THIS WEEKEND! “A story about Adventure Commerce—coastal schooner delivers valuable organic cargo to Boston’s new public market, thanks to punky young agrarians, kindly captain and a family-owned distribution company”

Young farmers coordinate a ‘trade stunt’ shipping $70,000 worth of organic cargo from Maine to Boston aboard the historic Schooner ‘Adventure’.

The sleek hulled vessel and Maine Sail Freight entourage arrive at Boston Harbor for August 29th and 30th, with unloading ceremonies, panels, presentations, shanties and fanfare events all week long. Cargo for sale at the Boston Public Market through the whole month of September. Meet the sailors, attend events, experience the working waterfront.

The young farmers organization, Greenhorns announce a last minute vessel change for the Maine Sail Freight maiden voyage from Maine to Boston. We will be sailing, and selling as scheduled, thanks to the alacrity and fluid logistical finesse of Captain Stefan Edick and the Schooner Adventure. We are ocean legal and on our way to BOSTON HARBOR. Many thanks to the nautical architects, marina stewards and coast guard officials animated the prospect of Adventure-based commerce. It takes a team to hoist this sail!

The Mission:
The mission of the Maine Sail Freight project is to enliven public conversation about the logistics of regional trade, to draw on our long, storied maritime history as a basis for a long-view conversation about shifting our farm economy for the future. There is an economic action at the middle of this project, attended by pageantry and panel discussions, we invite the public to get involved directly, carry some cargo, and discuss tactics for re-regionalizing our farm economy.

Young Farmers Cut the mustard.
The products aboard include: blueberry jam, mustard, pickled dilly beans, cashmere goat pelts, wool’s yarn, honey, maple syrup, dry beans, Fiddlers Green biscuit mix. These are quintessentially New England products, proudly ‘value added’ and ‘non perishable’ so we can sell them all month long at the public market. For practical reasons, these thare the kinds of products that young farmers are making more of—we need cashflow through these long, and lengthening winters.
Why are we sailing these organic cargoes down this wild coast?

This pageant of logistics is a for-profit/non-profit partnership between Crown of Maine and Fiddlers Green farm, a distribution and milling company, The Greenhorns, a young, organic farmers advocacy organization, and Schooner Adventure, a maritime historic preservation and educational organization. We set sail together to experience directly and experiment together with this old format of transporting goods, to see what it takes, and use this ‘old media’ as a platform for learning, within the young farming community, and our loyal eaters. We think the harbor is an appropriate context to talk about the action needed for an appropriate economy.

We challenge our eaters to come walk down to the docks, down to the Boston Public Market, down to the farmers markets to see how uncomplicated it can be to access good food. We challenge our eaters to commit this fall (our most bounteous season) to eat regionally-- not just on occasion, but to plan like a sea-captain, to provision, to prepare, and to eat well all week long.

The Terms of Trade

There are many consequences to increasingly global trade, and containerized cargo shipping means a massive structural investment on both port ends. Containers specialize in global export and trade of commodities. Critics of NAFTA, WTO, TTIP and TTP point to wage stagnation, lowered environmental standards, consolidation, debt and gigantism as the consequences of “Free and Freer trade”. The pollution produced by ocean-going vessels is staggering. each individual cargo ship can produce as much air pollution as 350,000 cars per hour. Containerized cargo transport is predicted to double in the coming decade, with more than 10,000 mega tankers already underway, couldn’t we trade more locally?
See more at: http://www.foe.org/projects/oceans-and-forests/oceangoing-vessels#sthash.4UJIJCaP.dpuf

**Whats the Alternative?**
Small is beautiful, regional is resilient and food secure, even in the face of disruptions of a changing climate. New England has the opportunity to pursue food sovereignty, for our own sake! What happens when we move more cargo regionally, along rivers and coastlines? Beyond the carbon emissions, what co-benefits could we expect from such a shift? The Maine Sail Freight project points to the benefits of a more regionally oriented economy, in alignment with the New England Food Vision-- a plan that lays out how New England could produce 50% of its own food, by 2060. When all of us eat within the region, we move wealth within the region, supporting small and medium sized business which contribute the most to job growth and innovation, benefiting land stewardship, watershed health, nutrition and rural economic stability. How, in the coming decades, will our region welcome more bodies, brains and businesses out onto the landscape to farm? We feel these questions point us forward in a good direction.

Maine leads the nation in ‘new farmer businesses’ according to USDA’s recent census. With a 40% rise in farm operators under 34 years old over the past 4 years. Scholars studying resilience point to the benefits of diverse, organic and regionally oriented farms. And not just because they’re less likely to flood or suffer from drought. This kind of landscape matrix provides a more distributed economic base, with greater opportunity and diversity, more inter-generational and heterogenous, better able to change, evolve and flux than “too big to fail” behemoths.

Useful links:
- [Full schedule of events](#)
- [Printable PDF programme](#)
- [Full Greenhorns calendar](#)

Full month of September, come to our stall at the Boston Public Market, and visit some of the other 35 local food vendors!

**About the Schooner Adventure**
*The Gloucester Adventure, Inc.* is a 501(c)(3) non-profit maritime historic preservation and educational organization. We are the stewards of the 1926 dory-fishing Schooner *Adventure*. Our mission begins with restoration and preservation in perpetuity of the National Historic Landmark Schooner *Adventure*, one of the last surviving Grand Banks dory-fishing schooners. The Schooner *Adventure* is a national treasure that has resumed active sailing as an icon of the American fisheries and as a floating classroom for maritime history and environmental education programs. The Schooner will be operated at sea, primarily along the New England coast, as a living monument to Massachusetts’ fishing heritage. As such, the Schooner *Adventure* is important not only to Gloucester, but also to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and all America.
Our goal is to heighten awareness of Gloucester’s role in the development of the American Fishing Industry, the plight of the thousands of men lost at sea, and how a fleet of fast and able schooners defined a regional economy.

**About Maine Sail Freight**

This maiden voyage, hopefully the first of many Maine Sail Freight missions, is organized by a young farmers' organization called the Greenhorns. An 8-year-old grassroots network, the Greenhorns' mission is to promote, recruit, and support young people entering sustainable agriculture—people whose lives on the land represent direct-action toward a new, more regional and resilient American economy.

We’re using the power of the wind and the romance of the ocean to remind our community of the compelling landscape logic—sell food more regionally, diversify our production, add value at the source, and to coordinate our trade along rivers, down coasts and between allies-- to build a more resilient and entrepreneurial, opportunistic young farmers, for whom an elongated remembrance of maritime history, the massive changes/ shifts it spans, can help us build confidence in our insights, and stamina for the long future on the horizon.

**About the Boston Public Market**

**Boston Public Market**, a new municipally-owned market built as an instrument for civic life and local enterprise. The Boston Public Market is the only locally sourced market of its kind in the United States. Everything sold at the Market is produced or originates in New England. The Market is a civic resource, educating the public about food sources, nutrition, and preparation. The market is a year-round, indoor market featuring fresh, locally sourced food brought directly to and from the diverse people that make up Massachusetts and New England. At the Boston Public Market, farmers, fishermen, and food producers from Massachusetts and throughout New England offer the public a year-round source of fresh local food and an opportunity to taste, buy, and understand what our region has to offer. The market houses over 35 vendors selling locally produced items such as farm-fresh produce, meat and poultry, eggs, milk and cheese, fish and shellfish, bread and baked goods, flowers, and an assortment of specialty and prepared foods.

**Long version schedule/details.**

**Short version Schedule:**

PDF version Full Progamme for Boston

**THURSDAY Portland ME, Aug 27**

- noon load up
- 2pm history pep talk
- 5 pm panel discussion
- 8 pm fancy dinner benefit

**SUNDAY Boston MA, Aug 30**

- noon unload
1.30 shanties
2.30 shanties
4pm panel

**MONDAY, Somerville, MA Aug 31**
6pm Dinner featuring ingredients Cuisine en Locale

**TUESDAY, Cambridge, MA**
Harvard Square farmers market noon-6

**WEDNESDAY, Boston and Cambridge MA**
Boston Public Market all day
Evening Panel at Harvard 6pm

**ADVENTURE HISTORY:**
The Schooner Adventure was designed by famous marine architect Thomas McManus as a “knockabout”. The schooner was built in 1926 in Essex, Massachusetts by the John F. James and Son Shipyard. From 1926 - 1953 Schooner *Adventure* fished cod, haddock and halibut from Nantucket to Newfoundland, along the Grand Banks of the North Atlantic. Carrying a sailing rig, diesel engine, and 14 dories, *Adventure* was an exceptionally fast and able vessel, the ultimate evolution of the fishing schooner. When retired in 1953, Schooner *Adventure* was the last American dory fishing trawler left in the Atlantic. In 1954, Schooner *Adventure* was retired from fishing and converted into a windjammer for passenger cruising, removing the engine, propeller, and prop shaft. *Adventure* carried passengers along the coast of Maine until 1987. Her grace, beauty, and prowess as a sailing vessel earned her the nickname “Queen of the Windjammers.”

*Adventure* was then donated to the people of Gloucester, Massachusetts by way of The Gloucester *Adventure* Inc., a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization formed to be steward of this historic vessel. The organization’s mission is three-fold:

1. Restore and preserve *Adventure* in perpetuity,
2. Utilize *Adventure* as an educational resource with programming for maritime, environmental and cultural issues and,
3. Sail *Adventure* as a symbol of Gloucester’s maritime heritage.

For more information: www.schooner-adventure.org