

Where history happened

The most authentic tours in the history of America

April 2007



Oliver Hazard Perry: The War of 1812 on Lake Erie June 3-9, 2007

Craig Symonds, noted naval historian, will take HistoryAmerica travelers back nearly two centuries to envision Lake Erie. It was a distant frontier of dense forests and untracked wilderness, the key to a great western empire granted to the United States by the British in the Treaty of Paris in 1783. Based on one of the great naval battles that shaped American history, this tour will allow you to relive the adventure and will explain why the control of Lake Erie was essential to a young and vital nation.

The Erie Maritime Museum sets the scene. Six vessels of the Perry fleet were constructed in Erie. The building, a remarkable feat for the time, required shipbuilders and laborers and supplies from Pittsburgh and Philadelphia and cannons from Washington, DC. There were no sawmills, so all the lumber had to be cut, hewed, and squared by hand.

Travelers will relive the Battle of Lake Erie from Put-in-Bay. The British, who had blockaded Perry's base, were forced to leave because of

bad weather and need of supplies. This gave Perry the opportunity to take control of the Lake. Learning of the tremendous odds against this young officer and his fleet, our sojourners will be amazed at his stunning victory. "We have met the enemy and they are ours: Two ships, two brigs, one schooner, and one sloop."

As the tour proceeds through Ohio, Michigan, and into Canada, you will hear of the early defeats of the American militia, the loss of Fort Detroit, and the tragedy of the Raisin River – all integral parts of this young nation's attempt to survive against experienced British forces joined by hostile Indians. Finally, after Perry's memorable victory, the Americans controlled Lake Erie for the remainder of the war. Travelers will learn how this accounted for much of the Americans' success on the Niagara peninsula in 1814 which removed the threat of a British attack on Michigan and Ohio.

There is still time to sign up for this exciting learning adventure. Call 1-800-628-8542.

HISTORIAN GUIDE

Craig Symonds



Craig Symonds

Craig Symonds, Historian Guide on *Oliver Hazard Perry: The War of 1812 on Lake Erie*, is Professor Emeritus at the United States Naval Academy and the first person ever to win both the Naval Academy's "Excellence in Teaching" award and its "Excellence in Research" award.

In 2005 Craig became the chief historian of the Monitor Center at the Mariners' Museum in Newport News, Virginia. John B. Hightower, CEO, stated, "he has an uncanny ability to capture and tell history in a way no other can." Craig has more than proved that statement true on previous tours with HistoryAmerica.

Craig is the author of ten books. His most recent is *Decision at Sea: Five Naval Battles that Shaped American History* (2005), which won the Theodore and Franklin D. Roosevelt Prize for Naval History. One of these battles is the topic of *Oliver Hazard Perry: The War of 1812 on Lake Erie*, where he will give HistoryAmerica travelers an unparalleled opportunity to learn about this decisive battle in the War of 1812. His current project is a history of Abraham Lincoln and the U.S. Navy during the Civil War.

Craig and his wife Marylou live in Annapolis, Maryland. You will meet (continued on page 3)

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For reservations & information contact:
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(800) 628-8542
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FEATURED TRAVELER



Delores Moses
Springfield, Virginia

Delores Moses is a nurse from Springfield, Virginia, who started traveling with HistoryAmerica in 2000. She is a Southern gal who takes great pride in her family's Southern heritage. She is so convincing in her support of the Confederacy that she has converted her friend and fellow traveler, Lynn Rhodes, (a Californian and northern turncoat) that the "recent unpleasantness between the states" was largely the fault of the Union. This fall she will join James McPherson at Antietam and Gettysburg for her 8th Civil War tour. In spite of her whole hearted support of the Confederacy, Delores was wonderfully warm and supportive of this Northerner as you will see when you read the letter below that she wrote to me after our meeting on *The Civil War on the Carolina Coast*.

Dear Georgia,
On learning of Pete's retirement, I thought it would be the end of all those exceptional tours! I was delighted to find out you've taken the helm of HistoryAmerica, as I know we can count on a continuation of the same high quality tours History America has always provided its many fans.
Sincerely,
Delores Moses

I must add that her friend Lynn, who met Sharon on *Marching Through Georgia*, assured Delores that she would feel the same way about Sharon when they have the opportunity to meet.



Paha Sapa: *The Historic Black Hills* *July 22-29, 2007*

Huge mountain carving of Crazy Horse taking shape in the distance.

The Black Hills were the site of the last great gold rush in America, the final resting place of Wild Bill Hickock and Calamity Jane, and a summer encampment for George Armstrong Custer. Rising from the Great Plains, the Black Hills, Paha Sapa to the Sioux, were the center of the world, the place of the gods, where the warriors would go to wait for visions and to speak to the Great Spirit.

The Laramie Treaty of 1868 guaranteed the Black Hills to the Indians forever. However, the westward sweep of white settlers and soldiers across the American continent is a familiar saga, and accounts of wagon trains and Indian wars tell only part of the story. In the 19th century the American drive for expansion clashed violently with the Native American resolve to preserve their lands, sovereignty, and ways of life. The rush of fortune seekers that followed the discovery of gold led to war on the northern plains, a war in which the Black Hills passed into the hands of Americans.

Led by Historian Guide John D. (Jack) McDermott, the author of 10 books on the American West, history will come alive on the Black Hills tour. You will visit the site where the Cheyenne hero Sweet Medicine learned the secrets of the seven arrows, you will retrace the Custer expedition of 1874

with Paul Horstad, the photographer who has located specific sites that were pictured in the photos of William Illingworth in 1874, and you will walk on the arm of the colossal mountain carving of Crazy Horse, where few have ever set foot. You will visit the battle site at Wounded Knee, where many tears were shed, and you will learn about the tragic Cheyenne Outbreak at Ft. Robinson.

Faces and places in the Black Hills are legendary. By combining great history with overpowering natural beauty, man made wonders, a sprinkling of ethnic diversity, the pounding of buffalo hooves, and the smell of gun powder, you have the story of the Paha Sapa. Come and experience this unique learning vacation of culture and controversy with History America TOURS.



Mt. Rushmore National Memorial.

Perry Memorial



On 10 September 1813, Master Commandant Oliver Hazard Perry met and defeated a British flotilla, under Commander Robert Heriot Barclay, at the Battle of Lake Erie. With a squadron of nine ships, manned by a mixed crew of soldiers, marines, and sailors, Perry achieved one of the most significant victories of the War of 1812. At the most crucial period of the engagement, with the flagship *Lawrence* battered into a helplessly wreck, Perry transferred his command to the U.S. Brig *Niagara*, aboard which he broke the British battle line and achieved his great triumph. Moments after the final gun went silent, Perry wrote his now famous message to General William Henry Harrison: "We have met the enemy and they are ours."

In the decades following the battle, several movements were gener-

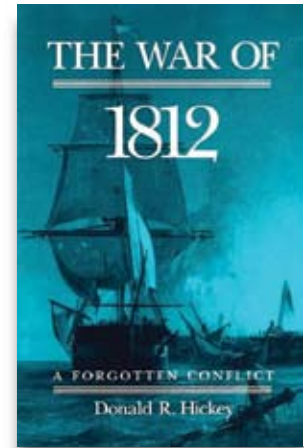
ated to construct a monument to Perry. Enthusiasm was plentiful, but finances were not. It was not until 1910, with the centennial of the battle approaching, that the dream of building the Perry Memorial actually came to pass. Begun in October of 1912, Perry's Victory & International Peace Memorial opened to the public in June of 1915. In 1936, the Memorial was declared a National Monument by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, at which time the memorial became part of the National Park System.

Rising 352 feet above Lake Erie, the Perry Memorial is the most dominant feature of the Lake Erie Islands. After a climb of 37 steps to the lower landing, an elevator takes visitors to an open-air observation deck 317 feet above Lake Erie for a spectacular view of the surrounding islands.

(continued from page 1)

Marylou when you travel with Craig, as he always brings her along and her reviews are the equivalent of his. HistoryAmerica is grateful to have such a dynamic individual and his charming wife leading our upcoming tour.

Detailed information on all tours can be obtained by calling (800) 628-8542 or going to our website: www.historyamerica.com



THE WAR OF 1812: A Forgotten Conflict

*Winner of the Best Book Award
The American Military Institute 1990*

"The first comprehensive history of the War of 1812 since Henry Adam's work of a century ago is a myth shattering study that will inform and entertain students, historians and general readers. Donald R. Hickey explains how the conflict promoted American Nationalism and manifest destiny, stimulated peacetime defense spending and enhanced America's reputation abroad."

The History Book Club

"Despite being forgotten and overlooked, the War of 1812 was a significant milestone in the development of the United States. [Hickey] was accurate when he wrote, 'although looking back to the past, the war was fraught with consequences for the future, and for this reason is worth studying today.' There is no better place to start than with *The War of 1812*."

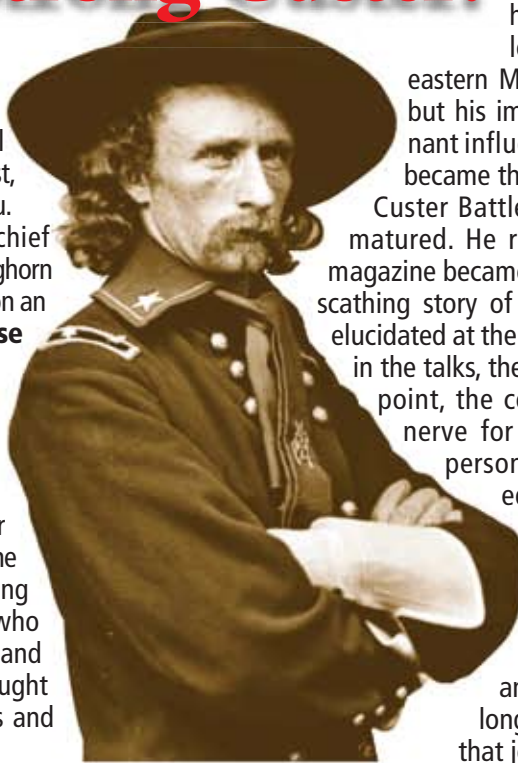
The Civil War News

This book is easily located through retail and on-line booksellers (ISBN: 978-0252060595). Hickey also produced a condensed version of the above book called *The War of 1812: A Short History* (ISBN: 9780252064302).

What really happened to George Armstrong Custer?

Have you ever wondered about the details of General Custer's life after his unprecedented rise from lieutenant to general during the Civil War? Whether you're a Civil War buff or your interest is the historic West, HistoryAmerica has a tour that will delight you.

July 8-14, Neil Mangum, retired chief historian and superintendent of Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument will take you on an adventure that culminates with **Crazy Horse and Custer: The Legend of the Little Bighorn**. You will gain an in-depth understanding of the spectacular and tragic Battle of the Little Bighorn and the Sioux Wars which led to this legendary conflict. You will roam the battlefields of the post-Civil War frontier and the sites of the heroic stands of the U.S. Army. You will feel the power of Sitting Bull's medicine, the plight of the Indians who were fighting to preserve their way of life, and the desperation of the U.S. soldiers who fought so heroically. The story is one of boldness and bravery that is steeped in magic.



Neil Mangum says, "I have known George Custer for almost as long as I have known myself. Personally, I never met the man, he having perished on the bluffs overlooking the Little Bighorn valley in southeastern Montana some 72 years before my birth, but his impact on me was, and remains, a dominant influence on my life and career." When Neil became the NPS historian at what was then called Custer Battlefield, he says that his view of Custer matured. He recalls, "One particular article in LIFE magazine became ensconced in my memory. LIFE wrote a scathing story of the soldier dominated accounts being elucidated at the park. The article pointed out a weakness in the talks, the exclusion of the Native American viewpoint, the conquerors of Custer. The article hit a nerve for I knew I would need to temper my personal impressions of Custer and present equal time to the Indian viewpoint. I endeavored to carry that theme throughout my tenure at Custer Battlefield." Neil's tours now show that same careful presentation of both views, BUT he is still a Virginian at heart and concludes that, "I have traveled a long road with Custer and I hope to stay on that journey until the end of the trail."



★ HistoryAmerica TOURS
Taking you where history happened

Our exciting 2007 schedule!

- ★ **Oliver Hazard Perry: The War of 1812 on Lake Erie** ★
June 3 – 9 with Historian Guide Craig Symonds
- ★ **Crazy Horse and Custer: The Legend of the Little Bighorn** ★
July 8 – 15 with Historian Guide Neil Mangum
- ★ **Paha Sapa: The Historic Black Hills** ★
July 22 – 29 with Historian Guide John D. McDermott
- ★ **The Sioux Wars: The Minnesota and Dakota Uprisings** ★
September 17 – 24 with Historian Guide Ed Bearss
- ★ **The Best of Bearss: The Campaign for East Tennessee** ★
September 25 – October **WAIT LIST** with Historian Guide Ed Bearss
- ★ **Antietam & Gettysburg: Killing Grounds that Changed America** ★
October 7 – 14 with **WAIT LIST** Historian Guide James McPherson
- ★ **World War II South Pacific Cruise** ★
November 12 – 28 with Historian Guide Ed Bearss

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