



Bev Bevilacqua, copyright

MAINE'S FIRST SHIP NEWSLETTER

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

HOLIDAY EDITION

WINTER EVENTS

DECEMBER 2013



VIRGINIA'S AFT FRAMES

Virginia volunteer and professional photographer Paul Cunningham puts the final touches on "Paul's Ladder", the stairway to the high rise work platform constructed at *Virginia's* stern to be used for raising the transom and aft frames.

Season's greetings from Maine's First Ship!

Since October, work on frames both forward and aft has continued, with a big 2013 season finale planned for New Year's Eve, when *Virginia's* final frame is raised. We've raised all the aft frames that have been completed (2 more to go!) and assembly of the cant frames on the stem continues. Knightheads, the foundation hawse timbers are in place on the stem, both starboard and aft, completing the back rabbit which has been carved into the stem to receive the planking.





RAISING THE AFT DIVIDED (HALF) FRAMES

Working in tight quarters between staging and *Virginia's* sternpost and keel, each frame is double rigged to raise and pivot into the mortise carved into the deadwood. Each tenon end has been painted to both preserve and slow down the drying speed.

Volunteers work on and around the staging and deadwood to raise the frame, adjusting the pivot point with carefully coordinated come alongs.

Jeremy Blaiklock and Paul Cunningham (above) work from the ground to manhandle the frame into position, while Les Perry and Ross Anthony (right) work the rigged frame from the crossfalls above the deadwood.



Once the frame is raised, Jeremy works from the staging to position and clamp the frame to the ribband while Paul guides the tenon end (below)



Each frame is fitted snugly into the preserved mortise and then "tuned" in 3 dimensions.

Ross works with a carpenter's square and plumb bob guided by Rob (playing not so blind justice) from above to mark the centerline intersection points of the keelson and the frame (right).



AFT DIVIDED (HALF) FRAMES, REPEAT AS NECESSARY



Working the port side, Chuck Jouver takes the ground level post with Dan Whittier working the come along heights (below).



Another day, another frame? Never! Each shape more recurved than the last, each unique.

Volunteers continue to shape Virginia's hull form with curvaceous aft frames, performing what Tim Teague calls "a chaotic ballet". Tim acts the role of the human wood clamp while Paul clamps the frame to the ribband (left). Viewed from the stem (below).



View from across the aft frames forward to the stem.





Knightheads

Bracketing the stem, these are the first of the hawse timbers(left)

Center right, Mark Aukeman gets guidance from Rob Stevens and Orman Hines on cutting the stem rabbet.



Below, Orman and Tim Teague discuss the angle measurement of the stem rabbet and how it fairs into the knightheads in preparation to receive the planking



When completed, the hawse timbers will form 3 solid frames from stem to cant frames, continuing up the stem.

Note what can happen when you leave your hunting hat unguarded in the boatshed (Monkey boy you can run but, in the boatshed, there is nowhere to hide).





CANT FRAMES

Working with the mold for the first, the remaining cant frames were cut out and assembled on the stem.

Volunteers assemble all hands style to move the raw stock for the frames through the pass through door in the boatshed to the ship saw (left)

Local doctor, and board advisor Dan Wood works with the cant frame pattern and the harpins to design the remaining ones (right).

Viewed from outside the hull, the graceful fan shape of the combined cant frames is revealed, when connected to the stem by the hawse timbers, a sturdy bow will take form (below left).

Roger Barry consults with Mark from the stem staging while Ships cook Aaron Park takes notes from his seat on the stem. Jay Coffey between frames contributes to the discussions (below right).



SAWING THE CANT FRAMES



Working with Rob Steven's circa 1930's shipsaw, volunteers use the boatshed pass through door to cut the futtocks of white oak for the cant frames. Working outside, Jay Coffey pushes the 4" stock across the roller bar. Inside the boatshed, from right to left, Chuck Jouver and Orman Hines guide the wood through the saw while Dan Whittier cranks the saw head to the degree of bevel required along the length of the futtock.



Finishing a cut, with the saw head at 90 degrees, Dick Forrest confers with Rob while removing the waste wood with help from John. You can really see the bevel and how it changes on the futtock that Roger is holding steady on the saw table. This functionality saves a lot of hand planning.



In an older photo. With *Virginia* in the background, volunteers work at the saw, from left to right, Roger pushes the stock from outside, Dick and Jay position and guide the live cut white oak through the saw.

Working with a virtually invisible water level, Paul and Jeremy up on the staging tune the pair of divided frames. Tim works the water level from the ground at the centerline.



WMTW-TV 8 LIVE AND HOMETOWN MAINE

For two November Saturday mornings in a row, *Virginia* was featured by a local television station during their early broadcast.

Starting at 5:30 AM, reporter Katie Johnson conducted six live volunteer interviews and a dozen live updates to the local TV audience.

Vice President Jeremy Blaiklock, President Orman Hines, and volunteers Tim Teague and Jay Coffey talked with Katie about the history of the first *Virginia* and her builders and their work as shipwrights on our *Virginia*. As treasurer I talked with Katie about our donation options and contact info. After these live shots finished at 8:00, reporter Norm Karkos arrived to interview volunteers for his Hometown Maine segment on Bath.



HOMETOWN MAINE

The following Saturday, reporter Norm Karkos presented his report which you can view by following the link below. Being featured like this in local media has resulted in a fresh influx of new volunteers, which will get us jumpstarted into 2014.

<http://www.wmtw.com/news/Hometown-Maine-Bath/-/22922014/23004556/-/6mma8/-/index.html>

President's Comments December 12, 2013

With an arctic wind blowing and the temperature dipping near zero, we have the start of good old fashioned Maine winter. Yesterday we got our double barrel stove red hot in the boat shed while fitting the knight heads to the bow stem of *Virginia* and Jeremy and Les braved the outside weather to work on the main mast to prepare it for eight siding. We are expecting a delivery of white oak planking and framing material for the cant frames and hawsers which will complete the bow framing and another large beam to complete the keelson.

We will be celebrating New Years Eve with a bon fire and good cheer as we complete the framing, which I hope you will be able to join us for.

Thanks to all your donations to the annual fund we will have a good start on raising funds to keep *Virginia's* reconstruction moving forward in 2014.

Happy Holidays!

Orman Hines

PLEASE SUPPORT MAINE'S FIRST SHIP BUSINESS MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

Business Members:

Patti Irish Media



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

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Charles L. Read Foundation

Maine Historical Society

Baldwin Foundation

Davistown Museum

Partners:

Robinhood Marine

Nat Wilson, Sailmaker

Rob Stevens, Boat builder

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.

Hail to new board members:

Welcome new directors Roger Barry and Roxane Althouse!

Two year volunteer Roger Barry is a hard working, high climbing shipwright volunteer who also designed our colorful boathouse banner which replaced the black and white sign destroyed by Sandy.

Roxane joined the Education volunteers last winter and her energy has been the source of the highly successful Visitor Center redesign.

More complete bio info will appear next edition. Please give these new directors your support and thanks.

Special thanks:

Extra special thanks to quick response volunteers who helped with pre selling our New Years event tickets and our merchandise at the Bath Farmers Market last week. Dan Wood, Gil and Bonnie Ross, Sharon Drake, Orman Hines, Jay Coffey and most of all Tim Teague who held the fort so I could go to lunch with 14 of my high school girlfriends – go class of '71!

Volunteering is sort of like a box of Chocolates:

Reflecting thankfully on the many merits of my volunteer time with Maine's First Ship, my favorite part of interpreting *Virginia* is the wonderful people you meet. Volunteers and visitors alike, some of the nicest, most interesting, intelligent and thoughtful people work and visit in our boatshed. Visitors write letters and cards, send photos and emails thanking our volunteers for sharing the Virginia experience. As much as I enjoy the correspondence, one couple this month displayed a unique and creative thank you twist that pushed all of my happy buttons. An hour or so after their visit, he came back to the boatshed and without a word presented me with a dozen and a half Roche chocolates. Sputtering my thanks as he quickly walked away, I turned to the boatshed and shouted "chocolates!!". Converging shipwrights quickly grabbed the first box of 9. Seeing no new takers, just as quickly I stuck the other in my pocket for later. A gift box of chocolates shared is sort of like volunteering, a sometimes pleasantly unexpected experience made sweeter by the sharing.

Warmest holiday wishes for you and those you love and a peaceful new year for one and all.

Gayla & Tim

Cranberry nut bread- great recipe for leftover whole cranberry sauce

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>2 cups all purpose flour</i> | <i>2/3 cup milk</i> |
| <i>1 tsp baking soda</i> | <i>1/4 cup melted butter</i> |
| <i>1 tsp salt</i> | <i>1 cup whole cranberry sauce</i> |
| <i>3/4 cup sugar</i> | <i>1 cup coarsely chopped nuts</i> |
| <i>1 egg slightly beaten</i> | |

Mix dry and wet ingredients separately then combine and Bake in greased loaf pan at 350 degrees for 1 hour

NEW MEMBERSHIP LEVELS AND RECOGNITION!!!- 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
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

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.

FMI visit us online at www.mfship.org
 Contact us at: mfs1@myfairpoint.net (207) 443-4242
 Maine's First Ship
 PO Box 231 Bath ME 04530
HISTORY AND COMMUNITY - BECOME A VOLUNTEER!

**UPCOMING EVENTS:
 NEW YEARS EVE AT THE BOATSHED – 6:30PM – 10:00PM**

WINTER FARMER'S MARKET SATURDAYS 9 TO 12 THROUGH APRIL 2014

Contact BFSa by visiting <http://bathfreightshed.blogspot.com/>

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

Visit us at Bath Freight Shed 27 Commercial Street Bath Maine "When the flag of St. George is flying"



MAINE'S FIRST SHIP AND THE BATH FREIGHT SHED ALLIANCE

KICK OFF BOTTLE DRIVE WITH BATH REDEMPTION CENTER

Here's a great new way to donate to both Maine's First Ship and the Bath Freight Shed Alliance. Save time and energy by dropping off your returnable bottles and cans at:

Bath Redemption Center
786 Middle Street
Bath ME 04530
Open Monday through Friday
9 AM to 4 PM
(207) 841-8822
Point of contact: Glen Rousseau



You don't even need to count them, just tell them that the deposits on your returnable containers are being donated to:

Maine's First Ship and the Bath Freight Shed Alliance

27 Commercial Street
Bath ME 04530

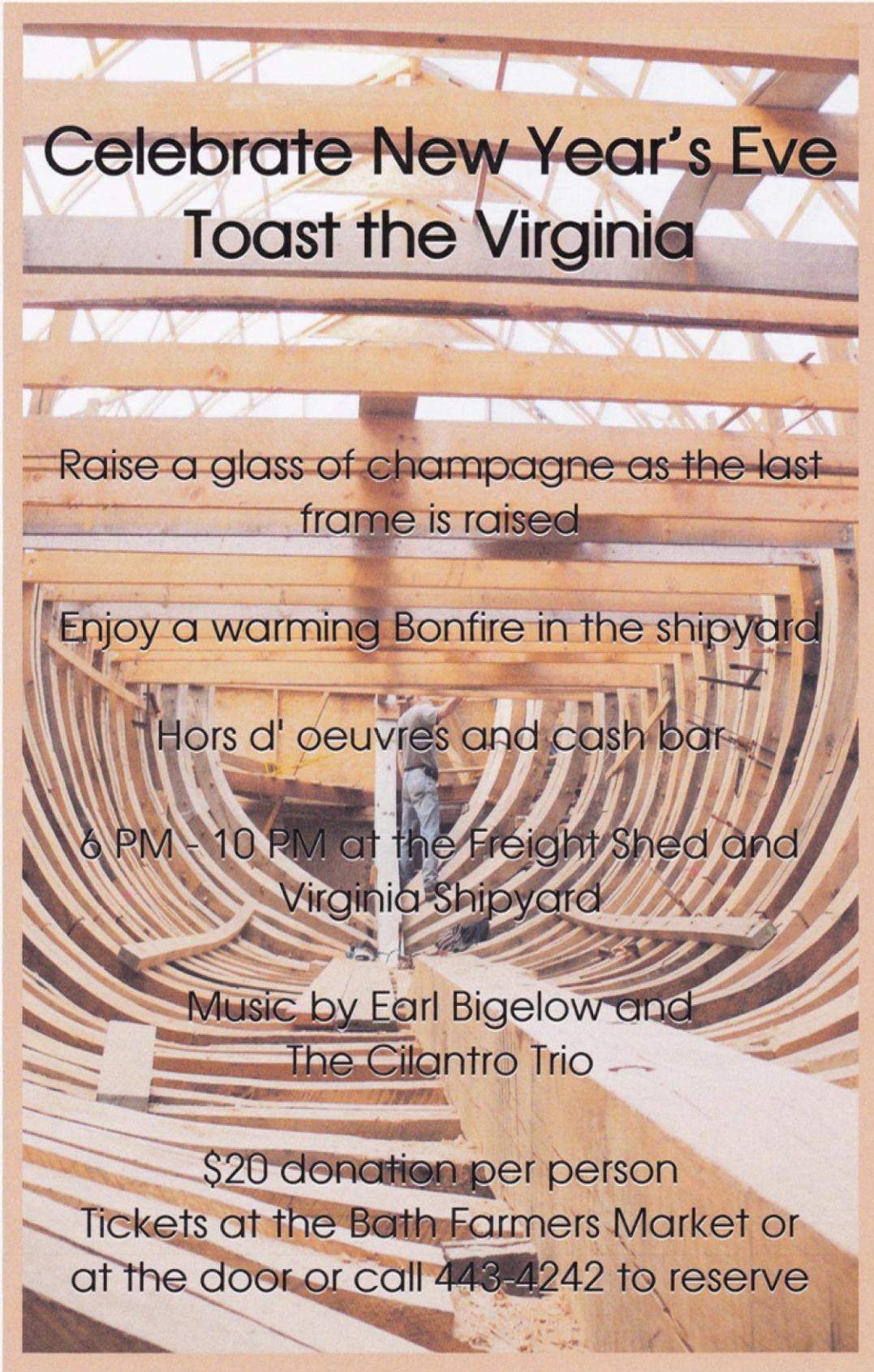
MFS volunteer Jay Coffey will collect and divide the proceeds 50/50 between the two non-profits each week. Your gift will help build the historic reconstruction of the Popham Colony Pinnacle *Virginia*, and help preservation efforts for the 1880's Bath Freight Shed, also home of the Winter Bath Farmers Market, Maine's First Ship summer education programs and other community events.

Please support this creative and convenient way to donate to two local, community focused non-profit organizations.

FMI visit mfship.org

Maine's First Ship
PO Box 231
Bath ME 04530
jay.mainesfirstship@gmail.com





Celebrate New Year's Eve Toast the Virginia

Raise a glass of champagne as the last
frame is raised

Enjoy a warming Bonfire in the shipyard

Hors d' oeuvres and cash bar

6 PM - 10 PM at the Freight Shed and
Virginia Shipyard

Music by Earl Bigelow and
The Cilantro Trio

\$20 donation per person

Tickets at the Bath Farmers Market or
at the door or call 443-4242 to reserve