



Newsletter

Maine's First Ship

SPECIAL EDITION
JUNE 2012
VOLUNTEER
RECOGNITION

BREAKING NEWS!

HERITAGE DAYS FIREWORKS AT THE BATH FREIGHT SHED
PARTY UNDER THE "BIG TOP"!

A SPECIAL MAINE'S FIRST SHIP MEMBERSHIP EVENT 7/7/12



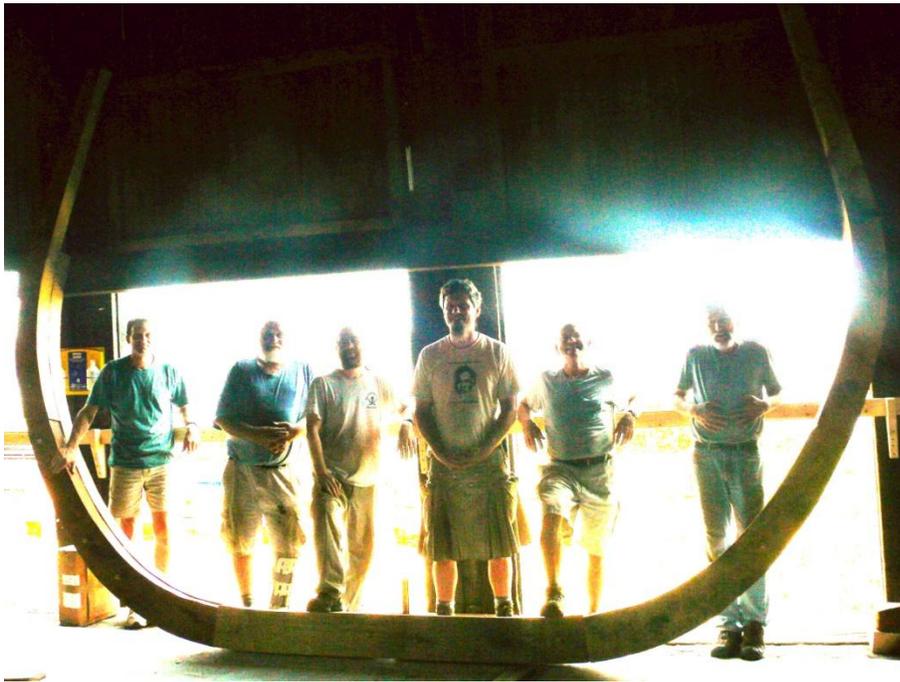
LAYING THE KEEL 7/3/2011 – COME SEE US NOW!!!!

In recognition and gratitude for the support and dedication of our membership, Maine's First Ship invites you to a series of unique and family friendly events. Celebrate the Fourth of July and Bath Heritage Days with Maine's First Ship at the Bath Freight Shed. Enjoy the fireworks from one of the best views the Bath waterfront has to offer, with beverages under the big top. We'll have tours of *Virginia's* structure assembled during 2011 inside the boatshed, and the 2012 plans for *Virginia* construction and the summer educational shipbuilding programs will be presented.

Big top tent provided by Bath Heritage Days. Doors open to members at 7:30 for priority seating, 8:00 for non-members. Cash bar by JR Maxwell's, boatshed tours and a brief program on upcoming events at 8:30M. This tent will be set up behind the Bath Freight Shed and inside the fenced perimeter. Capacity and access will be limited. Fireworks at 9:15PM, doors close at 10:30PM. Rain date would follow Bath's fireworks schedule. \$10 per adult, \$25 per family. All entry fees will be matched by the "*Jane Stevens Challenge*" with proceeds used to purchase wood for *Virginia*. Limited seating available, so bring a chair. To join Maine's First Ship, call our office at 443-4242 (Mondays or Wednesdays only) or email mfs1@myfairpoint.net.

Come and cheer for the shallop *JANE STEVENS* in the July 4th parade, and join us for a special *VIRGINIA* mast event on the waterfront on Sunday afternoon July 8, 2012.

Virginia's Volunteers



Dedicated and diverse, *Virginia's* volunteers come in all shapes and sizes, all ages and abilities, all backgrounds and beliefs. We share the common vision of a "pretty pinnacle" sailing the coast of Maine again and creating an ongoing educational experience for students of all ages.

THANK YOU ALL!

BRUCE BRENNAN, ROB STEVENS, TIM TEAGUE, JEREMY BLAIKLOCK, JAY COFFEY, WILL WEST

VIRGINIA VOLUNTEER PROFILES

Jeremy Blaiklock

Front and center in this enhanced picture of *Virginia's* first midship frame, Jeremy has been a dedicated shipbuilding volunteer since 2010. A recent addition to the MFS Board of Directors and the owner/operator of Seaflower Garden & Design, (a successful and creative landscape company) Jeremy also took the lead in pattern making in the boat shop this winter during shipwright Rob Stevens' absence. A core group of volunteers worked Saturdays from October to May lofting and creating patterns for the 27 remaining frames. They expanded the ship's drawing scale to full size scale using the lofting platforms they created and then transferred this full scale design onto patterns. Donating his dump truck for the day allowed volunteers to move all the completed patterns and lofting platforms from Rob's Hermit Island boat shop to the Bath Freight Shed in preparation for the 2012 summer season. Jeremy is also well known in his home town of Arrowsic for his many civic activities such as the Fire Department and the Scholarship Committee.

VISION STATEMENT

Maine's First Ship will build a 51-foot reconstruction of the pinnacle *Virginia*; the first English ship built in North America to cross the Atlantic back to Europe. We will engage students of all ages in the "hands on history" reconstruction and operation of *Virginia* on the rivers and coast of Maine.

HISTORY AND COMMUNITY - BECOME A VOLUNTEER

FMI visit us online at www.mfship.org

Email us at mfs1@myfairpoint.net

Call 443-4242 or write Maine's First Ship PO Box 231 Bath ME 04530

Or stop by the Bath Freight Shed Commercial Street Bath Maine

"when the flag of St. George is flying"





Jay Coffey and Dick Forrest making patterns for *Virginia's* ribs. In the foreground, nails have been laid on their sides on the lofting floor with the nail heads along the rib lines. Luan board is laid over the nail heads. Walking on the luan presses it into the nail heads. The resulting pattern of dents is traced to make the outline of the pattern cut. Each frame has 5 to 7 separate patterns in each half, and the joints are staggered for strength when the two halves are joined with treenails, (trunnels).

Two of our indispensable, all purpose volunteers, both Jay and Dick have extensive professional and volunteering backgrounds.

A retired food service engineer, Jay has taken on every job from writing grants to sweeping, up and everything in between from lofting to greeting visitors. He also volunteers three days a week at the soup kitchen in addition to his daily MFS hours and has been known to rescue sailors in need of rigging advice on the water.

A graduate of King's Point, the United States Merchant Marine Academy, Dick is currently the Engineering Officer for the *Sherman Zwicker*, an historic sailing vessel berthed during the summer at Maine Maritime Museum. Dick has worked throughout the year on every facet of *Virginia's* construction.



Orman Hines on *Virginia's* lofting floor this winter, measuring offsets, a series of plotted points from the ship's drawings that are "offset" from a specific baseline in the drawing. Offsets are used to increase the scale size drawing into the full size pattern. Orman has been active in *Virginia's* construction and teaches history to the RSU#1 Summer Shipbuilding Program students.

Another all purpose volunteer, Orman admits he never expected to be so busy after retiring from the Bowdoin College food service department. As a charter member of MFS, Orman has a deep appreciation of the history of Maine and the first ship built here by the English colonists.

As the current Maine's First Ship Treasurer, he keeps the books, plans the budget, pays the bills, and coordinates fundraising activities as the Development Committee chair.

Orman is also an avid archeologist, participating in digs all over Maine. He has participated in the Popham Colony digs since they began in 1998, and is currently involved in an archeological dig in Richmond, Maine.

President of Merrymeeting Trouts Unlimited, Orman also works with youth to teach the art of fly tying and fly fishing.

VIRGINIA MODEL DELIVERED TO
DIRECTOR, MAINE STATE MUSEUM
AUGUSTA, MAINE



J.R. Phillips and John Bradford with *Virginia* model

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Dear Merry:

Yesterday, Bud Warren and I delivered *Virginia's* 3/16th inch scale model to J.R. Phillips, Director of the Maine State Museum, and Kate McBrien, Curator of Historic Collections. They predict that she will be ready for permanent display beside the 3/16th inch scale 19th Century **St. Mary* for comparison purposes starting this coming fall. Located to the left just beyond the entrance into the museum's display area, thousands of people will pass by this display each year.

Our model was revised and completed in extraordinary (and amazing!) detail by Captain Norman Smith of Harpswell. His interest in what Maine's First Ship is trying to accomplish, and, especially, his generosity and historical accuracy in helping us with the model, have earned our deepest respect and appreciation.

*The *St. Mary* is 246' long versus *Virginia's* 51.5', or 4.8 times *Virginia's* length. JWB

Maine's First Ship would like to thank John Bradford and David Wyman for their dedication and for financially supporting this project.

<i>Board of Directors and Advisors June 2012</i>	
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STEVEN THEODORE <i>Vice-President</i> Arrowsic	TOMM TOMLINSON Rockport
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ED RICE Woolwich	
ED ROGERS Bath	DAVID B. WYMAN <i>Naval Architect</i> Castine
*RICHARD STEVENSON Bath	Partner Bath Freight Shed Alliance
*WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS	

Jane Stevens aboard
JANE STEVENS



Photo courtesy of Bud Warren

In honor

of the late Jane Stevens, a Founder of Maine's First Ship, a generous donor has made it possible for us to match pledges up to \$5,000.00

(recently increased to \$10,000)

Double your donation by contributing to the

**"Jane Stevens"
Memorial Challenge**

Please send your contributions to:

**Email us at mfs1@myfairpoint.net
Call 443-4242
Maine's First Ship
1 Front Street
PO Box 231
Bath ME 04530**

FMI visit us online at www.mfship.org

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

TRUNNEL \$ 30 PLANK \$ 50 FRAME \$ 100 BUSINESS \$ 500

PLEDGE LEVELS - VIRGINIA SHIPBUILDERS

All donors making a gift to the construction of *Virginia* will have their names burned on a Rudder Shaped Plaque installed in *Virginia* indicating the level of giving called "*Virginia's Shipbuilders*".

A gift at the \$250 level will be called an 'Outfitter' and receive a framed copy of David Wyman's reconstruction plans of *Virginia*.

A gift of \$500 will be recognized as a 'Plank' and receive a copy of John Bradford's book "The Pinnacle Virginia in Context", and a framed copy of David Wyman's Plans.

A gift of \$1000 will be recognized as a 'Beam' donor and receive a copy of John Bradford's book, a framed print of the Plans and a Ship's Block made of Locust.

A gift of \$1,500 will be called a 'Frame' level, will receive a Halyard Block w/Strop, and a copy of John Bradford's book.

A gift of \$2,500 will be known as a 'Rigger', will receive a Double Halyard Block Strop, a copy of John Bradford's book, and a Framed Print of the Plans.

A donation of \$5,000 will be called a 'Designer' and receive a half model of *Virginia* and a Double Halyard Block & Strop.

A donation at the \$10,000 level will be named a 'Shipwright' and receive a Half Model, Double Halyard Block, John Bradford's book, a framed copy of the Designs and will be a guest on board the first sailing of *Virginia*.

Master Shipwright Rob Stevens



Dick Forrest and Jay Coffey

MAINE'S FIRST SHIP NEEDS YOUR HELP!

**WE ARE SEEKING DONATIONS OF WOOD
TO COMPLETE VIRGINIA.**

WHITE OAK 15' TO 50' (PLANKS, DECK BEAMS, ETC.)

WHITE OAK 5' TO 14' (FRAMING)

SPRUCE, WHITE PINE (MASTS, SPARS)

HACKMATAK (KNEES)

ALSO NEEDED ARE SMALL AMOUNTS OF:

BLACK LOCUST (FRAMING, DEAD EYES, CLEATS, ETC.)

ELM, ASH (DEAD EYES, BLOCKS, ETC.)

RED OAK CLEAR LENGTH 20'+ (RIBBANDS)

BE PART OF 400 YEARS OF SHIPBUILDING HISTORY

**DO YOU HAVE STANDING WOOD OF THESE VARIETIES? NOT SURE IF IT
WOULD FIT OUR NEEDS? PLEASE CONTACT US AND SCHEDULE A SITE VISIT
MFS1@MYFAIRPOINT.NET**

Maine's First Ship

1 Front Street

PO Box 231

Bath ME 04530

www.mfship.org

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Celebrate Bath Heritage Days with Maine's First Ship
Three unique and family friendly events