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MAINE'S FIRST SHIP NEWSLETTER

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

ANNUAL REPORT
SPRING AND SUMMER EVENTS
FEBRUARY 2014



Professional photographer Paul Cunningham view of Virginia from the high rise work platform constructed at Virginia's stern

Maine's First Ship Rings in New Years 2014 ***Photography courtesy of Paul Cunningham***



New Years 2014 continued



WHITE OAK DELIVERY

The first shipment of *Virginia's* planking ordered last fall arrived in early January along with frame stock, the forward keelson, false sternpost and some other assorted large and heavy timbers. If you donated to the Jane Stevens Challenge Matching Grant in 2013, this is your wood, totaling a cost of almost \$12,000! A group of faithful volunteers waited hours for the load from Connecticut, delayed by a snowstorm. With twilight fading, the unloading continued. Almost all the load was stacked and "sticked" for seasoning when a plank being offloaded grazed and injured a volunteer. This, our first volunteer injury, has been covered by our insurance because the volunteer was trained and registered in our system. RB continues to recover and we all look forward to his return to full duty very soon.

The three photos below courtesy of Paul Cunningham



Forward Keelson – cut to size and load on the spar trailer

After creating the perfect dimensions, numerous forms and uses of the lever and wedge principle are applied. With the keelson timber secured to the trailer, volunteers can move it to the opposite end of the boatshed.



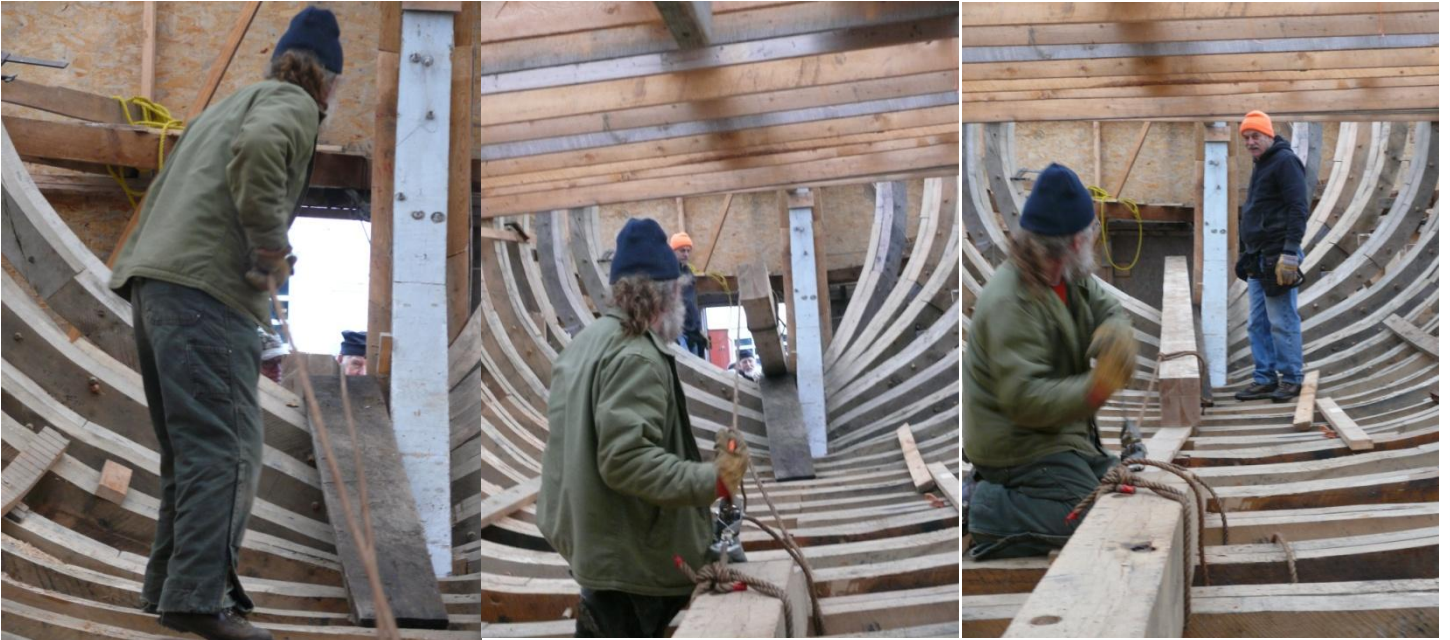
Bald Eagle checks out the modern day Digbys between catching seagull snacks.

Forward Keelson – on the move

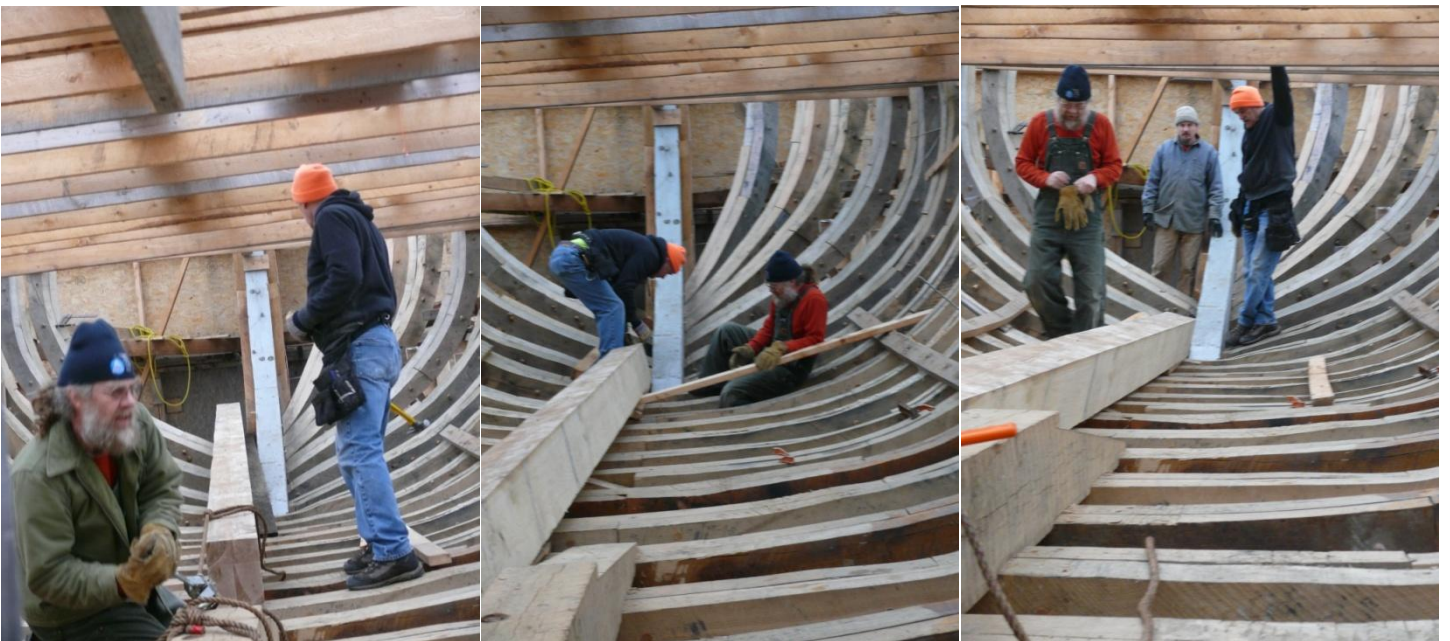
Under overcast skies, volunteers rally the forward half of the keelson around the Freight Shed and down Commercial Street. The timber will be hauled though the north boatshed door and up into the forward section of Virginia to be fitted to frames, stem and aft keelson.



Forward Keelson - on the move-continued



With all the heavy lifting going on outside, the tip of the keelson is hoisted over the forward frames into *Virginia*. Using a come along, lashed to the aft keelson already bolted through frames and keel, the keelson slides along the pre-positioned planks into position beside aft keelson scarf joint. With just a little extra persuasion, the preferred cutting face is readied to receive the frame mortises and the stem and keelson scarf joints.



Forward Keelson – mortises and scarf

Chisel and mallet are applied liberally to refine the keelson joints. A black locust trunnel makes an oversized patch for a knot.



Using a timber peavey, the keelson is rolled into position to check the fit, and then rolled back to continue to carve the perfect joint – repeat as needed.



Forward Keelson - drilling and bolting

Drilling “keelson through keel” in a staggered pattern from frame to frame, will result in a stronger joining when each frame receives a second bolt “keelson through lead keel”. In the background, the last starboard cant frame is being assembled.



Driving greased bolts through the slightly under drilled bolt holes takes a sledge hammer, or two, or five. In the background, the first of the hawse timbers is staged for fitting.



Forward Keelson - bolting

Each bolt hole is counter sunk for the washer and nut and each volunteer finds their own position of repose under the keel while performing this acrobatic effort.



Working from inside Virginia and under her keel, volunteers tighten the nuts with a handy length of pipe.



False Sternpost – Stem and Keelson Knee

Photos left column, the “false sternpost” is carried into the boatshed and set up for shaping. It was added to Virginia’s design when the auxiliary diesel was added to act as a spacer for the propeller.

Photos right column, the angled knee is being cut from white oak. In the bottom photo the chalk line for the straight face of the knee is being snapped. When installed the angled faces will fit against the keelson and stem.



**Maine's First Ship, Building VIRGINIA:
Maine's 1607 Link to American Shipbuilding History**

Dear Friends and Members of Maine's First Ship,

Our annual meeting will be held on Saturday March 29, 2014 at 1:30 PM in the Bath Freight Shed at 27 Commercial Street Bath, Maine. We will have light refreshments and you will have a chance to see our progress on *Virginia*.

During our short business meeting we will (re)elect our slate of officers and welcome new board members for 2014: President: Orman Hines, Vice President: Jeremy Blaiklock, Secretary: Allison Hepler, Treasurer: Gayla Teague. New Board Members: Roxane M. L. Althouse, Roger Barry and Kevin Thibodeau.

Sincerely yours,
Orman Hines President MFS

Editor's note:

Due to the photo intense nature of this edition, text is greatly limited. Volunteers shown in this edition: Aaron Park, Bruce Brennen, Burt Elliot, Chuck Jouver, Dan Wood, Daniel McWalters, David White, Dick Forrest, Gil Ross, Gus Manomaitis, Jay Coffey, Jeremy Blaiklock, Larry O'Toole, Mark Aukeman, Orman Hines, Paul Cunningham, RB Omo, Rob Stevens, Roger Barry, Roger Rand, and Tim Teague. *Thank you all for being part of this grand adventure.*

PLEASE SUPPORT MAINE'S FIRST SHIP BUSINESS MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

Business Members:

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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.



**CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET RID OF ALL THAT STUFF YOU FIND SPRING CLEANING?
MAINE'S FIRST SHIP IS HERE TO HELP YOU CLEAR OUT AND RECEIVE IRS TAX RECEIPTS FOR THE VALUE*
*make sure we have your name, address and market value of your donation!**

Our highest priority is "Tools for teens". Woodworking tools of all types and uses are needed for our summer program students, **and we need multiples of each to support our classes which can be 15 students or more.**

Even basic tools like measuring tapes and angle squares, screwdrivers and chisels are in high demand - small items get misplaced and replaced all too frequently. The cash we save by your donations helps us support more students.

Virginia's Wish list is the next priority, also tool and light equipment focused it changes over time, but so far we have not been so proud as to turn down even a screwdriver.

Currently we could really use a reliable table saw and Rob's planer is not always available and so a backup would be a great addition to our toolkit. Something capable of 4 inches or more would be optimal.

If you come up with some really "good stuff", the **Maine's First Ship Silent Auction and Gala Dinner** (sold out last year) is being planned for May 13, 2014. This was a major fundraiser for us last year and a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Auction items ranged from local dining gift certificates to collector plates, paintings and poster art, boat rides, hotels, ball games, furniture, vacation homes and a fly fishing trip with Orman. Any and all nautical items are being sought.

Bath Citywide Yard Sale is also in May and all the other stuff you find can be dropped at the Bath Freight Shed the week before the event. We'll have more info on this in the April newsletter.

Virginia's Fo'c'sle February 2014 **Editor & Photographer Gayla & Tim Teague**

Get Well:

Rob Stevens recently received a heart stent after his "mild heart attack". Although he has joked about Allison's response that his first thought, which he shared with her, was for finishing Virginia, this could be serious and we're all pulling for an optimum long term result.

Jay Coffey suffered from severe dehydration late this fall and was hospitalized. Since then he has had a struggle getting and keeping his blood chemistry stable. He currently is receiving care at Midcoast Hospital, Medical Drive, Brunswick Maine and may need to stay for a week or two more.

RB Omo, our injured volunteer although walking wounded, still has some healing ahead too.

So regardless of your spiritual nature (if any), spare a thought, a prayer, a meditation, or a "surprise me" of healing for these dear members of our MFS extended family. (A card, call or kind word would be nice too!)

Hail to new board members:

Kevin Thibodeau, Eagle Scout, has agreed to fill a long term void in our board by becoming a student director. Kevin's interest in education and shipbuilding will help us reach new student populations in the scouting organization and within the local school system.

Farewell:

Fair winds and following seas to Susan McChesney who has retired from the board after relocating to North Carolina.

Barbara Tomlinson, wife of former board member and captain the Pirates of the Dark Rose Tomm Tomlinson. Bloodthirsty Barbara passed over the rail January 22. By Barbara's request, a memorial cannon shot will be fired over the Penobscot Bay she so loved, and a remembrance celebration held for her the afternoon of May 27 at her home in Rockport, Maine. Marsha wanted to let everyone know we'll send a condolence card from MFS.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Meeting Saturday March 29, 2014 at 1:30 PM Bath Freight Shed 27 Commercial St, Bath
Maine's First Ship Silent Auction and Gala Dinner May 13, 2014 at 6:30 PM, JR Maxwell's, Front St, Bath
Bath Citywide Yard Sale May 2014
Fireworks – Sunday July 6, 2014
Education program starts July 8, 2014 More on these events in our next newsletter



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!

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"

NEXT EDITION :
BIOS OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS
DETAILS OF THE EDUCATION SUMMER PROGRAMS



END OF YEAR CLOSING - ANNUAL REPORT 2013

2013 Maine's First Ship \$ Summary	INCOME		EXPENSES
Restricted Individuals and businesses	\$16,014.88	Capital Development Expense	\$3,778.04
Unrestricted Individuals and businesses	\$11,848.78	Member Services	-\$1,956.43
Memberships	\$4,526.00	Education Expense	\$4,507.15
Event Revenue	\$8,067.00	Professional Compensation	\$0.00
		Facilities Expense Freight	
Annual fund	\$15,070.00	Shed	\$5,053.73
Merchandise Sales	\$2,183.25	Annual Fund Expenses	\$705.00
Other income	\$1,001.20	Office Services & Insurance	\$16,483.34
cost of goods sold	\$1,097.48	Vessel Expenses	\$29,277.72
		reconciliation	\$0.00
Total income	\$57,613.63	Total expense	\$57,848.55
Net operating loss/profit			(\$234.92)
Accounts receivable (Pledge) adjustment			(\$14,500.00)
Net loss/profit post adj.			(\$14,734.92)

ASSET ANALYSIS 2013

	2013
Total assets	\$248,285.37
Total fixed assets	\$157,686.53
Virginia fixed asset value.	\$130,069.15
Virginia's percent of fixed assets	82.50%

During 2013, Maine's First Ship operated at a loss of \$234.92. \$10,000 in pledges were honored this year. Because the income for pledges is taken in the year pledged, this is 2013 cash which does not show in any 2013 income line but increases funds on hand. The development committee continues to work to validate pledges that are not receiving the attention of periodic payments promised. Pledges that are no longer viable in the amount of \$14,500.00 were removed from our asset base at the end of 2013 and we are moving into 2014 with a modest \$7,972.03 gain in total assets. Of the \$29,277.72 expended on Virginia during 2013 we have capitalized a \$25,434.52 increase to her fixed asset value. We also cleared accounting review to capitalize another \$14,389.50 from 2011 for a percentage of the educational shipwright's professional compensation during the first year of Virginia's construction. We will continue to validate and collect the remaining pledges in our accounts receivable and moved into 2014 with a cash value on hand of:

Checking/Savings

1000 · Checking	
1040 · Jane Stevens Challenge	\$13,671.72
1000 · Checking - Other	\$14,690.32
Total 1000 · Checking	\$28,362.04
1010 · Petty Cash	\$13.42
1104 · Securities on Deposit	\$1,674.74
Total Checking/Savings	\$30,050.20
MAINE'S FIRST SHIP FUNDRAISING GOALS FOR 2014: \$73,700.00	

