

Volunteering with H.A.R.P.



H.A.R.P. volunteers are people of all backgrounds, ages, and skill levels. All that is required to volunteer is enthusiasm and a willingness to learn.

To volunteer with H.A.R.P., or to find out about other volunteer opportunities with the National Park Service and Gateway National Recreation Area, call (718) 338- 3799, or pick up an application at any Gateway NRA location.

Volunteer opportunities with H.A.R.P. include:
Aircraft Restoration
Support Vehicle Maintenance
Building Maintenance
Art and Exhibits
Education and Interpretation
Clerical and Administrative Support

Tours and Hours of Operation



A group of students tours Hangar B

Hangar B is open to visitors Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tours for groups can be scheduled in advance by calling (718) 338- 3799.

Youth groups are welcome. Children must be chaperoned at all times while in the hangar. A minimum of one adult per ten children is required.

Public programs and special events are also regularly scheduled for Hangar B and H.A.R.P. Check the park's quarterly public program guide for dates and times.

For more information, please contact:
Gateway National Recreation Area
Floyd Bennett Field
Building 69
Brooklyn, NY 11234
Or on the Internet: www.nps.gov/gate

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Gateway National Recreation Area
Floyd Bennett Field

H.A.R.P.



Historic Aircraft Restoration Project Partners In Preservation

The Historic Aircraft Restoration Project (H.A.R.P.) is a National Park Service Volunteer In Parks program dedicated to preserving the aviation history of Floyd Bennett Field. Volunteers, in partnership with the National Park Service, are doing this by restoring examples of aircraft that once flew from this historic airfield.

Since 1995, H.A.R.P volunteers have worked thousands of hours to restore vintage aircraft which are proudly displayed at the park. These aircraft enable park rangers and volunteer guides to better tell the story of aviation at Floyd Bennett Field as it relates to the city, the nation, and the world.

This important part of the Volunteers In Parks program ensures America's rich history of flight will be preserved for this and future generations.



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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The Gateway of Flight



Floyd Bennett Field is one of the special places cared for by the National Park Service.

As New York City's first municipal airport, the field was the site where many first, famous and record-breaking flights either originated or ended, from 1931 to 1941.

From 1941 to 1971, the people serving at Floyd Bennett Field, then called Naval Air Station – New York, defended the airways and seaways of the East Coast of the United States. From World War II, through the Cold War, the men and women stationed at Floyd Bennett Field protected our nation from its enemies.

In 1972, Floyd Bennett Field became a part of Gateway National Recreation Area, one of our nation's first urban national parks. Today, the National Park Service fulfills its mission to preserve and protect our heritage through programs such as the Historic Aircraft Restoration Project.

Hangar B

H.A.R.P. is located in Hangar B, on the east side of Floyd Bennett Field. The hangar was constructed by the U.S. Navy during World War II and originally served as the base for VRF – 4, one of the squadrons of the Naval Air Ferry Command, which was headquartered at Naval Air Station – New York.

After World War II, the Naval Air Reserve used Hangar B as a training facility to help keep the nation's naval aviators and support staff prepared for national emergencies. Pilots and ground crews were readied for service overseas during the Korean War, Cuban Missile Crisis, and Vietnam War.

Today, Hangar B houses one of the finest aircraft restoration facilities in the United States. This historic building is once again being used for the purpose for which it was built - the care and maintenance of aircraft. It also serves to remind us of the sacrifices made by the men and women who served the United States in times of crisis.



Hangar B

The Aircraft



Grumman Goose

The aircraft being restored in Hangar B represent the different eras of flight at Floyd Bennett Field, from the municipal airport era in the 1930's, to the Naval Air Station – New York period of 1941 to 1971. These aircraft also represent the different services that flew from the field. The U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Air National Guard, and the New York City Police Department are all represented by at least one of the aircraft in the hangar. There are both fixed wing airplanes, and helicopters. Aircraft currently being restored by H.A.R.P. include:

Beechcraft JRB “Expeditor” military transport
Consolidated PB5-5 “Catalina” patrol bomber
Douglas C-47 “Skytrain” transport
Grumman G-21 “Goose” civil transport
Fairchild PT-26 “Cornell” military trainer
Grumman HU-16 “Albatross” military patrol
Lockheed P2V “Neptune” anti-submarine patrol
Douglas A-4 “Skyhawk” carrier borne attack
Sikorsky HH-3 “Pelican” air-sea rescue helicopter
Stearman N2S – 2 “Keydet” military trainer