

GENERAL DYNAMICS

nasco



USNS Matthew Perry
(T-AKE 9)
Christening
Ceremony
August 16, 2009

Acknowledgements

Start of Construction Honoree: Mrs. Cynthia Kukuchek

Keel Honoree: Mrs. Joan Divens

1st Shore Honoree: Mrs. Ileana Romero

Trigger Honoree: Mrs. Jan Lyle



Historical images are from the Nimitz Library, U.S. Naval Academy and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's "Black Ship Scroll" Visualizing Cultures exhibit.

Ship construction pictures were taken by Ken Wright, General Dynamics NASSCO.

A historical map of Japan, titled 'IAPONIA REGNUM.' The map shows the islands of Japan with various geographical features, cities, and a network of roads. The text is in Latin and the map is in a classic, aged style.

**USNS *Matthew Perry* (T-AKE 9)
Christening Ceremony Program**

Music

U.S. Marine Corps Band, San Diego

Presentation of Colors

Naval Base San Diego Color Guard

Soloist

Mr. Everett Benze, Production Supervisor, U.S. Joiner

Invocation

Lieutenant Joseph L. Roach, CHC, USN, Command Chaplain, Amphibious Construction Battalion One

Remarks

Mr. Frederick J. Harris, President, General Dynamics NASSCO

Rear Admiral William E. Landay, III, USN, Program Executive Officer, Ships

Rear Admiral Robert D. Reilly Jr., USN, Commander, Military Sealift Command

Principal Speaker

Vice Admiral Richard W. Hunt, USN, Commander, U.S. Third Fleet

Sponsor's Party

Ms. Hester G. Evans, Sponsor

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Evans, Matron of Honor

Mrs. Hester C.G. Ramplin, Matron of Honor

Flower Girl

Miss Amalia Valadez, daughter of Karla Miramontes, Staff Engineer, General Dynamics NASSCO

Master of Ceremonies

Mr. Karl D. Johnson, Director of Communications, General Dynamics NASSCO

USNS *Matthew Perry* (T-AKE 9)

Designed and built by General Dynamics NASSCO

Mission: To deliver ammunition, provisions, stores, spare parts, potable water and petroleum products to strike groups and other naval forces, by serving as a shuttle ship or station ship.



Design Particulars:

Length: 210 Meters (689 ft.)
Beam: 32.2 Meters (105.6 ft.)
Draft: 9.1 Meters (29.8 ft.)
Displacement: 40,950 Metric tons
Speed: 20 Knots

Max dry cargo weight: 6,700 Metric tons
Cargo potable water: 52,800 Gallons
Cargo fuel: 23,450 Barrels
Propulsion: Single screw, diesel-electric



Matthew Calbraith Perry



Commodore Matthew C. Perry

Commodore Matthew C. Perry was born into a naval family on April 10, 1794. He was the third son of Captain Christopher R. Perry, a Continental and U.S. Navy officer who served during the Revolutionary War. His four brothers, including Battle of Lake Erie hero Oliver Hazard Perry, were naval officers and two of his three sisters married naval officers.

In January 1809, at the age of 14, Commodore Perry received a midshipman's commission and was initially assigned to the schooner *USS Revenge*, under the command of his eldest brother, Lieutenant Oliver Hazard Perry. During the War of 1812, Commodore Perry served in squadrons commanded by Commodores John Rodgers and Stephen Decatur. In December 1814, he married Jane Slidell and they had ten children over the next 24 years.

In July 1821, Commodore Perry assumed command of his first ship, the 12-gun schooner *USS Shark*. During his three years aboard, the commodore earned his lifelong nickname of "Old Bruin," because it "best fits his character" and his "powerful" command voice.

In April 1830, he assumed his second sea command, the sloop-of-war *USS Concord*, serving as its captain for two years. He was promoted to the rank of captain – the top rank in the early 19th century Navy – in February 1837. He was appointed commandant of the New York Navy Yard in June 1841. In this position, with command over all Navy ships in New York's harbor, he first received the honorific title of commodore.

Called the "Father of the Steam Navy," Commodore Perry was a strong proponent of modernizing the Navy with steam power. In addition to his commandant duties, the commodore oversaw construction and took command of the Navy's first steam warship, the frigate *USS Fulton*. The commodore also had a considerable interest in naval education, supporting an apprentice system to train new seamen and establishing a lecture hall for standardizing training of midshipmen and junior officers. He later served on a board of senior Navy officers whose advice helped establish the first curriculum for the new U.S. Naval Academy. He also conducted the first U.S. naval gunnery school off the coast of New Jersey while commanding the *Fulton*.

From April 1843 to February 1845, Commodore Perry commanded the Navy's African Squadron, whose duty was to interdict slave trading.



Perry Family Home



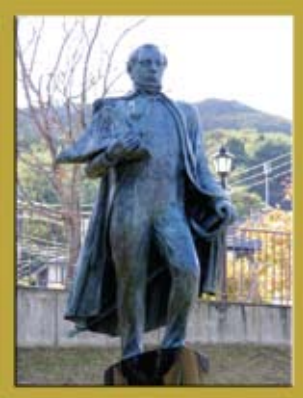
Illustration of Commodore Perry at the Shogun's court from an American account of the voyage

a proposed commercial and friendship treaty from President Millard Fillmore. To give the reluctant Japanese officials time to consider the offer, the commodore sailed back to China. As promised, he returned to Edo Bay on February 13, 1854, with an even more powerful fleet. Through the

commodore's persistent, yet dignified negotiations, the Convention of Kanagawa treaty was signed on March 31, 1854. The treaty provided that humane treatment be extended to U.S. sailors shipwrecked in Japanese territory, that U.S. ships be permitted to buy coal in Japan, and that the ports of Shimoda and Hakodate be opened to U.S. commerce.

Soon after Commodore Perry's return to the United States in January 1855, Congress awarded him \$20,000 (about \$450,000 today) in appreciation of his work in Japan. The commodore used part of the money to publish a report on the expedition in three volumes titled, "Narrative of the Expedition of an American Squadron to the China Seas and Japan."

Commodore Matthew C. Perry died on March 4, 1858, in New York City. The ninth ship of the Lewis and Clark class is the first ship named in the commodore's honor.



Statue of Commodore Perry in Newport, Rhode Island

During the Mexican-American War, he commanded the steamer USS *Mississippi*, and later commanded the Navy's Home Squadron during its capture of the port cities of Veracruz, Tuxpan and Villahermosa (Tabasco). After the war, he was assigned to observe the construction of commercial steamers for naval benefit from 1848 until 1852.

In March 1852, Commodore Perry was selected to lead a U.S. mission to Japan, a country that had been essentially closed to outsiders for 200 years. His experience in diplomacy with African and Mexican leaders was decisive in his assignment.

After port calls in China and Okinawa, the commodore led a squadron of four ships into Edo Bay (Tokyo Bay today) on July 8, 1853, and presented the emperor's representatives there with the text of



Japanese illustration of Commodore Perry on horseback

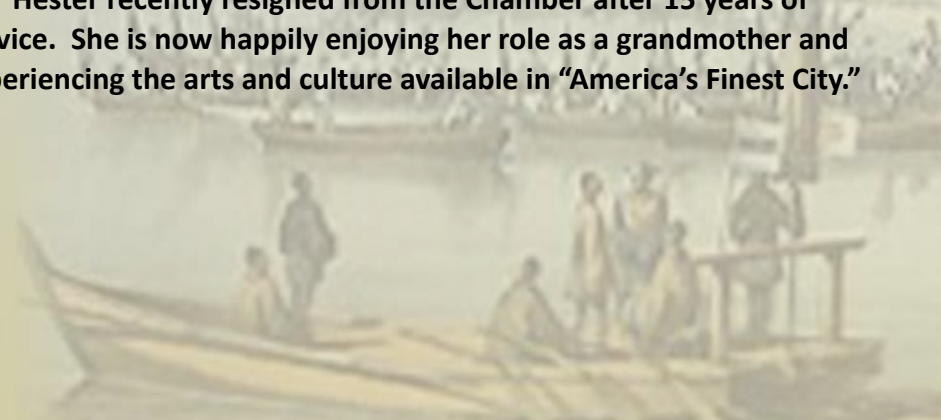
Hester G. Evans
Sponsor



Ms. Hester Evans is a great-great-great-granddaughter of Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry. She was born in Toronto, Canada, and lived in Westport, Connecticut, during her school years. Hester now lives in San Diego, California.

After college, Hester focused her interest in music and singing, and enjoyed a successful career as a professional singer in both theater and light opera in the United States and overseas. She later pursued a career in advertising which led her to relocate to San Diego in 1989. Hester later became a member of the Golden Triangle Chamber of Commerce as a membership representative.

Hester recently resigned from the Chamber after 15 years of service. She is now happily enjoying her role as a grandmother and experiencing the arts and culture available in “America’s Finest City.”



Elizabeth H. Evans
Matron of Honor

Mrs. Betsy Evans is the sister of sponsor Hester Evans and a direct descendent of Commodore Matthew Perry. Betsy was born in Toronto, Canada, and grew up in Connecticut.

Betsy attended Wheaton College in Massachusetts and earned a bachelor's degree from Adelphi University in New York. After marrying, she moved to Cincinnati, Ohio. She taught in the elementary school of the town where she and her husband raised four daughters: Carolyn, Elizabeth, Sarah and Kathryn.

Betsy and her husband Dick now live in Chatham, Massachusetts, and are celebrating their 50th year of marriage. Betsy's interests include gardening and single-shell rowing, a sport she has enjoyed for more than 20 years.



Hester C.G. Ramplin
Matron Of Honor

Mrs. Hester Ramplin is the daughter of sponsor Hester Evans, and is a sixth generation descendant of Commodore Matthew Perry. She was born in Norwalk, Connecticut, and was raised in Westport, Connecticut, and Hermosa Beach, California.

Hester earned an associate's degree in graphic design from Mount Ida College in Massachusetts and a bachelor's degree in visual communications from San Diego State University. She worked as senior designer for the *San Diego Business Journal*, and later established her own design firm, The Grace Group. She also teaches fine art at the Mission Bay Montessori Academy.

Hester lives in San Diego with her husband, Paul, and two children, Annika and Perry.



Vice Admiral Richard W. Hunt, USN
Commander, U.S. Third Fleet
Principal Speaker



Vice Admiral Richard Hunt graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1975 with a bachelor's degree in bacteriology. He was commissioned as an ensign in February 1976 through the Officer Candidate School program in Newport, Rhode Island. He received a master's degree in telecommunications systems management from the Naval Post Graduate School in March 1988.

Vice Admiral Hunt's sea tours include USS *Sampson* (DDG 10), USS *Underwood* (FFG 36), USS *Roark* (FF 1053) and Cruiser Destroyer Group Two staff. He commanded USS *Crommelin* (FFG 37) from August 1993 to May 1995, and USS *Philippine Sea* (CG 58) from December 1999 to July 2001. In July 2005, he assumed command of Carrier Strike Group Six. Later, he served as commander of the Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa from April 2006 to February 2007.

His shore assignments include the NROTC unit at Ohio State University and with the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He served as executive assistant to the Navy director of Surface Warfare; the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Resources, Requirements and Assessments; and later the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Most recently, he served as the director of the Navy's Programming Division.

Vice Admiral Hunt became the commander of U.S. Third Fleet in June 2009.

Frederick J. Harris
President, General Dynamics NASSCO

Mr. Frederick J. Harris became president of General Dynamics NASSCO and a vice president of General Dynamics Corporation on January 1, 2006. Prior to that, Mr. Harris was the senior vice president of programs at General Dynamics Electric Boat, where he was responsible for the execution of all submarine design, construction and repair programs.

Mr. Harris began his shipbuilding career in 1973 as a senior engineer for Electric Boat's Trident ballistic missile submarine program. For his accomplishments later as program manager of the Virginia-class submarine design phase, Mr. Harris received the Maine Maritime Academy Outstanding Alumni Award for the Year 2000 and, in 2002, received the annual William M. Kennedy Award from the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers. In 2003, he was included on the Maine Maritime Academy's Wall of Honor for his accomplishments in the marine field.

Mr. Harris was born in Framingham, Massachusetts. A 1963 graduate of Hopkinton High School, he graduated from the Maine Maritime Academy in 1967 with a bachelor's degree in marine engineering. He sailed for several years as a U.S. merchant marine, notably aboard the U.S. registered SS *Transglobe*, the most decorated American merchant ship of the Vietnam War. He holds a Coast Guard chief engineer's license of unlimited horsepower. In 1972, he received a master's degree in business administration from Babson College, graduating with distinction.



**Rear Admiral Robert D. Reilly Jr., USN
Commander, Military Sealift Command**



Rear Admiral Robert Reilly Jr., a native of Winnetka, Illinois, comes from a family with more than a century of service in the U.S. armed forces.

Commissioned in 1975 through the Navy's Reserve Officer Training Corps program, Rear Admiral Reilly first served aboard USS *Edson* (DD 946) as combat information center officer and damage control assistant.

His other shipboard tours include commissioning USS *Fletcher* (DD 992), USS *Sterett* (CG 31) and USS *John Young* (DD 973). He also commanded USS *Halyburton* (FFG 40), Destroyer Squadron Fifty, Cruiser Destroyer Group Two and the USS *Harry S. Truman* Carrier Strike Group.

Ashore, Rear Admiral Reilly's assignments include tours with the Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet staff; the Joint Chiefs of Staff; the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations; and the Bureau of Naval Personnel. In March 2006, Rear Admiral Reilly assumed command of Military Sealift Command.

Rear Admiral Reilly earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Washington, and a master's degree in public administration (national resources) from George Washington University.

He is also a 1993 graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

Rear Admiral William E. Landay III, USN
Program Executive Officer, Ships

Rear Admiral Bill Landay graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1978 and was commissioned as a surface warfare officer. His first assignment was aboard USS *Nicholas* (FFG 47). He later commanded USS *Aquila* (PHM 4) and USS *Paul Hamilton* (DDG 60).

Ashore, he has served at Fleet Combat Training Center, Pacific; U.S. Transportation Command; the Aegis Program Office; and the Program Executive Office for Theater Surface Combatants. He also served as executive assistant to the commander of Naval Sea Systems Command, and as executive assistant and naval aide to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development and Acquisition).

His first flag officer assignment was as Program Executive Officer for Littoral and Mine Warfare from 2004 through 2005. He then served as the Chief of Naval Research and Deputy Commandant of the Marine Corps for Science and Technology from 2006 to 2008. Rear Admiral Landay became the Program Executive Officer for Ships in August 2008.

Rear Admiral Landay holds a bachelor's degree in systems engineering from the Naval Academy and a master's degree in systems technology from the Naval Postgraduate School. He is a graduate of the Program for Management Development at the Harvard Business School.



Illustration of the gifts presented to Commodore Perry from the Shogun (artist unknown)

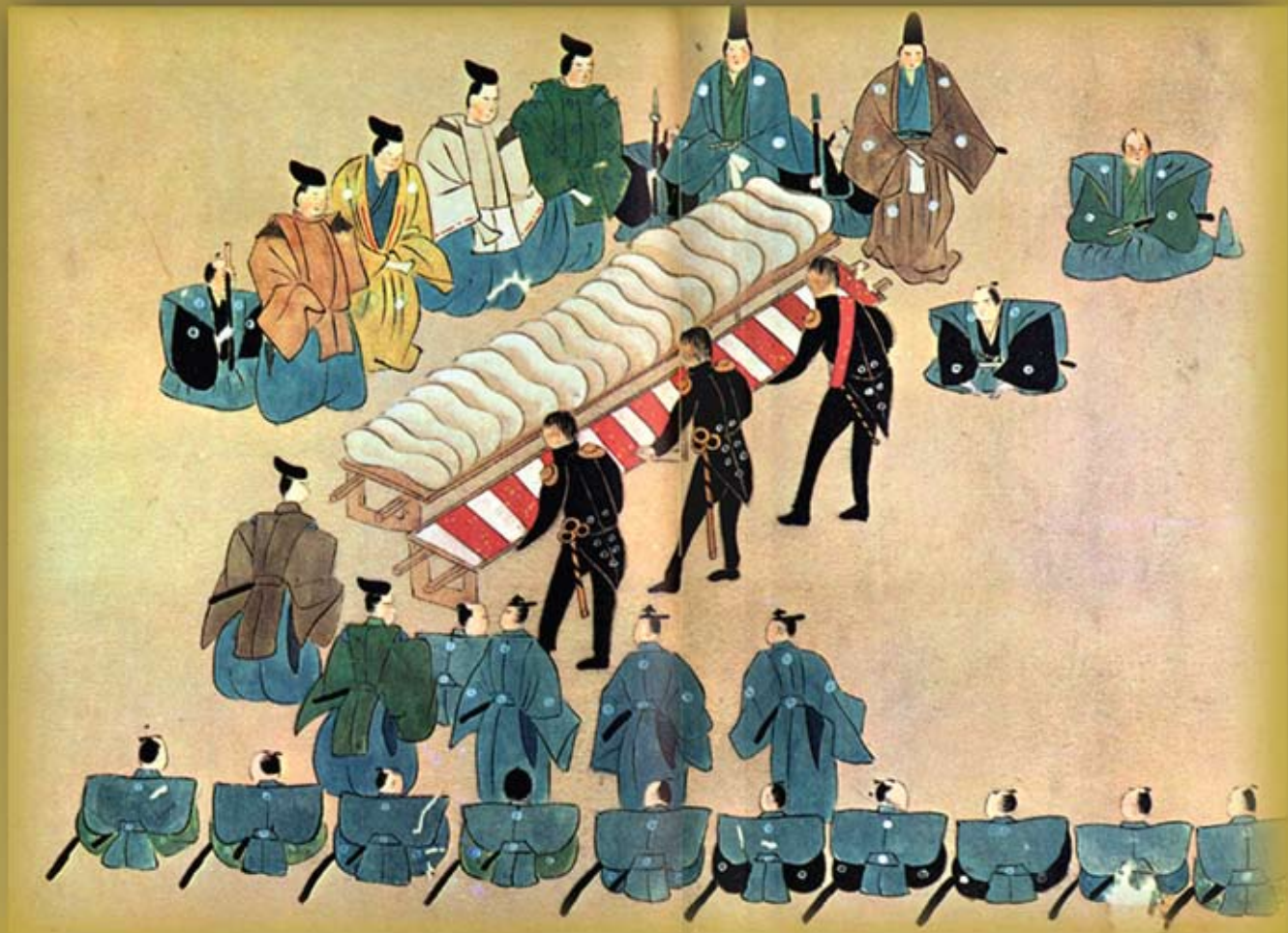


Illustration of the gifts brought by Commodore Perry "for the people of Japan" - Francis L. Hawks



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