

SSV OLIVER HAZARD PERRY FACT SHEET

Updated 12/26/19



Our mission is to provide innovative and empowering education-at-sea programs to promote personal and professional growth

- **The Ship:**

- Named for U.S. Navy Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry (Rhode Island native, War of 1812 naval hero who defeated the British in the Battle of Lake Erie)
- U.S. Coast Guard documented vessel, inspected and certified as a Sailing School Vessel (under Subchapter R regulations).
- 200 foot three-masted, full rigged Tall Ship.
 - A full-rigged ship is a sailing vessel with three or more masts, all of them square-rigged
 - Square rig is a type of sail and rigging arrangement in which the primary driving sails are carried on horizontal spars which are perpendicular, or square, to the keel of the vessel and to the masts.
- 13 ½ stories high (Main mast approximately 130'; fore mast 120'; mizzen mast 100')
- Main mast is made up of three sections
 - 65' long lower section made of steel
 - upper two sections (topmast and t'gallant) made of Douglas fir, which came from a private tree farm in Rainier, Oregon and was turned in Washington State on the largest spar lathe in North America.
- Collectively, *Perry's* 19 wooden spars – including the mizzen, mainmast and royals for each; fore top mast and gallant; mizzen gaff; boom; and jib boom – weigh almost 36 tons and total 25,182 board feet – enough to build a house of over 3700 square feet.
- 20 sails (made by Hood Sails), 14,000 sq. ft. of sail
- 7 miles of running rigging = distance from OHPRI offices in Newport to Portsmouth, Hinckley Marina

- First ocean-going full-rigged ship to be built in the U.S. in 110 years, second in size only to the Coast Guard's Barque *Eagle*. (The Nat'l Park Service's *Friendship* of Salem, though smaller, is a full-rigged ship; it is mostly a dockside museum attraction.)
 - Signed into legislation as the state's official "Sailing Education Vessel" on May 10, 2012 by Rhode Island Governor Lincoln Chafee and later named Rhode Island's flagship and tall ship ambassador by Governor Gina Raimondo in July 2018
 - Main engines: 2 CATERPILLAR C-12 12 liter, in line 6 cylinder engines with a continuous rating of 385 hp each at 1800 rpm
- **Capacity/Crew:** up to 32 students and faculty on overnight trips; 17 professional crew
- **Educational Programming:**
 - Focus on developing marine trades, maritime education, and ocean literacy for the citizens of Rhode Island
 - Support and enhance academic achievement in STEAM (science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics), leadership development, and maritime career pathway exploration
 - Student access to state-of-the-art technology for navigation, communications and ship systems
 - Classroom and library spaces below decks; science laboratory space on the main deck
 - Built as a Sailing School Vessel, this means all who sail aboard the vessel are participants who fully share in the ship's operation; OHP does not carry any passengers.
- **Construction:**
 - The *Perry's* steel hull was purchased in September 2008 for a cost of approximately \$325,000. It arrived in Newport in late October after being towed 892 miles from its former home in Amherstburg, Ontario and was berthed at Bowen's Wharf, in the historic waterfront shopping district
 - The hull was towed from Newport to Promet Marine Services, a Providence, Rhode Island shipyard, and then to Senesco Marine in Quonset in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, for major steel and mechanical work. Work began in 2013 on the interior accommodations, electrical and engineering systems.
 - April 24, 2014: The ship was hauled out at Newport Shipyard where exterior work was completed below her waterline over the summer. Thru-hull penetrations were installed for seawater intakes, zinc anodes were replaced, the bottom and topsides were painted, and propellers and shafts were inspected.
 - August 11, 2014: The ship was towed to The Hinckley Company
 - September 5, 2014: The foremast was stepped and a silver Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial coin (2013) was placed under the mast for good luck.
 - The ship's masts, rigging, and hardware were installed by OHPRI crew while dockside at Hinckley Marina, Portsmouth, RI
 - In the summer and fall of 2015, *Oliver Hazard Perry* completed its major shipbuilding scope of work and became operational with professional crew only. She embarked on her maiden sail, visited 5 ports throughout New England and had over 16,000 people aboard during dockside events. The first sailing passages were to Portland, ME and to New London, CT.

- **Total Cost:** OHPRI has raised \$16 million in donations.
- **Fundraising:** Focus now shifted to operations, including three new funds: Perry Corp Scholarship Fund, Virginia Wagner Scholarship Fund, and the VADM Thomas R. Weschler Professional Development Fund
- **Educational Partners:** Naval Academy Preparatory School, Tall Ships America
- **Home Port:** Fort Adams State Park, Newport RI (summer) / Bowen's Wharf, Newport RI (winter)
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