

**Briefing Reports**

**Joint Meeting of the  
Flight 93 Advisory Commission  
and the  
Flight 93 Memorial Task Force  
August 2, 2008**

## **Temporary Memorial Management Committee Briefing August 2, 2008**

Prepared by Donna Glessner

### Visitation:

Since the last report to the Commission and Task Force in April, visitation has increased from 2,000 persons per week to 4,000 week—typical summertime numbers. During two weeks, those including the “Thunder in the Valley” motorcycle rally in June and the Fourth of July, visitation topped 5,000 for the week. During the first six months of 2008 there have been 44, 279 visitors. This included 249 bus groups. There were a record number of buses in May: 106.

In the coming few weeks we’re anticipating the visits of several large motorcycle groups to the memorial. On August 14 America’s 9/11 Ride, a three-city ride which originates in Somerset, then travels to the Pentagon and finally to New York City, will hold an evening ceremony at the temporary memorial. Attendance is estimated at no more than 700 motorcycles. On August 23 the community of Shanksville will welcome an estimated 500 motorcycles from New York City who are arriving to dedicate a piece of World Trade Center steel which will be erected at the Shanksville Fire Hall on North Street. While the riders have not scheduled a visit the memorial as a group, they will no doubt visit there some time during their stay in Somerset County. Another 700-motorcycle ride and brief visit is scheduled for August 31 by an Altoona-based group raising money for charities.

Volunteers and staff from the National Park Service together are providing services at the temporary memorial from 10 AM to 6 PM on weekdays and from 10 AM to dusk on Saturdays and Sundays. Additional volunteers are scheduled for special events.

### Moving of the Temporary Memorial:

Members of the Temporary Memorial Management Committee have participated in planning meetings preceding and during the move of the temporary memorial to the new property across Skyline Road. The committee members, having experience in construction, road building, and maintenance, and a practical knowledge of the site and the way it is used by visitors, have been a valuable part of the planning team. The end result of this collaboration between the Task Force Committee, volunteers, and the National Park Service is a new temporary memorial which will meet the needs of the public to safely view the crash site, to learn about the events which unfolded there and in the skies above, to meditate quietly, to pay their respects, and to leave tributes, if they wish. The Temporary Memorial Management Committee is grateful for the level of consideration which was given to this project by the National Park Service staff who worked here and appreciative of the way in which the volunteer Ambassadors have been informed about the project before and during its completion. Numerous Ambassadors were able to help with the re-location of tributes to the new site.

The National Park Service will provide more detailed information about the new temporary memorial site and the work that was done to create it.

**Government Relations Committee Briefing**  
**August 2, 2008**

Prepared by Will Hollier, for the Families of Flight 93

**Federal Appropriations and Federal Funding**

- a) Obtained \$3 million in federal funding from Fiscal Year 2009's Senate Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations Bill through implementation of FY09 appropriations strategy, which included:
- i. Submission of appropriations requests for funding from three distinct appropriations accounts - National Park Service Construction (added \$1.2 million request still pending), Transportation High Priorities, and Transportation Federal Lands - to Senators Specter and Casey and Representatives Shuster, Murtha, Peterson, and Dent
  - ii. Additional submissions of Interior Appropriations requests to Senate Subcommittee Chair Feinstein, House Subcommittee Chair Dicks, and House Subcommittee Ranking Member Tiahrt
  - iii. Scheduled, prepared briefing materials for, and participated in FF93 Hill Day meetings with Senators Specter and Casey; Representative Shuster; House Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee Chair John Olver and Ranking Member Joe Knollenberg; and Senate Majority and Minority Transportation Appropriations staff
  - iv. Scheduled, prepared briefing materials for, and participated in FF93 meeting with White House Political Affairs staff
  - v. Obtained letters of support for appropriations requests from the Somerset County Board of Commissioners, Stonycreek Township, and Indian Lake Township
  - vi. Worked with Rep. Shuster's staff to obtain PENNDOT letter of support (pending)
  - vii. Held continuous meetings and discussions with the Pennsylvania delegation and House and Senate Interior and Transportation Appropriations Subcommittees
  - viii. Held continuous discussions with FF93 Board and NPS regarding NPS budget requests, Hill staff requests for additional information and follow-up documents, and FY08 Federal Highway Administration pass-through funding

- b) Continue to monitor status of Interior legislation for appropriation (Senate markup scheduled for July 24<sup>th</sup>)
- c) Discussions with key staff regarding possibility of memorial funding inclusion in possible second supplemental legislation

### **Department of Interior**

- a) Scheduled and prepared briefing materials for meeting with NPS Director Bomar's Chief of Staff Sue Masica
- b) Held continuous discussions with NPS regarding meeting with Secretary Kempthorne on appraisal concerns, design controversy, and meeting the 10 year timeline

### **Land Appraisal**

- a) Responded to inquiries from congressional staff regarding Svonavec issue

### **Congressional Medal of Honor/Presidential Medal of Honor/Congressional Plaque**

- a) Devised strategy for and held continuous discussions with White House staff regarding obtaining Presidential Medal of Honor for Flight 93 passengers and crew
- b) Scheduled, prepared briefing papers for, and participated in meeting with White House Political Affairs Director Brian McCormack
- b) Held continuous discussions with Senators Schumer and Specter staff regarding introduction of legislation and original co-sponsorship for Congressional Gold Medal.
- c) Held continuous discussions with Representative Shuster staff regarding status of Gold Medal legislation and placement of Capitol Plaque

### **Media/PR**

- a) Held meetings with the Majority and Minority Staff Directors of the House National Resources and Senate Energy and National Resources Subcommittees on National Parks
- b) Obtained meeting with and participated in meeting with Representative Tancredo resulting in a commitment to no longer oppose the memorial; held follow up discussions with staff regarding subsequent use of Mr. Tancredo's name in mailings to Senator Casey
- c) Held discussions with and drafted letter for Senators Specter and Casey and Representative Shuster staff requesting individual or collective endorsement of the design and process

**Archives Committee Briefing Report**  
**August 2, 2008**

Prepared by Barbara Black

Oral History and Documentation Project

Kathie Shaffer has completed 400 oral histories since the first oral history in April 2005! Kathie has been concentrating much of her time these past three months in editing the transcribed interviews being typed by 6 volunteers and 3 staff.

114 interviews are with families and friends, representing 28 out of the 40 passengers and crew.

215 (54% of the oral histories conducted) have been transcribed by 6 volunteers and 3 staff members. 77 oral histories are completely through the process to the finished transcript and signed release documents.

Jacob Miller, SCA intern, is beginning to convert the interviews from an audio cassette tape to a digital format. In the future, all interviews will be available electronically, both in sound and in transcript.

Tribute Collection

The conversion of the Tribute Collection catalog records and numbering system to the National Park Service system is still ongoing. Almost 60% of the first two years of tributes have been re-numbered (October 2001 to January 2003).

With the recent move of the Temporary Memorial, several thousand tributes were collected that have weathered over the summer and are being temporarily stored until the conversion project is complete.

## **Interpretation Committee Briefing Report August 2, 2008**

Prepared by Barbara Black

### **University Partnerships**

Phase I of the Flight 93 Primary Interpretive Themes Project is continuing. The current work focuses on analyzing existing data such as oral histories and tributes. Phase II began in July and will concentrate on collecting and analyzing visitor and non-visitor data.

Dr. Alan Barstow of the University of Pennsylvania extended work on the Flight 93 Memorial project course offered by the Organizational Dynamics Program with a summer course of 4 graduate students. They are continuing work on the existing data in the Tribute Collection.

The cooperative agreement with Portland State University is now in place and Dr. Eric Mankowski can begin work with his graduate students in coding oral histories. Twenty-four completed transcripts of oral histories were recently sent electronically to Dr. Mankowski and an equal number will be transferred in the next few months. The oral histories were randomly selected from all categories of family members, eyewitnesses, first responders, recovery and investigation teams, and community members.

Dr. Michael Duffin and David Larsen cleared the intended project of Phase II with the federal Office of Management and Budget to get approval for visitor interviews that have started this summer. Dr. Duffin, Dr. Barstow and 3 University of Pennsylvania graduate students, and Barbara Black and Adam Shaffer from Flight 93 NM worked together the weekend of July 19-20 to conduct a total of 12 conversational groups with nearly 50 visitors. Visitors were asked to volunteer for a “special opportunity” to “tell us what you think!” They were offered shade, cold water, a chair and a small gift if they would give us their thoughts. The facilitator in each group started with open-ended questions, such as “What does Flight 93 mean to you?” allowing people to direct the content of what they wanted to say rather than answering specific questions. Many people told their story of what happened to them and their families on September 11, and how they felt that day. All expressed their feelings about the passengers and crew and the families they left behind. Some went deeper in thought and talked about the importance and/or impact of Flight 93 and September 11. Some talked about how the passengers and crew should be honored and remembered. The conversations were recorded, detailed notes were taken during the session, observations were made about the individuals in the group and any personal information they might have revealed without prompting, and a debriefing took place by the team after each group of visitors left. In the next few weeks, the team will have discussions about what worked and perhaps what needs to be changed for subsequent conversational groups.

The Academic Research Team consisting of Dr. Duffin, Dr. Barstow, and Dr. Mankowski have been analyzing and testing the National Park Services’ informational

system for public comment, PEPC (Planning, Environment, and Public Comment). This system has been in use by the park service for several years and is a vehicle for the public to comment on forthcoming projects. It is also an internal management system for communicating about the project to other NPS staff and contractors, and for analysis of the comments. The team has determined that the system is adequate for the type of comment and analysis needed for this project and would benefit the park service through the use of an existing (already funded) system that could also be used by other parks replicating this project.

**Land Acquisition Briefing Report – The Conservation Fund**  
**August 2, 2008**

Prepared by Todd McNew

The Conservation Fund (TCF) has worked with the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) and the NPS to incorporate two additional properties into the new State Game Land 93 (SGL93). These parcels were donated by Consol Energy. These include the 140-acre property adjacent to the Memorial boundary that was donated several years ago, as well as another non-contiguous 100-acre parcel to the northeast that was donated last fall in commemoration of the sixth anniversary of 9/11. Both TCF and PGC are actively talking to other landowners to the north about additional parcels that could be incorporated into SGL93. TCF is working with the Families of Flight 93 to assist with the transfer of a 67-acre tract now owned by PBS Coal to the PGC for inclusion into SGL93 - currently waiting for a decision on the “rose garden” concept before proceeding. SGL93 serves as a buffer for the Memorial and complements the work of the NPS.

TCF sold the Marion 7400 dragline in 2006, and it has been removed from the premises. The larger dragline (Marion 7500) has also been sold, and has now been removed from the premises as well. The site appears to have been left clean and graded.

TCF continues to hold three subsurface mineral parcels which partially underlie the southern portion of the Memorial. We hope to complete the take-out sale of these rights in 2008-09. The NPS appraisal process is underway.

Looking forward, TCF effort will focus on the take-out sale of mineral parcels to NPS and the SGL93 effort. We also look forward to fulfilling an as-needed advisory role for further acquisition efforts by the Families and the NPS.

## **Land Acquisition Briefing Report – National Park Service August 2, 2008**

Prepared by NPS Lands Staff

Following is an update of National Park Service (NPS) land acquisition activities at Flight 93 National Memorial (FLNI) since the Commission/Task Force meeting, May 3, 2008.

- NPS is working with the Families to perfect the title on the former PBS Coals property (Tract 01-101), as a requisite to NPS acquisition. NPS and the Families have been informed by the PA DEP that the environmental liability associated with the acid mine drainage issue is being addressed.
- NPS is preparing to acquire the former O’Barto property (Tract 03-105) from The Families of Flight 93 as soon as all title requirements have been met.
- NPS is in negotiations with a resident landowner and family on Skyline Road to purchase their 1-acre property and relocate the family to a replacement property in accordance with Public Law 91-646.
- As soon as title issues are resolved on the former Mock property (Tract 01-114), NPS will acquire the property from the current owners, the Families of Flight 93.
- NPS continues to work with the Kordells (Tract 01-100) on the acquisition and relocation of Rollock, Inc., their recycling/salvage business. NPS will contract with a relocation advisory specialist having professional expertise in moving a business of this kind.
- NPS and the Families of Flight 93 have worked together to complete land surveys on the Svonavec, Kordell, former Mock and PBS Coals properties, and on the Seymour Estate and Alvin Lambert properties, all within the boundary of the Flight 93 National Memorial.
- NPS is working with The Conservation Fund (Tract 01-124) toward the acquisition of the mineral interests formerly owned by PBS Coals. An appraisal will be scheduled sometime in the future.
- Svonavec (01-102). Svonavec, Inc. is a willing seller, and has participated in the Federal appraisal process. The NPS made a written offer to Svonavec, Inc., in 2006, reaffirmed that offer in June 2008, and that offer is valid and still stands.

The Lands Oversight Committee continues to hold monthly conference calls to report on FLNI land acquisition progress and current events for the benefit of the committee, the partners, and NPS in an effort to ensure continued communication and coordination.

## **Memorial Design Briefing Report August 2, 2008 Meeting**

Prepared by Paul Murdoch, Jodie Petersen, and Joanne Hanley

### **STATUS**

1. On April 10, the design team submitted the Final Schematic Design (SD) for Phase 1 scope, (including sub-phases 1A, 1B, and 1C) to NPS for review and comment. The 4-volume submittal includes:
  - Volume 1** Basis of Design Report, describing the current design systems and documenting design team responses to NPS review comments
  - Volume 2** Class B Cost Estimate, including cost comparisons to similar projects
  - Volume 3** Value Analysis Executive Summary, documenting the extensive value analysis work performed since the August 2007 VA Workshop
  - Volume 4** Drawings, describing the current design
2. In early May, NPS submitted comments to the design team based on review of the Phase 1A SD submittal.
3. On June 10 & 11, design team representatives met with NPS in Denver and by conference call to review the SD comments and clarify the scope of work required for the next design phases.
4. On June 30, NPS presented a task order RFP to the design team for the Design Development and Construction Documentation phases for Phase 1A. The design team will submit their proposal, and the task order will be negotiated and approved
5. The Design Development phase is scheduled through December 30 and the Construction Drawing phase submittal is scheduled for June 22, 2009 in preparation for a summer Director's approval.
6. The design team performed an aerial survey in March 2007 but had been unable to access enough control points in the field to complete mapping. In February, NPS was able to contact property owners to allow access for final control points. The survey mapping has now been completed in preparation for Design Development phase work. It appears from the new survey that significant redesign work will be required for the Sacred Ground plaza and parking area. This work will occur in the first month of the DD phase.
7. In February, NPS conducted a field assessment of the site with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to determine locations of water bodies that DEP considers wetlands. The wetlands delineation began with a site visit by the consultant, Louis Berger of Washington DC, on July 9. The design team and NPS require this information for the Design Development Phase to evaluate regulatory impacts and determine ramifications to the design and schedule and to complete required

compliance needs. A series of conferences are anticipated between the consultant and the design team throughout the DD and CD phases. These will be used to discuss needed mitigation and design requirements.

8. NPS submitted to the design team the 2<sup>nd</sup> Draft Preliminary GEO Tech Report, dated March 28, 2008. Recommendations include dynamic compaction for built structure foundations and the degree of anticipated settlement. Costs have been incorporated into a revised SD estimate. This revised estimate also includes added utility and infrastructure costs for Phase 1B that increases the construction cost of Phase 1A.
9. In May, NPS and the design team met with the Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO) to conduct percolation testing for an on-site sand mound wastewater treatment system. Based on the test results, the SEO did not approve this system. A hybrid alternate was discussed that would use a drip system over a larger land area. A preliminary test of this system in July showed positive potential. The design team will need to conduct a life cycle cost analysis for NPS to determine how this compares to either an on-site package treatment plant or direct connection to the sewer system in Shanksville. As noted in the Pre-design Phase, each of these last two systems will cost more initially than what is currently budgeted for construction.
10. In early July, the existing well on the Mock property was tested at two depths for water quality and quantity. At the shallower depth (83 feet) the water quality was unsatisfactory. At the lower depth (265 feet) the water quality was marginally acceptable but the quantity was insufficient. NPS will need to decide whether to test at a lower depth at the Mock property or at other locations, or tie into systems adjacent to the property at greater construction cost.
11. On July 7, NPS met with the Ambassadors Advisory Group to discuss operational issues at the Sacred Ground arrival plaza and parking area. NPS summarized their design observations and programming recommendations for this area and presented to the design team for evaluation in design development.
12. On July 11, NPS, Paul Murdoch and the Design Oversight Committee (DOC) met by conference call to review the main issues discussed in Denver on June 10 & 11, including the Schematic Design changes and the schedule and phases of work going forward.

## **Fundraising and Capital Campaign Briefing Report August 2, 2008**

Prepared by King Laughlin, NPF

The Flight 93 National Memorial Campaign has made progress across several fronts since the May 2008 meeting of the Advisory Commission and Task Force. The phased campaign approach is opening up new opportunities and is showing progress in the form of increased solicitations and commitments. The campaign would also like to recognize Moose International, Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, the Pittsburgh Foundation, and Anheuser-Busch for recent contributions to the Campaign.

### **Campaign Summary**

Funds raised for the campaign stand at \$12.9 million through the quarter ending June 30, 2008. Just under \$1 million has been raised since the beginning of the year through major giving initiatives, the direct mail program, website giving, grassroots contributions, and donations collected at the temporary memorial. An additional \$800,000 has been verbally committed during this quarter, and next month the campaign will be submitting proposals for an additional \$2 million in funding.

### **Cultivation and Solicitation**

The Campaign operates across many fronts involving leadership, volunteers, and staff, and initiatives to cultivate and solicit donors for gifts to support the Memorial are ongoing. Outstanding solicitations, proposals, and program concepts under consideration by potential donors could result in gifts totaling \$1.2 million to \$3.4 million for the campaign this year.

### **National Campaign Steering Committee**

Members of the National Campaign Steering Committee are actively pursuing initiatives and activities for the campaign. Some notable projects underway are:

- “93 Cents for Flight 93” continues to develop in schools and school districts from Washington state to Washington, DC. A special “Heroes Week” (September 8-13) is being created at Kent State University featuring several educational programs about Flight 93 and culminating in a “benefit football game” for Flight 93 in the university’s new stadium.
- The American Legion, the nation’s largest veteran service organization, will be voting on a resolution in support of Flight 93 during its annual national convention in late August. *Legion* magazine is also featuring an article on 9/11 and Flight 93.
- The State of California is preparing to announce an initiative designating September 2008 as a period of statewide recognition for the passengers and crewmembers of Flight 93. The governor will be issuing a proclamation and

public service announcement, and the state's more-than-700,000 employees will be encouraged to make donations to the Campaign.

## **Communications**

The first issue of *93 Remembered: Honoring the 40 Heroes of Flight 93* has been completed and is being distributed to over 30,000 donors and friends of the Flight 93 National Memorial project. The newsletter (produced by Time, Inc., the publisher of *Parks* magazine) will be an important outreach tool to campaign volunteers and will be a consistent means for communication with project donors about the progress of the Memorial. The six-page newsletter includes a "bounce-back" mechanism to facilitate donations to the campaign. A newly-formed Communications Committee will oversee a second issue reporting on the September 11 commemorative activities which will be completed in late October.

## **A National Tribute to the 40 Heroes of Flight 93**

A special event honoring the Heroes of Flight 93 is being planned in Washington DC on September 11, 2008. The by-invitation event is intended to bring together project Partners with current and prospective donors to benefit the campaign and generate additional funding through sponsorships and ticket sales. Over 200 members of Congress have also pledged their support for this event. More information about the event can be found at [www.honorflight93.org](http://www.honorflight93.org).

## **Upcoming Dates**

August 23-28. American Legion National Convention

September 11. A National Tribute to the 40 Heroes of Flight 93

September 8-13. "Heroes Week" at Kent State University

November 18. Greater Southwest Houston Chamber of Commerce Hometown Heroes and Flight 93

## **Summary**

With a new blueprint for fundraising success, focusing on the first phases of the Memorial's design and construction, we are seeing new doors being opened for the campaign to potential donors who recognize the achievability and urgency of dedicating

the memorial in 2011. As summer comes to a close, we are looking ahead to a busy and productive fall for the campaign.

“I have long wanted to thank you for your lifelong sacrifice. I was working in the Capitol complex that day. On leaving the rumors of the plane went from person to person. I always feel a sense those people saved me and my family from tragedy. Words cannot express the enormity of gratitude. Just know that their heroism will never be forgotten and I will share the story with my children when they are old enough. The story of your loved ones will carry on and be known.”

*Tribute Card message*