



Board Approves the Search for an Executive Director. Fundraising Begins

The Board of Directors has approved a multi-phased process for hiring an Executive Director for the Museum. Now that our staff and volunteers have set the groundwork for future development, a hands-on, full-time Executive Director can effectively implement the vision and programming for our Museum.

The Executive Director will be responsible for day-to-day management of the Museum, including fund-raising, visitors experience, educational programs, administration, facilities and regional collaboration with other museums. The Board has long believed that daily attention to museum development, in addition to volunteer oversight, is necessary to stabilize our operations and set the groundwork for a more professional regional presence.

The first step is to raise twenty-thousand dollars in advance of interviewing qualified candidates for the position. Once this landmark has been reached, a second twenty-thousand dollars will be raised as the interviewing process takes place.

An additional twenty-thousand dollars will be raised after the Executive Director position is awarded. For more information on supporting the Museum in the effort of hiring an Executive Director, contact Mark Lindsey, President of the Museum, at: Marklindsay1@verizon.net .

Our Volunteer's Efforts:

Active volunteerism around the Museum grounds has been yielding wonderful results.

Making History Real: Educational Advances:

Dennis Corcoran [spelling last name], who stepped in this fall to oversee our educational program, executed a series of educational experiences for schools, Elderhostel and visiting groups through the end of the Spring and into the beginning of summer. [What details can we include: how many schools? What age? What did they learn? What was the story on the group of Navy Alumni who came through? Who helped Dennis?]

Board member and emeritus President, Kurt Wilhelm has been assumed the role of our active "ad-hoc" curator. Kurt has been assembling a group of volunteers, as historians, to review our collections, and to determine materials that might

make interesting new exhibits. This project is a great opportunity for our members or friends of the Museum who are fascinated by history and would like the occasion to do research, write stories, organize historical artifacts, and make a slice of New England history come alive. Kurt leads our Historical Society. The Society holds monthly presentations and social gatherings at The Waterline Center in the shipyard.

Clean-Up Complete

Speaking of the A. D. Story Shipyard, the remediation is complete! The substantial final report documenting the execution of the remediation requirements has been submitted to The Department of Environmental Protection and the Environmental Protection Agency. **[Is this who it was submitted to?]** Our heartfelt thanks to Ken Hudson who, seven years ago, set out to manage the clean-up process. For seven years, Ken volunteered his time, working diligently behind the scenes with the various environmental agencies to meet their requirements. Once the agreement for the remediation process was reached, Ken passed the baton on to board member Dave Brown, who assembled a remarkable troupe of volunteers, who moved the entire shipyard sheds in preparation for the remediation contractor, and then after the project was complete, spread hundreds of yards of stone. Now, the facilities volunteers are planning the restoration of the yard, and the placement of outdoor exhibits and artifacts. If you have ever dreamed of working in a shipyard, Dave is looking for volunteers to help to design and to execute the interpretation of the A.D. Story Shipyard, which is our next goal. To reach Dave, e-mail him at: davidsbrown2@gmail.com

The Hidden Cost of the Clean-Up

The remediation of the shipyard was originally scheduled to take only two weeks, and to be finished late fall 2007. Alas, winter set in early, and combined with some construction delays, and a very long and wet spring, the final project was not completed until late June 2008. The result was that we had to turn away visitors last fall, this spring and throughout early summer. As a result, your Museum would greatly benefit from your generous support. If you would feel inclined to make a contribution to our operation costs, you can make a secure contribution on-line with your credit card on our web site: www.essexshipbuildingmuseum.org or simply mail a check to our office. Thank you!

The *Lewis H. Story* Sails into a New Season

Under the leadership of volunteer Captain Bob Quadros, the crew of the *Lewis H. Story* made our historical Chebacco replica ready for another season of sailing. During the spring, repairs were made to the vessel, and the *Lewis H. Story* was given a new coat of paint, stem-to-stern. All members of the Museum can go

sailing on the *Lewis H. Story* whenever there is room and logistics can be worked out. The *Lewis H. Story* sails out of Gloucester during the months of July and August. The *Story* will be an ambassador for the Museum and will be sailing to numerous maritime events during the summer. For more information on becoming involved with the *Story*, contact Captain Bob Quadros at (978) 317-8637.

Sadly, we must report the passing of our friend and volunteer Rick Wilcox, who died unexpectedly in his home in Danville, NH. Rick first discovered the Museum several years ago when he attended Charlie Burnham's infamous Saugus Iron Works Boat Building Course. It was love at first sight. Rick quickly became a regular weekend volunteer. He fell in love with the *Lewis H. Story*, and took on the role of doing whatever it took to maintain the vessel.

Rick was not unlike other Essex Shipbuilding Museum volunteers in that he had little knowledge of sailing or the role of Essex played in the development of sailing schooners until he discovered the Museum. Rick loved to sail on the *Lewis H. Story*. At the Museum's Annual Meeting held on June 10th, Rick spoke of his hope to acquire enough hours this summer on the *Lewis H. Story* to earn his Captain's License. He said, "I didn't even know how to sail when I joined the Museum. Now, I'm planning to get my Captain's License. It just goes to show you how far I've come since getting involved with the Museum."

Rick's smile, enthusiasm, and bright spirit will be missed around the yard.

New EHSSM Brochure Attracts New Visitors

Thanks to volunteer and Board Member Tia Schlaikjer, the Museum now has an exciting new full-color brochure to attract new visitors and provide information about our Museum. Tia found and obtained a grant from the North of Boston Visitor's Bureau, [Is this correct?] and then obtained matching donations to cover the rest of the design and printing costs. Tia then produced the brochure in record time so that it would be available for the summer visitor's season. If you would like a copy, or would like to display copies in your store or place of business, please contact Tia at tiaschlaikjer@verizon.net.

While she was at it, Tia teamed up with landscaper Susie Talbot, owner of [name of Susie's Landscaping Company], and the two volunteered to re-landscape the front of the Museum Orientation Center at 66 Main Street. Working with the facilities team, their goal is to improve the "street appeal" of the Museum.

But it doesn't stop there. Tia also teamed up with Susie and few other volunteers to bring back the Museum Store. Thanks go to our donors who lent the store seed money to purchase new inventory. The Museum Store now has t-shirts, hats, books, and other fun and unique products that make great gifts. We are

looking for volunteers who would like to help further develop the Museum Store. If you would like to find out more, contact Tia at tiaschlaikjer@verizon.net .

Programs Committee Continues Fabricating Fascinating Events

The Programs Committee never stops inventing diverse and engaging events to delight us all. The Program Committee's latest event was the opening of an exhibition of the work of artist and photographer Dawn Norris, a Newburyport resident, who received a grant to create a photographic essay on New England.

The opening of the exhibit took place at with a reception at The Fortune Palace on Main Street on June 29th. All the attendees enjoyed the food and the conviviality very much. Mr. Liaw and his staff did a wonderful job adding elegance to the event. The Fortune Palace has long been a valued supporter of the Museum, for which we are very grateful.

Dawn Norris chose the subject of her photographic essay on the Essex Shipbuilding Museum from the Historic New England list of "New Works from Old Places".

"It's simply stunning what happens in the 'yard'," noted Ms. Norris. "Quietly and gradually, things would change. Art would emerge and I was just compelled to photograph the biography of this incredible yard. It's an art form that is fading into our Yankee past and this project has become my effort to help preserve and educate others about a true labor of love."

The images on exhibit can be viewed at: www.dawnnorris.com The exhibit of images may be seen until [when?] at [where?].

'Round the Yard:

A tender for Les Moore's *Pocket Rocket* was recently completed in the shed by Jeff Lane and Dave Brown. This small wooden rowing pram, of Mr. Moore's design, was nicknamed *Beach Hat* by the shipwrights.

The Friendship sloop *Ollie M*, being restored by volunteer and shipwright Aaron Snider, was recently launched in the yard, after extensive work on the hull. Ollie M was seen tied up to our dock, receiving temporary decks in advance full topside restoration this fall.

Fritz Fuller, a long time volunteer, is preparing a new visitor's sign for the entrance of the Museum. A large team of supervisors have now been assigned to his project to make sure he drills holes into the right side of the boards!

Upcoming Events:

Keep an eye out for announcements for these upcoming events. As ever, we are always looking for interested volunteers to assist in producing these events. It's not only fun, but you get to meet and work with a lot of interesting people.

You may want to add additional information to these quips:

August [when?] – Our "Members Only" specially designed tour to visit the **USS Constitution** and the Constitution Museum. The adventure begins at our Museum, where we will all travel together on a chartered bus to the historic Charlestown Navy Shipyard.

September 19, evening – the Second Annual First Flagship rendezvous. Our annual fundraising Cocktail Party aboard traditional historic vessels, held in the Essex River Basin. Members only. Reservations required. The First Flagship rendezvous held in Sept 07 was so successful there have been requests that it be held again this Fall. Music, Hors oeuvres, and beverages will be provided. Volunteers are needed to make this better than ever.

September 20 – The Re-dedication of the A.D. Story Shipyard. A day-long celebration of history and dedication. The goal of this event is to create a celebration of the Shipyard, and the people who have helped to protect and preserve it. Details to come.

October 18 – The 2nd Annual Steam Muster. The most amazing day-long demonstration of steam boats, engines, trains, models and memorabilia. Food, fun and (steam) fanatics.

October 24 - "Wine Reception & Silent Auction", hosted by Jack & Pat Chisholm, Chebbaco Liquor Mart, [Check Store Name] at the Waterline Center.

November – The history of Harvesting and Transporting Ice, now in development. To take place in The Waterline Center. Date TBD

December - The Essex Historical Society and Shipbuilding Museum Holiday Party – a warm seasonal party for our members. Date TBD

In Parting, consider this....

The spirit of New England is alive for all to experience and enjoy at the Essex Shipbuilding Museum. Yankee ingenuity, tenacity, thrift and fierce independence are still alive at our Museum today.

We are a *living* museum, with on-going projects, community activities, and educational programs, we engage visitors in the New England mind-set: "We can do this ourselves!" We allow visitors from near and far to experience the grit and determination that spawned the largest little village of shipbuilders in New England, launching more than 4,000 vessels down the ways into the Essex River.

The Essex Historical Society and Shipbuilding Museum actively works to preserve, interpret and protect the way of life, culture and character of a small New England village that fed the New England Fishing Fleet with the fleets of schooners necessary to dominate the United States fishing industry.

In the new world of casinos and water parks, making history relevant and engaging is a challenge. The places where you can see and experience the authentic New England “can-do” attitude are rapidly disappearing. If not preserved, through sharing our heritage and culture with thousands of visitors and our membership, our history will be forgotten.

It is our mission to continue to delight visitors with hands-on activities and visitor experiences that celebrate the region’s maritime heritage and entrepreneurial spirit. With your financial and volunteer support, we will continue to create the kinds of innovative programs we have become known for. With your support and involvement, we have the pluck to do it.