

# FIELDNOTES

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



Volume V, Issue 2 • July 2016

## What's Happening? *The Highlights*

In April Barbara Black, Flight 93 National Memorial Curator, retired after 15 years of service. After years of working as curator for the Somerset Historical Center, Ms. Black was hired at Flight 93 as curator and chief of interpretation in 2004. While Ms. Black greatly looks forward to spending time with her daughter and grandchildren, she will continue at Flight 93 National Memorial as a volunteer, starting this summer.

As a final project, Ms. Black designed the first Learning Center exhibit at Flight 93 in March. "Through Their Eyes" launched the first of many temporary exhibits in the newly opened Learning Center. Ms. Black was always passionate about creating a project to represent the tributes left by children across the Memorial over the past 15 years. A fitting final project the Friends and National Park Service are very proud to have witnessed. Barbara Black was integral in creating the new Visitors Center and exhibit panels, and has been collecting and archiving tributes at the memorial since 2001. We are so honored to have worked with Ms. Black and will miss her as a co-worker, but more as a Friend. Thankfully, we will soon get to see Barbara every week as the newest Flight 93 National Memorial volunteer!



## 15th Remembrance // September 11, 2001

**Help Honor the 40:** The Friends, Families and National Park Service are planning for the 15<sup>th</sup> Observance of September 11, 2001, including a Luminaria Ceremony on September 10<sup>th</sup>, a Families reception and a Friends' hospitality tent. The Friends will again organize the Luminaria Ceremony, which will include a procession of forty lighted lanterns to the Wall of Names on the Memorial Plaza at dusk. The Memorial is open to the public for this ceremony and visitors are encouraged to attend. Flight 93 Family members will be invited to participate by carrying one of these beautiful lanterns to the Wall in honor of their loved ones. However, members of the Friends are invited to participate as well. We are accepting the names of Friends who wish to carry a lantern in the procession from the Visitor Shelter to the Wall of Names at approximately 7:30pm, and from the Wall back to the Shelter at approximately 8:45pm. If you are willing to participate, please respond by September 1<sup>st</sup> to Friends' Development Assistant Brooke Neel, who will provide you with more detailed instructions for the evening. Please be aware that if a family member decides to participate, even at the last minute, you may be asked to give up your position in the ceremony. Help us honor the 40 passengers and crew as we remember their legacy.



September 11, 2015 - Photo by Brenda Schwartz

### Donations:

Friends of Flight 93  
PO Box 911  
Shanksville, PA 15560

### Events Contact:

Brooke Neel  
Development Assistant  
brooke\_neel@partner.nps.gov  
814-893-6552

### Save the Date!

Saturday, September 10, 7:30pm-9pm  
**Luminaria Service**  
RSVP by September 1

Sunday, September 11, 9:45-10:45am  
**15th Observance - September 11, 2001**

Saturday, November 5th  
**Friends Annual Meeting**  
Invite to follow!

### Stay Social!

Facebook @Flight93Friends  
Twitter @FriendsFlight93 (Friends)



## Reforestation

### Recap:

Thank you to all the volunteers, NPS staff and forestry leaders who participated in Plant a Tree 2016. This year, volunteer teams successfully planted 15,638 tree seedlings over 23 acres of the Memorial along the Return Road! Thanks to this year's efforts, a total of 89,796 trees have been planted around Flight 93 National Memorial during our annual reforestation event. For the 5th year, reforestation has continued to honor 40 passengers and crew by reclaiming the land and creating a healing landscape, a design theme that can be found throughout the Memorial grounds. As part of this initiative, restoration American Chestnuts have been planted at every reforestation event since 2012. The reforested grounds are the only areas where the restoration species have been planted. Reclaiming the land at Flight 93 does not stop with reforestation. There are many new initiatives being implemented at the Memorial, including the introduction of bee homes among the fields and grasslands. A special thank you to some of our 2016 sponsors such as Somerset Fraternal Order of Eagles, REI, Somerset Trust, Simpson & McCrady, S&T Bank, MetLife Foundation, Roy A. Hunt Foundation and the UPS Foundation.



*Photos by Linda Seanor*



## Mid-Year Membership

### Recap:

If you were not able to make it to the Friends' mid-year membership meeting, here are the highlights - and be sure to look through our event photos on Facebook and tag yourself in the album! Brendan Wilson, Centennial Coordinator and Flight 93 Ranger, welcomed the Friends and gave a brief highlight on all the Centennial activities happening this year leading up to the National Park Service's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Before the meeting ended, an open discussion was held and many members expressed their ideas on how to grow the Friends' membership, and increase volunteerism and service opportunities at the Memorial. There are many events and stewardship opportunities at Flight 93 National Memorial that many members and volunteers participate in year round. You may train to become a greeter, help organize and run Friends' events, or participate in programs like Flag Flying at Flight 93. The Friends' staff and Board of Directors are working on an action plan to implement the great ideas discussed at the mid-year meeting. Please contact Development Assistant Brooke Neel at [brooke\\_neel@partner.nps.gov](mailto:brooke_neel@partner.nps.gov) or 814.893.6552 to volunteer with the Friends' new outreach program!



*Photos by Brenda Schwartz*



Have any photos of the Flight 93 National Memorial, or other events or volunteer engagement? Send them to us and you might be featured in our next newsletter, or online on the Friends' website, or on our Facebook or Twitter pages! All credit goes to volunteer photographers. Interested in photographing one of our next events? Send us a message!

<b>Friends' Staff:</b>	<b>Henry Scully</b> Executive Director <a href="mailto:henry_scully@partner.nps.gov">henry_scully@partner.nps.gov</a>	<b>Brooke Neel</b> Development Assistant <a href="mailto:brooke_neel@partner.nps.gov">brooke_neel@partner.nps.gov</a>
Call us at 814.893.6551   814.893.6552		



## Centennial News & Activities

» Over four days in May, the Baldwin-Whitehall School District in Allegheny County visited Flight 93 National Memorial to participate in a pilot program geared towards educating the next generation about Flight 93. The pilot program was generously supported by UPMC Health Plan.

» The countdown to the National Park Service's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on August 25<sup>th</sup> is officially in full swing! The NPS has been featured nationwide across shows like Good Morning America and the cover of National Geographic magazine. Flight 93 National Memorial and the other 4

Western Pennsylvania National Parks are being highlighted in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette leading up to the August celebration. You can read the full article on Flight 93 National Memorial here: <http://newsinteractive.post-gazette.com/usparks/flight-93-national-memorial-uses-nature-to-heal/>



*Baldwin-Whitehall 4th Grade Students visit the Memorial*

*Photo Credit: Kecia Ball Tribune-Democrat*

## 2nd Annual Walk 93

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, Friends' members and volunteers participated in the 2nd annual Walk 93 at Flight 93 National Memorial. This year, nearly \$15,000 was raised to go towards the planting of new trees and replacement of damaged trees around the Memorial! This year, over \$1,500 was donated on event day alone, all thanks to the generosity and support of all those involved. As a non-competitive walk, Walk 93 has been organized over the past two years by Leadership Somerset County. Last year, the inaugural walk raised funds for the development and maintenance of trails at Flight 93 National Memorial. Thank you to the Penguins, Pirates and Steelers who donated raffle prizes for walk participants. New this year, the walk was lead by Flight 93 Families member and Friends' Board member Deborah Borza, and Flight 93 National Memorial Interpreter Greg Zaborowski. Walkers stopped along the Allée where they were able to learn more about the story of Flight 93, and connect the significance of the 40 Memorial groves



*Photo by Brenda Schwartz*

A special thank you to some of our 2016 sponsors: Sherwin-Williams, Global/SFC, UPMC Health Plan, Riggs Family Foundation and AK Steel.

### Flag Flying Program:

The Friends are looking for volunteers to fly flags at the Memorial. Teams of 2-3 work best and flags can be flown any day, sunrise to sunset. The National Park Foundation needs over 700 flown flags to give to donors who have given over \$93 to Flight 93 National Memorial through our direct mail campaign. Each flag is unboxed, hoisted and raised to full staff to be flown for a short period of time to respect and honor the passengers and crew of Flight 93, and all those who lost their lives in the September 11 attacks.

Volunteers are always welcome to fly flags, and are encouraged to come with community outreach organization, veteran groups, friends or family members to share the experience together.

## Friends' 2016 Grant Awards

Thanks to the generosity of partners like the Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau, Somerset County Chamber of Commerce and other supporters like the Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation and Pittsburgh Pirates Charities, the Friends of Flight 93 have been awarded grants for the 2016 year, including the following:

- » Somerset County Tourism Marketing Grant - \$11,250 for Marketing
- » Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation - \$15,000 for Educational Programming
- » MetLife Foundation Volunteer Project Fund - \$3,000 for Plant a Tree
- » Walmart Community Grant - \$1,000 for Plant a Tree



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## Photo Album



Red Maple trees installed along Allée



Milky Way over Flight 93 by Linda Seanor



Walk 93 by Brenda Schwartz



VA Veterans tour the Memorial in April

### 9.11.16 Memorial Service:

- » **When:** Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am
- » **Where:** Visitors Center, Flight 93 National Memorial
- » **Details:** Brief remarks and keynote speaker, special music, reading of the names of the 40 passengers and crew members, and ringing of the Bells of Remembrance



Chevron volunteers help with invasive species removal



Walking the Allée by Linda Seanor



CFFA Interns Tour the Memorial



316th ESC visits Flight 93 National Memorial with Superintendent Clark

Dear Friends of Flight 93,

As you will see from this comprehensive Newsletter of articles and photographs, it has been a busy and wonderful first half of the year at Flight 93 National Memorial. We have been very active with thousands of school students visiting Flight 93 and giving us the opportunity to educate the "next generation" about the Flight 93 heroes and events surrounding September 11th.

We are on track for 500,000 visitors to the site in 2016, capped by the 15th Anniversary Memorial Service honoring our forty heroes and their families on September 11, 2016. We encourage you to attend the Ceremonies as well as see all the new trees on the Allée and the beautiful wildflowers.

Thanks again for all your support and volunteer efforts supporting our partner, the National Park Service at Flight 93.

Henry C. Scully, Friends' Executive Director

