



2020 Annual Report

Schooner

ERNESTINA-MORRISSEY

One Ship, Many Lives

The Official Vessel of Massachusetts



**Schooner Ernestina~Morrissey Association
(SEMA)**
www.ernestina.org

Photo Credits:

1- 4) Robert Mitchell, 5) Ron Barboza; Read the story behind this photo: <https://bit.ly/3gwGybn>

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I began thinking about my remarks for the 2020 Annual Report my thoughts simultaneously looked ahead to the exciting times to come and returned to SEMA's beginning in 2008 and our dreams and goals then for *Ernestina~Morrissey's* future. The schooner's extraordinary history and legacy inspire such thinking. In the past, when most needed, the vessel has almost magnetically drawn people to secure her future- sometimes under the most dire circumstances.

The "Phoenix Of the Seas", as author Chester Brigham so aptly calls her, is still here because of those seminal moments and those people. In early July of 2020 a new "seminal moment" occurred when the Massachusetts Legislature passed, and Governor Baker signed a bill transferring her stewardship and her history to the Massachusetts Maritime Academy.

Our colleague, and Past Chairwoman of the Ernestina Commission, Laura Pires-Hester and I commented "we are excited about *Ernestina~Morrissey* sailing again, educating people again, bring people together again, and doing her part in helping people of all colors unite around the world. Now the vessel will once again be an educator, a portal into our maritime history, a cultural icon and an individual and collective pathway to the future. SEMA looks forward with excitement and enthusiasm to supporting the Massachusetts Maritime Academy as it embarks on the latest chapter in this illustrious schooner's story. The Phoenix of The Seas will sail again"!!!

RADM Francis X. McDonald, President of Massachusetts Maritime Academy stated "The Massachusetts Maritime Academy is the proud new custodian of the *Ernestina~Morrissey*, the Commonwealth's Official Sailing Ship. Upon completion of her on-going restoration, she will begin her new chapter as a sail training vessel for the fine cadets at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, continue to serve as an educational platform for middle school and high school students from around the



world, and as an ambassador for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Nation. I am proud to say she will continue to do so for decades to come."

During 2020 the work to complete phase one, the hull rebuild, carried on at The Shipyard; Boothbay Harbor, Maine - Bristol Marine's Shipyard in Boothbay Harbor, Maine was slowed but not stopped by the pandemic- the second pandemic the vessel has had to sail through in her career. And what fine work it is. I am sure it would impress her 1894 original shipwrights although they might be envious of some of the current technology and tools being used.

As we look back at 2020 we remember and are grateful to the State of Massachusetts for its continued support. We also remember the private foundations, the public and private grant donors, and all the many individuals whose commitment and generosity have helped *Ernestina~Morrissey* get to where she is now. Because of that support we now look forward with great excitement to all 2021 holds for her return to the waters on which she has sailed for so long. It is a great beginning to the latest, and a most welcome, new chapter in her storied history.

With much gratitude to all,

Julius Britto



Robert (Bob) Hildreth (above #2), SEMA's current Vice President, led the initiative to create SEMA in 2008. For many years the vessel and SEMA have benefited greatly from his leadership and generosity.

It can truly be said without his commitment and stewardship *Ernestina~Morrissey* would not be where she is today.

Thank you, Bob!

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.

Photo Credits Above: 1) Sandra Britto 2) John Bullard;

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SEMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Julius Britto

Vice President

Robert Hildreth

Treasurer

Louise Croteau

Secretary

Mary Anne McQuillan

Capt. Willi Bank

Catherine Dempsey

Miguel Gomes

Kurt Hasselbalch

Manuel Lopez

Derek Stevens

Polly Zajac

SHIPYARD PROGRESS

The captioned photos below detail and document the exciting progress on the vessel in 2020. Like everything else in all our lives Covid 19 had an impact, yet the work continued. As you can see by year's end the vessel's hull restoration (rebuild) was essentially finished and she is now as strong, perhaps even stronger, than when she was initially launched in 1894. The wood obtained and used was of excellent quality as was the quality of the shipwrights' work installing it. The careful planning and attention to detail for this phase will serve the vessel and her crews well long into the future. During 2021 phase II, the installation of: all the required systems, the engine and generator, living quarters, her masts and sails, will be completed. Check www.ernestina.org for frequent updates on the progress in the Shipyard

Photo Credits and Captions This Page:

1) Michael Rutstein
Marlinspike Magazine

2) Michael Rutstein
Hannah Gray, DCR's representative, inspects the work on the windlass which is being completely refurbished.

3) Robert Mitchell
Jason Brassard is hard at work here installing the diamond plate flooring in the engine room. Certain pieces of this plate flooring will be conveniently secured to allow for quick lift out access to machinery spaces that will exist below the floor level.

4) Robert Mitchell
These bilge pumps arrived on the Ernestina when it arrived at Boothbay Shipyard in 2014. New Bedford's Edson Company was particularly excited to have an opportunity to restore these vintage pumps to their original condition.

5) Robert Mitchell
This shows the terrific final installation of companionway stairs in the aft cabin.

6) Robert Mitchell
The Aft Cabin continues to come together. This image shows the first coat of polyurethane applied to the beautifully constructed head enclosure.

7) Robert Mitchell
Kaz, one of the Shipyard's newest shipwrights, is seen here in the final stages of a custom-fitted corner post that will be used to finish the Aft Cabin head project. This is a great example of the attention to detail that the shipyard team regularly devotes to all the projects on the Ernestina~Morrissey.



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

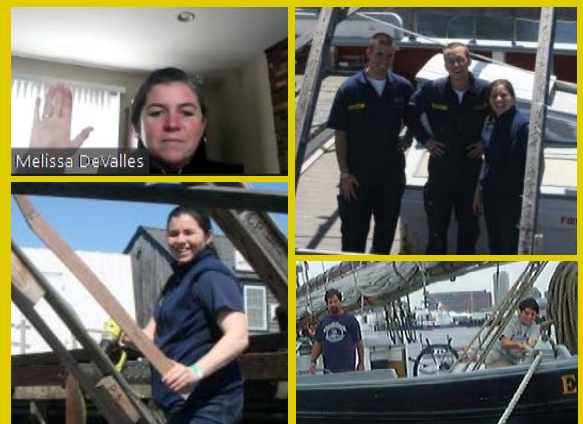
“2020 was an interesting year for non-profits but once the Act to Preserve the Schooner *Ernestina~Morrissey* was signed by Massachusetts’ Governor Baker work could begin on Phase II. SEMA’s Board of Directors agreed to accept donations from the Lenfest family to fund the Shipyard’s work to complete the *Ernestina~Morrissey*. These generous donations are reflected in the 2020 financial report. A procedure has been set up to facilitate a smooth transfer of funds to the Shipyard to keep the needed materials and equipment arriving and all the tasks completed on schedule.”

— **LOUISE CROTEAU**, SEMA TREASURER

Balance Sheet	FY 2019	FY 2020
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$577,212	\$1,839,412
Liabilities		
Restricted Funds	\$501,575	\$1,701,852
Net Assets	\$75,637	\$137,560
	\$577,212	\$1,839,412
Income Statement		
Revenue		
Foundations/Grants	\$0	\$2,000,000
Public Contributions	\$24,973	\$77,236
Investments	\$2,180	\$1,890
	\$27,153	\$2,079,126
Expenses		
Operating	\$2,289	\$16,050
Fundraising	\$7,779	\$1,700
Total Expenses	\$10,068	\$17,750
Net Income	\$17,085	\$2,061,376
Donations to the <i>Ernestina~Morrissey</i>	\$359,870	\$798,693

Meet Melissa DeValles, SEMA Board Member, Schooner Advisory Board Member

Melissa DeValles was a member of *Ernestina’s* crew in the 1990’s before attending Massachusetts Maritime Academy and also while she was a cadet at MMA. She graduated as a Marine Engineer and has since worked in the energy industry for 17 years. When she returned to the SouthCoast she joined the Schooner *Ernestina~Morrissey* Association Board of Directors. In 2016 Melissa worked with Captain Thomas Bushy on the Academy’s first plans for the stewardship of *Ernestina~Morrissey*. As SEMA’s designee, she was appointed to the Schooner Ernestina Commission in 2018. She rejoined the SEMA Board in 2020 when the Commission was dissolved by “An Act to Preserve the Schooner *Ernestina~Morrissey*”. Melissa is currently SEMA’s designee on the SEMAB, was appointed by Governor Baker and now serves on the SEMAB Education Committee.



Photos This Box by SEMA. Captions, Clockwise From Top Left. 1) 2020 Melissa being sworn in as SEMAB member. 2) Melissa, SEMA Board member at NBWNHP Work Day with MMA cadets 2012. 3) Melissa as crew handling dock lines, 1999. 4) Melissa, SEMA Board member at NBWNHP Work Day, 2012.

DONORS

Schooner Ernestina~Morrissey

Society

Robert Hildreth

Second Century Club

Julius & Sandra Britto

Andrew & Amy Burnes

Thaddeus Kaminski

New Bedford Harbor Sea Chantey Chorus

Upstream Foundation

Polly Zajac

Captain

Marc Chardon

Rebecca Cutting

Melissa DeValles

Miguel Gomes

Penney Huggins

Stephen Kaloyanides Jr.

Rusty & Betsy Kellogg

Jane Kent

David & Lynda Langdon

Victor Mailey

Mary Anne McQuillan

Tony & Dorothy Morse

Vasco & Clara Pires

Laura Pires-Hester

John Ryall

Paul Sydlowski

Denise Wernikoff

Navigator

Celeste Bernardo

Robert Jr. Bernert

Melissa Bradley

Shirley Cabral

Louise Croteau

Judith Curby

Marcia Franklin

John & Natalie Garfield Jr.

Clement Littleton

R & W Rope

Margot Stone

Charles Sullivan

Anonymous

Explorer

Margaret Atwood

John Belknap

David Brownell

Martha Curtis

Christine Dostal

Craig Drake

Mark Dunn

David Eatough

John & Pamela Evans

Muriel Fortes

George Gebelein

Kurt Hasselbalch

Edward & Judy Lund

Rick & Annie McDowell

Michael Morrissey

William and Lauretta O'Brien

David O'Hara

Gil Perry & Donna Sachs

Cheryl Poppe

Elizabeth Siggers

Walker Silva Walker

John Strang

Travelers Insurance

Chris Tschalaer

Dorothy Vitagliano

Tim Walker

Barbara Wetherington

Shipmate

Anonymous

Paul & Louise Anthony

Earl Briggs

Sarah Bullard

Terri Cardozo

Pierre Cornell

Bryon Crampton

Philip Cronan

Mark Curby

Silva da Silva

Catherine Dempsey

Harold Eckert Jr

Polly & Lee Gardner

David Gilbertson

Lisa Goodwin

Richard Hamilton

Edward Jackson

Elizabeth Keith

Richard Lobban Jr.

Ronald & Cheryl Locke

Mark Lubbers

Phillip Mello

Vernon Penner

Finley Perry

Janet Peters

Inette Rex

Roy, Michael & Kathleen

Ervin Russell

Wendy Sinton

Matthew & Martha Stackpole

Robert & Judith Sterns

Derek Stevens

Susan Montgomery

Joy Wormser

Dorymate

Glenn Ashworth

Len Cabral

Richard Chiriboga

Patricia Cronin

Jack Dean

Cynthia Dias

Martha Fuller

Gentilman, Richard & Elinor

Linda Gomes

Jill Hughes

Anthony & Virginia Lopes

Thomas Lopes

Myra Mendes

Joao Monteiro

Dorothy Neely

Diane O'Keeffe

Elizabeth Renfree

Alison Robb

Lorant Robertson-Lorant

Sabrina Schlumberger

Ken & Henrietta Semedo

Test Prep Mentor, LLC

Weeks, Loring & Joanna

Richard & Mary Wing

John Zakian

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Schooner

ERNESTINA-MORRISSEY
One Ship, Many Lives

www.ernestina.org

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

2020 OUTREACH ACTIVITY

Many of our traditional activities were cancelled as the Nation battled the pandemic. To keep *Ernestina~Morrissey's* supporters informed we published nine email Updates through SEMA's Constant Contact platform, maintained active pages on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram and provided updates to "Sea History" and "Marlinspike" magazines.

We continued to work 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.

2020 EVENTS

(a full record can be found on the www.ernestina.org)

The Schooner *Ernestina* Commission met on March 6 where Chairman Centeio expressed hope that the legislature would be acting promptly so that work on *Ernestina~Morrissey* could proceed. This was the Commission's last meeting; the following Tuesday Governor Baker declared a State of Emergency "to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth"

Andy Tyska worked hard to keep his shipwrights safe and on staff as he waited for the Legislature to act.

SEMA's outreach efforts to Massachusetts residents and Bob Hildreth's personal outreach paid off. The bill passed the Legislature and on July 8th Governor Baker signed An Act to preserve the Schooner *Ernestina~Morrissey* creating a new chapter in the 1894 Schooner *Ernestina~Morrissey's* life and story.

Things began to move once the act was signed. Work began on Phase II at the Shipyard under Covid precautions funded by the Lenfest Family Foundation. Massachusetts Maritime Academy began planning for *Ernestina~Morrissey's* arrival, reviewing previous curriculums used on *Ernestina* and on other tall ships. In October MMA advertised for a new captain for *Ernestina~Morrissey*.

One of the provisions of "An Act to preserve the Schooner *Ernestina~Morrissey*" was the creation of a Schooner *Ernestina~Morrissey* Advisory Board to advise Massachusetts Maritime Academy on matters that relate to the Schooner *Ernestina~Morrissey*. SEMA designated Melissa DeValles as our representative on SEMAB. The board was appointed by Governor Baker and sworn in via Zoom on November 13. Jose Centeio was elected chair at their second meeting on December 18. Melissa will serve on the SEMAB Education Committee.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Anne McQuillan, Secretary