



Flight 93 Volunteer Newsletter

May 2008

Ambassadors to be Presented with NPS Service Award

In 1970, the director of the National Park Service, George B. Hartzog, Jr. announced his successful efforts to create an official "Volunteer In Parks" or VIP program for the entire NPS. During his announcement, he was quoted:

When a VIP agrees to share his talents, skills and interests with the National Park Service, he is paying us one of the highest compliments possible by offering a most valued possession – his time.

During Director Hartzog's tenure with the NPS, he oversaw the addition of 70 new National Parks. After his retirement, he remembered the VIP program by making a generous donation to the National Park Foundation. This donation has evolved into the annual George B. Hartzog Jr. Award.

Each year, the volunteer coordinators at the 391 units of the National Park Service receive an application form to apply for this award. It is presented in three categories of volunteer service.

- (1) The George Hartzog Volunteer Award recognizes outstanding contributions to the National Park Service by an individual.
- (2) The George Hartzog Volunteer Group Award recognizes contributions by an organized group.
- (3) The George Hartzog Park VIP Program Award recognizes an exceptional park VIP program.

According to the NPS National

Office, the intent of the award is to "honor volunteers' hard work, draw attention to their vast skills and contributions." It also helps to "distinguish those individuals or



George B. Hartzog, Jr. was Director of the NPS from 1964-1972 and responsible for the creation of the Volunteer In Parks (VIP) Program during his tenure.

groups who give of their skills, talents...beyond the normal call of duty."

Having shared the information about this award, it is the Flight 93 National Memorial's privilege to announce that the **Ambassadors** are the **recipients of the 2007 George B. Hartzog, Jr. Award for outstanding group volunteer service!**

Congratulations Ambassadors!

On Thursday, May 8, representatives of the Ambassadors will go to Washington, D.C. to receive the award on behalf of the entire group. While we truly wish

everyone could attend this trip, we were limited to the number of volunteers who could attend. The office used a lottery system to determine who would attend on the Ambassadors' behalf.

The Washington D.C. Office of Public Affairs will prepare a press release to be issued to the local newspapers here. The Ambassadors will also get a space on the "Directors Honor Roll" plaque in the hallway of the Director of the NPS.

We hope to display this award at the office in Somerset and at the June 14th picnic in Shanksville when the Tribute Center visits. If you have questions about the award please contact the Park Office.

SUMMER RECRUITS WANTED

Our office is looking to accept new recruits for the Ambassador program this summer. We hope this will make filling open shifts easier for everyone and not require more of the Ambassadors. If you know someone who you think will make a great Ambassador, please have them contact Adam at the office. We plan to begin training for new Ambassadors this month. We will also begin a second training towards the end of summer too. Your help is greatly appreciated!



Ambassador Sue Strohm takes questions from visitors following a presentation at the Flight 93 temporary Memorial.

May Calendar:

May 3 Task Force/Commission Meeting at Somerset County Courthouse 10 am-1 pm

May 26 Memorial Day; Park Office Closed

Upcoming Training & Events

June 14 NYC Tribute Center visit to Flight 93 Temporary Memorial, etc. Covered dish meal at Shanksville Grove



Do you have a news story or information that should be incorporated into next month's issue of Volunteer? Contact the volunteer coordinator by e-mail or call 443-4557.

Volunteers who missed the Moussau Trial Evidence Training and are interested in viewing these materials can contact the Park Office. If there is enough interest, a second training will be held in Shanksville. This information is always available for viewing by appointment at the Park Office. If you have questions about the content of this Training, please e-mail or call someone on the NPS staff.

Contributors:
NPS Staff
Kathie Shaffer
Bob Britten
WASO

Researcher Looking For Volunteer Assistance

My name is Bob Britten, and I am a doctoral student in journalism at the University of Missouri. I am seeking interview participants for a project on Flight 93 and the use of images in the Shanksville and Somerset County region. I am especially interested in conducting interviews with area residents about any photographs they have made of the crash site, memorials, and any other scenes as part of remembering 9/11. I would also be interested in hearing about other kinds of images, including paintings, signs, memorials, crafts, and artwork – my interest is in the pictures people have made and the stories they have to tell about them. I hope this study will contribute to our understanding of how we use images to deal with trauma that happens in our own backyard.

I would be very interested to hear about your experiences and the images you may have made or encountered. I will next be in Somerset from May 22-24, and will make arrangements to suit you. If you would like to participate, you can contact me at grbv5@mizzou.edu or at (573) 256-4562.

You can also contact Adam or Barbara at the Park Office to ask additional questions or get in touch with Bob.

Oral History Project Update

The Flight 93 National Memorial Oral History Project has recorded 375 histories to date. While this is a good start, there are many more stories to record.

More than 100 recorded histories represent 27 of the 40 passengers and crew on Flight 93. Project assistant Kathie Shaffer is diligently working to record histories to represent all of the passengers and crew, in addition to those involved with the aviation aspect, the recovery efforts, and the initial response. We know that Ambassadors frequently meet visitors at the temporary Memorial who have had a connection to the Flight 93 story.

Recently, an Ambassador met one of the founding pilots of Kiwi Airlines at the Memorial. This individual remembered flight attendant Deborah Jacobs Welsh from the first graduating class of flight attendants at Kiwi. The Ambassador gave Kathie's contact information to this visitor, who has now scheduled to record an interview for the Oral History Project. He also knows others who knew Deborah and will be helping the office contact them for the project.

These chance encounters at the Memorial frequently provide an opportunity to enrich the oral history collection. There are business cards with Kathie's contact information in the lock box with the log books.

In addition to recording these rich and extremely valuable histories, the project would not be complete without the written text from the recordings. Our volunteer transcribers have been working almost every day at the Park office and from home to keep the project moving forward. 52% of the recorded histories have been transcribed. This is a very significant number since there is no employee working on this full-time portion of the project! These volunteers are also writing abstracts of each history, which will be helpful to future researchers.

There are currently 70 oral histories that have made it through every stage in the process and are considered complete. Each history yields more information about the lives of the passengers and crew, what happened on September 11, 2001, the response of the community, the recovery efforts at the site and in general the history of Flight 93 that we can use to share with the public when they visit the permanent Memorial in the future.