



## **Schooner *Virginia* Overview 2008**

*Virginia* is a re-creation of its namesake vessel, which was the last pure sailing vessel used by the Virginia Pilot Association. That vessel was in service from 1917 to 1926 on The Chesapeake Bay. Almost entirely handmade, *Virginia* is the first tall ship built on the Norfolk waterfront in nearly 80 years.

After nearly two-and-a-half years under construction, the vessel was launched and christened on December 10, 2004. *Virginia* was designed using the blueprints that were used in building the original *Virginia*.

*Virginia* is a two-masted, gaff-topsail knockabout schooner that is 126 feet long, 24 feet wide and weighs 157 tons; her tallest mast – the mainmast – towers 112 feet off the water. She has a professional crew of 10 and can accommodate 16 passengers.

For those desiring the experience of sailing a tall ship, guest crew sails are available on *Virginia* throughout the sailing season as she makes passage from port to port. Our signature Youth Sail Training program is also available during the summer as aspiring young sailors climb onboard for the toughest fun they will ever have.

The mission of *Virginia* is three-fold with education as its primary focus. In addition to guest crew and Youth Sail Training, she is also a goodwill ambassador for the Commonwealth of Virginia, representing our state at tall ship events beyond Virginia. *Virginia* can also be used as an economic development vehicle by providing a unique and historic venue for corporate and municipality receptions and/or sails as she visits ports up and down the Eastern seaboard.

For more information on *Virginia*, our Youth Sail Training, guest crew passages or other opportunities for this year, please visit our web site at [www.schoonervirginia.org](http://www.schoonervirginia.org)

### **Education leads the mission of *Virginia*.**

Whether it's Youth Sail Training aboard *Virginia* or as a member of our guest crew, *Virginia* is a floating classroom like no other. *Virginia* is more than a beautiful tall ship sailing the waters of the Eastern seaboard, Chesapeake Bay and beyond. She is an educator.

During the summer months, *Virginia's* Youth Sail Training program provides an unparalleled teaching and learning experience as students climb aboard for the toughest fun they'll ever have!

From bow to stern, the excitement of being aboard *Virginia* is enough to make anyone forget television, cell phones, video games and computers. With wind in her sails and salt spray in the air, education sail training voyages aboard the tall ship keep a young sailor's attention focused on the teamwork and cooperation needed to sail a hand-built, 126-foot long vessel. It also is a great character-building experience. Education sail training voyages are available for aspiring young sailors from the ages of 13 – 17. Visit [www.schoonervirginia.org](http://www.schoonervirginia.org) for the complete schedule and availability.

Guest crew passages are also offered throughout the sailing season as *Virginia* travels from port to port. Few opportunities offer the blend of hard work, cooperation and fun as sailing and crewing aboard *Virginia*. Working alongside *Virginia's* experienced, professional crew of 10, sailors both young and old, tackle the daily tasks required to safely sail the 157-ton vessel.

### **Capt. Nicholas Alley**

Captain Alley, Master, *Virginia*, brings more than 25 years of varied experience at sea. As leader of *Virginia's* full-time crew of 10, his job includes managing all aspects of maintaining and manning this 126' sailing vessel.

Alley's previous work experience well qualifies him for this role as it includes a variety of positions including engineer, mate and captain on several tugboats and large sailing vessels. Most importantly, he has many years of experience as a captain of vessels similar to *Virginia*, including responsibility for vessel operations and management, cadet and crew education, maintenance and ship's accounting.

As the master of tall ships, Nicholas Alley has had considerable experience leading long voyages and vast experience with sea education programs. He worked with the *The Ocean Classrooms Foundation*, which offers traditional sail training education programs. He worked for *South Street Seaport* in New York, an organization which offers a wide variety of maritime education programs. Additionally, Captain Alley worked for the *Westward* and *Lettie G. Howard* and was master for the *Spirit of Massachusetts*, the *Harvey Gamage*, the *Bill of Rights*, the *Woodwind*, *Outward Bound* pulling boats, *Minnie V* and *Half Shell*. All these vessels offer youth education programs, and some offer education programs for adjudicated youth. Alley carries licensure in sailing auxiliary, commercial towing, unlimited radar and a 500 ton Oceans Master license. When not aboard *Virginia*, Captain Alley resides in Norfolk, Virginia with his wife Diane.

### **Capt. Henry Moseley**

Captain Hank Moseley brings over 15 years of educational and sailing experience to the schooner *Virginia*. In addition to sharing the underway responsibilities of the master's position with Captain Alley; Hank manages the hiring of the *Virginia's* crew, assists with the development of the summer Youth Sail Training program, and conducts many of the educational classes for the crew and students.

Moseley attended Christopher Newport University during which time he worked in the maritime program at Jamestown Settlement.

He served as a rigger and film consultant during the filming of *Master and Commander: Far Side of the World*. Moseley spent over four years working as a mate and captain with Ocean Classroom

Foundation, conducting high school and college level semesters at sea. He participated in Jamestown's 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary as captain of the *Godspeed*. He has additionally sailed aboard the "*HMS*" *Rose*, *Tole Mour*, *Spirit of Massachusetts*, *Harvey Gamage*, *Caledonia*, *When and If*, *Discovery*, and *Susan Constant*. He holds a history degree from Christopher Newport University and a 500 ton Ocean Master's license. When not aboard the *Virginia*, Captain Moseley resides with his wife Kaia in Yorktown, Virginia.

***Description***

Sparred length 126'

Beam 24'

Draft 12'5"

Sail Area: 6538 sq.ft.

Rig: two-masted, gaff-topsail knockabout schooner

Built: Re-creation of 1917 pilot schooner. Launched in 2004

Home port: Norfolk, VA

Owner/Operator: Virginia Maritime Heritage Foundation