2018 Annual Report

The Essex Historical Society and Shipbuilding Museum

Essex Historical Society and Shipbuilding Museum

66 Main Street, PO Box 277

Essex, MA 01929

www.essexshipbuilding.org

978-768-7541
Essex Historical Society And Shipbuilding Museum

Mission
The Mission of the Essex Historical Society and Shipbuilding Museum is to provide a center for education, preservation, and study of traditional wooden shipbuilding and the community that supported and sustained it for more than 350 years.

Vision
To achieve our mission, the Essex Historical Society and Shipbuilding Museum embraces a vision that encompasses the skills, creativity, learning abilities, and connectedness to their environment of the Essex shipbuilders. We believe that building a clear understanding and appreciation of their unique craftsmanship serves as a valuable model for us today. To achieve this vision, EHSSM exists for the purpose of impacting our local community as well as a more global community of people who share the common interest in wooden vessels.

Origin
Managed by the Essex Historical Society and Shipbuilding Museum, Inc., a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, nonprofit Massachusetts corporation founded in 1937, the Museum was established in 1976 as part of the town’s observation of the American Revolutionary Bicentennial. Preserving the history of the wooden shipbuilding industry, an integral part of the economy and culture in New England and the United States since the 1630s, the Museum maintains one of the best maritime collections in the region.

Board of Directors
Harold Burnham, President, Development and Executive Committees
David Brown, Vice President, Education, Facilities, Finance and Executive Committees
Marcia Hubbard, Treasurer, Finance, Program and Executive Committees
Mary Kay Taylor, Secretary, Education, Finance, Development and Executive Committees
Richard Low, Collections and Finance Committees
Andrew St. John, Facilities Committee
Natasha Taylor, Program Committee
Sarah Hammond, Education Committee
Kim Pedersen, Education Committee
David Driscoll, Facilities Committee

Professional Staff
Chris Stepler, Operations Administrator
Susannah Winder, Education Coordinator
Justin Demetri, Visitor Services Coordinator
Jeff Lane, Boatbuilder
Amanda Loebelenz, Tour Guide
Rebecca Axelrod, Tour Guide
Amy Driscoll, Tour Guide
Jim Witham, Curator
Dear Members, Supporters and Friends:

It gives us great pleasure to announce that 2018 was another successful year for the Essex Shipbuilding Museum. Recent years have shown that we are getting a reputation as a must-visit spot for locals and visitors alike. The A.D. Story Shipyard hosted several events, some familiar, some new, and all well attended. We have also seen an influx of new faces at these events, which bodes well for the near-future. As we prepare to hit the ground running in 2019, let us look back at some of the highlights that made 2018 such a fun and successful year.

**Annual Appeal**
A successful annual appeal is of critical importance to the EHSSM and thanks to your support, we raised over $24,000. We cannot do all the great things we do without this important fundraiser and it all starts with the dedicated support of our members and donors.

**2018 Events and Highlights**

- A little rain did not stop our 15th Annual Digital Photography workshop from being a great success. Thanks as always to instructors Barry O’Brien, Dave Delorey, Len Burgess and Tony Schettino. In May we held a wooden spoon carving class in the Orientation Center as well as the Improbable Places Poetry Tour. The event took over the shipyard with over 60 visitors and poets, several of which read poems aboard the deck of POLARIS.

- Speaking of POLARIS, Essex has launched thousands of wooden vessels: fishing schooners, coasters, freighters, steamers, whalers, yachts...and now one Viking boat! Stuart Boyd, owner of Norsvald, brought his replica of an 11th Century Norse craft, POLARIS into the shipyard. During our annual Spring In The Shipyard event, the 38 foot vessel was launched down our ramp to great fanfare, using blocks, ropes, rollers and quite a few of our friends. We even had a group of Viking re-enactors show up in full garb to lend a hand. Skol!

- MERSD held their annual Art Show in the Waterline Center, followed shortly after by Essex Art Collective’s RISE exhibit.

- The fall began with the annual Festival In The Shipyard that featured great artwork by our Artist Members, music, food and fun. The oar making station, which we have been using at events, continues to be a hit. The new block printing station was popular with young and old alike as well as clam shell painting, fish prints, toy boats, half hull carving, origami, and blacksmithing. This was also the first event for our new shipyard kitchen, built by our volunteers.

- The Cape Ann Plein Air check-in and launch events were held in the Waterline Center and it was no surprise that many artists stayed in the shipyard to paint. We are always a major attraction for the CAPA participants and this year was no exception.

- The annual Ales Over ALS, organized by Nate Woodman was also held in the shipyard this fall. The craft brew festival/fundraiser draws a larger crowd each year, many of whom would not know of our unique location otherwise.
• Our annual fall fundraiser, originally the wine tasting event, had a Biergarten theme for 2018. Not only did we all have fun and enjoy authentic German fare and libations, but it was also an incredibly successful fundraiser.

• ESM continues a run of good local and regional press: Along with several mentions and articles in the Gloucester Daily Times for our events and student programs, the ESM also got a mention in September issue of AAA Northeast Magazine.

• We continue in our efforts to maintain and improve the ESM facilities. In preparation for another cold and snowy winter, the 1835 Schoolhouse received a new roof and furnace. The new shipyard kitchen was built by our hard working volunteers and was ready in time for our fall shipyard event.

Educational Projects

• In June we hosted our 2nd annual Sharptown build with 8th graders from Gloucester’s O’Maley School. A crew of 15 dedicated staff and volunteers worked long hours to prepare for two fast and furious building days, which produced two 22-foot rowboats, oars, thole pins and rope grommets. On day three, the boats were christened with bottles of soda and launched into the Essex River. The students took time off during construction to practice rowing our existing sharpies, so after launching, they also got to try out their new creations down river.

• Topsfield students from the Topsfield Vocational Academy/North Shore Educational Consortium program completed their Lowell’s Banks Dory for the schooner ADVENTURE in our workshop. Under the guidance of staff boatbuilder Jeff Lane and teacher Mark Webster, these great kids not only have built and launched the iconic symbol of the New England fisheries, they also helped us tidy up the shipyard as well.

• Thanks to a grant from the Essex County Community Foundation, this season’s group of students will be building a replica of a traditional Essex clamming skiff. As a template, they are using a surviving skiff from the 1920’s that once belonged to Harold Burnham’s great aunt. Along with the skiff, the grant will also help the Museum document and create traditional clamming baskets in public workshops, and create an exhibit on Essex clamming technology.
**Off-Site Events**

- Toward the end of June, Chris Stepler and his Father sailed our flagship, the LEWIS H. STORY to Boothbay Harbor, Maine for the annual Windjammer Days festival. She may not be very big, or fast, but the STORY is one of a kind, and was quite popular among the sailing enthusiasts down-east. We are pretty sure she is invited back anytime.

- The 6th Annual Schooner Challenge had to be delayed until July 9th due to bad weather, but may have been a blessing in disguise. Everyone had a great time aboard the schooners ARDELLE, LANNON and the STORY, and it’s all for a good cause. The proceeds of the Schooner Challenge help preserve the hull of the Museum’s EVELINA M. GOULART.

- The Museum had a strong presence at both Salem’s Maritime Festival and the Antique and Classic Boat Festival, both held in August. Our booth and oar making station along with the STORY proved very popular at both events. The STORY is always a hit at the Antique Boat Festival, winning Best Replica numerous times, but had not been since her haul out 2014. Her attendance at these shows really generates a lot of excitement for ESM’s programs and events.

- The ESM played a major role in August’s reenactment of the Battle of Gloucester Harbor. Chris Stepler and Alden Burnham sailed the LEWIS H. STORY, which soon was taken by Redcoats on Pavilion Beach, only to be retaken by the local militia. We also provided three of our student-built Sharptown barges that were used by the re-enactors as ship’s boats.

- This year’s Gloucester Schooner Festival may have been one of the best of all time. The LEWIS H. STORY joined ADVENTURE, ARDELLE, THOMAS E. LANNON, and many other vessels to greet schooners BLUENOSE II and COLUMBIA. With a fresh breeze and no agenda, it was a great day for sailing and the highlight of the weekend for many. The ESM had our booth and oar making station at Maritime Gloucester’s Heritage Day as well as “#S6 Ship” temporary tattoos. The STORY sailed the inner harbor to the delight of onlookers on Saturday, and participated in Sunday’s Parade of Sail. However some loose mast wedges forced the STORY to retire early from the Mayor’s Cup race.

**Museum Staff News**
The Essex Shipbuilding Museum is very happy to announce a promotion and several new additions to our staff. Long-time ESM employee Chris Stepler has been promoted to our Operations Administrator, where he now oversees the day to day running of the Museum. We also would like to welcome aboard Susannah Winder as our new Education Coordinator. She has a solid reputation among several local maritime organizations and is already making an impact. Dedicated volunteer Becky Axelrod has recently joined on as one of our tour guides, joining another new hire, Amy Driscoll.
Thanks to the following friends and volunteers for their contributions this past season:

Len Burgess  
Brian Chapski  
Anya Ciarametaro  
Troy Ciarametaro  
Rich Clark  
Fran Cleary  
Leo Cleary  
Dave Delorey  
John Drake  
Dave Escrich  
Fritz Fuller  
Ben Golding  
Sriram Kannan  
Bob Pasternak  
Bob Quadros  
Amanda Loeblenz  
Andy Spinney  
Anne Seymour St. John  
Alison Taylor  
Hazel and Ted Watkinson

Education Committee Report

In September, the Education Committee welcomed Susannah Winder as our new full time Education and Group Coordinator. Susannah has been an at sea educator for six years, and has designed and taught STEM station based learning curricula for the Schooner FAME, Schooner ADVENTURE, and the Boston Museum of Science.

In the past year, over 400 students and 300 adults have benefited from both on site and local community programs. The schools that have participated in our station based education program include the Essex Elementary School, Spofford Pond Elementary School in Boxford, Saugus Elementary School, Topsfield Vocational Academy, O’Maley Innovation Middle School in Gloucester, and a homeschool group. Susannah has presented at the Glen Urquhart Nature Fair, the Salem STEM Career Night, and participated in Essex Port, a History Celebration and Messy Art Night at Essex Elementary. We also hosted elder-hostel groups from Road Scholar Tours.

We also kicked off our Sharptown Rowing Program with Downriver Adventure, an early release day program where kids rowed down river and sketched the landscape. This program was in conjunction with the Essex Youth Commission, with whom we also participated in the Haunted Happenings at Centennial Grove and Santa in the Shipyard.
We are very proud to continue to work with the Topsfield Vocational Academy this year to launch the Grand Banks Dory for the Schooner ADVENTURE and to start building a traditional Essex Clam Skiff for the By Skiff and Basket Project that has been funded by the Essex County Community Foundation.

We are looking forward to a year of growth and progress in 2019, with more kids and adults of all ages. Finally, education volunteers are needed and appreciated to support our programs. If you are interested or have any questions, please get in touch with Susannah at education@essexshipbuilding.org

Collections Committee Report

The Collections Committee is responsible for planning the preservation and future growth of the EHSSM collections, establishing and implementing collections management policies, guiding research activities, and providing support and oversight to interpretation and exhibit development. Preservation and interpretation remain central to the Museum’s mission.

2018 and early 2019 has been busy for the EHSSM Collections Committee, the Central Schoolhouse, and our Museum’s Archives. A major reorganization of the second floor, started last year, is finally coming together. The former second floor bathroom has been converted for storage of recent acquisitions. The reorganization has also created space for several individual workstations, and space dedicated for a copy stand and a scanner/printer.

We continue to answer interesting questions from members and fans of Essex built vessels world-wide. We have been working with one family, whose Grandfather once worked for A. D. Story. We have found his name on several documents in our collection including a deed to a Pickering Street house. Forty members of that family will be having a reunion in Essex this summer during our Bicentennial Celebration.

The EHSSM collections continue to grow. From a beautifully carved whalebone model of an Essex-built schooner that became a Labrador mission vessel, to over 13,000 color slides taken during the construction of the THOMAS E. LANNON, it has been a gratifying year.

We meet with volunteers each Wednesday morning at the Schoolhouse. One has been finding hundreds of photographs online of Essex vessels we never knew existed. Another is working on a Bicentennial Celebration presentation in July about the Essex Branch Railroad. New volunteers are always welcome, please join us!

Collections Committee: Jim Witham, Kurt Wilhelm and Richard Low
Program Committee Report

2018 saw both old friends and new come together in the A.D. Story Shipyard and Waterline Center for a series of well attended events, lectures and workshops. From paints and canvas to beer and pretzels, we covered a lot of ground and had a lot of fun doing it. 2019 programming started off strong with the Ditty Bag Workshop by Susannah as well as “Frame Up to Fit Out!” - a new series of informal talks that have proven very popular. Here are some of the programs of 2018 and a look at what lies ahead for 2019.

April 2018: Spoon Carving
May 2018: Digital Photography Workshop
May 2018: Improbable Places Poetry
June 2018: Spring in the Shipyard Event – Launch of the POLARIS
September 2018: Festival in the Shipyard
November 2018: Fall Fundraiser “Biergarten”
December 2018: Wreath Making Workshop

Feb-April 2019: Frame Out to Fit Out with Justin Demetri
March 2019: Sylvina Beal Talk by Harold Burnham
March 2019: Ditty Bag Workshop

Future Events For 2019
4/22: Annual Meeting
4/27: Essex Bicentennial Eat Around
5/19: Basket Making Workshop
5/31: Clamming Skiff Launch
6/8: Spring Fundraiser -Spring in the Shipyard
6/23: Basket Making Workshop II
8/3: Greenheads Are Gone Social
9/8: Basket Making Workshop III
9/15: Basket Making Workshop IV
9/21: Artists in the Shipyard
10/4: Graveyard Talk with Dave Driscoll
10/14: Cape Ann Plein Air/Quick Draw
11/2: Fall Fundraiser – Spirits in the Shipyard
December: Wreath Making Workshop
Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is charged with developing financial policy, agreeing on an annual budget, as well as a long-range financial plan and presenting these to the Board. The primary focus for 2018 and the beginning of 2019 has been identifying and hiring full time staff, managing contributions received for EHSSM, and developing budgets that the organization can work with. The financial position of EHSSM is discussed and reviewed at monthly Board of Directors meetings.

Essex Historical Society and Shipbuilding Museum
Balance Sheet (unaudited)
As of December 31, 2018

ASSETS

Current Assets
  Checking/Savings $ 574,002
  Other Current Assets $ 4,962
  Total Current Assets $ 578,964

Fixed Assets
  Land $ 55,380
  Buildings and Infrastructure $ 554,596
  Equipment, Furniture & Fixtures $ 30,852
  Brownfield Remediation $ 2,056
  Accumulated Depreciation $ (506,826)
  Total Fixed Assets $ 136,058

Other Assets
  Schooner Goulart $ 275,556
  Chebacco Boat Lewis H. Story $ 58,430
  Museum Collections $ 230,544
  Total Other Assets $ 564,531

TOTAL ASSETS $ 1,279,552

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities
  Current Liabilities
    Other Current Liabilities $ 82
    Total Current Liabilities $ 82

  Total Liabilities $ 82

Equity
  Net Assets $ 852,320
  Retained Earnings $ 449,716
  Net Income $ (22,565)
  Total Equity $ 1,279,470

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY $ 1,279,552
TREASURER’s REPORT

Fiscal year 2018 was another building year for the EHSSM, following up on our strong 2017. The organization continued in a growth position, investing resources into hiring full time staff. Revenue from prior periods allowed the funding of several key capital projects, including new floors in the Orientation Center, a new roof on the Schoolhouse at 28 Main Street, and a new kitchen shed for on-site events and programs. Paired with investment from Town of Essex CPA funds, EHSSM completed much needed deferred maintenance at the schoolhouse: a new furnace and front door, as well as post and sill replacement.

Essex Historical Society and Shipbuilding Museum
Profit & Loss (Unaudited)
Fiscal year ending 12/31/18

Ordinary Income/Expense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development Revenues</td>
<td>$159,646</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education Revenue</td>
<td>$3,382</td>
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<td>Facilities Revenues</td>
<td>$6,904</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Revenues</td>
<td>$13,116</td>
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<tr>
<td>Store Revenues</td>
<td>$6,684</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$189,731</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost of Goods Sold</td>
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<tr>
<td>Store Merchandise Purchases</td>
<td>$3,060</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total COGS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,060</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gross Profit</strong></td>
<td><strong>$186,672</strong></td>
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Expense

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boat Expense</td>
<td>$13,339</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development Expenses</td>
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<td>Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exhibits and Collections</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities Expense</td>
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<td>Personnel Expenses</td>
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<td>Program Expenses</td>
<td>$813</td>
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<td>Store Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expense</strong></td>
<td><strong>$168,555</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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Net Ordinary Income

| Net Ordinary Income            | $18,117 |

Other Income and Expense

| Other Income and Expense       | $(40,682) |

Net Income

| Net Income                     | $(22,565) |

Note: Investment & depreciation market loss - not cash loss.
Development Committee Report

The Development Committee is responsible for fundraising to finance capital projects and for the Annual Appeal, which supports the Museum’s operations budget.

Governance Committee Report

The Governance Committee includes the President, and at least three other Board members. The Governance Committee serves as the Nominating Committee and Board Development Committee for Board members and officers. Its duties are reviewed periodically by the Board and set forth in the Operating Policies.

2018 Revenue Sources

Private donations remained strong in 2018, with a second, significant donation from the Brown estate. The annual appeal, as well as the fall fundraiser, Spirits in the Shipyard, continue to provide much needed revenue for education and programming at EHSSM. In 2018 and leading into 2019, grant funds have sought and received for specialized projects to be undertaken.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue Sources</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LHStory</td>
<td>$2,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
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<td>Member Dues</td>
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<td>Store</td>
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<td>Facilities</td>
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<td>Programs</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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<td>Fundraising Events</td>
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<td>Annual Appeal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total 2018 Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$189,731</strong></td>
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</table>
2018 DONORS, MEMBERS, FRIENDS

We cannot be successful and continue our programming and activities without the ongoing support of Donors, Members and Friends. Thank you for this support!

$5,000+

Essex County Community Foundation
Estate of Leslie and Charlotte Moore
William Taylor

$1,000 to $4,999

Burnham Boat Building
Nancy Raymond Corral
Cummings Properties
H.E. Thompson Foundation
Nina Fletcher
Helen Garland
Jud and Tina Lane
Salem Five Charitable Foundation
Lee Spence
Kurt & Mary Wilhelm

$500 to $999

Boston Foundation
David Brown
Maria and Charles Burnham
Catherine Crockett
Prescilla Greenlees
Stephanie & Thomas Hastings
Marcia Hubbard
Stephen Kaloyanides
John & Shirley Morris
Elizabeth Pratt
Paul Schwartz
Jon Skillman & Luanne Selk

$250 to $499 (continued)

Lois Hastings-Griswade
Arthur & Eloise Hodges
Thomas Jarvis
Catherine Lastavica
Manchester Essex Conservation Trust
Roy & Shelagh McCauley
Morley Piper
Robert & Patricia Quadros
Charles Raymond
Geoffrey Richon
Sheehan Family Foundation
Susan Talbot
Alison Taylor
John Thompson
William B. Tyler

$100 to $249 (continued)

Kurt Hasselbalch
Richard & Cheryl Hopkins
Scott Hoyne
Kenneth Hudson
Joan & Peter Johnson
Sriram Kannan
William Lee
Warren Little
Paul & Jackie Littlefield
Richard & Joan Low
Richard & Ruth Lufkin
Nancy and Robert Lutts
Kathryn Maffei
Manchester Historical Society
Michael March
Joshua Massey
Bob and Linda Miller
Peter and Alicia Moore
David Neligan
Bernice & Robert Pasternak
Kim Pedersen
Laurie Raymond
Patricia Owen Schaffer
Jack Schwartz, & Gail Pepe
Radley & Karen Sheldrick
James Starkey & Ann Harrison
Phil Stearns
Andrew St. John
Robert Stone
Judith Strohm
Janet Walker
William & Frances Watkins
Stephen & Arlene Willard
Leonard and Joyce Woodman