



Performing Tribute Premieres



If you were ever on a Tribute Center walking tour, at the end of your journey you would be moved, having shared someone's deeply personal experience. Imagine six tours stitched together into one magnificent quilt of personal experiences; add the skillful direction of Donna Kaz, (also a Tribute volunteer guide), and you have envisioned the enormous power of a new Tribute Center production, "Performing Tribute." *Six Tribute volunteers share their September 11th experiences in a 75-minute play that offers a variety of perspectives of family members, a survivor, a neighborhood resident, rescue and volunteer workers.* "Performing Tribute" premiered on October 20 and 21, 2008 at the Tribeca Performing Arts Center as a fundraising event for the Tribute Center.

David Dunlap of the New York Times wrote: "They found a piece of Joe's elbow first." Bridget Damiano speaks the line without dramatic inflection. These are words that scarcely call for embroidery. But her voice is not without affect. Rather, she speaks with the plain, compelling voice of experience. She is, after all, describing a cousin who died at the World Trade Center.

The power of the accounts comes from their understated detail. Gerry Bogacz, who was in the trade center that morning, described the building jumping back and forth more than three feet and recalled an almost tangible sense of panic forming on the fire stairs Gail Langsner, who was in a residential building across the street, remembered escaping — "like every picture of fleeing refugees you've ever seen".... Paul McFadden, formerly of the Fire Department's Rescue 2, spoke of his

confidence when arriving on the scene that Chief Raymond M. Downey would already have the situation well in hand — until he ran into one of the chief's sons. Katherine M. Richardson, whose husband, Robert McPadden, was in FDNY Engine Company 23, said she knew when she learned that more than 300 firefighters had perished that Bob would not be coming home....Ann Van Hine noticed something else about the death certificates. The cause was listed as, "Homicide."

For this reporter, who has probably spent more time at ground zero in recent years than any of his colleagues, "Performing Tribute" was a quiet reminder that the construction going on now is more than redevelopment. It is recovery."

The production ends with testimonials from the six performers of why they are a part of the Tribute Center and provide tours to visitors. Gerry states, "I got out of the Trade Center on 9/11 and I am very sorry for those who did not." Paul recounts, "I responded on 9/11...I couldn't save my friends, but by doing these tours I can save their memories." Gail reminds us that, "Remembering can be hard work and we thank you for doing it."

The production creates a tremendous vehicle to take the mission of the Tribute Center beyond our physical space to universities and other cities. Lee Ielpi stated: "We are grateful for Donna's hard work on this production. It creates a way to take the Tribute Center educational experience to audiences beyond the center. Students are given a glimpse of the loss and struggle the September 11th community continues to endure. It also shows the strength of our volunteers to unite and constructively share their experiences."

Japan Passes Law for Victims of Terrorism



On March 20, 1995, top members of the cult Aum Shinrikyo released sarin on the subway in Tokyo, killing 12 people, and sickening over 5,500. Although the cult was prosecuted and the founder and conspirators are on death row, the Japanese government gave no support or aid to the victims or their families of this act of terrorism.

In the *Japan Times* on March 20, 2005, Susumu Nagai, a professor at Tokiwa University and a specialist in the study of victims, stressed the need for the government to build a solid system by which crime victims would receive legal, financial and medical aid. Japan's legislative body, the Diet, enacted a law in December 2004 to protect crime victims, but no specific measures to support victims were decided. "No one can build a hopeful future by just forgetting about the horrific past," Nagai said. In our

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RESOURCE CORNER

Mental Health and Substance Abuse

1-800-LIFENET
Free & Multilingual. Available 24/7.
Mental health professionals help
find mental health and substance
abuse services.
<http://www.mhaofnyc.org>
(click on LifeNet)

American Psychological Assoc.
1-800-964-2000
Referrals on everything from
managing traumatic stress to
coping with terrorism
www.apa.org/topics/topictrauma.html

Faithful Response
516-679-0080
Free, faith-based mental
health programs for Long
Island residents.
www.faithfulresponse.org

**Trauma & Wellness Center
St. Vincent's Health Hospital**
212-346-2582
Mental health counseling, healing
services and stress management.

**Columbia University & NY State
Psychiatric InSTITUTE**
212-543-5367
Does the grief over the death of a
loved one on September 11th still
interfere with your life?
Free treatment for those eligible.

NYC DOHMH Benefit Program
1-877- 737-1164
The Department of Health and
Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) is
offering an insurance-like benefit
to help cover mental health and
substance use treatment for New
York City residents affected by
September 11th.
www.nyc.gov/9-11mentalhealth

Mount Sinai Medical Center
1-888-702-0630
Medical monitoring for workers
and volunteers.
www.wtcexams.org

Memberships available

The Tribute Center offers a variety of memberships to support educational programming.

Members provide an important base of support allowing the Tribute Center to remember the events of February 26, 1993 and September 11, 2001 with people from around the world.

Membership levels available:
Individual
Family
Sponsor
Emergency services

Membership privileges include unlimited admission to the Tribute Center, discounts, and invitations to previews, events, and exhibitions. Membership contributions are tax-deductible to the extent of the law.



Tribute Memberships

Sign up online or print and mail the membership form. Memberships are also available at the Tribute Center. Gift memberships are available as a meaningful present. A special card notifying your recipient(s) of your gift will be included.

www.tributewtc.org/contribute/membership.php

Japan passes law... from page 1

May 2005 newsletter, we reported on a visit by the September 11th Families' Association to Japan sponsored by the Tokyo Subway Sarin Incident Victims Association. Lee Ielpi and Jennifer Adams were requested to testify at Japan's government hearings for crime victims about the U.S. response to the attacks of September 11, 2001. **This March, Japan marked the 13th anniversary of the deadly sarin attack on the Tokyo subway and in August 2008, the government passed significant legislation to provide recognition and benefits to the victims and their relatives.**

Shizue Takahashi, the widow of one of the two station workers who died and founder of the Tokyo Subway Sarin Incident Victims Association, wrote, "Finally, the bill was passed and the government will provide benefits for the victims of the Tokyo Subway Sarin Gas Attack! Ever since the Basic Act on Crime Victims and etc., was enacted in

December 2004, the Japanese government has not recognized the rights of crime victims. In the 13 years since the Sarin Gas Incident occurred, the government and administrative bodies never listened to our request to provide aid for victims. In this regard, the enactment of the bill was a milestone event for us. I am very much convinced that your visit to Japan really became a trigger for the breakthrough." On August 30, 2008, *Kyodo News* reported, "The government will provide benefits to the victims and their relatives of crimes committed by Aum Shinrikyo, including the 1995 sarin nerve gas attack on the Tokyo subway system. The government of Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda endorsed a plan to put a new law for the measure in force. The law will cover about 4,000 victims and their relatives in eight terrorism crimes committed by the cult. The total amount of benefits is estimated to reach about ¥1.6 billion (~\$164,800,000), the officials said."

Glacial Streambed at WTC Site

Last summer at the WTC site, while digging deeper in preparation for construction in the southeast corner of the site (which will become building 4), an extraordinary discovery was made – a 20,000-year-old glacial streambed. When drilling into this extremely hard bedrock took 16 shifts instead of 2, workers knew that something very unusual was afoot. This led to the discovery of a glacial lake!

Andrew Pontecorvo, Supervising Structural Engineer, and Cheryl Moss, Senior Geologist, both of Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers, delivered a talk at the Tribute Center on the World Trade Center site's historic streambed to over 200 visitors on two nights.

"As the ice passed over New Jersey," Ms. Moss explained, "it picked up local rocks such as red shale and sandstone and gray basalt from the Palisades. As ice melted from the advancing glacier, raging streams of water flowed in front of it. The strong currents picked up the sand, gravel and boulders and carried them downstream across the World Trade Center site. In places, the water swirled in whirlpools of varying sizes, carving out deep potholes and larger basins."

The glaciers carried rocks from as far as the Palisades, the Ramapo Mountains and the Newark Basin to the WTC site. Bedrock at the WTC site was formed over 500 million years ago.

Most bedrock across the site is about 70 feet below street level. Where the glacial streambed was found, bedrock drops to 110 feet. Both the African and North American tectonic plates may have once run right through the site. The two plates started to come together about 550 million years ago, and started to pull apart to form two separate continents about 220 million years ago. Some part of the ancient African plate (Hartland Formation) remains in the bedrock of Lower Manhattan. A glacial plunge pool of this size has never been seen anywhere else in the city.



Photo: Joe Woolhead/Courtesy Silverstein Properties

WTC Rebuilding

On October 2, 2008, the Port Authority issued a report outlining a road map for rebuilding of the World Trade Center site. The report from Executive Director Chris Ward sets a new timetable for completion. The World Trade Center Memorial Plaza, including the inscribed names, is now scheduled to be completed by September 11, 2011. The underground museum portion of the project will be completed in the first half of 2013.

According to the Port Authority, the major stakeholders were brought together under the World Trade Center Steering Committee, a new governance structure that guided the findings of the report. The report outlines resolutions of 15 key issues that have hindered rebuilding progress in the past, and for the first time provides intermediate milestones and will allow the public to track progress on the site.

For further updates, visit our site:

www.911families.org

To view the full Port Authority report:

www.panynj.com

Study Abroad: The U.K. 9/11 Scholarships Fund

The U.K. Scholarships Fund was established by the WTC Disaster Fund of England and Wales and the British Council. It awards scholarships to children or dependants of victims of September 11, 2001 or other subsequent tragedy, for study at higher or further education institutions in the United Kingdom.

The scholarships cover funding for full-time study leading to a degree at undergraduate or Master's level (or equivalent in further education) in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

They also give funding for accredited study periods of up to one year's length at recognized higher education institutions for students whose college or university has an exchange agreement with a partner institution in the UK.



For more information go to:

www.britishcouncil.org/911scholarships

**Looking
for information
from past newsletters?**
www.911families.org
click on Newsletters

Winter Calendar

A British Salute to September 11, 2001:
Hands across the Water
 through January 3, 2009
 The New York City Police Museum
 212-480-3100
www.nycpolicemuseum.org

Benefit Concert for the Sam Oitice Memorial
 Saturday, December 20, 2008
 Peekskill, NY
<http://www.paramountcenter.org/stage.php>

For more events, go to
www.911families.org
Click on events.

Did you participate in **RESCUE, RECOVERY** or **CLEANUP** after the **World Trade Center** collapse?

9/11 Workers and Volunteers!
Register Now to Protect
Your Right to Workers'
Compensation Benefits

To Register and for
 more information
 Go To:
www.nycosh.org or
 call
 1-866-WTC-2556

**Extended
 Until
 September
 11, 2010**
**But don't
 delay -
 Register
 NOW!**

Inside the Fence Exhibit

www.tributewtc.org
click on Inside the Fence



**From December to early spring
 it will be on display at
 the New York State Museum
 in Albany**

September 11th Families' Association
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 New York, NY 10007

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