

768 to 1768

(longships and tall ships at Solomon's Island)





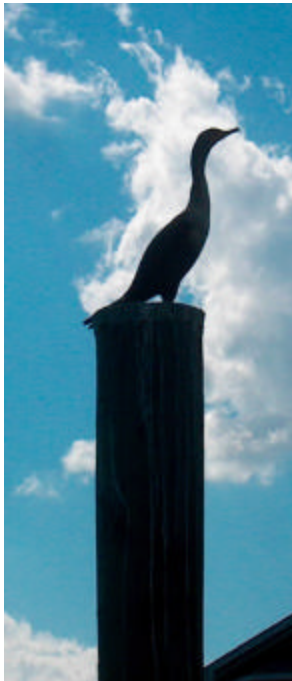


Longship *Sae Hrafn* (longshipco.org) and schooner *Sultana* (sultanaprojects.org) meet in *Sae Hrafn*'s home port of Solomon's Island MD. *Sultana* is a replica of the original *Sultana*, built as a merchant ship in New England and ultimately used by the British Navy in the increasingly revolutionary colonies. Today *Sultana* sails on a mission of education, carrying students and others into the broad reaches of the Chesapeake Bay. *Sae Hrafn* carries anyone willing to man an oar on a mission of living history and experimental archaeology (what happens if we do this....oh @#!*#!).

I gave up my oar on *Sae Hrafn* this day to man a paddle and three cameras on my 18' sea kayak, *Makenuk's Fin*. I can still paddle faster than *Sae Hrafn* can row. *Sultana* has engines, arrrrrrr!















Sae Hrafn in full sail down the creek, headed for the Patuxent River.

Next pages: Sae Hrafn chases Sultana out into the river.

Why are we spilling wind out of the sail? Sultana has engines, we don't...which makes us going up the creek with only paddles (arrrrgh!) and, then there's the catastrophic steerboard failure...

...the large wooden paddle lashed to the starboard side of the ship is called a steerboard (steerboard/starboard, yes, there's a connection). Just as we were in full, magnificent sail abreast of Sultana, she listing hard to one side with the weight of passengers staring at the Viking ship, the small line holding our steerboard to the side of the ship...broke.











