

# FIELDNOTES

*A Common Field One Day, A Field of Honor Forever*

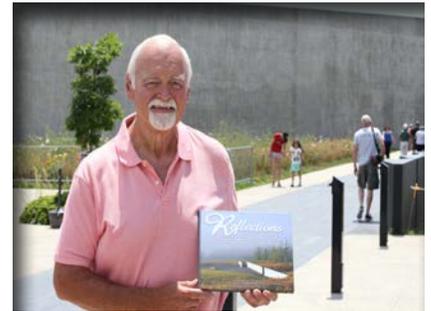


Volume V, Issue 3 • December 2016

## Learning Center Programming *Inaugural Author Speaker Series*

This year marked many firsts at Flight 93, including the first Learning Center temporary exhibit in March entitled “Through Their Eyes.” Continuing on this success, new summer programming was offered in the Learning Center, including a National Park Service program with the Pennsylvania State Police first responders, and a Friends’ summer author speaker series. With the support of the NPS interpretive staff, the Friends hosted the first author speaker series featuring local author and Ambassador Chuck Wagner as well as Friends’ board member, Ambassador and historian Tom McMillan.

Next year, the Friends and NPS plan to launch the first ever Speaker Series at Flight 93 National Memorial. These events will bring together key presenters who have an important history with the memorial, including first responders, FBI investigators, former NPS employees and more. We will continue final planning stages this winter in anticipation of an early spring 2017 announcement. Stay tuned!



## 15<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Milestones

*Inaugural Distance Learning Event* - Two distance learning sessions reached over 10,000 interactive students, and an additional four hours of live stream events reached over 200,000 participants from the United States, Canada and Germany!

*9/11 Trail Ribbon Cutting* - Twenty cyclists set out from the memorial to ride the 21-mile Flight 93-to-Garrett segment of the memorial trail, a 1,300 mile-long networks that connects all three September 11 memorials.

*Families Reception & Luminaria* - Nearly 200 Family members gathered together with the Friends and National Park Service before the annual Luminaria ceremony, where 40 illuminated lanterns were carried out to the Wall of Names at dusk with nearly 3,000 public visitors in attendance.

*Memorial Service* - Members of the National Park Service, Families and local PA representatives gave remarks along with Department of Interior Secretary Jewell, with special guests from the Newark Boys Choir and Navy Honor Guard.

*Families Fundraising* - NYC Marathon efforts helped raise \$22,580, contributing to the Families of Flight 93 commitment to fund the Tower of Voices wind chimes development and fabrication.

*September 11 Visitation* - Total visitation over the September 10-11 weekend peaked above 20,000 people, with 10,768 visitors on Sunday, September 11, 2016 alone.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

#### *September*

**Pat Chapaitis, Colin Clark, Aaron DePhillips, Tom & Maria Dowd, Michael Evanger, Thorleif H. Floystad, Elaine Holsberger, Darlene Howrylak, Donald Hrinia, Linda L. Johnston David & Jacqueline Jones, Relda T. Kelly, Tim & Mary Lambert, Ann Marie Leitenberger, Deidre A. Lewis-Boswell, Jim & Judy Liddell, Lyn McRorie, Keith & Lisa Morgan, Charles P. Murov, Marianne Neel, Dominick & Patricia Pece, Therese Pekala, Nathan Picarsic, Robert &, Susan Scott, Donnis Sewell, Donald Wilkins**

#### *October*

**Marilyn R. Allen, Kelly Bauerlein, Judy Brandt, Anna Maria Ciccola, Frank DeGennaro, Linda M. Ruby, Deborah & Guido Santella, Ben & Irene Sliney**

#### *November*

**Ann Connor, Regina Kakadelis, Barbara D. Kallenbach, Dave & Diana Mattlin, Joel M. Wagner, Beverly W. Withiam, Dan Gregory, David and Stephanie Albaugh**

# Friends' Alliance Meeting News

In October, Henry Scully, Brooke Neel and Patrick White traveled to Grand Canyon National Park to meet with over 120 participants from national Friends groups and park service partners. The annual fall meeting was an amazing experience, with a dark sky presentation and inner canyon hikes! Perhaps the most important projects we had the opportunity to learn from were the numerous American Indian cultural demonstrations around Desert View, which have become the model for many parks as they strive towards cultural diversity and preservation. Honoring the indigenous peoples in the Grand Canyon directly connect to how we strive to honor the 40 passengers and crew members every day at Flight 93 National Memorial.

We continue to learn from other nonprofit partner organizations, and this year's message and theme was focused on volunteerism, fundraising, park partnerships and sustainable preservation of natural resources. We look forward to reporting more next February from the Friends' Alliance Meeting in Washington D.C.!

## 2016 Memorial Fast Facts

- » 309 Red Maple Trees planted along the Allée in May
- » Bee homes installed by Powder-Mill among the wildflower fields and grasslands
- » Temporary Memorial Trail fundraising has begun for future construction and development
- » New orientation DVD in production with Wild Excellence Films
- » Friends awarded the Somerset County Chamber of Commerce's Harold W. Wheeler, Jr. Memorial Humanitarian Award, along with recognition from the Pennsylvania Senate and Senator Pat Stefano
- » Two educational pilot programs supported 600 students in immersive learning programs with Interp. staff
- » Flight 93 membership has grown to nearly 400 strong
- » Visitation has reached 381,000 over the past 12 months
- » VIP volunteer hours for 2016 totaled over 9,252, accounting for \$217,977 of in-kind labor



Gov. Thornburgh tour of Flight 93



New Allée trees installed in May



Filming this fall for a new orientation DVD courtesy of Wild Excellence Films



Wall of Names adorned with tributes on September 11, 2016



Flight 93 volunteers orient visitors outside of the Learning Center



Ranger Adam Shaffer giving an interpretive talk at the Plaza



Visitors explore the memorial and pay tribute to the 40 heroes



Walking the Flight Path through the Portal Walls to the Visitors Center

Photos by Chuck Wagner, Brenda T. Schwartz, Dawna Bates, Wild Excellence Films and Henry Scully

## Welcome New Board Members

The Friends of Flight 93 would like to welcome and introduce our two new board members, Mr. Fred Lukachinsky and Mr. Tom Rooney! Both Fred and Tom have a strong history with Flight 93 and philanthropy, and we are very excited to welcome them to our organization. Fred currently serves as Vice President at FedEx Ground, and Tom is the founder of Tom Rooney Sports and Entertainment Group. With the help of our two new directors, we look to expand our organizational presence regionally. We look forward to using our expanded reach to facilitate more networking and fundraising opportunities next year to help increase educational opportunities, group tour industry knowledge, volunteerism and improve the visitor experience at the memorial.

The Friends also gratefully acknowledge the long-time support and service of our retiring board members, Lladel Lichty and Mal Fuller. Lladel has served as Vice-President, three terms as President of the Friends, and most recently as Secretary. Lladel, as a leader, dedicated steward and *friend*, we thank you. Mal has served the Friends for years as well, and continues to facilitate honorarium presentations on the story of Flight 93, which have raised over \$5,000 this year alone. To our departing directors, you will be missed.

The Friend would also like to thank Deputy Superintendent Keith Newlin, who is retiring in January after 15 years of service at Flight 93. Keith has watched this memorial grow from infancy, and we are so thankful for all he has done in support of this site, and the memory of the 40 passengers and crew members. Keith has been a strategic leader for over a decade and witnessed many key moments at the memorial, including the dedication of the Visitor Center Complex last September. Please send your well wishes to Keith, Mal and Lladel!



Fred Lukachinsky



Tom Rooney

## We Need Volunteers!

*by Ranger Adam Shaffer*

Dear Friends,

The Volunteers-In-Parks (VIP) program at Flight 93 recently initiated a volunteer recruitment effort focusing on increasing volunteer numbers over the summer months when the site is busiest. Specifically, the recruitment targets individuals willing to serve 4-8 hours per month minimum. More than 329,600 visitors came to Flight 93 April-October this past year, which is tremendous! Welcoming this large number of visitors, the ranger staff acknowledges we cannot provide the best services alone without your help.

I would like to acknowledge the numerous Friends' members who currently serve as greeters or Ambassadors through the VIP program—thank you! We continue to need your help. If you're reading this and have been interested in volunteering at the memorial, but never took the next step, just ask another Friend who volunteers about their experience. You will be hard pressed to find someone who does not feel rewarded by the services they provide here.

Additionally, I want to clarify volunteer service as it pertains to Flight 93. All volunteer services performed at the memorial, with the exception of fundraising activities through the Friends' members, are eligible hours toward the Flight 93 VIP Program. Your Friends' membership does not automatically enroll you in the VIP program unless you have completed a park service volunteer agreement. Your contribution will increase the overall hours and volunteer numbers, which ultimately leads toward increased funding for this program!

The volunteer recruitment campaign serves as an open invitation to any Friends who are interested in volunteering. And please, spread the word to your friends, too! Training will be offered to new volunteers in the spring, so you do not need to be an expert on the Flight 93 story. If you have questions about volunteering, please feel free to contact me at anytime. For an application, you may contact Chris Comer at (814) 893-6532 or [flni\\_superintendent@nps.gov](mailto:flni_superintendent@nps.gov).

Sincerely,  
Adam Shaffer

### 2016 FRIENDS' ANNUAL REPORT

View it online at:

<http://www.flight93friends.org/annual-reports>

If you would like a physical copy, please email or call the office!

## From the Director's Desk

*Henry C. Scully*



Dear Friends of Flight 93,

As you have read in our year-end newsletter, a lot has been accomplished at the Flight 93

National Memorial over these past 12 months. Thank you Friends members and volunteers for contributing in so many ways to make these events so successful.

To the National Park Service, Friends staff and Friends Board thank you for your commitment to honor the 40 heroes on Flight 93. Please continue to volunteer and recruit others to join you, as requested by Ranger Adam Shaffer (NPS) in this newsletter. This strong partnership will enable us to continue to provide our visitors the best experience possible, while at the same time providing new programming and exhibits in the Visitors Center and Learning Center. We cannot grow without your help.

The new year will bring many more activities to the Learning Center. It will be so exciting to hear many more children's voices, author presentations and panels by experts, sharing their knowledge and asking questions about honor, teamwork and leadership. Thanks to our experts of NPS Interpretive Rangers and Friends/NPS committees, compelling programming is being developed this winter to stimulate minds – from students to senior citizens – about the courageous story of 40 extraordinary people who died on September 11, 2001 near Shanksville, PA.

Thank you for your continued dedication to Flight 93 National Memorial and this incredible story.

Happy holidays to you and your loved ones.

Sincerely,

Henry C. Scully  
Executive Director  
Friends of Flight 93

## What's Happening in 2017?

The Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial is excited to announce the first annual Learning Center Lecture Series launching next spring!

The new Lecture Series will be a partnership between the Friends and Park Service as a way to continue our outreach and educational offerings to the public. The Learning Center is the perfect venue to present the story of Flight 93 from many different sources, including authors, first responders and more.

The Friends look to continue our annual events, including Plant a Tree at Flight 93, Walk 93 and the September 11 memorial service. Looking ahead, we aim to host an open house for group tour operators to re-educate the industry on the memorial and all its new features, themes and stories.

With a continued focus on volunteerism, education and fundraising, the Friends of Flight 93 look forward to planning for half a million visitors in 2017. Our organization has benefited from many supporting partners this year, including grants from Somerset County, Penguins Foundation and Pirates Charities, Heinz Endowments, Hillman Foundation and Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation.

To keep up to date on all the Friends' happenings, be sure to check our website, [www.Flight93Friends.org](http://www.Flight93Friends.org), and follow us on Facebook @Flight93Friends and Twitter @FriendsFlight93!

Save the Date to Shop Online!

*Friends' Online  
Merchandise Store  
opens by the end of December!*

**Stay Social!**



Facebook @Flight93Friends

Twitter @FriendsFlight93



**Friends' Staff:** Henry Scully

Executive Director

[henry\\_scully@partner.nps.gov](mailto:henry_scully@partner.nps.gov)

Brooke Neel

Development Assistant

[brooke\\_neel@partner.nps.gov](mailto:brooke_neel@partner.nps.gov)

Call us at 814.893.6551 | 814.893.6552