

## The Newsletter of The Carpenter's Boat Shop

# Spring 2012

### GRATITUDE

A while back we had a group of Bowdoin College students volunteering at the Boat Shop. They helped us establish a new trail down to Boyd's Pond which we now call the Stone Wall Trail. During our many conversations one of the students asked why I began the Boat Shop. I shared that it was really a combination of all my loves in life. My love of ministry, boatbuilding, rowing, sailing, working with people, community building, and helping individuals discover their true calling, their true vocation in life.

I shared that I myself had been helped by a friend to discover my vocation. Ruth and I were living and working on Muscongus Island when a minister named Otis Maxfield asked what we ultimately wanted to do in life. I shared our dream about working at a place like the Boat Shop, but I couldn't find any such place or ministry for which to apply. He said, "Why bother applying? Go and begin it yourselves and it will either be blessed or it will come to naught." That was the seed of encouragement that truly began our Boat Shop ministry of building boats,



*Bobby's final apprentice class—1st row (from bottom & left to right): Casey Ferguson, Rob Mabey, Emily Skrobis w/ Romeo, Kenneth Kortemeier; 2nd Row: Jonathan Ives, Stephen Hoppe, Elliot Burrows, Margaret Mountcastle; 3rd Row: Chris Byrne, Darin & Serafina Carlucci, Robert Ives; 4th Row: Sharon Fenema, Kim Hoare, Kathleen Boyle, Elaine Latham, Sarah Oliver; 5th Row: Jay Blood, Allie Smith, Christina Hassett, Nate White*

nurturing lives, and serving others 33 years ago.

The theologian Frederick Buechner once wrote "vocation is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." There is really no better summary for what we try and do at the Boat Shop. To be sure, we build boats and furniture, teach sailing, and practical life skills through many daily activities. The bottom line, however, is that we try and help our apprentices find vocation, their true calling, so that they can enthusiastically go forth to lovingly serve in the world about them.

I am grateful that 33 years ago I was able to find that through the Boat Shop. I am even more grateful that the Boat Shop now helps others find it for themselves.

Blessings on you all,  
Rev. Robert Ives, Director

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## GOODBYE



I am on the brink of concluding 33 years of Boat Shop life. In June of 1979, Ruth and I moved from the parsonage of the New Harbor and Round Pond

Churches to the Penniman Farm in Pemaquid to begin the Carpenter's Boat Shop. It seems like yesterday. But as I look at the pictures of the intervening years, I realize that it was not. My hair is considerably grayer, at least the hair that I still have. I notice my face has a few more wrinkles, and as I glance at my hands the nine and half fingers reveal that I haven't been as careful as I should have. Nevertheless, what remarkable years they have been. We have shared the full gamut of life, from the deepest of sorrows to greatest of joys, from exhaustion to exhilaration. And to see all the wonderful apprentice faces down through the years is overwhelming, and yet so sacred to have been able to share such wonderful family and community life year after year.

Now with retirement near, many ask, "what will you be doing?" The simple answer is that Phyllis and I

will be going away. We feel that it is vital for the life of the Boat Shop to truly step aside from the place we love to let it have a vigorous new start without the "old duffer" around. So we are heading over to Scotland for the Fall. We will work at the Abby on the Island of Iona. Near Christmas we will return. In January we will head out again for another three month adventure at Koinonia Farm in Americus, Georgia. Koinonia is an old peace and justice community which founded Habitat for Humanity. We will join with them in their regular work and worship. In the fall of 2013, our hope is to return to the Boat Shop as F.O.B's (i.e. Friends of the Boat Shop) to report to Kim and help out wherever it seems appropriate and beneficial.

So now is the time for me to say goodbye to you all. We are so deeply grateful for all your help, prayers and kindness over the years. This ministry could never have happened had it not been for you. So we bid you all goodbye. Those words of course are a contraction of the old English salutation, God be with you. And indeed that is our parting prayer. May the love, peace, and joy of God's presence bless and keep you this day and forevermore.

Amen.

■ Robert Ives

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## ...AND HELLO

*"If you want to know who you really are as distinct from who you would like to think you are, take a look at where your feet take you."* In times of change and transition in my life, I have often turned to this quote from one of my and Bobby's favorite theologians, Frederick Buechner. For me, it serves as a reminder of the intimate connection between who we are as human beings and the journeys we embark on throughout our lives. As I step into this new role of Director of the Carpenter's Boat Shop, I have certainly been keeping a close eye on my feet...

My footsteps first fell on the Boat Shop campus in 1985 as a recent high school graduate with the Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church Youth Group to volunteer for the Community Housing Improvement Project (CHIP). Since then, my feet have returned as an apprentice in 1996-97 and as an instructor from 1997-99. I have also taught a number of summer classes and attended many, many meetings as a member of the Board of Directors. When I returned in January to begin as the new Co-director working alongside my mentor in life, Bobby Ives, it felt like my feet had returned home. I am both very humbled and tremendously excited to have been called to help lead the Boat Shop through this time of sacred transition as our founding Director retires, and the Boat Shop seeks to live into its future. I know that

my feet have continued to find their way to the Boat Shop because I love this place so very much and know firsthand the transformation that can occur when we find sustaining balance in life, becoming more careful and caring in how we interact with each other, our work, and our world.

Over the last five months, as I have been meeting so many new folks and renewing old friendships here on the Pemaquid peninsula, I have often joked that it will be impossible for me to even consider filling Bobby's shoes as I step into my new role. I do believe he must wear a size 20, don't you think?! Yet, from where I stand, surrounded by the love and support with which I have been warmly welcomed, I am confident that together we can ensure that the original vision of Bobby and Ruth Ives will continue to flourish and grow as we move into the future. It is my hope and prayer that as many more feet pass over the threshold of the Carpenter's Boat Shop, lives will be transformed, beautiful boats and furniture built, and our neighbors in need served. I thank you for helping me to make it so, and I look forward to seeing you when your footsteps take you down Old County Road!

■ Kim Hoare

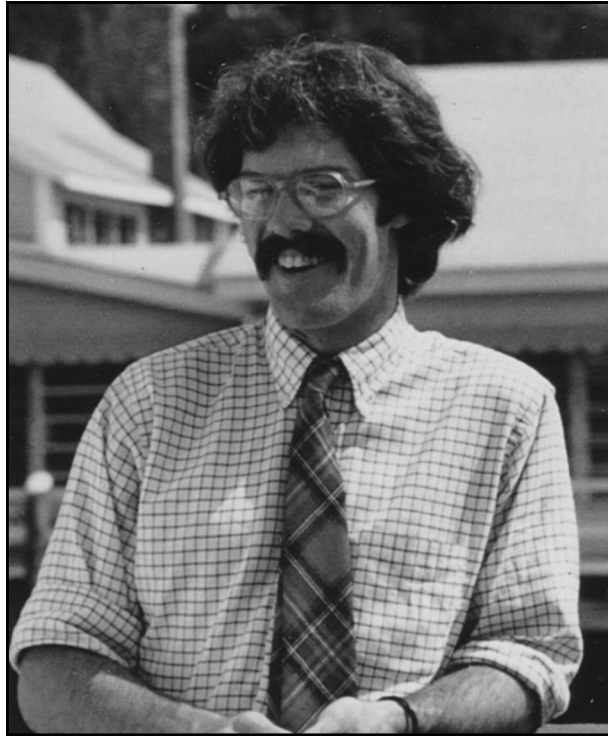
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## MEMORIES OF MINISTRY

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My first memory of the Boat Shop was in 1983. My sister Hilda and I put all our dolls out on the front porch of the white farm house for display, and we sat beside them for a photo. I found that photo a few months ago when I was going through an old album. The only thing I've had longer than my memory of this place is the man who began it. I've had the pleasure of living with Bobby Ives my entire life. Every year, he changes the lives of more people than I will have the pleasure to meet, and I know he's changed mine more than I will ever know. Everyone leaves their mark here on earth. The amount cannot be measured. It can, however, be remembered.

I remember the times he took me on the back of his bike out on Ilesboro when the Boat Shop took a day off. I remember the way he always tried to race me up the stairs at every major monument in Washington D.C. When we moved to Scotland for the year, he would kick corner kicks for me to head into the goal. I still don't think I've ever been able to beat him in tennis or ping pong. At 66, he can still run the



wood splitter longer than most 20 year olds. I've read that researchers studying the process of aging found that laughter improves blood circulation and keeps you younger. Bobby Ives is living proof. Anyone whose every played a game of pond hockey with him can verify this. When he puts his skates on, a little bit of a devil comes out inside him. I've seen more pucks taken with a trail of laughter following them than most. Bobby lives to play pond hockey and runs on laughter.

This is my third year working as an instructor at the Carpenter's Boat Shop and the last year to have Bobby as the Captain. He has taught hundreds of people how to cut wood with the same love and respect he's shown me for 31 years. He has left his mark for others to follow and I will try to live my life the way he would want me to walk. Thank you Dad for all that you have done for me and all those you have influenced by your way of living.

■ *Jonathan Ives*

### RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

Please join us in celebrating Bobby's retirement from the Carpenter's Boat Shop. Since 1979, Bobby's amazing commitment and devotion to the Boat Shop has transformed it into the wonderful community it is today. As Bobby moves on to new adventures, with Phyllis by his side, we wish him glorious sailing in the years ahead!



### & ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Join us for an Ice Cream Social  
in honor of the Rev. Robert E. Ives  
at the Carpenter's Boat Shop

**Sunday, July 8**  
**3:00-5:00 pm,**  
**with program at 4:00**

Rain or Shine



## WINTER & SPRING AT THE BOAT SHOP



Stephen, Christina & Jay prepare the keel of the Catspaw Dinghy for its garboard plank



Completed restoration of a Whitehall for Camp Kieve



16 cords of firewood all split & stacked ready for next winter



Allie & Margaret working on a Rollin Thurlow Atkinson Traveler canoe



Casey, Christina, Elliot & Jonathan with a unique 3-plank Monhegan Skiff



The whole crew at Bill Copperthwaite's yurt during our winter trip

### Like Us!

The Carpenter's Boat Shop now has a Facebook Page. "Like" us to keep up with recent photos, stories and daily happenings. [www.facebook.com/carpentersboatshop](http://www.facebook.com/carpentersboatshop)



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## EVEN KEEL FARM AT THE CARPENTER'S BOAT SHOP

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Feeding three meals a day to 20 or more people is a logistical challenge and requires a lot of careful menu planning and trips to the grocery store. Tough trade-offs must be made: organic? local? affordable? Over the summer and fall at least, some of these choices will become easier, with a short

walk to the garden or root cellar to gather fresh vegetables and herbs.

After my apprenticeship at the Boat Shop in

2009-2010, I have worked on a couple of farms in Maine, and am now returning here to cultivate the garden. I will be supported over the next two years by the MOFGA (Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association) Journeyperson program, which provides educational resources and mentorship. Every journey-person has a unique farming situation, and I feel lucky to have ended up back at the Boat Shop. By providing land, resources, and moral support, the Boat Shop is supporting beginning farmers (currently, me), and at the same time taking a step towards a more sustainable food system.

In addition to feeding the Boat Shop, I will also be selling vegetables at the Bristol Area Farmers Market at the Weymouth House on Saturday mornings starting on June 9th. Stop by and say hello--look for the sign for Even Keel Farm!

▪ *Sarah Oliver*

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## A SPECIAL GIFT FOR A SPECIAL TIME

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As you can see from this newsletter, there is a lot going on at the Carpenter's Boat Shop. As we prepare to celebrate Bobby's retirement and then move into a new chapter in the Boat Shop's life, our energy is high, and we are filled with excitement. In times of transition, there are always extra expenses. And meeting the needs of the operating budget continues. So gifts to the Boat Shop at this special time would be greatly appreciated. You may send a special gift to: The Carpenter's Boat Shop, 440 Old County Road, Pemaquid, ME 04558.

Thank you!

Michael Stevens, for the Finance Committee



# Summer Classes at the Boat Shop

We still have space!

For more information or to register, please check out our schedule of classes for this summer on our website.

[www.carpentersboatshop.org](http://www.carpentersboatshop.org)  
or call 207-677-2614



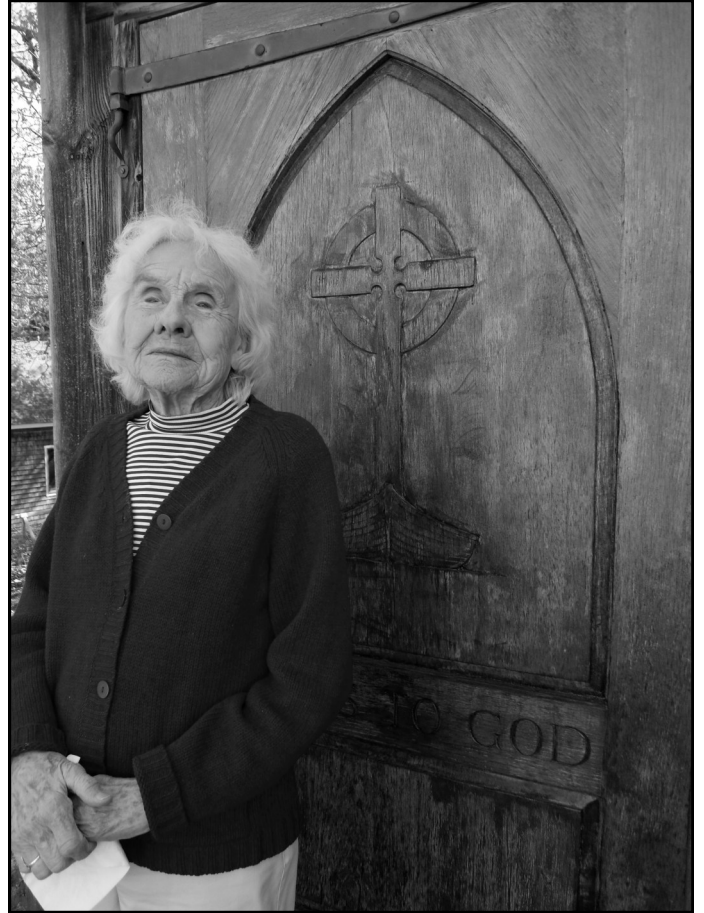
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## RUTH BROOKES & THE BROOKES LEGACY

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This spring Ruth Brookes will be stepping down as a member of our Board of Directors. She has served for 26 years as clerk, secretary, and chair of our Nominating Committee. Ruth joined the Board in 1986, replacing her husband, the Rev. Kenneth Brookes who had served the previous 7 years until his death. No family has served longer or had such an invaluable relationship with the Boat Shop. It was in the Brookes' living room that many of the original ideas for the Boat Shop ministry and program actually began. It was Ken Brookes, in fact, who came up with the name 'The Carpenter's Boat Shop'. He asked what Ruth and I would be calling this new program. I said, "the Pemaquid Economic Ministry." He said "That's ridiculous," Ken was not one to mince his words. "You should call it something simple like The Carpenter's Boat Shop." And from that time on both Ken and Ruth have been vital, helpful and loving members of our Board and Boat Shop family. We are pleased that at the age of 97, Ruth will remain among us as emeritus Board member.

▪ *Robert Ives*



The Carpenter's Boat Shop is grateful to Fred Gosbee of Castlebay who has been working with our apprentices throughout this winter and spring to build beautiful hand-crafted Celtic harps.

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## IN MEMORIAM: BILL ELLIOT

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It is with deep sadness that I share the loss of one of our remarkable apprentices, William Elliot. Bill came as an apprentice in 2004-05. He had been a teacher, counselor, coach, lawyer and headmaster most of his life until he experienced a series of minor strokes which sidelined his formal career. Even though as his father had been a boat builder and his kin had come from Round Pond, Bill circuitously found his way to the Boat Shop. From the day he walked through our doors, he was a wellspring of wisdom, joy, and abiding love. Bill was one who gave far more than he ever received. Our lives have been blessed because we knew him.

*Bill is on the far right, pictured here working with a crew to dismantle the original Crooked Farm Barn.*

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## RESTORATION SHOP UPDATE

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Of all the many practices that we work on throughout the year with the apprentices here at The Carpenter's Boat Shop, one of our major focuses is intention. Being able to develop a vision or an impression of what they want the end result of a project to look like is integral in building skills with the hands and confidence with the heart. It also assures a more "finished" product. In the end, this finished product will have with it all the signs that there was a reason for every stroke of the plane, or every slice with the knife. It is my intention to do the same with billing practices in the Restoration Shop.

The Restoration Shop moves 25 to 30 boats through its doors every year. Projects range from the simple spring spruce-up to re-framing and planking. Putting a price on all of this has been challenging for us. What follows are our current rates and fees, as well as our estimation process.

### **Carpenter's Boat Shop Rates and Fees 2012**

- Labor – \$40 per hour (includes covering, cleaning, sanding and painting, carpentry, moving and handling of boat)
- Inside storage – \$3 per foot per month
- Outside storage – \$2 per foot per month. (Limited to boats on trailers. Boat covers include wooden framework and canvas tarp. No shrink wrap.)

- Battery and outboard storage - \$25
- Delivery – \$40 per hour
- A 5% consumables charge will be included to cover costs of sandpaper, rags, etc.

Upon acceptance and delivery of the craft, I will go over any issues with the owner in hopes that we may see and understand the items together. From that meeting, an estimate of time, materials and cost will be developed. If the estimate seems reasonable to the owner, and the owner understands the measures we are hoping to take with their boat, work will begin per our schedule. Any discrepancies between the Boat Shop estimate and what the owner is hoping to have done can be worked out prior to when the work begins.

As is our tradition, any boat that has been built by the Boat Shop comes with our lifetime guarantee. If there is a problem due to our oversight, we will repair it at no cost to the owner.

As apprentices love the building of the boats, they also love seeing what it takes to care for, maintain and repair small craft as well.

If you are interested in the services of the Restoration Shop for the coming 2012-13 year, please contact me at: [restoration@carpentersboatshop.org](mailto:restoration@carpentersboatshop.org)

▪ *Darin Carlucci*

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## Send us your email address!

In a continued effort to keep our database as up-to-date as possible, we are currently looking to add email addresses to our records. Thus, if you would like the Boat Shop to have your email address so that you might receive e-newsletters and other electronic correspondence, please send us your email address at [office@carpentersboatshop.org](mailto:office@carpentersboatshop.org)



**The Carpenter's Boat Shop**  
440 Old County Road  
Pemaquid, ME 04558

**NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2012**

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**WISHLIST**

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***For the house and campus...***

Larger lawnmower (zero turn style w/ 54" deck) - \$3,299  
G.E. Monogram ventilation for Fossett Farmhouse stove - \$3,000  
Refrigerators – side by side - \$2,000 (need 4)  
Dishwashers - \$700 (need 2)  
Freezers - \$750 (need 3)  
Mandolin style slicer, stainless steel - \$150  
Stainless steel cookpots, large, Calphalon - \$130 (need 3)  
Solar lights to light campus pathways - \$30 (need 12)  
Cambro food storage containers - \$20 (need 6)

***For the office...***

New phone system - \$8,000  
LCD Projector - \$400  
27" Monitor w/ Adjustable Height - \$280  
Heavy Duty Easel - \$45

***For the Work Shop and Maritime library...***

Festool Kapex Miter Saw - \$1,300  
30 ft. Extension Ladder - \$400  
Festool or other brand 1/2 sheet sanders - \$146-\$355  
Wooden Boat Magazine back issues on thumb drive - \$155  
Milwaukee hole shooter (corded drill w/ 1/2 in. chuck and side handle) - \$129  
Floor jack - \$119  
Extension cord reel for Restoration - \$94  
1/4 sheet sanders - \$55  
The Common Sense of Yacht Design Vol. 1 by L. F. Herreshoff (we have vol. 2) - \$50

*Our full wishlist can be found on our website:  
[www.carpentersboatshop.org](http://www.carpentersboatshop.org)*

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**FOR SALE**

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**New Boats**

13' sailing Catspaw dinghy \$7,000  
13' rowing Catspaw dinghy \$5,200  
Monhegan Skiffs \$1,550-\$1,950  
17' Atkinson Traveler Canoe \$3,500  
13' American Beauty Canoe \$2,500  
8' Wee Pup row boat \$1,600  
9' Vermont pond skiff \$1,500  
Doug Hylan 13' Beach Pea peapod \$4,600  
14' Tango Skiff—\$5,000

***Please visit our website or call to inquire about  
any of our boats or furniture.***

**Used Boats**

20' E.M. White Canoe (like new) \$3,500  
“Dagny” – 19' Norlands Boat \$5,000  
“Cuttlefish” – 23' Viking \$8,000

**Furniture**

Single Adirondack chairs \$175  
Double Adirondack chairs \$350  
Baby boat cradles \$500  
Shaker ladder back chairs, rockers and stools \$350-\$450  
Log Carriers \$50



207-677-2614

[boatshop@carpentersboatshop.org](mailto:boatshop@carpentersboatshop.org)  
[www.carpentersboatshop.org](http://www.carpentersboatshop.org)