

Sewickley Valley Historical Society

Signals

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Wednesday, November 13, 2019

7:30 p.m., at the Old Sewickley Post Office

U. S. Brig Niagara: 1813 & Today

A PowerPoint Presentation by Edd Hale

On September 10, 1813, Oliver Hazard Perry sailed the U. S. Brig *Niagara* into history with a stunning victory over the British in the Battle of Lake Erie, one of the biggest naval battles of the War of 1812, ensuring American control of the lake and allowing the Americans to recover Detroit, win the Battle of the Thames and break Tecumseh's Confederacy.

What was it like to sail in 1813 aboard a tall ship, and what is it like today? A modern reproduction of the *Niagara*, the Flagship of Pennsylvania, is based in Erie and sails the Great Lakes to many ports of call

each summer, serving as a floating museum and an ambassador of goodwill.

Edd Hale is a retired middle school history teacher from Keystone Oaks School District. In addition to traveling, metal detecting and bicycling, he spends his spare time volunteering as a crew member on the *Niagara*, doing day sails and extended voyages. In this presentation, he will recount his experiences sailing in the spartan conditions of 1813. We will also learn how we can take a day sail or become a volunteer and "sail the high seas" with the crew of the U. S. Brig *Niagara*.



The mission of the Sewickley Valley Historical Society is to promote interest in and to record, collect, preserve, and document the history of the Sewickley Valley.