



Bev Bevilacqua, copyright

## MAINE'S FIRST SHIP NEWSLETTER

Reconstructing Virginia  
Thank You For Your Generous Support!  
mfship.org

**SPECIAL EDITION**  
**SUMMER PROGRAMS**  
**AND EVENTS**  
**JUNE 2013**



In recognition and gratitude for the support and dedication of our membership you are cordially invited to celebrate the Fourth of July at the **Maine's First Ship's Fireworks Party at the Bath Freight Shed**. Make it a family outing and bring a picnic with your favorite food and beverages, invite your family and friends, and set up base camp in the shade under the big top. A grill will be available for member use. Stroll around the Bath Heritage Days events and then enjoy the fireworks from one of the best views the Bath waterfront has to offer. We'll have tours of *Virginia's* structure assembled during 2012 inside the boatshed, and the 2013 plans for *Virginia* construction and the summer educational shipbuilding programs will be presented.

Big top tent provided by Bath Heritage Days. Doors open at 2:30 PM for

priority member seating and public tours until 4PM. Public seating will open at 7:30PM. A brief program on upcoming events will be offered 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 10:00PM. Rain date would follow Bath's fireworks schedule. Members free, non-members \$5 per adult, \$15 per family.

Proceeds will be 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](mailto:mfs1@myfairpoint.net).



## BOLTING VIRGINIA'S DEADWOOD



Standing on the stack of deadwood backing Virginia's sternpost Rob Stevens drills the 4 ½ foot, ¾ inch diameter holes that will receive the silicon bronze bolts which terminate inside the shaft log. Tim Teague repeatedly clears the drill shavings with the shop vac. Silicon bronze fittings are used to bolt timbers that will be under the waterline.

After pre-drilling, the "shaft log" is removed and prepared for the 2 inch propeller shaft. The center of the shaft log is hollowed to receive the shaft. The ½ inch bolt holes are predrilled through the log and the stainless steel bolts that keep the shaft log together are inserted.



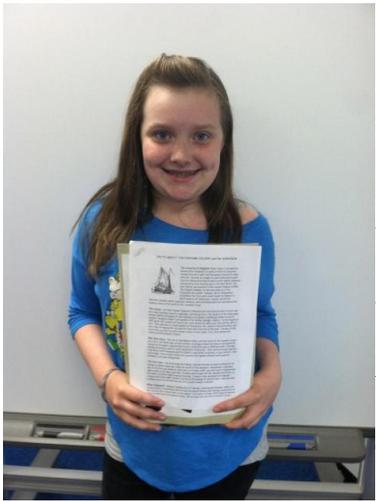
The nuts holding these stainless bolts are set flush with the top of the shaft log. The nuts holding the silicon bronze bolts are set flush with the interior of the shaft groove. Jay Coffey, Roger Barry and Tim Teague work (below left) on inseting the shaft log nuts.

Roger and Jay grease the ¾" bolts in the preparation for driving the deadwood bolts. Each bolt is capped with two stainless nuts to protect the fragile threads. These nuts are rotated between the driving blows from the sledge hammer ensure they don't lock up or jam. Roger drives the bolt while Dick Forrest and Jay wait for their turn with the sledge hammer.



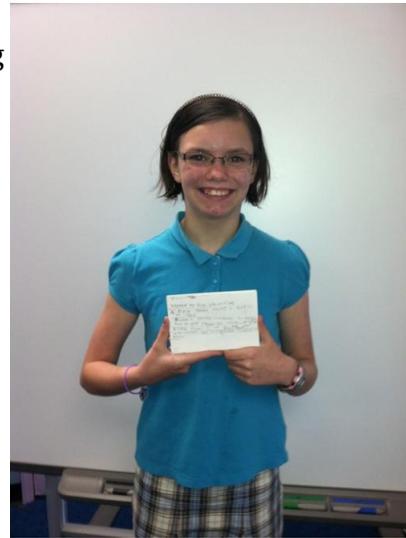


## The Untold Adventures of the Popham Colony- Contributed by Merry Chapin and Amber Snell

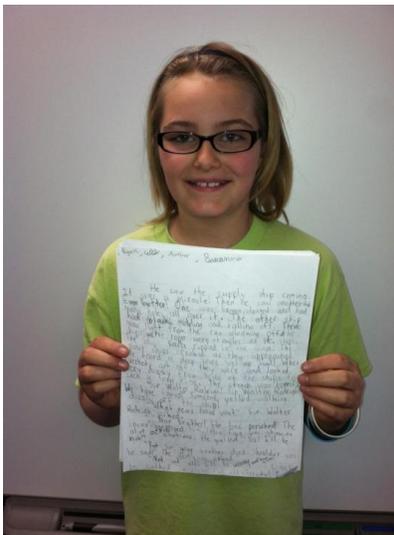


"It is hard writing a book!" This is the consensus of the Phippsburg 5th grade students in Amber Snell's class. These students studied the early American colonies and were dismayed that there was little information on the Popham Colony when they were doing their research. They were so upset at the lack of information that they took matters into their own hands and decided to write a brochure about Fort Saint George and the Colony. As they worked on research for the brochure, they said, "We should write a book!" Some students replied, "We didn't think we could write a book." But write a book they did!

The process of research, writing in groups, agreeing on content, having hurt feelings when others didn't think that your idea and writing was a good fit or wasn't a really good idea was difficult for these ten and eleven year olds. But they persevered and The Untold Adventure of the Popham Colony was completed, reviewed by Mrs. Snell and school librarian Laura Phelps, revised from suggestions made from the reviewers and sent to the publisher. In the world of teaching this is called authentic learning. These young students learned so much from their project. They practiced writing historical fiction while they gave conversation and voice to the people who actually were at the Colony. They practiced cooperation, learning from the



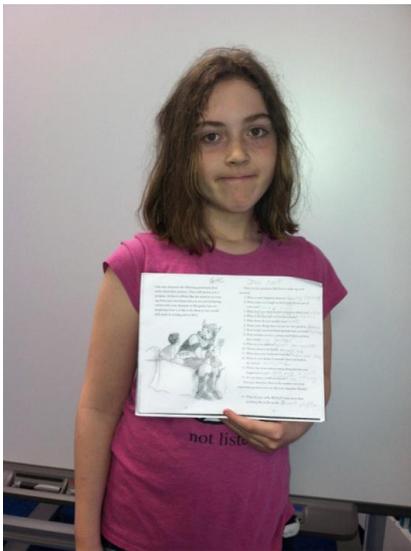
ideas of other students to reach a final goal in the completion of their project. They also learned how to use the technology of Google Docs as they worked their way through the story.



This is a very impressive project and these young students, and their reviewers, are to be congratulated on their amazing efforts and achievement. Now there is a book written by Phippsburg students to tell other students about the Popham Colony, Fort Saint George and the building of *Virginia*, the first English boat built in North America.

The idea came from our study of the European Colonization of America. We were learning a lot about Roanoke, Jamestown, and Plymouth, but there was nothing on Popham. Popham was not in our textbook or encyclopedia. There was only one book on it in our library. This got students angry and they wanted the world to know about the Popham Colony. So, they came up with the idea of writing a book about it.

## The Untold Adventures of the Popham Colony- Continued



First, we decided on a genre- historical fiction. Next, we decided on the plot and made a plot diagram.

Then, we broke into groups and researched using newspaper and magazine articles, historical newsletters, reports from Dr. Jeffery Brain, and any other resources we could find. From these sources, we took keyword notes on note cards.



Then, we decided on our main characters, James Davies and Raleigh Gilbert. We made character sketches of them and the other minor characters in the book sticking to what we knew about them from our sources and making up what we didn't. This helped us learn more about the historical fiction genre.

We used these character sketches to write descriptions of our characters and we used our note cards to begin drafting our story. While drafting, we tried to stick to what we learned about the colony and only make up what the people said or add details that would make the story better. We worked in groups to write different parts of the story and shared them out with the whole class who helped edit and revise it.

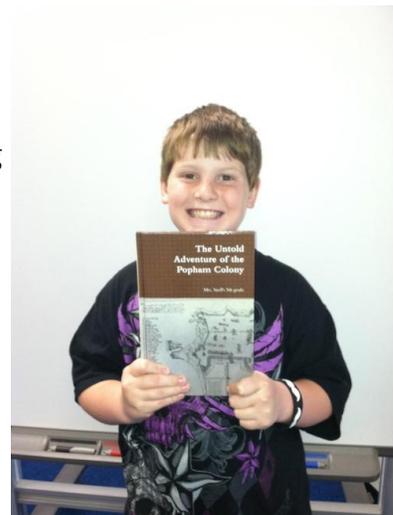
Then, we typed the story into Google Docs and did some more editing both individually, in groups, and as a whole class.



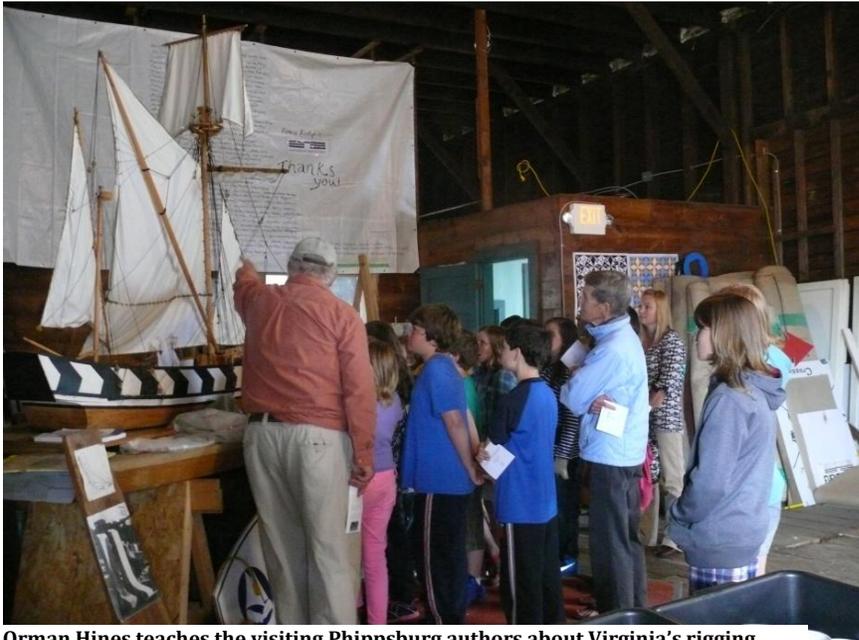
We had our librarian read it over and give us feedback. Then, we made illustrations that went along with the story.

Finally, we decided on a title, made the About the Authors page, and sent it away for publishing!

On sale soon at the Maine's First Ship store -



**Phippsburg Maine 5<sup>th</sup> Grade authors visit Maine's First Ship and meet *Virginia*.**



Orman Hines teaches the visiting Phippsburg authors about *Virginia's* rigging model pointing out her sails, spars and masts. Bridget Healy shadows Orman's technique and topics, preparing to help host future school visits.

After "writing the book" on the Popham Colony, some might think it would be hard to hold their interest for an hour, but this enthusiastic group was full of non-stop questions.

Like so many other of our school group tours, Jay Coffey and Tim Teague were working in *Virginia's* boatshed and ready to teach the students the tools and terms of building a 17<sup>th</sup> century "pretty pinnace".

Students learned the terms and locations for five of *Virginia's* major structures, keel, stem, stern, deadwood and frames. Invariably the high point in the discussion of frame assemblies is the proper use and definition of term which describes the nine curved sawn shapes that are pegged together with trunnels form each full frame. Starting with a nervous chuckle or two, bursting into giggles then laughter, the use of the term "futtocks", never fails to break the ice!

It's always inspiring to meet the *Virginia* Volunteers of the future, but this group **really** did their "homework"!



Greetings Members and friends!

Merry Chapin, past president and Education chair, has been busy planning and recruiting volunteers and students for the summer season with great success! In addition to resuming a full five day a week student schedule this year, the visitor center is receiving a long overdue renovation and a formal training program for new docents is being formulated.



A hearty hail and welcome to our new Education committee resource Roxane (only one "N" please) Althouse. Intelligent and energetic, Roxane's art history background and enthusiasm for people and projects is already showing results in our tired welcome area. Teaming with Joanne L. and Merry C., Roxane is leading the efforts to create a new visitor welcome area. Compiling a docent manual and recruiting docent volunteers is also a priority with this education sub team. Please give them all the support possible and come admire the results in July!

**Saturday June 29, 2013**

Virginia Volunteers 9 to 3

Open Visitor Center 9 to 3 at the MFS end (north) of the freight shed – **anyone willing to help please contact Roxane or Merry** [mchapin23@yahoo.com](mailto:mchapin23@yahoo.com) – **thanks**

**Monday July 8, 2013 – Friday August 16, 2013**

**Maine's First Ship Summer Program**

**Monday through Friday 8AM to 12PM**

***The 4th year of the Maine's First Ship summer program will begin at the Bath Freight Shed on July 8th.***

From that date until August 16th, students will work under the direction of George Sprague in learning woodworking skills and helping with projects for Virginia. MFS volunteers extraordinaire, Jay Coffey and Tim Teague will assist with the program as will many of the other volunteers. This year 10 students in grades 7th, 8th and 9th will participate. Their work will consist of learning about tool use and maintenance, as well as doing several projects. 2 or 3 of our older students will also be working with the volunteers and students as paid interns. Volunteer Chuck Mainville of Kennebec Rowers will provide rowing experience for all students once or twice a week. Applications are on the MFS website. Questions can be addressed to Merry Chapin at 443-5669 or at [mchapin23@yahoo.com](mailto:mchapin23@yahoo.com).

**YEAR ROUND HOURS - VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS - SATURDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS 9AM TO 3PM**

**We are soliciting nominations and volunteers for the board of directors and committees. Particularly needed are docents, skills in event planning, grants and membership. Please call 443-4242 for more information.**



**Many thanks** to the volunteers who responded to the call for help with the May 4 Yard Sale Rent Party to benefit the freight shed roof payment. Almost \$800 was raised and several useful items donated (thanks Allen Gaul for the cool tools for *Virginia*)

What was most heartwarming for me was the transparency between Maine's First Ship and Freight Shed Alliance volunteers. So many are "dualies" (volunteers in both organizations) it's hard to know who came to help either or both, but there can never be too many thank yous!

Thanks to Joanne L who took the helm quietly (and there was great rejoicing) and powered through the pricing and organization of all the goodies donated. Thanks to Merry C. who donated a lot of the goodies, Allison Hepler, Jean Thomkins, Weibke T, Joan Detel, my dear sister Lani Ganter and the brute forces of Tim Teague, Orman Hines and Jay Coffey for lugging and tugging all that community donation generosity into selling shape. Thanks and hope to see you for the second annual rent party yard sale next year.



Cyndy Carney, Maine's First Ship's grant go to person, is working on a donor drive. Poring over past donor reports to compile a list for a new appeal has been very promising and many old friends have been rediscovered. Since 2008 Maine's First Ship has proven we can build *Virginia* and more and more members past and present are confirming they believe this also with their donations and volunteer hours. If you have lost track of your membership status, or want to get involved again please respond when your letter from Cyndy arrives or contact us at [mfs1@myfairpoint.net](mailto:mfs1@myfairpoint.net).

### **MAINE'S FIRST SHIP UPCOMING EVENTS: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!**

**Sunday July 7, 2013**

**Maine's First Ship Second Annual Fireworks Party**

**Members seating 2:30-7:30 PM**

**Public seating 7:30-10:30 PM**

**Volunteers needed to hang lights, help with event and clean up**

**Please contact Gayla Teague [breezekist@hotmail.com](mailto:breezekist@hotmail.com)**

**Saturday August 24, 2013**

**Maine's First Ship Annual Meeting**

### **BATH FREIGHT SHED ALLIANCE UPCOMING EVENTS: Summer Full Moon Dinner Series!**

Sunday June 23rd Aaron Park: Henry & Marty Restaurant –SOLD OUT

Monday July 22nd Ray Franklyn: Solo Bistro –SOLD OUT

Tuesday August 20th Jon Merry: Dragonfly Cove Farm

Thursday Sept. 19th Tim O'Brien: Trattoria Athena and Enoteca Athena

Set at the Freight Shed, overlooking the Kennebec these dinners will be catered by local Chefs featuring local produce, cheese, meats with wine and Maine beer. There will be live music. Your minimum donation of \$25 pp per dinner will go toward the restoration of the Freight Shed, Bath's winter local food hub. Contact BFSA by visiting <http://bathfreightshed.blogspot.com/>

**MEMBERSHIP DRIVE – NEW MEMBERSHIP LEVELS AND RECOGNITION!!!**-. New Individual and business membership level. We’ve established some exciting new membership recognition levels for both individuals and businesses try us out!

Individual donation levels:	Name	Membership levels	Other Recognition
\$100	Frame	2 memberships	Decal – 2 event passes
\$50	Plank	2 membership	Decal
\$30	Trunnel	1 membership	Decal
Volunteer hours	Trunnel	1 membership	Decal – 1 event pass T-shirt or hat after 60 days
Free	Community Advocates	1 membership	Decal
Free with parents approval	Junior	2 memberships	Decal

- Note : events planned for 2013 include the second annual Fireworks Party

Business \$ ranges	Name	Publicity in media	Membership levels	Recognition
\$1000-750	Mainsail	Logo and link on website front page	2 memberships	Decal – 10 event passes
\$500	Mizzensail	Logo and link on website back page	2 memberships	Decal – 4 event passes
\$300	Topsail	Logo In newsletter	2 memberships	Decal – 2 event passes
\$100	Bowspritsail	Name in newsletter	2 memberships	Decal

**PLEASE SUPPORT MAINE’S FIRST SHIP BUSINESS MEMBERS AND PARTNERS**

**Business Members:**

Patti Irish Media



**Big Barn Coffee**

Stevens Sawmill and Construction

Seaflower Garden and Design

Bath Savings Institution

Sebasco Harbor Resort

Henry and Marty's Restaurant and Catering

TMA Development

JR Maxwell & Co

KeyBank

C.W.Rogers, Inc

First Federal Savings and Loan

Frohmler Construction

MW Sewall

First Federal Savings & Loan

Now you're Cookin'

Higmo's Inc

**Foundation Supporters:**

Maine Antique Dealers Association

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation

Charles L. Read Foundation

Maine Historical Society

Baldwin Foundation

Davistown Museum

**Partners:**

Robinhood Marine

Nat Wilson, Sailmaker

Rob Stevens, Boatbuilder

Bath Freight Shed Alliance

Rockport Marine

BFC Marine

Maine Maritime Museum

Main Street Bath

Theodore & Theodore Architects

Regional School Unit #1

Bath Farmer's Market

Bath Iron Works Corp.

\*note: Maine’s First Ship Partners (donors of goods and services) receive recognition at Topsail level



Maine's First Ship President's Notes:



As with any fund raising function you look back at past performance to judge what the possibilities for success are and as our past fund raiser have been a mixed bag you have to be a little anxious, but to be successful you need to be an optimist.



Optimistically we were hoping for 70 people, but attendance exceeded all our expectations we had a packed house at 100 people and had to cut off any more reservations. With a generous split of 40% of the meals Maine's First Ship garnered \$1000 dollars. Special thanks goes to Ed Rogers & Mary Ann Sarni and all their staff at JR Maxwell's for making this fund raiser possible and a great success. And a big round of applause goes to all of our enthusiastic board members who sold tickets and gave silent auction items.



The Silent Auction was also much more successful than we had thought it would be with all the generous bids we made \$3000. Originally we had thought we would only have a maybe a dozen auction items, but when Jay Coffey and others started to ask for items from local businesses we were very pleased to expand the auction. We want to thank all the businesses and individuals that donated items to the silent auction:

The Cabin, Lisa Marie's, Now Your Cooking, Kennebec Tavern, Henry & Marty's Restaurant, Hampden Inn at Bath, Pamela's World, Seguin Island Ferry, Richard Hill a walnut table, Elizabeth Johnson pastel of Popham, John Bradford's famed designs of Virginia, Verril Dana baseball tickets and Onyx Hotel stay, Andy Vavolotis house boat stay, Fred and Marty Hill, Orioles Baseball tickets, Wendy Hines painting, and Bridget Healy.



Before the introduction of Rob Stevens our keynote speaker Maine Antique Dealers Association representatives Roger Williams and Harry Hepburn presented Maine's First Ship with a generous donation of \$2000, for the purchase of planking.



Rob gave a passionate talk about our progress on building the VIRGINIA.

Thanks also to all our members and local people who supported the Gala. Your support inspires us.

This year MFS set some lofty budgetary goals to raise over \$100,000.00 dollars, and over the past few months our development committee started a conversation with First Federal Savings' Andrew Perry about the possibility of a pledge. Ed Rogers being one of our best and knowledgeable fund raisers asked Mr. Perry to visit the project and see our progress. After visiting the project we sat down for a productive conversation with Mr. Perry about Maine's First Ship's goals; and just a couple days before the Gala Mr. Perry informed us that First Federal would pledge a total of \$15,000 over three years.

Bath Saving's Institution has also committed another \$5000 dollar of their pledge to building VIRGINIA over the past month.

The Jane Stevens Challenge Matching Grant, funded by a generous donor in memory of our founder, has matched another \$10,000 in donations in 2013.

Each one of these pledges and fund raisers helps us to close in on the estimated material building cost of the VIRGINIA, at \$500,000.00.

Maine's First Ship's program to build the VIRGINIA is truly a locally supported project with far reaching potential.

Best Regards, Orman Hines

***MAINE'S FIRST SHIP FUNDRAISING GOALS FOR 2013: \$150,000***

FMI visit us online at [www.mfship.org](http://www.mfship.org)

Contact us at: [mfs1@myfairpoint.net](mailto:mfs1@myfairpoint.net)

(207) 443-4242

Maine's First Ship

PO Box 231 Bath ME 04530

Or stop by the Bath Freight Shed 27 Commercial Street Bath Maine

"When the flag of St. George is flying"

***HISTORY AND COMMUNITY - BECOME A VOLUNTEER!***