

FIELDNOTES

A Common Field One Day, A Field of Honor Forever



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Beautifying the Memorial

On April 22, the first Earth Day Friends' event was held on a rainy, cold morning at Flight 93 National Memorial. Volunteers joined together to weed one of the main island bio-swells in the Plaza parking lot. The service project was a way to give back to the memorial as we set out to do our part by volunteering. As stewards of this memorial, it is vitally important to help keep Flight 93 in the best shape possible for future generations.

We are actively seeking groups to help with a variety of projects including flag flying, invasive species removal, adopting bio-wells for routine maintenance and more! Please email the Friends to find out more ways you can support Flight 93 National Memorial this year!

Stay Social!

Facebook

Flight 93 National Memorial Campaign
(Friends)

Flight 93 National Memorial (NPS)



Twitter

@FriendsFlight93 (Friends)

@Flight93NPS (NPS)



Plant A Tree at Flight 93 Event Recap!

We are one step closer to 150,000 planted seedlings at Flight 93 National Memorial thanks to this year's Plant a Tree volunteers! This year we planted 11,600 seedlings over 17 acres, bringing the total number of native trees planted from 101,358 to 112,958!

Coinciding with the reforestation initiative last month was a project with the Allegheny National Forest Service. Under the guidance of Jim McCloskey, a total of 8 bluebird boxes were installed around the memorial, further supporting sustainable efforts to reclaim the former mine site and restore wildlife habitats.

Two days of special programming was held in the Learning Center, included a reforestation themed Children's Discovery Table educating approximately 538 visitors over 2-days, as well as special programs featuring presenters from The American Chestnut Foundation and Green Forests Work. Plant a Tree opening remark speakers included Superintendent Steve Clark, Executive Director Henry Scully, Vice President of the Friends Donna Gibson, as well as Lisa Thompson from The American Chestnut Foundation and Congressman Keith Rothfus.

Thank you to Brenda T. Schwartz and Dawna Bates for capturing this year's planting efforts. Check out the event photos and tag yourself on the Friends' Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/Flight93Friends!

Sustainable Efforts

A comprehensive study of reforested areas was conducted in 2015 and will continue in this summer to determine survival rates among the planted trees. To date, Flight 93 National Memorial features a 60% survival rate among newly planted seedlings!

Flight 93 National Memorial is also the only federal park that has implemented a completely green, non-chemical approach to land reclamation. An extensive water aeration system separates the iron out of the ground, increasing water quality and eliminating the need for chemical pesticides and treatment plans. The result is an engineering marvel that will hopefully lead the way for future parks and reclamation projects nationwide. By aerating the existing water and wetlands, the fields surrounding Flight 93 have been given the opportunity for rebirth through replanting native and exotic plant species that will re-introduce wildlife habitats to the once barren landscape.

Plant A Tree Snaps FIND YOUR PARK



Don't Miss



Speaker Series — Sponsored by Somerset Trust Company

Special guests will speak in the Learning Center on weekends throughout the summer with new guest speakers each month.

June 17-18 — Somerset County Coroner Wally Miller

July 22 — First responder John Weir and State Troopers Stacey Schmidt and Louis Veitz.

August 19-20 — Family members Deborah Borza and Calvin Wilson



40 Heroes DVD

Former Friends' Board Member Mahlon Fuller produced a short film telling the story of his experience as a former air traffic controller.

The 40 Heroes DVD features history of September 11, 2001, and Mal's story from the control room. Hear a firsthand account of the day when the nation was under attack and learn how the 40 heroes of Flight 93 forever changed the course of history. Purchase your copy on the [Friends' website](#).



Educational Programming

The Friends and NPS are working hard to help educate the next generation by supporting school district visits to the memorial. Visits include on-site educational programming and funding support for transportation.

Know a school in need? Please contact Henry Scully or Brooke Neel to learn about fall funding opportunities!

Project 9:57

As part of our efforts to educate the next generation of stewards, the Friends and Project 9:57 have partnered together to connect young students to veterans at the memorial. Named for the exact time the passengers and crew members of Flight 93 attempted to take back the cockpit, Project 9:57 brings stories like Flight 93's to life by "helping students embrace their future by studying, honoring, and remembering the past". We are honored to have supported two Project 9:57 site visits to Flight 93 this past May. You can learn more about their organization by visiting <http://www.the957project>.



Donor Spotlight *Mercer Estates*



Mercer Estates is a family owned and operated winery located on the west coast in Prosser, Washington.

Philanthropy is a core value to the Mercer family, and every year Mercer Estates donates proceeds from their

“BLOCK 93” bottle of wine to the Friends of Flight 93. The connection is no coincidence.

Mercer Estates’ Vineyard Manager, John Derrick, lost a very close friend Richard Guadagno on Flight 93. Mercer Estates owner, Rob Mercer, served as a captain in the US Marine Corps in the 1990’s. After the events on September 11, 2001, he re-enlisted to serve in Iraq.

When Rob returned from service, he and John decided to plant a special vineyard - BLOCK 93 - in the most ideal location on the Mercer farm. In total, 911 vines were hand-planted in BLOCK 93. The fruit from these vines is used exclusively to produce three products: Eagle & Plow, BLOCK 93 and Cabernet Sauvignon. One hundred percent of the revenues generated by this wine are donated to charities that serve American servicemen and women, their families, and the survivors of tragic events.

According to the Mercer Estates website, the 2012 inaugural vintage of Eagle & Plow, BLOCK 93 Cabernet Sauvignon was a tremendous success, and in a few short months, sales allowed Mercer to donate just shy of \$12,000 to charities including the Friends of Flight 93. We would like to thank Mercer Estates for their support and generous efforts to remember the passengers and crew members of Flight 93. To learn more about Mercer Estates, their philanthropic efforts and to purchase the BLOCK 93 bottle visit, <http://www.mercerwine.com>.



John Derrick on a visit to Flight 93 National Memoria in May.

Tower of Voices *“Sound Breaking”*



On September 10, 2017, Flight 93 National Memorial will hold an exclusive Tower of Voices “sound breaking” at the site of the future tower off of Rt. 30 at the entrance to Flight 93.

The Tower of Voices will be a gateway in and out of the memorial, and serve as both a visual and audible reminder of the heroism of the 40 passenger and crew members of Flight 93.

Meant to forever echo the voices of the 40 Heroes, the tower will stand 93 feet tall and feature 40 individual wind-activated chimes that will produce unique, harmonious notes in concert with the other chimes.

The Tower of Voices is a one-of-a-kind unique musical instrument that is the final feature meant to complete Flight 93 National Memorial from Paul Murdoch’s original memorial design. We invite Friends’ members to join us this September as we hold a special “sound breaking” at Flight 93 National Memorial on September 10, 2017. More details will be announced late summer through the Friends and National Park Service websites.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

April

Alan DeWitt
Amanda Rush

May

Steven Tuso

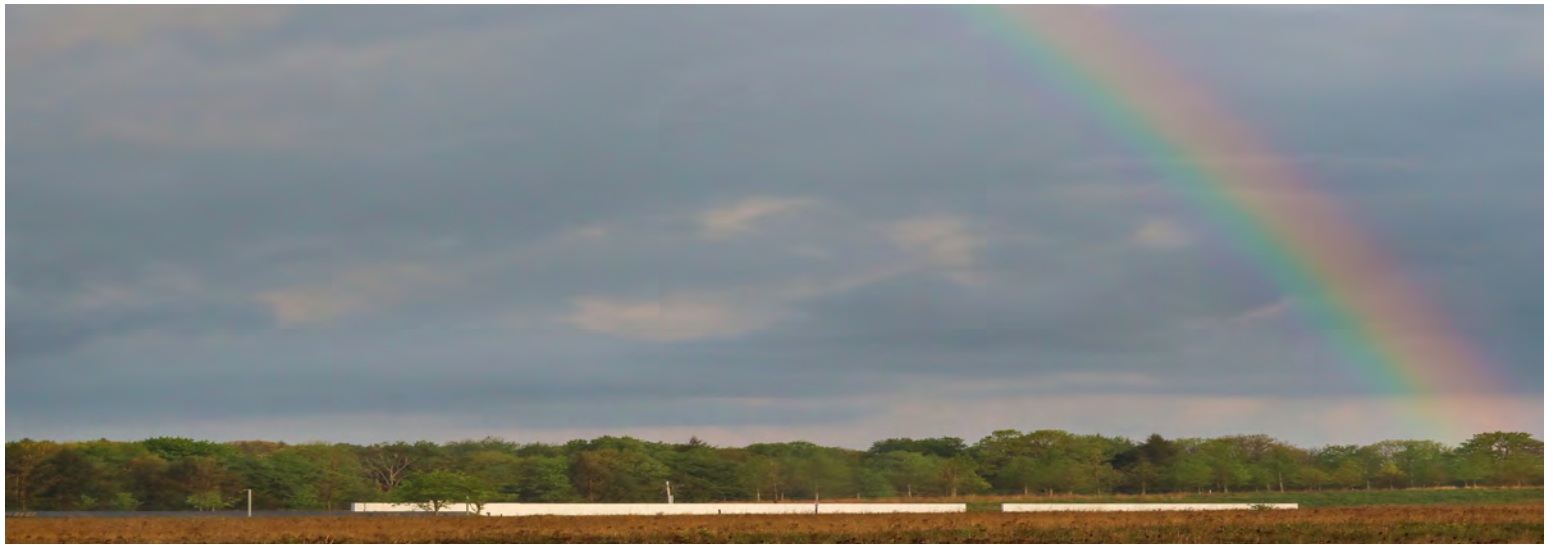
GIVE THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP
You can now gift a Friends’ membership
online at:

<http://www.Flight93Friends.org>

Henry Scully, Executive Director
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Friends’ Staff

Brooke Neel, Development Assistant
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A Word from the Friends

By Donna Gibson



Greetings Fellow Friends' Members and Volunteers,

As the Vice President of the Friends of Flight 93 Board of Directors and Chair of the Volunteer Committee, I want to thank you for your volunteer participation in helping us achieve our mission to support the many projects of the park service and this national memorial. I am very pleased to announce the many new opportunities we have for your involvement.

In early May, Brooke completed a slide presentation for the new Speaker's Bureau. This gives each of us the opportunity to take to the streets to tell our story and encourage others to join us. Henry and Brooke have also worked with NPS to finalize an annual work plan for the memorial to support various projects that we will need your help to execute. These activities will be added to annual events such as Plant a Tree, September 11 Ceremonies, Walk 93, cleaning of the Wall of Names and other projects that Friends' volunteers have engaged in over the past few years.

The National Park Service has worked to develop specific job descriptions for VIP's, or volunteers in parks. Ambassadors continue to play a very important role in the VIP program. This position requires additional levels of training to assist the rangers in interpretation and with telling the story of Flight 93, including in-depth knowledge on the memorial features like the Visitor Center and Learning Center. Each job description has a specific training outline that will enhance the volunteer and visitor experience such as the greeter position, an entryway into volunteering at Flight 93. This position will greet visitors and help direct them to the various areas throughout the park. In addition to the greeter position there is are clerical positions and the newly created position of trail guide along the Allée.

With all the new projects and positions available, volunteers are more important than ever. Thank you for all you do to support the mission of the Friends of Flight 93 and the park service at Flight 93 National Memorial. If you know of anyone else who shares your passion please have them contact us – we will figure out what they have a desire to do and will help get them connected with the most appropriate training.

Again, Thank you –
Donna Gibson



Niche signage was installed this spring along the Plaza walkway to the Wall of Names.



Looking to volunteer more regularly? Our Flag Flying program happens all year long, contact us for more details!