID THOMPSON, PAST DELIVERY CAPTAIN



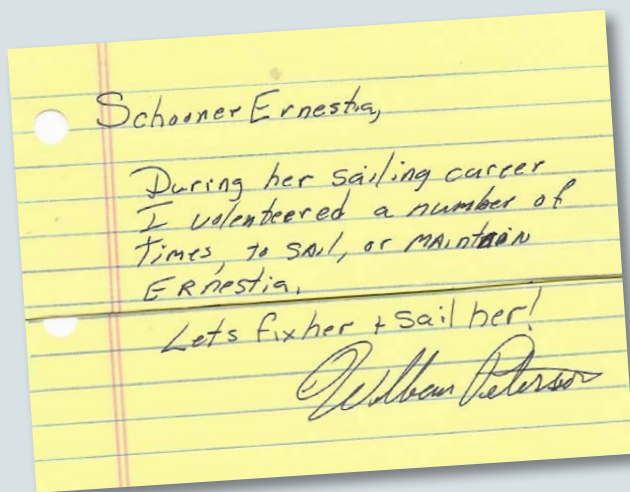
Left: Fred Sterner; Right: David Thompson

TREASURER REPORT



We wish to extend a big thank you to **Louise Croteau**, SEMA Treasurer, for diligently keeping our books!

— **Julius Britto**, President of the Board



Handwritten note from donor William Peterson.

“Ernestina-Morrissey, through all her lives, has never given up and we won’t give up either! ***She will sail and serve again!***”

— **MARY ANNE MCQUILLAN**, SEMA SECRETARY

Balance Sheet	FY 2019	FY 2018
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$577,212	\$420,122
Liabilities		
Restricted Funds	\$501,575	\$1,700
Net Assets	\$75,637	\$418,422
	\$577,212	\$420,122
Income Statement		
Revenue		
Foundations/Grants	\$0	\$693,000
Public Contributions	\$24,973	\$60,951
Investments	\$2,180	\$56
	\$27,153	\$754,007
Expenses		
Operating	\$2,289	\$3,894
Fundraising	\$7,779	\$58,607
Total Expenses	\$10,068	\$62,501
Net Income	\$17,085	\$691,506
Donations to the Ernestina-Morrissey	\$359,870	\$489,630



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“When her reconstruction is complete, we will have this ship, all wood, nails and metal, but she represents so much more. The *Ernestina-Morrissey* has a soul that will not die. She has been resurrected from the bottom before, and now again. She is ready to make everlasting sentimental and real impacts on people, communities and even nations once more.”

- **LAURA PIRES-HESTER, PHD**, PAST PRESIDENT OF THE
SCHOONER ERNESTINA COMMISSION

DONORS

Your commitment makes this possible

Second Century Club

John Braitmayer
CHT Foundation
Mark Curby
Maryellen Shachoy
NJ Shachoy

Captains

John Bullard
Bettina Borders & Victor Mailey
Marc Chardon
Richard & Elinor Gentilman
Stephen Kaloyanides Jr.
Mary Anne McQuillan
Tim & Robin Shields
Elizabeth Siggers
William & Alice Smith
Margot Stone
Denise Wernikoff

Navigators

Benjamin Baker
Bristol Marine Shipyard
Shirley Cabral
David C. Cameron
Louise Croteau
Christine Dostal
Edward & Grace Zimmerman Dubilo
Facebook
Marcia Franklin
John & Natalie Garfield Jr.
Rusty & Betsy Kellogg
Laura Pires-Hester
R & W Rope
Bruce & Margaret Roberts
George Rockwood Jr.
Charles Sullivan

Explorers

Celeste Bernardo
John & Ann Bocon
Linda Cardillo Platzer
Gerald Conway
John & Pamela Evans
John & Pamela Evans
Martin Flinn
Muriel Fortes
Jacob Foster
Annemarie Fredericks
George Gebelein

Vanessa Gralton
Kurt Hasselbalch
David Kaye
Kevin Manning
Tony & Dorothy Morse
Karl F. Pastore
Karl F. Pastore
Christine Rose
Frederick Sterner
Derek Stevens
Tim Walker
Neal Weiss

Shipmates

Robert Ackert
Shirronda Almeida
Anonymous
Anonymous
Paul & Louise Anthony
John & Diana Belbruno
Arthur & Jean Bennett
Kathleen Billings
Lucy Alexandria Bly
Marty & Sandra Casey
Phoebe Chardon
Steve & Diane Cook
Pierre Cornell
Bryon Crampton
Inc. Crystal Ice Co
Catherine Curby

Janine da Silva
Paula Daddio
John Drake
David Eatough
Harold Eckert Jr
Tom Goux
Richard Hamilton
Bob & Linda Henry
Virginia Jones
Virginia Jones
Dan & Kathy Kahn
Thaddeus Kaminski
Trudy Kingery
Eric Korn
Peter & Mary Ellen Lawrence
Ronald & Cheryl Locke
Peter MacLearn
Jonathan & Christina Melzar
Robert Montgomery
Faith Morningstar
Finley Perry

Gil Perry & Donna Sachs
Janet W. Peters
Cheryl Poppe
Daniel Rodrigues
Albert Roper II
Michael & Kathleen Roy
Brian & Susan Schanning
Margaret Schwier
Catherine Silva Walker
Wendy Sinton
James Soden
Robert & Judith Sterns
John Strang
Jacek & Margaret Sulanowski
Stephen Swift
Daniel & Katherine Tardiff
Toni Teixeira
Stephen Thompson
Peter & Libby Turowski
Jeffrey & Judith Volp

Dorymates

Anonymous
John & Dee Dee Bentley
David Blatt
Paul Brenckle
Heather Cabral
Dianne Cavaleri
Sue Chapman

Richard Chiriboga
George Conant
Philip Cronan
Patricia Cronin
Christine Dzioba
Joseph Fontaine
Theophilo & Carol Fortes
Polly & Lee Gardner
David Gass
Ted & Judith Herlihy
Robert & Beth Kelley
Edward Lee
Joaquim Livramento
Richard Lobban Jr.
Luzo Auto Body
David & Marilyn Malchman
George M Morrissey
Charles Power
Elizabeth Renfree
James Ross
Michael Ruddy
Mark Sargent
Catherine Stone
Catherine Stone
Celine Sullivan
Colin Williams
Raymond Winters
Amy Woods

Visit www.ernestina.org/support/donate/ to learn how you can become a donor.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



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Schooner

ERNESTINA-MORRISSEY
One Ship, Many Lives

www.ernestina.org

Schooner Ernestina-Morrissey Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 2995
New Bedford, MA, 02741

2019 OUTREACH ACTIVITY

R&W “RopeFest” informational booth, April 27 (SEMA); Windjammer Days Boothbay Harbor June 24 Reception at Shipyard 4 pm (Mary Anne); BHSSC, Folk Festival July 6 (New Bedford Sea Chantey Chorus); 47th Cape Verdean Recognition Parade July 6 (Derek); Onset Cape Verdean Festival August 10 (Julius); Maritime Minstrels Highfield Hall, Falmouth, MA August 24 (New Bedford Sea Chantey Chorus); Gloucester Schooner Festival, September 2 (SEMA); Four Corners Art Center Tiverton, RI September 8 (New Bedford Sea Chantey Chorus); Bow to Stern Festival, New Bedford September 28 “Big Boats, Little Boats” Dory Display, (SEMA), Concert (New Bedford Sea Chantey Chorus)

OTHER

Worked with Rick Lopes as he produces “Sails Over Ice and Seas: The Life and Times of Schooner Ernestina-Morrissey” with the generous support from several institutions and individuals, particularly Gerry and Marguerite Lenfest through a grant to the National Maritime Historical Society.

Worked with Matt Murphy, Editor of WoodenBoat Magazine, providing photos, recommending resources and providing information for the three issue series about the history of Ernestina-Morrissey and the current rehabilitation project published in Fall 2019 issues.

Nine Email Updates through SEMA’s Constant Contact

Active page on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram

Updates in “Sea History” and “Marlinspike” magazine.

FUNDRAISING

In 2019 fundraising faltered with SEMA unable to present a compelling narrative about the future of the vessel. We await the passage of “An Act to Preserve the Schooner Ernestina-Morrissey” (Bill S.2328)

2019 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

AHA! | Boothbay Harbor Shipyard | Brewer Banner | Cape Verdean Association in New Bedford | Cape Verdean Recognition Committee, Inc. | Community Foundation of SE Massachusetts | Essex Shipbuilding Museum | Gloucester Maritime/Gloucester Schooner Festival | Harwich Cape Verdean Association | Massachusetts Maritime Academy | mediumstudio | New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center | New Bedford Harbor Sea Chantey Chorus | New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park | New Bedford Whaling Museum | Onset Cape Verdean Festival Association | SailBoston-2017 | Umbrella Works Design Studio | WoodenBoat Publications