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## MAINE'S FIRST SHIP NEWSLETTER

Reconstructing Virginia  
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*HAPPY HOLIDAYS  
CONSTRUCTION UPDATE  
DECEMBER 2014*



***HAPPY NEW YEAR 2015!***

On Christmas Eve Day, Santa's elves were busy working on fairing the interior of Virginia's frames. This view forward will soon be filled with aft frames and hull planking will begin in January. Rob says once the planking starts work will move quickly to enclose the hull. We're also buying the rest of the hull planks during 2015 and all the fasteners to install them. We'll also install the bilge and sheer (deck) clamps, and procure the materials for deck beams in 2015.

# STEM KNEE (or the Bos'n knee) CONTINUED!



Jeremy, Roger and Tim continue to whittle down the New Portland Hackmatack stern knee.



## STEM KNEE (or the Bos'n knee) CONTINUED!

Gail works to predrill the knee for bolting to the sternpost, and created the mortises for the shaft log bolts. The finished knee is hoisted by many hands to Jeremy who, assisted by Tim, slides the knee into place on top of the shaft log



With the stem knee bolted into place, the aft structure of deadwood, shaft log, sternpost and transom are all locked into place.





## JANE STEVENS "HAUL OUT DAY"

A cold and blustery day on the Kennebec did little to daunt the haul out of Jane Stevens for the winter. With Jeremy and Tim on the oars the tide and wind made headway upriver to the boat ramp a challenge. A quick shore based tow by Tim, Dick and Paul completed the transit in short order. With help from Orman and Jay, Jane's hardware was stripped for storage in the barn of the ever generous Allison Hepler.





### **WOOD DELIVERY:**

A small load of oak framing stock was delivered for the last two aft frames along with a stack of pine deck planking .

### **PLANKING UPDATE:**

Due to heavy snow our hull planking storage tent collapsed. After clearing snow and debris from the tent, the planking was tarped for the winter. We have ordered another third of plank stock for delivery which should arrive in the next few months which will also need to be stored and dried over the winter and into spring/summer. Thanks to Aaron, Orman, Jay and Tim for helping get the stored planking back under cover. A more durable storage method will be developed for the new (and old) shipment(s).



## MAKING MOLDS (PATTERNS FOR THE AFT FRAMES)



RB Omo at left and Roy Jenkins right each anchor an end of the laser survey sight to determine the center of both ends of each aft frame. Using the ribbands they have established the frame pattern with additional vertical reference guides. Using this info and various reference points they create a pattern of the desired frame.



## MAKING THE MOLDS (AFT FRAME PATTERNS)

RB and Roy get a hand from Aaron Park in test fitting the last two frame patterns into position on the port side. The pattern will be reversed for use on the starboard side to create a perfect symmetry. These aft frames are broken down into futtocks during the layout process. Paul and Dick get the assist from Dan Wood and Roger Barry in picking the best match between the raw stock and pattern. A chainsaw makes quick work of separating the futtock pattern from the framing stock and on to the shipsaw. The tilting arbor saw is inclined to cut the frame bevels. The shipsaw pass through door invites congregation and conversation between jobs.



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Please call 443-4242 for more information.

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

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**Thanks,**

**Orman Hines, President MFS**

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