

FIELD NOTES

A Common Field One Day, A Field of Honor Forever



Volume I, Issue 4 • Fall 2012

Friends Annual Meeting of the Membership to be November 3

Video from September 8-9 programs will provide new perspectives

Friends will gather at the National Park Service Somerset office on Saturday, November 3 for the annual meeting of the membership. The 2 pm meeting will begin with a briefing from the National Park Service, including a discussion of next year's construction projects, and continue with a review of Friends' accomplishments over the past 12 months. A slate of candidates for the Board of Directors will be presented and voted upon.

A highlight of the meeting will be the opportunity to view video highlights of the four *Learning Center Without Walls* programs presented at the Memorial on September 8-9, 2012. These panel discussions, a new initiative sponsored by the Friends, featured journalists, FBI agents, teachers, and Capitol employees reflecting on their 9/11 experiences.

"The annual and mid-year meetings are important opportunities for the Friends to get to know one another and the NPS staff, stay informed about the park, and generate ideas and energy for the new year ahead," Board Secretary Donna Glessner said. "I hope the meeting room will be overflowing with Friends."

The NPS office is located at 109 West Main Street in Somerset. Metered parking is available at the rear of the building on Patriot Street. This gathering follows the quarterly public meeting of the Flight 93 Advisory Commission held at the same location from 10 am to 1 pm.

All are welcome to attend the Friends' annual meeting, and members who have paid dues for the 2013 program year before October 22 will be eligible to vote for the Board of Directors. If you have not yet paid dues, please remit them to Friends of Flight 93, P.O. Box 911, Shanksville, PA 15560. Membership dues are



In *Dispatches from Shanksville*, a *Learning Center Without Walls* program presented at the Memorial on September 8, former WJAC-TV reporter Jon Meyer joins the audience in viewing his first broadcast from the Flight 93 crash site on September 11, 2001. Highlights of the four videotaped seminars will be shown at the Friends Annual Meeting, November 3. (Chuck Wagner)

\$25 per individual and \$40 per couple. Dues paid any time in the past six months apply to the 2013 program year.

Benefits of Friends membership include: a subscription to the quarterly electronic newsletter *Field Notes*, invitations to Friends-only events and opportunities to volunteer, and the knowledge that your annual contributions and volunteer service are helping to raise awareness for Flight 93 National Memorial and providing educational and interpretive resources to enhance the experience of every visitor.

Friends offer trip to National 9/11 Memorial in NYC

The Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial is sponsoring a one-day motor coach trip to Lower Manhattan on Saturday, November 10 to visit the National 9/11 Memorial, the 9/11 Tribute Center and other sites related to September 11, 2001. The trip, open to members of the Friends, Flight 93 Ambassadors and volunteers, and the staff of Flight 93 National Memorial, has sold out.

The trip itinerary includes a tour of the 9/11 Tribute Center and a walking tour of Ground Zero led by a guide who either experienced the loss of a loved one at Ground Zero, survived or responded to the Towers, or lived in Lower Manhattan on 9/11. The tour will conclude at the new National 9/11 Memorial on the site of



The names of the nearly 3,000 who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and the six who died in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing are engraved on the parapets of the North and South Memorial Pools. (Squared Design)

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From the Superintendent ...

Just over a year ago, more than 20,000 people joined with us to dedicate the Flight 93 National Memorial and observe the 10th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks. It was a massive undertaking befitting such a historic occasion.

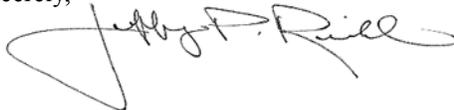
We took a different approach this year, designing a smaller, more personal ceremony that we could sustain for years to come. But we still wanted an event that was no less fitting or inspiring. We succeeded in large part, because of your help.

With help from many people, we were able to present four days of programming and shoulder all the costs through donations and the Memorial's operating budget. We drew staff from the other four national park sites in Western Pennsylvania and as always, called on the volunteer Ambassadors to meet the needs of our visitors and ensure the events ran smoothly. Friends greeted visitors throughout the four days and staffed information booths. You sponsored a reception that gave family members and those involved in the creation of the Memorial an opportunity to spend time together. You organized and executed a very moving luminaria program on the evening of September 10.

But this year, we not only wanted to remember the passengers and crew, but also introduce people to the educational potential of the site. The Friends sponsored and organized the successful *Learning Center Without Walls* programs to highlight different aspects of the Flight 93 story through a series of panel discussions. You assembled an impressive line-up of speakers to provide those of us who lived through September 11 with a deeper understanding of the event and to help coming generations have a more meaningful visit to this special place.

On behalf of everyone at the National Park Service who has the honor of working at the Memorial, thank you for continued volunteer and financial support, for your dedication to this cause, and for your friendship. You inspire us.

Sincerely,



Jeff Reinbold, Superintendent
National Park Service / Western Pennsylvania Parks

Friends offer trip to National 9/11 Memorial in NYC *continued from page 1*

the World Trade Center Towers. A highlight of the Friends' visit to the 9/11 Memorial will be viewing the names of the forty passengers and crew of Flight 93 engraved on the bronze parapet of the South Memorial Pool.

Friends will also have an opportunity to visit St. Paul's Chapel, known as "The Little Chapel That Stood" because of its proximity to the Towers and role as a place of respite for rescue and recovery workers. The self-guided tour of the Chapel provides a glimpse of the massive and sustained relief effort at Ground Zero. Several other 9/11-related points of interest in Lower Manhattan are located within easy walking distance and Friends will enjoy some free time to explore the city on foot or by public transit.

For many volunteers, the trip will be a time to renew friendships with Tribute Center docents who have visited Flight 93 National Memorial in the past.



The Memorial's twin reflecting pools are each nearly an acre in size and feature the largest manmade waterfalls in North America. The pools sit within the footprints of the Twin Towers. (*Squared Design*)

FRIENDS OF FLIGHT 93 NATIONAL MEMORIAL

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Andrew Thompson, *Law Enforcement*
Park Ranger

SEASONAL STAFF

Donald Zeigler, *Park Guide*
Robert Franz, *Park Ranger*
MaryJane Hartman, *Park Ranger*
Jim Klesyk, *Maintenance Worker*
Rodger Brewer, *Maintenance Worker*

FIELD NOTES CONTRIBUTORS

John Reynolds
Barbara Reynolds
Kathie Shaffer
Donna Glessner
Linda Meyer
Chuck Wagner
Cindy Breen, *Layout Editor*

MEMORIAL HOURS OF OPERATION

October 15 - March 31
9 am to 5 pm (last entry 4:30 pm)

GPS ADDRESS OF ENTRANCE

6424 Lincoln Highway
Stoystown, PA 15563



Friend to Friend

a regular feature of *Field Notes*

Reflections on the Luminaria Ceremony, September 10, 2012

By Friends John and Bobbie Reynolds of Crozet, Virginia

We were honored to carry lanterns to the Wall of Names on the evening of September 10. Forty people with forty lanterns, spaced out evenly, carried silently and respectfully on the long walk along the black wall to the white wall against a fading sunset. Forty people, alive. Forty heroes who fought back eleven years ago.

One of us was near the front, one near the rear. Each step, for both of us, was a step into the souls of the people we were there to honor and pay our respects to, on behalf of both ourselves and the nation that created this memorial in their behalf. On our left was their burial ground. On the right, the hope of the landscape, being reclaimed for the living, especially their families, but also for the rest of us.

In the line were people from town, the surrounding countryside, the families, afar, all carrying the spark of one life given for all of us. Near the end of the line, looking forward at the points of light ahead, Bobbie felt deep comfort. For us both it was a comfort to be one of many together bearing the lanterns, personally representing one of our heroes, silently saying thank you. We felt great honor to be included in a unique tradition aborning.

At the wall, as we turned the corner, people, people like all of us, who had come in respect and with love. Both Bobbie and I felt the embrace of those people as they came into our view, as we silently set our lanterns to light each panel, each person, as we

touched their names on the wall, then turning away and becoming a part of the people, “We the People.”

Later, in the dark with the stars sparkling overhead, we returned in silence, picked up our lanterns, and said thank you again and farewell, knowing we and others will always return to pay homage individually and as a nation again and again.

Although it felt sad, we did not feel burdened. It felt right, morally right.



(Chuck Wagner)

USS Somerset crest proclaims “Courage Through Adversity”

Many Friends had the opportunity to meet Commander Cole Hayes of the newly-christened USS Somerset when he visited the Memorial on September 10-11. The USS Somerset is the third of three new naval vessels named in memory of the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Hayes explained that the passengers and crew of Flight 93 will be honored in many ways on *The Somerset*, including photos and biographies of the forty hanging in the passageways used by the men and women on board, in items placed beneath the ship’s mast, and in the Coat of Arms that reflects the ship’s heritage.

As Commander Hayes shared, each device and color in the ship’s Coat of Arms has a meaning which contributes to the commemoration of Flight 93. This symbolism is explained at <http://www.tioh.hqda.pentagon.mil/Heraldry/Navy/NavalShip.aspx?u=8523>. Walter Huber, a new member of the Friends, shared this description of the Coat of Arms, translating the specialized language of heraldry into everyday English.

USS Somerset (LPD 25) Coat of Arms

SHIELD (the larger device, with four crossed swords behind it)

The shape of the shield is based on the shield on the seal of Somerset County, Pennsylvania. The border of the shield has forty stars, one for each of the passengers and crew. There are nine, light-blue, wedge-shaped segments in the sky, and three, similar, light-

green segments in the grass, signifying the number 93. The five trees represent the plantings at Flight 93 National Memorial and also signify that this is the fifth ship to bear the name “Somerset”. Above the trees is a bald eagle flying toward the left (sinister direction), but bending to the right to show that the passengers and crew turned the flight of the airliner and bravely changed the outcome from the terrorists’ intent. The four swords are Navy and Marine Corps officer swords and the Navy cutlass and the Marine Corps noncommissioned officer sword, representing the officers, crew, and embarked Marines of the USS Somerset.



CREST (the smaller device, shaped like the keystone)

The keystone frame is symbolic of Pennsylvania, known as the Keystone State. The image shows the USS United States, the first ship of the United States Navy, built and launched in Philadelphia in 1797. The cornstalk and the olive branch were taken from the Pennsylvania state seal.

MOTTO (lettered on red ribbon)

“*Virtus per adversa*” translates to “Courage Through Adversity”.

September 8-11, 2012

Eleventh year educational and commemorative events

All photos by Chuck Wagner



NPS Regional Director Dennis Reidenbach, Superintendent Jeff Reinbold, and Patrick White, President of the Families of Flight 93, join Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta at the Wall of Names on September 10.



The tent was filled to capacity when three FBI agents took the stage for a program titled, *The Criminal Investigation: The Search for Evidence at the Flight 93 Crash Site*, in the Learning Center Without Walls program.



Nicole Eickhoff, former Page in the U.S. House of Representatives, shared her 9/11 experience in the *Stories from the U.S. Capitol* program. Eickhoff and her parents stand with a bowl of 69 rocks representing the lives of the Pages who were working in the U.S. Capitol on September 11, 2001.



Rainy weather on September 8 and 9 did not deter visitors from paying their respects at the Memorial Plaza. A total of 9,535 visitors came to the Memorial between September 8-11, 2012.

A time of remembrance, September 2012



Shanksville Firefighter Terry Shaffer is among 40 family members, volunteers, and Friends who carried lanterns in a solemn procession to the Wall of Names at dusk on September 10.



Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, Patrick White, and Superintendent Reinbold listen to remarks by Vice President Joe Biden:

"I also hope it continues to give you some solace knowing that this nation, all these people gathered here today, who are not family members, all your neighbors, that they've not forgotten. They've not forgotten the heroism of your husbands, wives, sons, daughters, mothers, fathers. And, that what they did for this country is still etched in the minds of not only you, but millions of Americans, forever. That's why it's so important that this memorial be preserved and go on for our children and our grandchildren, and our great-grandchildren, and or great-great-grandchildren."



Salazar and White later joined Biden at the Wall of Names.



The ceremonial gate at the end of the Flight Path Walkway was open on September 11, offering an unimpeded view of the crash site.



The Learning Center Without Walls

New educational initiative sponsored by the Friends

Four hours of insightful educational programming took place inside a wind-buffed tent at the location of the future Visitor Center, reaching several hundred Memorial visitors on September 8-9. Because the programs were also videotaped, the sessions will be used for staff and volunteer training and thousands more will be able to view them at the park website.

The concept of inviting panelists to present at the Memorial on the weekend prior to September 11 came from discussions among the NPS, the Families, and the Friends of Flight 93 about the public's interest in learning more about Flight 93 and the broader context of the 9/11 attacks. The team identified four diverse topics to present, invited speakers from around the country, developed exhibits to complement each subject, and welcomed the public to experience the type of programming which will one day be offered at the "bricks-and-mortar" version of the Learning Center.

The Friends acknowledge Blueland Media, LG Electronics, the National Park Foundation, and James Ferris, videographer, for their generous donations. The sessions were moderated by Superintendent Jeff Reinbold.

The four topics examined at The "Learning Center Without Walls" were:



9/11 and the Next Generation - Panelists discussed the way children experienced September 11, 2001, and how they continue to express their feelings through art.

Dispatches from Shanksville: Journalists Remember Flight 93 - Television, newspaper, and radio journalists recalled their experiences in writing and recording the first drafts of history in the days, weeks, and months following September 11, 2001.

The Criminal Investigation: Searching for Evidence at the Flight 93 Crash Site - Members of the FBI described their work at the Flight 93 crash site and the importance of what was recovered.

A Grateful Nation: Stories from the U.S. Capitol - Panelists who were at work in the U.S. Capitol on September 11, 2001, and were evacuated in the face of reports of an incoming aircraft described their experiences and their feelings about Flight 93.



Superintendent Reinbold questions a panel of journalists on the *other side* of the camera.

Friends Board Member Lladel Lichty speaks with visitors about the exhibit of items used during the crash site investigation. *(Chuck Wagner)*



Friends member Sharon Ackerman, left, introduced her two friends, Sharon Clapper and Annette Isgan, to the flag flying project. The trio flew 100 flags over the Memorial.

Mission accomplished: 1,875 flags flown in 2012

The Friends have completed their 2012 commitment to fly 1,875 flags over Flight 93 National Memorial in support of the National Park Foundation's fundraising campaign. Over the past four months fifty-five Friends (and friends of Friends) flew the flags, logging 110 hours of volunteer time. Volunteers ranged in age from 11 to 77 years old. At the end of this, their third year of flying flags for the campaign, the Friends have flown a total of 4,250 flags.

To obtain a flag, email a request to: flight93memorial@nationalparks.org or call 202-354-6488 (ask for Victoria). The 3' x 5' flags are available for a minimum donation of \$93 and \$7 for shipping and handling fees, for a total of \$100 per flag. The flag will come with a certificate of authenticity.

Thank you to all Friends who were involved in this initiative.

Remaining Memorial Groves to be planted this fall

"Fall is a great time to plant trees," says Deputy Supt. Keith Newlin. In October a contractor will begin planting the remainder of the Memorial Groves extending to the wetlands. Each Memorial Grove has forty trees, all native species of oak and maple. *(Chuck Wagner)*



Seasonal Rangers enhance Memorial operations

Seasonal Rangers help National Parks provide services to visitors during the busiest months of the year. At Flight 93 National Memorial, seasonal rangers are a vital part of the staff from April through November. According to Barbara Black, Chief of Interpretation, “the Seasonal Rangers have done a tremendous job this year with our high visitation, parleying demands and developing new programs. We appreciate their dedication and level of professionalism.”

Meet this year’s Seasonal Rangers:



Name: Donnie Zeigler (in his fourth year at Flight 93 National Memorial)
Background: I graduated from Berlin Brothersvalley High School in 2006 and from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown with a history degree in 2011. I am currently pursuing a Master’s degree in Education from the University of Phoenix and will complete my Master’s in 2013.

Memorable Experiences at Flight 93 National Memorial: Being a part of and seeing the permanent memorial being built are my most memorable experiences.

Future plans: I hope to become a high school history teacher.

Name: Robert Franz

Background: I have a Bachelor’s Degree in Management and History from the University of Maryland University College in Heidelberg, Germany. I served 22 years in the United States Army: Airborne Infantry Soldier, Helicopter Instructor Pilot, Intelligence Officer. I retired from the 82nd Airborne Division.

Memorable Experiences at Flight 93 National Memorial:

Assisting with the wreath laying with Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta is one of my most memorable experiences. Another was having a young Boy Scout stop me and recite the Boy Scout Oath and the Boy Scout Law. With tears in his eyes, he said he believed the crew and passengers of Flight 93 showed those traits. Ranger Plummer observed this and described it as “a Norman Rockwell moment”.

Future plans: I plan to go back to Cape Cod, walk my dogs, and serve as Master of Ceremonies for the Chatham Veterans Day Ceremony.



Name: Dan Plummer (in his second year at Flight 93 National Memorial)

Background: I served five years in the United States Air Force and earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Penn State University in

Forest Products. I worked 26 years as a Ranger with the Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources.

Memorable Experiences at Flight 93 National Memorial: I have several. I am impressed with the patriotic attitude of young people as shown by their comment cards. For me, seeing family members and meeting dignitaries have also been memorable.

Future plans: I plan to travel to Key West, and visit my kids and grandkids – that’s the most important of all! And I hope to continue on at Flight 93; it’s very enjoyable work.

Name: MaryJane Hartman

Background: Over the years, I have held an eclectic array of jobs - from Wall Street to The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, and training horses at the Radnor Hunt Club. But, I think I found my niche in life when I became a Park Ranger for the National Park Service in the latter part of the 1980s at Independence National Historical Park. I rose through the ranks to a Supervisory Park Ranger and then an



Interpretive Specialist at Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. I have always loved the diversity of opportunities offered by being a Ranger.

Memorable Experiences at Flight 93 National Memorial: One of the highlights of this summer was meeting Elizabeth A. Right now, you are all saying, “Who?” Elizabeth was at the park on Founder’s Day and was just thrilled to have the opportunity to do our Jr. Ranger Activity sheet that day and earn her Jr. Ranger badge. She had already earned 48 others and proudly showed me her vest. She enthusiastically went out on the plaza to complete her sheet, and I didn’t notice her coming back because I was looking in the other direction. What I did notice was the huge bear hug she gave me as she grabbed me around the waist and just squeezed as hard as she could! That reminded me why I love this job! Of course, shaking hands with Leon Panetta was also a big thrill!

Future plans: After this season ends, I’m looking forward to a trip to Cocoa Beach, Florida to visit a friend and visiting my mother in Alaska.



Flight 93 National Memorial By the Numbers

- 760:** The number of fabric ties sewn by Friends Dawna Bates and Charlotte Jones to secure the yards and yards of fabric which covered the metal barriers at this year's September 11 ceremony
- 699:** The number of officers and enlisted men who will live and work on board the USS Somerset
- 4,250:** The number of U.S. flags flown over Flight 93 National Memorial by Friends for the capital campaign to complete Flight 93 National Memorial
- 369,465:** Visitation at Flight 93 National Memorial in the first full year of operation, September 10, 2011 to September 9, 2012.



A young visitor places flowers at the Wall of Names. (Chuck Wagner)

Friends Calendar

- October 15** – change to winter hours of operation; park opens 9 am, closes 5 pm, last entry to park, 4:30 pm
- October 22** – Friends membership fees for the 2013 program year are due
- November 3** – Friends annual membership meeting, 2 PM, Somerset NPS Office, 109 West Main Street
- November 10** – Friends-sponsored motor coach trip to New York City
- November 11** – Remember and honor our nation's veterans
- December 15** – Wreaths Across America Ceremony (tentative date)
- December 25** – Memorial closed
- January 1** – Memorial closed

Friends mark Public Lands Day

On Public Lands Day, September 29, Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial completed one year of service as Plaza Greeters, welcoming visitors during times of peak visitation. To date, 24 Friends have served as greeters, donating more than 250 hours of service.



To mark Public Lands Day 2012, Plaza Greeters distributed packages of sunflower seeds labeled "Flowers of Courage" and a bookmark featuring a sunset photo of the Memorial by Friends member Chuck Wagner. The pre-packaged seeds were a gift from Jeff Arsenault, a Canadian educator who, with "The Children of 9/11" (an



Friend Tom McMillan greets a visitor on the Memorial Plaza. (Chuck Wagner)

organization of children who lost a parent in the September 11 attacks) designed the seed packet, packaged the seeds and distributed them to the three 9/11 sites. According to those who handed out the "Flowers of Courage" and the bookmarks, park visitors responded with surprise and almost always an expression of gratitude. The Friends hope the sunflower seeds will serve as a reminder of "The Children of 9/11" and the national memorial that honors the passengers and crew of Flight 93 and their collective act of courage on September 11, 2001.

Friends join the Combined Federal Campaign

The Friends of Flight 93 has been selected to be a part of the 2013 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) for three regions: Three Rivers, Central Pennsylvania, and Ohio North Coast.

The U.S. government-sponsored CFC is the world's largest workplace fundraising drive. The mission of the CFC is to promote and support philanthropy by providing federal employees with an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of those in need. Each fall, Federal employees are invited to support eligible national and local charities, choosing the groups they wish to support from a list of approved charities.

If you are employed by the Federal government, please consider giving to the Friends of Flight 93 through the CFC or if you have friends or relatives who are Federal civilian, military or postal employees, please encourage them to choose Friends of Flight 93. Select account #49208

Friends clothing for every season

Watch your Inbox for a new clothing order form coming soon. By popular demand, we will offer a winter hat (warm enough for Somerset County), a golf-style wind shirt, jackets, and vests, all embroidered with the Friends logo. The summer polo, the long-sleeve dress shirt, and the baseball cap will remain available as well. Wear your Friends-logo clothing everywhere to encourage others to remember the courage of the passengers and crew of Flight 93 and to start conversations about the Friends and the Memorial.