



Maine's First Ship

Fall 2022

Newsletter



2022 — A YEAR TO CELEBRATE

Virginia launched herself into the Kennebec in June, with the help of every volunteer and visitor and cheerleader and supporter and city official . . . and . . . and . . . and. And we at Maine's First Ship are thrilled. There's much more to come and much more to do but for now, we did it! And we thank you.



President's Corner — from Orman



It has been 20 years since I started to work with MFS, originally called The Virginia Project, and I've served as Board President for the last 8 years. It is with pride in all that we have accomplished together that I am announcing that I will step down from my role as president at the end of this year. The Board is planning a succession that will include a leadership collaboration that feels like a good fit for our future. The board, in partnership with our executive director, will keep *Virginia* afloat with fresh ideas. I will continue to serve the mission of Maine's First Ship as an advisor and as a past president who will put my two cents

worth in! I really look forward to being on that maiden voyage in 2023!

Thank you to the hundreds of volunteers and over a thousand donors who have made the dream of *Virginia* a reality. Our work together at the Popham Colony dig, at the Maine Maritime Museum, and at the Bath Freight Shed are a testament to the adage that "we warm our hands at fires we did not light or drink from wells we did not dig." I am honored to have been part of the all the work that brought *Virginia of Sagadahoc* to the shores of our City of Ships. I'm excited to see what her future holds and to see who else will join us in charting our course. Below is a brief summary of my journey:

In 1998 while attending a meeting of The Maine Archaeological society I heard **Dr. Jeffery Brain** talk about the excavation of Ft. St. George (Popham Colony). The following year I signed up to work on the

field school for one week which began 12 years of searching for remnants of the Popham Colony, meeting new friends from all over the US, battling mosquitoes, and learning how to methodically excavate a one-meter square of rocky Maine soil centimeter by centimeter down to bedrock.

Bud Warren was one of the staff at the Popham dig and he and John Bradford coaxed me to join in working on The Virginia Project's (MFS) vessel committee. Eventually I joined the Board as co-chair of programs with **Cheryl Yeaton** and as a one-man nominating committee. In 2001 when I took early retirement from Bowdoin College Dining Service

after 25 years, I was able to devote more time to the Virginia Project and work on archaeology for the full two weeks of the Field School.

By 2003 I was working with Phippsburg Land Trust as their treasurer, learning how to use Quickbooks; later I joined Maine Archaeological Society board as their treasurer, and with the reconstitution of Virginia Project board in 2009 I became the treasurers of Maine's First Ship.

Paul Gamache was always a knowledgeable resource on learning how to use QuickBooks and unscrambling my mistakes.

In 2011 when no one else was willing to step into the MFS president's position I could not let this wonderful project fail after all the dedicated work that had been done by so many volunteers.

— Orman



Capturing the stories of Maine's First Ship

Maine's First Ship received a \$4,000 grant from the Maine Community Foundation's Community Building Fund to collect and publish via film the informal oral histories of the volunteers who helped reconstruct the 17th century sailing vessel, *Virginia*.

"This grant allows us to professionally capture the stories of people who have invested a decade or more in the building of *Virginia*," said Kirstie Truluck, MFS's executive director.

"In addition to capturing the voices of volunteers and investors, we are eager to engage high school students, including Morse Shipbuilder Addie Hinds, who had the chance to work alongside a professional videographer to skillfully gather the stories of these remarkable shipbuilders."

Hinds and Elsa Goebel-Bain,

a student from Winthrop, both share a passion for media and communications. Over the summer, Hinds and Goebel-Bain interviewed several people, including John and Betsey Morse, Lori Benson,

Morse High School Principal Eric Varney, long-time teacher and Board member Merry Chapin, shipwright Rob Stevens, boatbuilder volunteers Jim Amundsen, Gail Smith, and Paul Cunningham, and volunteer Bo'sun Jeremy Blaiklock.

For Hinds, this project was "beyond fulfilling," not only learning about camera work, but also strategy in documentary making and interviewing. "Hearing the stories from a diverse group of



people in the Maine's First Ship community was eye-opening," she said, "especially as someone that came into the project with zero knowledge of *Virginia*, Popham Colony, or any specifics regarding the process of building."

"This will be a meaningful project for everyone involved," says Truluck. The organization hired Tailwind Media. Tom Ryan, who specializes in documentary filmmaking, is also a member of the faculty at Maine Media College in Rockport.

The first draft of the documentary is in the works. Stay tuned.

Jane Stevens on parade!



Maine's First Ship's entry in Bath's 2022 Independence Day Parade won first place in the Dedication Award for Best Nonprofit float.

We partnered with the 5th grade History Club alumni from Fisher-Mitchell School. Special thanks go to Meg Barker, FMS librarian, for bringing these curious students to visit us in the spring for a field trip. The kids were eager to be a part of the crewe and enjoyed rowing along the parade route.



Launch day speaker talks of “community”

Introduction by volunteer Allison Hepler: “Community” seems to be the watch word today and that’s why we’re so pleased to have Captain Scott Smith here today to help us celebrate. We in Bath got to know Captain Smith when he and a crew of men in what I call “Navy camo” showed up at the boat to move wood in 2016. Moving piles of wood from one place to another is how we see if volunteers are built for the



long haul. They stuck around.

Captain Smith served as the first commanding officer of the *USS Michael Monsoor*, built at Bath Iron Works, and in his long career in the Navy, has also been an instructor, speechwriter, and established the Secretary of Defense’s professional ethics office.

Remarks from Captain Scott Smith: It is great to be back in Bath. We sailed our ship down the Kennebec on Nov 9, 2018, after being here for over three

years, and I have personally been wanting to get back ever since.

I think about the skies and the space ... and the relatively light traffic. The simplicity of chopping wood, hiking with my family, and ice skating with my daughters. That’s the thing about nostalgia – you remember the good things ... my memories are not crowded by how firewood warms you three times, of clearing the driveway of snow, or of the sustained freezing conditions necessary for ice skating.

Today is partly about the past – a subject with which humankind is fascinated. We have telescopes aimed at the center of the universe – at the past as light travels - to search for some truth about our origins. In our religion and philosophy, we look at how people conducted themselves in the past as we search for the meaning of our own lives.

We seek solace and refuge in the past, especially in times of difficulty, for the values of our forebearers and the “simpler” times, but like my own reminiscences, we too often “remember” the romanticized version – the good things, rather than the struggles. If there is one thing I remember from working on this ship, it is how difficult the work was, even with some of the mod-

ern conveniences.

Too often, we use the terms history and heritage interchangeably, but there are differences: I see history as the characters taking part in events, on certain dates or periods of time.

Heritage on the other hand, is the interpretation of those events ... the emotions and reasons of the characters Heritage is what we take from those events and carry forward, to create linkages and ultimately, to write our story.

History is a catalog; heritage is choice.

I accepted the request to speak about the future of the *Virginia* ... but I cannot do so without looking to the past, because we have chosen to make this new *Virginia* a part of the heritage of Bath.

I am also fully aware that the past is a tricky thing. John Bear Mitchell spoke about the interactions with the native settlers of the area.

Our past – individually and collectively – is full of these contradictions. Sometimes we thrive at the expense of others ... sometimes others thrive at our expense (we tend to remember these more often) ...in every case though, we need that past to continue to learn and grow, because perspectives change, knowledge and norms evolve ...

The author Michael Ende wrote, “Without a past, you can't have a future.”

That is the prospect that our crew faced when we arrived in Bath beginning in 2015. Our ship

Launch day remarks by Captain Scott Smith (continued)



these two concepts were intertwined: that helping others would lead to a sense of cohesion, which would then cause greater altruism, and this would spiral upward. That was proven here.

That is not to say that the onrush of physically active 20-somethings didn't cause a bit of a stir ... I was asked at one point to limit the number of

was under construction ... it did not have a past. The crew came from assignments throughout the world – we did not have a common past.

What we did have though was an example in our namesake, Michael Monsoor. His example was altruism – of giving freely to others. His final act, at the age of 25 on the feast day of Saint Michael – the patron saint of warriors for which he was named - was to give his life for others.

He understood at that early age what it takes most of us decades to learn: that giving to others is its own reward, and such giving lays the foundation for something greater. We strove to emulate his example of giving to others. And in this altruism, we found kindred spirits here in Bath.

The French philosopher August Comte gave us the word altruism, which means “the good of others.” It is revealing that he also provided us the word, “community.” It was his belief that

folks coming over each week. I thought it was our level of skill and the smaller spaces ... but as Rob Stevens noted, everyone was enjoying the sense of community, and they didn't want it to end too quickly.

For every project our Sailors participated in – be it working on *Virginia*, the Maritime Museum, the Middle School, the Sailors gave time, but received much more. They felt part of the community – we gained a heritage of helping. And that heritage was carried forward – and continues to this day. The spiral of Bath radiates ever outward.

What does *Virginia* give the future?

When we launch the ship, we launch a new chapter in the legacy of Bath, Maine. We continue that sense of belonging, and community. All who sail in her will feel the full expe-

rience that this community's past is intertwined with building ships for our nation – before it was even a nation.

Our future will see a project that was conceived as commemorative and connective; where master craftspeople taught novices, where people worked the rooms to obtain funding, or wrote grants and articles. The future will see a collective group that gave their time and their particular talents – and worked shoulder to shoulder for 25 years put this ship together, word by word, and board by board to completion. The future will see a commemoration of the past and an investment in them. They will see the power of possibility and of perseverance demonstrated.

Shakespeare wrote in his account of a tempest-tossed ship, that “What is past is prologue.” We can only hope it so ... for that means that the future of Bath is bright, because of the shining example of those gathered here today.



Full Moon dinner returns after 4 years

On September 9th, Maine's First Ship hosted our first Full Moon Dinner since 2018. It was an evening of new friends and dear old acquaintances connecting over good food and laughter. Because hot pot was new to many of us, we asked chefs Jeff Mao and Chris Toy to share some lessons on this wonderful community style meal. Read below to get yourselves ready for Hot Pot in September 2023 - already on the calendar!

- What are some distinct regions known for hotpot, and what ingredients are unique to some of those regions?

Hot pot originated in China, likely during the Han Dynasty. It lasted about 400 years, and it was about 2000 years ago. Bronze cooking vessels survive



from the period that are very much like the hot pots we cook in today. Since then, Hot pot has spread throughout Far East Asia with regional varieties around far east Asia: Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Cambodia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Even inside of China one can find distinct variation across the country. Northern China tends to focus on thinly sliced lamb and a simple broth while Central China's hot pot has its signature broth flavored with Sichuan peppercorns and Sichuan chili peppers. Together, they create what is

known as *Ma La* (麻辣) or *Numbing Spicy*. In the south, you see foods more in the Cantonese style that is most common in the United States—most early immigrants from China to the US came from Southern China. Cantonese food is milder and even sweeter, and seafood is more prevalent. Eastern China has its own unique version too including a chrysanthemum broth made popular by the Empress Dowager Cixi of the Qing Dynasty.

As you travel to South Asia, you begin to see flavors like coconut and lime as well as a reemergence of spicy chilis (although not the numbing of the Sichuan peppercorn!).

Japan's broths are heavily influenced by the ocean, and flavors are more delicate and nuanced. Korean hot pot often adds a barbecue component where diners will also grill marinated meats and vegetables as well as cook them in the broth.



Local flavors are the signature to the regional varieties of hot pot, and our hot pot will be no different, drawing from local Maine food producers while also introducing traditional Chinese broths and dipping sauces.

- How does one serve and enjoy hot pot after the veggies & protein are heated in broth?

Hot Pot is a participatory meal! Each diner cooks their own food, and serves themselves, one bite at a time. Traditionally, one adds only a few ingredients at a time. Overcrowding the hot pot slows the cooking for everyone! Add a couple ingredients that will take longer to cook like a root vegetable or shellfish and let them cook in the simmering broth. Then using your chopsticks or a small hot pot strainer add a thinly sliced piece of meat. It will cook in just 10-15 seconds! Transfer to your bowl, then dip it into your dipping sauce and enjoy! An experienced hot pot diner will continue to add ingredients to the hot pot so that something is always ready, while other longer-

Hot Pot chefs provide “lessons” for their meals (Continued)

cooking ingredients are allowed to simmer more.

Do your best to keep track of what you add to the hot pot, but if you lose something in the broth, and someone else finds it, it's fair game!

- Does one drink the broth like a soup?

Some hot pot diners will enjoy some broth as a soup, but it's not a given. The broth improves as the meal progresses. Remember, making broth entails simmering proteins and vegetables in water for a long time. As your hot pot meal progresses, that's exactly what you're doing! The broth will change flavor throughout the course of the meal. So, try a little now and again throughout the meal.

If your hot pot has a Sichuan Ma La broth, I would not recommend drinking that broth. It is likely too spicy (and oily) to eat as a soup. The Sichuan Ma La broth is infused with spicy aromatic chili oil. As ingredients are removed from the broth, some of that oil will coat the food imparting a spicy numbing kick to your food!

- Why do you enjoy preparing this meal for a community?

Hot pot is not fast food! It is a slow food! A hot pot meal might last many hours! It is as much an occasion as it is a meal, like a traditional American barbeque. Some of my earliest memories are of helping to prepare food at a large fami-

ly gathering. It's been something I've always done, and we're so excited to be able to do it again! A famous chef, José Andrés Puerta said, “I realized very early the power of food to evoke memory, to bring people together, to



transport you to other places, and I wanted to be a part of that.” I think that about sums it up!

- Are there hot pot rules or etiquette to follow?

Yes and no. Here are some general guidelines, but with friends and family, there are no rules other than basic food safety rules!

• Many people will use the tongs or another pair of chopsticks to transfer raw meat and seafood to the hot pot, not their own eating chopsticks. Use your own discretion! If you do use tongs or dedicated chopsticks, try not to mix them up! — the tongs with the pork are for the pork!

- Don't steal someone else's foods from the hot pot, but do help eat orphaned and lost food found loose in the pot!
- Add ingredients to simmering broth. Wait if the broth is not boiling. Turn up the heat a little if needed!
- Before adding more broth or water, ask if anyone wants some broth first since the flavor will change with the addition.
- In general, start with ingredients that take longer to cook like root vegetables. Then move on to meats and other vegetables. Noodles often come later.
- Avoid leafy green vegetables in a hot spicy broth. They pick up a lot of the hot oil and get really spicy because they have so much surface area!



Rowing to Pemaquid: a lesson in cooperation and fun

It all started when some of us were talking about taking *Jane Stevens* to the annual event at Colonial Pemaquid when we meet up with others interested in 17th century history. Rob said, "We should row there." Next thing you know, there's a three-day rowing event, from Bath to Georgetown to Squirrel Island in Boothbay Harbor, and then on to Pemaquid. Thanks to all who took on the rowing tasks, who hosted us — looking at you, Osprey Restaurant and Squirrel Island residents — who feted us, and who cheered us on.



The 2022 Great Row from Bath to Pemaquid Itinerary

On Saturday, July 30th Colonial Pemaquid hosted an event so visitors could step back in time to the rough and tumble world of 17th century Maine. Visitors discovered why watercraft such as the birch bark canoe and the shallop were so important to Wabanaki, English, and French as they traded, negotiated and socialized, and fought one another. Colonial Pemaquid State Historic Site will offer the experience again in mid-July in 2023.

Itinerary

Assume 2 - 2.5 mph depending on conditions

Thursday - 7 mile day for leg 1 crew / no programming (est 3-4 hours fair conditions)
2 miles Bath to Upper Hells Gate; leave Bath 1:30- 2 pm, arrive UHG +/- 2:45 (2 hours after high tide)
2.5 miles Upper Hell Gate to Lower Hells Gate/ Beals Island; Pit stop at The Osprey for a Pussers Rum celebration in the final stretch. 2.5 miles to round Soldier's Point - arrive across from red nun #2 inside MacMahan Island / H's dock. Rest - explore *Beale Island & Riggs Cove* with **Osprey restaurant**

Friday - 5.5 mile day leg 2 crew /

2 open water crossings / evening program at Squirrel Island (est 3 hrs)
3 miles from H's dock to cross Sheepscot to the mouth of Townsend Gut / Hodgdon Cove point.
2.5 miles from east end of Townsend Gut to Squirrel Island
High tide @Robinhood 1 pm, leaving dock to cross Sheepscot at slack tide, arrive Squirrel Island ferry cove beach on west side between 5 - 6pm. Rest - explore *Burnt Island*
Saturday- 8.5 miles / open water crossing / early morning departure (est 3.5-4.5 hrs)
Squirrel Island to Colonial Pemaquid. Arrive 10am

Virginia Quilt and Sea Chest raffle sends MFS to Port Townsend

MFS sold tickets for a chance to win a hand crafted sea chest made by MFS's marine architect Dave Wyman, and a hand-stitched quilt made by Martha Smith, and both are now in the hands of our fall raffle winner Bill Newberry from Vestal, NY. Proceeds will sponsor an MFS trip to Port Townsend, Washington, to participate in the Teaching with Small Boats Alliance conference. Bath Economic Director Emily Ruger pulled the winning ticket.

This sea chest's design and construction is based on

historic sea chests, two of which are Wyman family heirlooms. He built the chest of local white pine using mostly hand tools. The joints are all dovetailed, and the finish is marine varnish.

The quilt is Full size and is hand quilted by Smith in 2001. It contains 6 panels with embroidered depictions of *Virginia*, based on a watercolor drawing by Bev Bevilacqua. The quilt is hand-quilted with a title "The Virginia of Sagadahoc c.1607."



Maine Maritime Museum campers visit MFS



Clockwise from top left: Jim Nelson leads sea chanteys, Kaylie Borden O'Brien teaches mariners knots, MFS volunteer Jim Amundsen demonstrates rigging skills, Kaylie shows campers Thump Mats and campers hang out with History Live for the Northeast re-enactor Matt Blazek.



Thoughts on Membership & Giving

— from Your Executive Director

As I approach my one year anniversary as the Executive Director of Maine's First Ship, I reflect on one of the early lessons I learned in my first month on the job - December of 2021. I received a lovely letter, and a generous donation, from a person in the community who wanted to welcome me to my new role. This unknown advisor also wanted to share knowledge with me about the essence of Membership and to point out that our Membership model would likely need to

evolve as the organization evolved. Thus began a year of questions, conversations, reading, and learning about Membership Organizations as defined by Maine's Secretary of State. In the nonprofit world, it turns out there are "members" and there are "Members."

Some organizations and entities, such as Maine Public, welcome members to support and fund their efforts. They couldn't do their

valuable work without our support, but the interaction is a bit more transactional. Other organizations, such as Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association, require the engagement of Members in order to fulfill the purpose set forth in their charter. Maine's First Ship is in that boat - we need Members. We are a "Membership Organization" as established by our Articles of Incorporation, articulated in our bylaws, and outlined by the Secretary of State. We require members to function, and our Donor-

Member community is important to us. We are all Crewe.

Membership with MFS has a wonderful history, and the decision to require Members was codified when Denis Thoet, Ernest Bevilacqua, Richard Cromwell, and Jane Stevens signed the Articles of Incorporation back in April 4, 1997. (See image below.) The articles state that "At incorporation, there shall be one class of voting members, who shall be entitled to membership by paying annual dues. The dues amount is to be set by the board of directors." The founding

NOTE: Other provisions of these articles, if any, including provisions for the regulation of the internal affairs of the corporation, and distribution of assets on dissolution or final liquidation are set out in Exhibit ___ attached hereto and made a part hereof.

INCORPORATORS

<u>Denis M. Thoet</u> (signature)	DATED <u>April 25, 1997</u>
<u>DENIS M. THOET</u> (type or print name)	Street <u>890 Washington St.</u> (residence address)
<u>Ernest M. Bevilacqua</u> (signature)	<u>Bath, Maine 04580</u> (city, state and zip code)
<u>ERNEST M. BEVILACQUA</u> (type or print name)	Street <u>530 DANBURY RD</u> (residence address)
<u>R</u> (signature)	<u>WILTON, CT 06897</u> (city, state and zip code)
<u>RICHARD F. CROMWELL</u> (type or print name)	Street <u>105 Farley Road</u> (residence address)
	<u>Brunswick, ME. 04011</u> (city, state and zip code)

For Corporate Incorporation:

Name of Corporate Incorporator _____

By Jane W. Stevens
(signature of officer)

Street HOSKETCH JOURNAL
(principal business location)

JANE W. STEVENS
(type or print name and capacity)

PRIPPOUR, MAINE 04562
(city, state and zip code)

*Articles are to be executed as follows:
if a corporation is an incorporator (§401), the name of the corporation should be typed and signed on its behalf by an officer of the corporation. The articles of incorporation must be accompanied by a certificate of an appropriate officer of the corporation certifying that the person executing the articles on behalf of the corporation was duly authorized to do so.

**SUBMIT COMPLETED FORMS TO: CORPORATE EXAMINING SECTION, SECRETARY OF STATE,
101 STATE HOUSE STATION, AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0101
FORM NO. MNPCA-6 Rev. 96 TEL. (207) 287-4195**

— from your Executive Director (Continued)

leaders of Maine's First Ship took an egalitarian approach to a cooperative style of organization - everyone is welcome and every Member counts. The bylaws further describe that "Any person desiring to promote the purposes of this corporation shall be eligible for Membership," and that "Classes of membership shall be determined by and announced by the Board of Directors."

On November 14, 2022, the Board of Director voted to accept a reconfiguration of the Membership structure for Maine's First Ship. For all of our years as boat builders, the Trunnel, Plank and Frame Membership levels made perfect sense, and we are deeply grateful to every person who sent us a check for their Membership dues and who made a point of keeping up with our work from near and far. We hope your Membership Card is still in your wallet somewhere! As we look to a future of vessel operations and the expansion of our educational efforts to fulfill our mission, a new Membership structure was needed. On a linguistic level, we need Crewe now instead of construction elements. On a financial level, the operations costs will be greater than the cost of construction.

As part of our evolution as an organization, there are new levels of giving. We have also made our first attempt to articulate Membership Benefits! The leadership team at Maine's First Ship has

learned a great deal about our unique status as a Membership Organization and how our like-minded peers do this, and we look forward to a year of testing out this inaugural effort. Below you can see the Core Membership Benefits for Individuals which is accessible to anyone who joins our Crewe as a **Friend of Maine's First Ship** by donating \$20 or more to one of our three yearly Appeals or by giving an unsolicited donation to our general operating fund. These core benefits include:

- An invitation to our Annual Meeting of the membership in the Spring
- The opportunity to Vote on some organizational business including the Slate of Officers
- Special invitations to Member & Volunteer Appreciation gatherings
- Receipt of our MFS digital newsletter 2-3 times a year

As we move ahead in this evolving model, we invite you to be **Deckhand, Bos'n, Navigator or Mate**. You can learn more about Membership at Maine's First Ship - and so much more - by visiting our website at www.mfship.org

Also, our 2022 End of Year Annual Appeal letters are on the way! If you haven't already donated and renewed your Membership this year, please join the

Crewe by donating to Maine's First Ship.

If you've already supported our mission in 2022, perhaps you will consider giving a little extra by participating in our Giving Tuesday appeal on November 29th and giving online at <https://mfship.org/home/support-us/>

*Cheers,
Kirstie Truluck*



Did you know?

Rob Stevens has said that the term "pinnacle" was useless but that is not quite true. A pinnacle could be anything from a ship's boat to a large square-rigged vessel. The common denominator is that **for its size**, it tends to be lightly built and narrow, good sailers, often used for exploring and reconnoitering.

2022 Community Project Award from the City of Bath

“In 2022, Maine’s First Ship (MFS) completed the long-awaited launch of an historically accurate, full-sized reconstruction of the 1607 pinnace *Virginia*. Building this ship and making her seaworthy has been the primary mission of MFS, yet it is not their only success. The Bath Freight Shed, the location of the *Virginia* build, has become



an experiential museum with presentations touching on many subjects including nautical engineering, traditional craftsmanship, early American and Indigenous history, and natural resources. The launch of *Virginia* was a celebration that welcomed thousands of people to

Bath with speakers, music, crafts, food and more. The City recognizes Maine’s First Ship with the 2022 Community Project Award for launching *Virginia* and continuing to educate about Bath’s nautical history.”



MFS Joins “CLYNK to Give”



Maine’s First Ship recently enrolled with the “CLYNK to Give” bottle redemption and recycling program. This offers a straightforward way to use your returnables to support MFS. You can pick up a specially tagged CLYNK bag from the visitor center in the Bath Freight Shed; collect your returnable bottles and cans in the bag; and then take it to the CLYNK collection site at a Hannaford supermarket. Scan the tag to open the door of the bay into which you can drop your bag. When CLYNK processes the contents of that bag, the barcode on the tag indicates that the deposits returned go to the Maine’s First Ship account.

Those with a personal CLYNK account can also support us by selecting MFS under the “Donate” option within their online account or set a period of time during which all the bags they return will get credited to MFS.

Only returnable containers purchased in Maine can be returned in Maine, but if you have an out-of-state CLYNK account you should still find Maine’s First Ship in the list of “CLYNK to Give” organizations and can share your deposits.

At the Freight Shed we collect any bottles or cans with deposits from volunteers, visitors, and from

events onsite. All together we can keep items out of the waste stream and encourage recycling, as well as support the programs of Maine’s First Ship. Thank you for participating in this new system which we see as definitely a win-win-win: you get those bottles and cans out of your home without having to search for a redemption center (so many have closed recently); Maine’s First Ship gets a bit of extra income, and CLYNK continues their work to encourage recycling.

What to know when filling your CLYNK bag:
Place your returnables in CLYNK brand bags only

Barcodes on bottles and cans must be scannable—don’t crush cans or peel off labels
Do not overfill bags; be sure bags are securely tied shut

Limit large glass bottles and mix with cans or plastic bottles to prevent breakage

CLYNK drop-off is available during Hannaford store hours. To find the nearest CLYNK drop-off location or to learn more visit www.clynk.com. We encourage you to #thinkclynk and appreciate your support.

Small, Everyday Ways You Can Support the Work of MFS

Clynk Bags

AmazonSmile - The Virginia Project d/b/a Maine's First Ship

Follow us on Social Media

Like & Share our posts

Bring your favorite people down to meet *Virginia*

And A Few Bigger Ways...

Volunteer your time & talents

Give the gift of membership to Maine's First Ship to a favorite person or yourself

Did you know? You can rent the Freight Shed for your own special events, such as the Morse High School Senior Reception. Call 443-4242 or check our website mfship.org for details.



Were there any women at the Popham Colony?

By Rob Stevens

I've always understood that there were no women at the 1607 Popham Colony. I'm no longer sure of that. Richard Carew and his wife planned to accompany the settlers to, in his words, "teach these poor souls the right knowledge of the true God" and arranged to leave their "children to our friends" in England. When he found out that "the name of God had no place" in the plans for the colony, the couple decided it was better to stay where they "might do a little good, (than) without fair hope to do more another where." In his manuscript, Popham colonist James Davies

writes of "120 persons," not "men," in the Popham colony. In the 1587 Roanoke Colony, there were 17 women and 12 children out of about 116 total. The Roanoke Colony was Sir Walter Raleigh's dream, uncle of the 2nd in command, Raleigh Gilbert, at Popham. As a result, I feel the answer is not that there were no women in the colony, the answer is we don't know.



Editor's note: What we DO know is that there are women in today's Maine's First Ship, as we saw at the recent Women's Shipbuilding Day,



Knitters and sewers needed for MFS

By Vivian Bolt

It was 2008 when I hung up my briefcase from a long career working in large companies. This allowed me to follow my passion and do something with my knitting expertise. I joined the Greater Boston Knitting Guild and served for 6 years as the President.



Vivian Bolt

My vision is to have the sailors of *Virginia* clothed in 17 century clothing by the time the ship sets sail. I envision thrummed caps, stockings, Monmouth caps, linen shirts, cossacks, and slops!

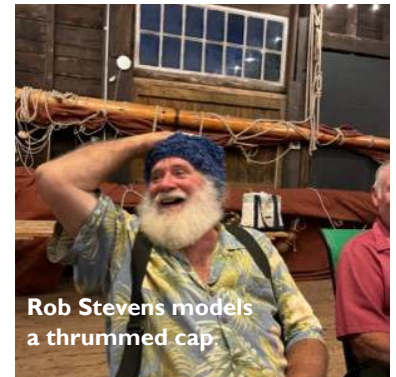
If you are a sewer or a knitter and you haven't volunteered, please do so at vivianbolt@comcast.net. All levels of expertise are welcome. Currently the need of sewers is greater than knitters.



At the time, the Plimoth-Patuxet Museum in Massachusetts had a need of 17th century knitted garments for the 40+ docents they had in the village and on the *Mayflower II*. A group of volunteers was formed to work with the wardrobe department. The result is a book called *Knitted Garb*. My husband and I moved

to Bath in December 2019, fulfilling my life-long dream to live in Maine.

I was thrilled when I learned that Maine's First Ship was in need of volunteers to sew and knit clothing for the sailors. When Lisa and Jim Nelson recently called for someone to take the helm of this project I jumped at the chance.



Rob Stevens models a thrummed cap

The knots that build team work at Midcoast Maine Community Action

The MFS Rigging Crewe visited Midcoast Maine Community Action staff in August for a staff development event, and the word "fun" was used the most to describe the experience. Writes Director Claire

Berkowitz: "It appears that most of us loved the hands-on learning opportunity, as it provided us the chance to work together in teams, in person, for the first time in over 2 years. As one person stated, 'We all learn differently, and we can support each other when taking on a new task.'

Another person said, 'The demonstration was most helpful, but while some staff were taken outside of their comfort zones, the activity allowed us to learn with and from each other in a safe and relaxed environment. When asked if they would like a similar experience in the future, the overwhelming response was YES!'"



Another person said, 'The demonstration was most helpful, but also thinking about how some of our families are literally tied in knots and don't have

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