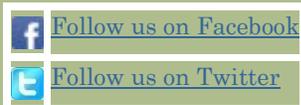


Park News

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial



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April 2012

Message from Superintendent

On behalf of the staff at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial, welcome to our first electronic newsletter. Thanks to several hard working Park Rangers (Rob and Marcus) we have improved our communications with our visitors and friends of the park.

We are now on Twitter and FaceBook! A new and improved website will be launched shortly along with the continuation of our regular newsletters.

These improvements will help us better advertise our events in the coming months and reach out to more visitors on a year around basis.

Wow... some many wonderful things are occurring this summer and into the future it is difficult to know where to begin...and end!

First of all, the rumors are true. If the removal of the shards goes as planned the Memorial will open later this summer around July 4th! Stay tuned for monthly updates.

However, the restoration will continue even though the Memorial will be open for visitation. The upper plaza needs significant work which will require additional funding. In the short term, we will temporarily address the immediate issues and open some areas for visitation.

New this year starting in July will be outdoor movies. The movies will either be shown on the upper plaza or at the back porch of the Visitor Center. These will be feature length movies and we will even provide the popcorn! As always, our events are free, including the movies thanks to support from our partners, The Perry Group, Eastern National, and the Put-in-Bay Chamber of Commerce, just to name a few.

I literally could go on and on because we are

Schedule of Events:

On Site:

April 20 – Visitor Center Opens

April 21 – Earth Day/ Jr. Ranger
Jamboree

May 19 – Planting The
Seeds of Peace

May 26 – Salute to the Troops

June 18 – Re-declaration of War



Did You Know ... ?

Oliver Hazard Perry's younger brother Alexander was a midshipman on the U.S. *Lawrence*. He did not get in the cutter with his brother when he transferred. He was found below deck on the *Lawrence* sleeping after the battle.

working on so many projects. However, I'll stop for now and invite you to read next month's newsletter.

Thank you for your support and I hope you take the time to enjoy and learn about at your national park site this summer!

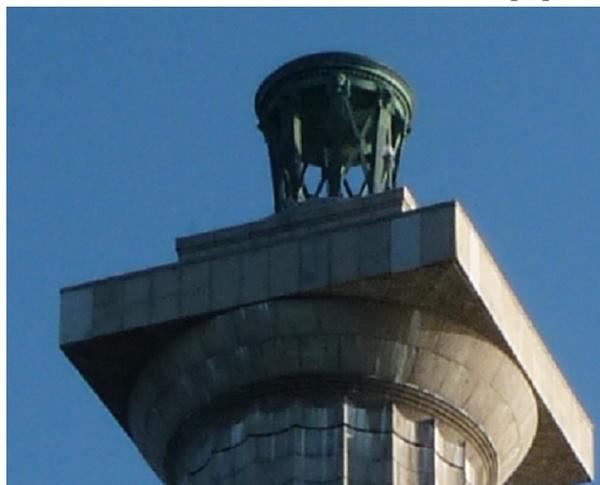
Blanca Alvarez Stransky
Superintendent

Restoration of Memorial

If you visited the Memorial last fall you surely saw that the scaffolding around the observation deck and the hoist elevator was removed. That marks the completion of one major phase of the project.

However, there is plenty more work that needs to be done including removal of the shards and repair of the upper plaza. Work will begin sometime this spring. The good news is that the observation deck will re-open this summer! The official opening date is determinate on the aforementioned work.

Updates will be posted on our website, Facebook and Twitter accounts and in local newspapers.



Observation deck free of scaffolding. Note no braces on corners and two new stones.

Sister Park



Visit Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial

The Visitor Center will open April 20
10 AM to 5 PM. Special events can be
found on [Website](#).



School Programs at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial

Bring your class to the island or
schedule a Ranger to visit your class
during the winter months. For more
information please email
pevi_interpretation@nps.gov.



Lieutenant Colonel Brennan of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment
laid a wreath in honor of men from his unit that fought and died in
the Battle of Lake Erie.

Perry's Victory is pleased to announce that we now have a sister park in Canada, Signal Hill National Historic Site in Newfoundland. The park is part of Parks Canada which is the NPS counterpart in Canada. The stories of each of the sites are intertwined and revolve around the War of 1812. In fact, eight out of ten men who fought for the British during the Battle of Lake Erie were associated with the regiment that is memorialized at Signal Hill National Historic Site. Interned inside the rotunda of Perry's Victory Memorial is one of the British officers associated with this present-day Parks Canada site. The purpose of the "sister park" relationship is to promote international cooperation and support for the mutual benefit of both parks and to enrich the experience and training of the personnel of both parks through projects of international cooperation. To learn more about Signal Hill visit their website [here](#).

Bicentennial Activities

Although the bicentennial of the Battle of Lake Erie is more than a year away the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 will official be kicked off at Perry's Victory on June 18, 2012. That is 200 years to the day that war was declared. James Madison will come to Perry's Victory and "re-declare" War against the British. The re-declaration will be broadcast live, via Skype, to our new sister park, Signal Hill. Signal Hill's response will be watched by those in attendance at Perry's Victory. Other events at the park include Dolley Madison joining her husband, carronade and musket demonstrations, civilian and enlisted men's thoughts about going to war.



Commodore Perry Education Days

May 22-24, 2012

For more information or to sign up to visit one of these days please call the park or email

pevi_interpretaion@nps.gov

Long-Range Interpretive Plan

Last summer park staff and community members gathered to develop the park's first Long-Range Interpretive Plan. This document will provide the direction for the park's interpretive program over the next 5 to 10 years. You can download your own copy of the plan [here](#).

Perry's Victory Does It Again 100% Visitor Satisfaction for 2011



Volunteer

Still looking for a New Year's resolution? Why not volunteer at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial. Volunteers can perform a wide range of jobs. For more information on how you can volunteer call the park at 419-285-

2184



Perry's Victory had another great year in 2011 as reflected in our annual visitor survey. If you were one of the lucky visitors who received and completed the survey, thank you! This survey provides valuable insight to how we are managing your park.

2011 was the second year that we achieved a 100% rating in visitor satisfaction with our facilities and recreational opportunities – even with the memorial column closed for repairs. Special programs offered last summer included Earth Day/Jr. Ranger Jamboree, Planting the Seeds of Peace, Salute to the Troops, Mayfly Festival, World Ranger Day, Perry's Birthday, and Historic Weekend. The regular programs were the ranger talks, children's programs, living history encampments, and black powder musket firing demonstrations. On several occasions, Tom Netz, a local Potawatomi, added a new perspective to our events. Besides that 100% visitor satisfaction rating the park also earned 83% visitor understanding on why Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial is significant.

The popular black powder musket firing demonstrations had another successful year: 362 demonstrations to 12,637 visitors. This places the park 23rd for number of demonstrations and 25th for number of visitors for all parks offering historic weapons demonstrations. Thank you to everyone

that came out and continue to make all of our programs successful.

Paths to Peace



A winter view of the memorial during a “real Ohio winter.”



To commemorate the bicentennial of the War of 1812 and the Battle of Lake Erie, Perry’s Victory has embarked on an international educational outreach program with U.S. and Canadian students. The students are working with U.S. and Canadian park rangers, historians, artists, American Indians and each other to learn about the events surrounding the war from all sides involved. In the future the students will be sharing their knowledge through artistic mediums as part of an international art festival.

Winter Activities



DONT GIVE UP
THE SHIP

Did You Know...?

Women in Erie, PA sewed Perry's famous battle flag using wool from a black sheep. They are not the only women to sew a famous flag. Mary Young Pickersgill, with help, sewed the original Star Spangled Banner that flew over Ft. McHenry.

While the island has been quiet during the winter months, park rangers have been busy working with our island partners to bring the park to the mainland. In January, Superintendent Stransky and Ranger Lehmann visited the AAA Great Vacations Expo in Columbus to spread the word about this year's special events and provide educational children's programs. Over 13,000 people visited the event, and we even had the island's very own Capt. Jack Sparrow on the scene!

On March 1, Perry's Victory and other Ohio War of 1812 sites visited the Ohio History Center in Columbus as part of a celebration of Ohio's founding. Apart from sharing with visitors this year's park special events, park staff also had an opportunity to interact with Ohio legislators and other politicians and promote the park face-to-face. This is an annual event in Columbus; visit www.ohiohistory.org for more information. Park rangers have also been busy visiting schools in northern Ohio and providing special educational programs for students. If interested, please contact Jeff Helmer at 419-285-2184, x237 for more information!



Perry Needs You!

We are expanding our Black Powder Programs. If you would like to help fire the carronade or fire a musket sign up for the desired training session by calling the park. For additional information about the training or requirements, please contact Chief of Interpretation, Sue Judis at 419- 285-2184.

Carronade Training

Session 1 – May 19-20
Session 2 – June 1-2

Musket Training

Session 1 – June 8-10
Session 2 – June 12-14

Upcoming Events



Sack-Races at 2011 Earth Day/Junior Ranger Jamboree

Perry's Victory will be celebrating the 42nd anniversary of Earth Day on Saturday, April 21. The day will focus on the importance of Lake Erie, its health, and recent efforts to restore it to its natural beauty. Events will include a service-learning "garlic mustard pull," hands-on exhibits with native snakes, special educational programs, and field games. At 1 p.m. the park will also host its annual Junior Ranger Jamboree at the Visitor Center, in which children ages 5-12 will dress up different ranger uniforms and learn about the various jobs of park rangers in the National Park Service. Excited? Come out on April 21st and join the fun.



Sister Park

To learn more about our brand new sister park Signal Hill National Historic Site of Canada visit their website [here](#).

Perry's Victory & Social Media



Perry's Victory has moved into to the 21st century along with many other NPS sites by having a Facebook page and a Twitter account. We have many likes and followers already but we will gladly take more. Our list of special events is already posted at Facebook to better help plan your visits. We will also be posting pictures from our events right to Facebook and Twitter. You will be able to connect to many other War of 1812 sites and see what they are planning for the bicentennial. Feel free to post your pictures and comments. To view the [Facebook page click here](#). For [Twitter click here](#). In the future we will be starting a YouTube account, so stay tuned.

[Like on Facebook](#) | [Follow on Twitter](#)