



VALLEY FORGE PARK ALLIANCE

Inspiring appreciation for and citizen stewardship of Valley Forge Park since 1976.

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E-News - January 14, 2025

Meet the Newest Members of the VFPA Board

We are so pleased to welcome two new members to the Valley Forge Park Alliance's Board of Directors. Be sure to say hello to them at the next Alliance event!

Ernie Overholt is the Chief Operations Officer of Hartford Funds, an investment management company offering a wide range of mutual funds and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) based in Wayne, PA. He moved to Villanova with his family from Colorado in 2017 for a leadership role at The Vanguard Group. Ernie was introduced to VFPA through Leadership Philadelphia, a non-profit organization that connects private sector talent to serve the community. Ernie and his family are frequent users of the Park, enjoying the trails and appreciating its natural beauty.



Nick Robin currently leads risk advisory efforts for Vanguard's Legal and Compliance functions, where he combines his expertise in strategic planning, cyber security, operational efficiency, and business development to drive effective and secure business practices. In addition to his role at Vanguard, Nick has a deep commitment to using his skills and experience to benefit the community. He is an Eagle Scout and currently serves as a Cub Scout Den Leader for his oldest son. He is eager to contribute to VFPA's mission and growth by providing guidance on risk management, strategic planning, and technology initiatives.

Maurice Stephens House Construction Update



Neither the holidays nor the weather could slow down progress on the Maurice Stephens House! The builders are hard at work installing the cedar roofing, with installation of the cedar siding and mahogany windows to follow.

Wreaths Across America Needs You!

The Alliance is in need of volunteers to help to take down this year's Wreaths Across America wreaths and prep them for recycling.

We'll meet at Washington Memorial Chapel at 9:00 AM this Saturday, January 18, where we'll be loading the wreaths into two trucks for the drive over to the Valley Forge Fire Hall (630 Valley Park Road, Phoenixville), where we'll be dismantling the wreaths indoors. If you can't make it by 9:00 AM, we'd love to have your help over at the fire hall at any time that morning.



Please bring heavy duty work gloves and some sturdy pliers as we'll be separating the greens from the metal frames. While we'll be inside at the fire hall, we will be standing on a concrete floor, so wear comfy shoes! Any questions, reach out to volunteer@vfparkalliance.org.

Can't Make it on Saturday? Sponsor a Wreath for 2025 Instead!

Through Friday, January 17, all wreaths sponsored through a registered Wreaths Across America Sponsorship Group (that's us!) will be matched by Wreaths Across America headquarters for placement on next year's National Wreaths Across America Day - Saturday, December 13, 2025.

Sponsor a Wreath for 2025

How National Parks Destroy History, January 19



Join the Tredyffrin-Easttown Historical Society and Park Ranger David Lawrence on Sunday, January 19 for an engaging discussion on the challenges of preservation in the National Park Service, focusing on Valley Forge and its emphasis on 18th-century history. Explore how the park system addresses the challenges of maintaining historical integrity while embracing change, and learn how it navigates these complexities to ensure an enriching experience for visitors.

The development of Valley Forge Park, first by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and later by the National Park Service, resulted in many significant changes to the landscape and buildings in the area.

[Learn More](#)



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December 2024 New And Returning Members

Thank you and welcome!

Michaleen Allen	Fernando and Randi Fonseca	John and Jill Lohmeyer
Rush Taggart and Dorothy Bedford	FGP Foundation	Jeffrey Matthew
James and Carol Beers	Lon and Carol Ann Grubb	John McCarthy
Scott Berman	Peter Joyce and Patricia Hartnett	Robert McKinney
Russell Vignali and Jackie Berrier	Bernhard and Gabriele Heiles	Diane Palmer and Len Miller
Leslie and Cathie Brodsky	Susan and Dale Heist	Benjamin Mudry
Jack Burns	Susan Hodge	Alison and Bart Murray
Jonathan Burton	Melinda Horne	Patricia and Anthony Nastase
Tom and Megan Canniere	Richard J. Shaffer III	Steve and Allyson Ross
Dana and Elinor Caron	Elena Jarvis	Sarah and Gary Hertznecker-Sheehan
Sharon and Andrew Cichocki	Scott Keddie	Henry Shoenfelt
Raymond and Carol Clarke	Todd and Karen Lambert	Wayne and Carol Strasbaugh
Justin Clement	Melissa Cross and Kevin Larkin	Lee Tabas
Mary Jo Connelly	James and Jean Lee	Fredrick and Lura Wampler
John and Pamela DeLuccia	Heather Fitzgerald and Dan Levine	G. Kurt Zeisler
Judy DiFilippo	John and Bridget Lininger	

Not sure if your membership has expired?

Reach out to membership@vfparkalliance.org to find out and ensure that you won't miss out on any member benefits.

Pssst! Want your name and logo on our newsletter?

Email info@vfparkalliance.org to find out how -
and you'll get a Friends Circle Membership too!

YOUR LOGO

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