

FIELDNOTES

A Common Field One Day, A Field of Honor Forever



Volume IV, Issue 3 • December 2014

Construction Q&A

with Keith Newlin, Western PA Parks Deputy Superintendent

Q: What major items need completed on the exterior of the Visitor Center and Learning Center before the first heavy snowfall?

Newlin: The visitor center floor, which is concrete, needs completion and the roof must be installed. After completion of those items the contractor can establish temporary protection and begin installation of the curtain wall and other visitor center items.

Q: What will the construction crew be working on during the months of December and January?

Newlin: The crew will be installing the curtain walls on three sides of the visitor center and will install lighting, heating and cooling equipment.

Q: What is the progress of the return road to U.S. Route 30?

Newlin: The return road sub-grading has been completed. The road is awaiting the installation of sub base, base and final paving. The minimal landscaping will be completed in the spring.

Q: When is exhibit installation scheduled?

Newlin: Installation is scheduled to start June 1, 2015



Photo: NPS

Q: What do you think is the most interesting feature of the Visitor Center?

Newlin: That is a difficult question. There are many outstanding features. I believe the anticipation of what is beyond the walls and the expansive view of the bowl and crash site provided by the overlook will overwhelm many visitors.

Reforestation Dates Released & Invasive Plant Removal

The dates for "Plant A Tree at Flight 93" 2015 have been set!

Mark your calendars for Friday, April 17 and Saturday, April 18 for reforestation at Flight 93 National Memorial. The Friends will be responsible for event registration, handing out sponsor t-shirts, and feeding the approximate 500 volunteers that we seek for this spring volunteer event.

2015 Reforestation will take place on the north side of the future site of the Tower of Voices, close to the entrance of the Memorial and U.S. Route 30. The National Park Service is plowing 32 acres in this area to prepare for planting approximately 20,800 tree seedlings in April 2015.

New in 2015, the National Park Service and the Friends of Flight 93 will partner with invasive species specialists to create "special forces" to target designated areas at the Memorial that have been over-run with invasive species such as autumn olive, bull and Canadian thistle, and spotted knapweed. Stay tuned for more reforestation information and save the dates!



Photo: Chuck Wagner

Save the Date!

Friday, April 17 & Saturday, April 18
Reforestation

Saturday, May 2
Memorial Grove Tree Trimming

Stay Social!

During the winter months remember to stay social and join the conversation on Facebook & Twitter.



Facebook

Flight 93 National Memorial Campaign (Friends)
Flight 93 National Memorial (NPS)



Twitter

@FriendsFlight93 (Friends)
@Flight93NPS (NPS)

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Call us at 814-893-6322 x4

2014 Annual Meeting - A Successful Year of Friendship

The Friends gathered on Saturday, November 1 at the NPS Planning Office in Somerset to review the 2013-2014 year. President of the Friends Board of Directors, Lladel Lichty opened the meeting with comments about a very successful year, including Friends assisting to plant thousands of trees during Reforestation, greeting visitors from around the world on the Memorial Plaza, volunteering at park headquarters and much more. The Friends continue to support the Oral History Project through The Heinz Endowment grant, as well as the new Jr. Ranger program materials that are used to educate and inform young visitors at Flight 93. The Friends' major accomplishment for the year was hiring two staff members, Henry Scully, Executive Director, and Rebecca Kuzar, Executive Assistant.

The 2014 Annual Report was distributed to members for review. Members re-elected three to the Board of Directors: Patrick White, Donna Glessner, and Linda Meyer. After five years of service, Mary Jane Snyder, the first treasurer of the Friends, has resigned from the Board of Directors. She recently moved back to Washington, D.C. We thank Mary Jane for her time with us and her invaluable hours in our initial years as an organization. Sheena Baker was elected to complete the last year of Snyder's term. Baker is a resident of Somerset County and works for the Somerset County Chamber of Commerce as Communications Coordinator. She has vast experience as a journalist and will be a valued addition to the Friends' Board of Directors.



Mary Jane Snyder



Sheena Baker

Superintendent Jeff Reinbold shared some construction images of the new Learning Center and described how the National Park Service intends to use the new space, calling on the Friends to assist with the educational opportunities presented in this building.

As an example of the type of programming that the Friends will support in the new Learning Center, the last portion of the meeting was a presentation by author, Friend and Board Member Tom McMillan. McMillan shared about the process of publishing his book, *Flight 93: The Story, the Aftermath and the Legacy of the American Courage on 9/11*, and what he gained in asking questions and daring to write about a recent historic event. Afterwards, McMillan signed books for members.

The meeting was well attended with almost 50 members present.

Reminder!

If you have not submitted your dues for the 2015 program year, please do so by

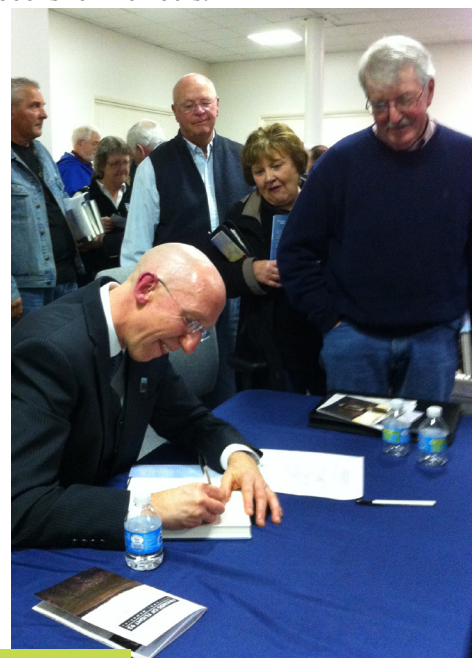
December 31, 2014

Dues can be mailed to:

PO Box 911, Shanksville, PA 15560

Dues are \$25 for individuals and
\$40 for couples

Please be sure you renew your membership so you can continue to receive special Friends event information and our newsletter,
Field Notes!



Tom McMillan signs books for members at the Annual Meeting.

DID YOU SEE THE FRIENDS 2014 ANNUAL REPORT?

You can view it online at:

<http://www.nps.gov/flni/supportyourpark/joinourfriends.htm>

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



Superintendent Jeff Reinbold at
Friends 2014 Annual Meeting



Congressional Gold Medal Awarded to Flight 93

On September 10, 2014 the Congressional Gold Medal was presented to Flight 93 National Memorial, the 9/11 National Memorial and the Pentagon Memorial in honor of the men and women who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001. The ceremony took place at the U.S. Capitol.

A Congressional Gold Medal is an award bestowed by the United States Congress. The Congressional Gold Medal and the Presidential Medal of Freedom are the nation's highest civilian awards. The medal is 3 inches in diameter and contains 15 ounces of gold.

Since the American Revolution, Congress has commissioned gold medals as its highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions. Each medal honors a particular individual, institution, or event.



Obverse



Reverse

The obverse of the Congressional Gold Medal awarded to the forty passengers and crew of Flight 93 depicts the rural Pennsylvania field where Flight 93 crashed on September 11, 2001. The design features an image of the sandstone boulder that marks the crash site, and the towering hemlock trees at the edge of the field. The Medal is inscribed with these words: "A common field one day, a field of honor forever" and "Act of Congress 2011". Joseph Menna of the U.S. Mint designed and engraved the obverse of the Flight 93 Medal.

The reverse of the Congressional Gold Medal features forty stars on a raised border, representing the forty passengers and crew members of Flight 93, and a sentinel eagle clasp laurel branches. The Medal depicts the western front of the U.S. Capitol. Above the Dome of the Capitol is the inscription: "We honor the passengers and crew of Flight 93 who perished in a Pennsylvania field on September 11, 2001. Their courageous action will be remembered forever." Phebe Hemphill of the U.S. Mint designed and engraved the reverse of the Flight 93 Medal.

The Congressional Gold Medal is currently in secure storage. The medal will be permanently displayed in the new Visitor Center at Flight 93 National Memorial in September 2015.



Photo: Dawna Bates

The Congressional Gold Medal was placed on temporary public display on September 11-14, 2014.



Families of Flight 93 Board President Gordon Felt with the Congressional Gold Medal at the Flight 93 Memorial Plaque in the U.S. Capitol with Senator Bob Casey and Secretary of Interior Sally Jewell.

5 FAST FACTS ABOUT THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL:

1. George Washington was the first to be awarded the Congressional Gold Medal on March 25, 1776, but did not receive it until March 21, 1790.
2. The first Congressional Gold Medal was struck in Paris, France.
3. The cost to produce the Medal (as of 2012) is about \$30,000.00
4. Congressional Gold Medals are struck at the Philadelphia Mint.
5. You can purchase bronze replicas of the Congressional Gold Medal at the U.S. Mint website: <http://www.usmint.gov>

September 11, 2014: A Photo Essay



Photo: Chuck Wagner

Luminaria Ceremony
September 10, 2014



Nathan Bradshaw (son of crew member Sandy Bradshaw) and Emerson Glick (daughter of passenger Jeremy Glick) share Congressional Gold Medal design information



Photo: Dawna Bates



U.S. Flag that was flown over the Capitol on 9-11-01



Former Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert, Friends President Lladel Lichty and Friends Executive Director Henry Scully



Photo: Chuck Wagner

Left: Family members approach the ceremonial gate

Right: Park Rangers flank the Congressional Gold Medal on public display at Memorial Plaza



From the Director's Desk

Henry C. Scully



Dear Friends,

As the snow whips horizontally across the Flight 93 National Memorial landscape, we are in high-gear planning activities for 2015, especially for the warmer weather in September when we all will gather for the opening of the Visitor Center and Learning Center. We have been discussing educational issues to be presented at seminars and to school children and teachers at the Learning Center over the next several years. This will be a wonderful venue to continue telling the heroic story to the next generation, as well as those who can remember September 11, 2001 vividly.

The Oral History Project, now in its fourth year of funding by The Heinz Endowments, has been an intriguing discussion point in our meetings with donors as they very much want this unique recent historical event to be well documented and conveyed to people worldwide. The Oral History Project has now collected over 800 interviews from those who had a direct connection to the Flight 93 story.

The Heinz Endowments has been a tremendous supporter of the Oral History Project, which we greatly appreciate. The Friends recently received a renewal to the current Heinz grant to continue the Oral History & Documentation Project. The Heinz Endowments supports efforts to make southwestern Pennsylvania a premier place to live and work, a center for learning and educational excellence, and a region that embraces diversity and inclusion.

While we currently have over 300,000 visitors to Flight 93 National Memorial, we expect with the opening of our new Centers in 2015 that the number will grow to more than 400,000.

Rebecca Kuzar, Executive Assistant for the Friends of Flight 93 has been successfully promoting and marketing Flight 93 National Memorial nationwide through online advertising, social media, and newsletters. She is also busy working with HyperDisk Marketing, the company contracted to build a brand new website for the Friends of Flight 93. Rebecca will be attending the Heartland Travel Showcase in Chicago this February to meet with tour operators and share information for those planning to visit the Memorial in 2015.

We thank you all for your support and look forward to seeing many of you here for an exciting 2015. Have a blessed holiday season and a most Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Henry C. Scully

Friends Begin Website Build: Meet HyperDisk Marketing

The Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial is excited to announce that there will be a brand new Friends website live in early Spring 2015!

This website will allow visitors to learn more about the Friends and join the organization, make donations online, pay membership dues, capture event registration information, provide online resources for the Visitor Center experience at Flight 93, and accept reservations from groups, among many other things!

After a thorough search and review of numerous website proposals, the Friends have signed a contract to work with HyperDisk Marketing.

Founded in 1994, HyperDisk Marketing is an international strategic marketing, consulting, and digital communications company. With offices in California and Hong Kong, HyperDisk partners with a diverse set of clients from around the globe to develop ground breaking digital and strategic marketing solutions. The company serves a wide range of industries including philanthropic, public, hospitality, tourism, healthcare, and real estate organizations.



The company's recent nonprofit work includes the launch of The Good Night Foundation, an organization that supports local and national health and education. They also work extensively with the Ocean Institute, an organization that provides hands-on marine science and education to over 115,000 students.

The Friends are excited to work with HyperDisk and begin the website project. The website will offer a place for visitors from around the globe to join us in our mission.

Watch for more updates regarding the Friends website!



October 3 Fire at NPS Headquarters: Two Months Later

It's been two months since fire destroyed the buildings which served as the administrative and staff offices for the National Park Service and the Friends of Flight 93 as well as temporary storage of some of the memorial's archival and curatorial collection. The investigation is ongoing, but NPS and Pennsylvania State Police investigators have discovered no indication of arson or foul play.

The losses were significant, including objects being prepared for exhibit in the new Visitor Center, items from the crash site investigation and recovery, and tributes left by visitors. The long-term storage of the object and archival collection is at a high-security facility in the Pittsburgh area where approximately 90% of the memorial's collection is housed.

We are incredibly fortunate that no one was injured and thanks to the quick-thinking of the NPS and Friends staff and the efforts of local emergency responders, a number of critical items were saved, including the complete photo collection and audio or written transcripts of all 834 oral histories.



I would like to thank Henry and Rebecca for helping us save what we could on that Friday and for working side by side with museum specialists and archeologists from the NPS to recover what we could. And a special thank you to everyone who offered support and well wishes, which lifted our spirits.

We are operating out of a temporary trailer, but are once again focused on opening the Visitor Center and Learning Center in September 2015 so that we may more fully present the heroic actions of the passengers and crew of Flight 93.

Jeff Reinbold
Western PA Parks Superintendent

Copy and paste this link into your
browser to start shopping:
<http://bit.ly/AmazonSmile-Flight93>



Shop & Support Flight 93

This holiday season you can support Flight 93 National Memorial while you shop online! The Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial is a registered participant of Amazon Smile, a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices and convenient shopping as Amazon.com

The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases you make back to the Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial.

What are you waiting for?
Start your holiday shopping AND give back.
It couldn't be easier!