

## From Stem to Stern: H.M.S. BOUNTY By Margaret

*Three years ago, I wrote an article about the tall ship HMS Bounty. At the time, I had just finished sailing on her in the Great Lakes. Never in my wildest dreams would I anticipate that three years later she would be embarking on a world voyage! Below is an update on her restoration and upcoming world voyage written by **Bounty Executive Director, Margaret Ramsey**. — Cal Pifer*

Bounty is no stranger to the rails at Boothbay Harbor Shipyard in Maine. It was here at the formerly named "Samples Shipyard" that Bounty's life started over again after nearly sinking at the dock in Fall River, Massachusetts. We are now in the final phase of a three-phase restoration that began in June 2001, shortly after purchasing HMS Bounty from the Fall River Chamber of Commerce.

The first phase was replacing the hull, which at the time was so severely damaged the ship was taking on 30,000 gallons of water an hour; the second phase was in Bayou La Batre, Alabama where we replaced nine sails along with the rigging of the ship for our movie debut in *Pirates of the Caribbean "Dead Man's Chest"* with Disney in St. Vincent.

This final phase encompasses everything from the waterline up. That's right... the planking has been removed and all the ribs have been replaced. At present the stern and gallery windows are being pulled. In June we started pulling up sections of the decking to view the deck beams. With that being said, we have been very happy with what we have seen. Another area of the ship to take on a fresh look was the stem. After opening the bow of the ship and replacing the stem with new wood the head Shipwright was not comfortable; after further investigation it was determined the wood had a defect and we were forced to pull it again and locate another piece of wood. No easy task for the Yard.

While the shipwrights have been busy working on Bounty's exterior, the ship's crew began gutting the interior. We have been working with our naval architect on a new layout for the ship's "Tween" deck for a more functioning galley as well as better accommodations for our sail trainees. We will now have ten cabins opposed to the six previously and more storage space.



There's no other vessel in the world quite like HMS Bounty, and certainly none with its unique legend and instant name recognition. As Bounty completes this yard period she will look and sail as she did on that August day back in 1960 when she was launched in Lunenburg Nova Scotia with crowds of over 20,000. It has always been the owners dream to bring Bounty back to Pitcairn Island since he purchased her in 2001, and this has given us the opportunity to bring this Legendary ship back to the roots of her history.

In 2006 a group L'Association - Les Descendants Du Bounty invited the Bounty to Tahiti for the 220th Anniversary of Bounty's first arrival. This has now set the stage for our 2007 World Tour, which will begin in July 2007. Bounty will be setting sail for Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, to launch our World Tour!

When we leave there we will head to Britain for a stay of approximately one month before beginning our re-creation of Bligh's voyage in 1787 stopping off in Africa's Cape of Good Hope then sailing to New Zealand before reaching our final destination of Tahiti in October 2008. Our departure from Tahiti will bring us to Pitcairn Island, Easter Island and the Galapagos as we return to the United States thru the Panama Canal in January 2009!

Please check out our web sites for more information about our upcoming European Tour and World Voyage to Tahiti along with restoration photos of Bounty.

[www.tallshipbounty.org](http://www.tallshipbounty.org)  
[www.hmsbountyvoyage.org](http://www.hmsbountyvoyage.org)