



yes. no. baggywrinkle...

1) What are those fuzzy things in the rig?

They're called "baggywrinkles." They're made of old line that no longer can be used in the rig, and they prevent chafe - for example, they keep stays from rubbing holes in sails.

2) What is LAMI?

Los Angeles Maritime Institute is a non-profit that serves to inspire youth toward self-discovery of their greater potential by providing extraordinary at-sea experiences aboard tall ships.

3) How old is LAMI?

LAMI began on founder Jim Gladson's personal sailboat and was formalized as a non-profit in 1992. Its first official boat was schooner *Swift of Ipswich*.

4) Where does LAMI get funding?

POLA, foundations, individual donors, special events

5) How many young people have "learned the ropes" at LAMI in its twenty-plus years?

Over 50,000

6) What does LAMI do?

Sail training, leadership training, team building, science at sea, and various special events (sunset sails, the occasional burial at sea, etc.)

7) What is sail training?

Sail training is a technique that utilizes every aspect of operating a sailing vessel - from setting, taking in, and trimming sails, to plotting a course, to going aloft to loose or furl sail, to cooking, cleaning, and sleeping on board - to teach character and courage building lessons that can be applied to all areas of life.

8) How old are the boats?

They were launched in April 2002 and commissioned March 28, 2003.

9) What are the specifications of the boats?

Sparred Length: 110 ft
LOA: 90 ft
Beam: 21 ft
Draft: 11 ft
Tonnage: 128 grt
Mast Height: 90 ft
Sail Area: 5,032 sq ft
Number of sails: 13
Rig Type: Brigantine
Number of Berths: 38
Home Port: Los Angeles
Engine: 375 Marine
Diesel Caterpillar
Top Speed: about 10 kt

10) Irving Johnson... the basketball player? For whom were the boats named?

Irving McClure Johnson and his wife, Electa (Exy), were pioneers of sail training. They took groups of 18-25 year-old students on 18 month voyages around the world on their brigantine, *Yankee*, in the 1930s and '50s. They would leave from their home port of Gloucester, MA and sail to the Caribbean, then through the Panama Canal, to the Galapagos and Hawai'i, to Pitcairn Island (where the real *Bounty* mutineers ended their days), through the South Pacific, across the Indian Ocean, to Sri Lanka, Cape Town, up through the South Atlantic, and back to Gloucester.

11) How many people does it take to crew the boats?

For an overnight passage the Coast Guard requires a crew of eight (8) - a licensed captain and mate plus six (6) deckhands. For a day sail we can get by with a minimum of four (4) - a licensed captain and three (3) deckhands.

12) What kind of license is required for a captain on a vessel like this one?

USCG 100 ton Master's License. Same for the chief mate.

13) How many people can come aboard at once?

Certificate of Inspection (COI) rates us for 53 (including crew) for a day sail; 38 overnight.

14) How many people can sleep aboard?

We have bunks for 38.

15) What's it like below decks?

It's a bit cramped, but roomier than some vessels. The bunks are smaller than twin beds. There isn't much storage. There are lockers and hammocks for food, as well as a large fridge and a freezer. Two perks we have that are rare: lots of head room and a shower with hot water in each compartment. We have a watermaker, which allows us greater range in terms of human travel. There are lights below, both white and red, which allows one to see at night without ruining night vision. B Compartment has tables. We eat there when it's rough or too cold on deck. There is no TV. Sometimes we bring a projector aboard for movies.

16) How did the boat get here? Did you sail here?

[Be kind and patient when you answer questions like these. People are used to boats like ours running on tracks at Disneyland. They can't believe we sail them for real.]

17) Is this vessel historical or a replica?

It's neither. The brigantines are purpose-built as experiential-education and sail training vessels. They have modern amenities, from microwave ovens to GPS and radar. The only historical elements are the brigantine rig, which dates to around the 1850s, and the hundreds-of-years-old techniques used to build and maintain them.

18) What's a brigantine?

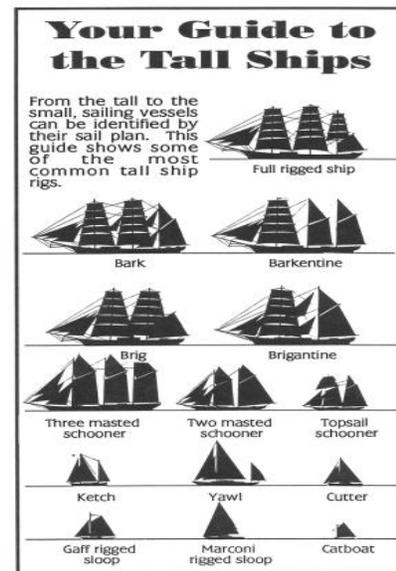
A brigantine is a two-masted sailing vessel with square sails on its foremast and fore-and-aft sails on its main mast. Its main mast is taller than its fore.

19) Square sails aren't actually shaped like squares, so why are they called square?

They are perpendicular - or square - to the boat along her long axis.

20) What's the difference between a boat and a ship?

That's slightly complicated. Normally, a ship can carry a boat. In traditional sailing, however, the distinction is formed by the type of rig a vessel has. A brigantine is a boat. A frigate - like *USS Constitution* - is a ship. Both can carry a smaller vessel, but only "full rigged" is considered a ship.



21) Do you actually sail?

Yes! Because of SoCal's nice weather, we can be out year round. During our busiest months - May through September, we generally sail six days a week.

22) How many sails can be set at once?

Twelve (12) of our thirteen (13) sails can be set at once. Our course and forestaysail occupy the same space, so they can't be set together... although we've definitely tried!

23) Is this the boat that grounded in Oxnard?

Yes, *Irving* was the boat that ran aground. March 21, 2005 is not one of our fondest memories, but because of how well built and strong the vessel is, after months of reconstruction, *Irving* was put back in service in May 2006 and is solid as ever.

24) Have the boats been in any movies?

Yes. Both boats have had minor roles on film. Credits thus far include:

- "The Bachelor" (Brad Womack's first season)
- "Revolution" (an episode in season 2)
- "The Shot" - a reality photography competition (episode "Stormy Romance")
- the opening of the now infamous cult-hit "Sharknado"
- an upcoming episode of "Storage Wars"
- recent photo shoots with Crazy Shirts and a spread for a major department store featuring top male model Sean O'Pry.

- last spring, *Irving* crew helped train actor Chris Hemsworth for his role as Owen Chase in Ron Howard's screen adaptation of "In the Heart of the Sea."

25) Why are toilets on a boat called "heads?"

In the age of sail, there were no bathrooms aboard ships. Officers had better accommodations, but common sailors would use the forward end of the ship - or headrig - to do their business... hence the name. Side note: for toilet paper, a long rope with a frayed end hung down into the water. A sailor would do his business, pull up the rope, wipe with it, then drop it back into the sea, where it would be washed for its next user.

Types of Wood Found on the Brigantines

Location on Boat	Type of Wood	Properties	Area of Origin
Belaying pins, planking below waterline	Courbaril (carob, locust, jatoba, Brazilian cherry)	rot resistant and strong	Caribbean, Central and South America; Guyana
Bulkheads, planks	Kabukali	withstands insects and fungi, glues and takes nails well	Guyana
Frames	White oak	water and rot resistant, dense, strong, won't split on impact	North America
Hatch covers	Mahogany	durable	Honduras
Keel, rudder, fife rails	Purple heart (amaranth)	strength	Guyana
Pinrails	Tatabu	heavy, strong, resists fungus and termites	Northern Brazil, Guyana
Main gaff	Sitka spruce	decay resistant	Western North America
Masts, deck, spars, yards	Douglas-fir	Hard, heavy "softwood"; machines and finishes well	North America
Tables, trim rails	Genuine mahogany	durable	West Indies
Keel laying ceremony	Teak	cut by Exy Johnson	Honduras

