



NEWS RELEASE

Lake Erie History and Views

A book by Tom Langmyer

From the dust cover: Thirteen million people live within just a few miles of Lake Erie. From an historical perspective, it is the lake that brought them here in the first place. Lake Erie is sometimes ignored or forgotten. Lake Erie: History and Views brings this natural wonder to center stage, for she is the center of the region.

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Author with Lake Erie ties signing copies of history book at Father's Day weekend book signings

Tom Langmyer at The Erie Book Store and Borders on June 19

JUNE 9, 2010 -- Author Tom Langmyer will sign copies of his book, "Lake Erie: History and Views" at two events in Erie, Pa., over Father's Day weekend. Langmyer will sign books at an autograph party from noon to 2 p.m. June 19 at The Erie Book Store, 137 East 13th St.; he will also sign "Lake Erie: History and Views" from 3 to 6 p.m. at Borders on 2088A Interchange Road.

Langmyer grew up in Buffalo, but took numerous trips to Lake Erie during his childhood. Much of the inspiration from the book came from time spent there with his parents and grandparents. His dad, Henry, grew up in Wesleyville, attending Cathedral Prep and Gannon College (now University) and his mother, Pat, was raised in Crawford County and graduated from Mercyhurst. Langmyer's paternal grandparents both lived in Erie, and his maternal grandmother, Sara Egan, was a well-known history teacher at Linesville-Conneaut-Summit High School from the '50s through the '70s. Additionally, Langmyer spent time in northwestern Pennsylvania while a student at Grove City College in the early '80s.

"We took trips to the Peninsula at least once a month as kids," Langmyer said. "My dad's love for the area was so evident and he passed that love onto my sister and me. He is still very active in his alumni groups in Erie. And my grandmother instilled in me a love of history and for the area. She was a huge influence on me and one of the big reasons I wrote this book.

"'Lake Erie' took several years of research, travels, photography and editing," Langmyer continued, "but that made me appreciate the area all over again. It was definitely a labor of love."

"Lake Erie: History and Views" combines interesting stories, factual summaries, historic images, maps and antique postcards from Langmyer's extensive collection, as well as the author's striking photography, to tell the story of this vast inland sea. Starting with the creation of Lake Erie during the Ice Age, the story describes the lake's discovery by Europeans, the battles for its control, how people settled and developed the region around the lake, and how the population grew along its shores.

A large portion of the book explores the cities and towns tucked around Lake Erie. The reader is also taken behind the scenes aboard a 1,000-foot lakeboat, the *Walter J. McCarthy Jr.*, on a journey up the Great Lakes.

Langmyer has been fascinated with the Great Lakes from an early age. He has read about the lakes, traveled around them and spent much of his life near them. After graduating from Grove City College, Langmyer worked in radio broadcasting for more than 25 years. Today, he is the vice president and general manager of WGN Radio in Chicago. He enjoys history, travel, photography, reading, cycling, kayaking and playing ice hockey. He is also a private pilot. He lives in the Chicago area with his wife, Mary, and two children, and makes frequent trips back to the shores of Lake Erie.

"Lake Erie: History and Views" is published by the Blue Water Group, LLC, a Missouri corporation, and printed by Evangel Press, Nanapee, Ind. The 300-plus-page hardcover book with dust jacket sells for \$45 and is available at www.lakeeriehistory.com and www.Amazon.com.