September 11th, 2009

World Trade Center

The anniversary ceremony will be held once again in Zuccotti Park on the southeast corner of the World Trade Center site on Liberty Street between Broadway and Church Street. Access will be at Cortlandt and Church Street, with your OCME Family ID card, your P or T number or the official 2009 invitation letter from the City of New York. In honor of the new federal designation of September 11th as a National Day of Service and Remembrance, the reading of the names will be by family members and volunteers from New York City who represent the remarkable spirit of compassion and giving that unified our city and our nation in the weeks and months following the tragedy.

The ceremony will pause at four moments to mark the times each plane hit the towers and the times when the towers fell. The first moment of silence will be at 8:46 am, and houses of worship are encouraged to toll their bells at that time. The Tribute in Light, a tribute to all those who were lost on September 11th, as well as those who worked hard to get New York City through its darkest hour, will return from dusk until dawn on September 11th.

September 11th Events

Shanksville, PA

The National Park Service, the Families of Flight 93 and the Flight 93 project partners warmly invite the public to attend the commemoration of the eighth anniversary of September 11th. The event will start at 9:45 am at the temporary Flight 93 Memorial and include the traditional reading of the names of the passengers and crew, and tolling of the Bells of Remembrance by members of the Families of Flight 93 as well as members of the wider community who assisted on and after September 11, 2001. The theme for this year’s commemoration ceremony will be Upon this Sacred Ground, Courage Remembered.

Pentagon

The Pentagon Memorial will commemorate the eighth anniversary of 9/11 at 9:30 am with a wreath-laying at the Pentagon Memorial. A moment of silence will be held at 9:37 am, the time of impact. The memorial opened to the public last year and has served thousands of visitors.

Tribute WTC Visitor Center

The Tribute Center will be open for family members from 9am - 6pm. On September 11th Liberty Street will be in the restricted zone, which can be accessed with your OCME Family ID card, your P or T number or the official 2009 invitation letter from the City of New York between Zuccotti Park and the entrance to the WTC site. If your family member is not yet remembered in the Tribute Gallery, and you would like to submit a photo (up to 8”x10”), submission forms are available at the Center.

For information on these and other events, visit: www.911families.org/events.html

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1  September 11th Events
2  Shanksville Visit
3  Tribute Annual Picnic
4  USS New York
3  NS11MM Update
4  Dates to Remember
Tribute Volunteers Visit Flight 93 Memorial

In July, thirty-six Tribute volunteers, staff members and family of volunteers traveled to Shanksville, PA to visit the Flight 93 Memorial site and the Shanksville Volunteer Fire Department. During the trip, the group received a guided tour from the National Park Service of the Flight 93 crash site and the Temporary Memorial and exchanged experiences with the Flight 93 Memorial Ambassadors.

Tribute volunteer Anthony Palermo said, “As I sat there looking at the crash site and listening to Donna explain the events of their 9/11, I realized, I was now the visitor. Hearing her gentle voice explain the events of that day brought me right back. As she read off the names of the crew and passengers of Flight 93, I could feel my heart beating faster and faster. I sensed the sorrow in her voice and the sadness in her heart. What I also felt was that very special connection that you and I share being part of 9/11 and the Tribute Center.”

At the Shanksville Firehouse, the Tribute volunteers were greeted by Chief Shaffer, a first responder on September 11, 2001. That evening, the group was treated to a home-cooked meal by the Flight 93 staff and Ambassadors. Donna Giessner, founder of the Flight 93 Memorial Ambassador Program, gave a special presentation about their program. At the offices of the Flight 93 National Memorial, the group learned about the future Flight 93 National Memorial from the National Park Service. They shared audio presentations of oral histories and a presentation of commemorative objects visitors leave at the temporary memorial site.

“Tribute Volunteers Visit Flight 93 Memorial

A special thank you to our hosts, for making us feel welcome, and for sharing their stories.

“Our role is to humanize the experience and allow the visitor to really feel connected.”

“I think this was an amazingly positive experience and is an important way to understand this tragedy, but also the courage, heroism & spirit that emerged from it.”

“We both serve the community and people from all around the world to communicate the human story.”

To become a Tribute Volunteer, visit: www.tributewtc.org

Tribute Picnic

On August 9th, the Tribute Center hosted its 3rd annual picnic. Staff, volunteers and their families joined for an afternoon of food and fun at Picnic Point on Governors Island.
USS NEW YORK Commissioning & Exhibition

On November 7, 2009, USS NEW YORK (LPD 21) will officially enter into the U.S. Navy at a commissioning ceremony in New York City. USS NEW YORK is a new class of state-of-the-art amphibious ship with a crew of 360, and is designed to carry 700-plus U.S. Marines and their equipment, including vehicles and aircraft. She is also the first ship designed to carry the Osprey tilt rotor aircraft. The ship has seven-and-a-half tons of World Trade Center steel forged in her bow.

In October, the Tribute Center will open an exhibition on USS NEW YORK. The exhibit reveals the unique qualities and attributes associated with the steel, a metal central to the formation of New York skyscrapers, and transformed in this ship into a symbol of the strength and humanity of our nation. “Sailing into the Future: USS NEW YORK” includes the voices of Naval personnel, steel workers, ship builders and museum curators, who have all played dynamic roles in the building and operating of USS NEW YORK. The ship’s motto is “Strength Forged through Sacrifice. Never Forget.”

In a recent interview with the Tribute Center, USS NEW YORK Commander Curt Jones discussed the meaning the steel will have to the crew. “Where the steel is located is an important message – it is right at the bow stem so the steel is literally leading us through the water. My crews are always aware of that. The first time I got to see the ship was the spring of 2007 and it was still up on land. I put my hand on the hull and every hair on my body stood on end. That spirit is palpable. Every day we are honoring the victims and heroes of that day.” If you are unable to see the ship while she is in New York, the Tribute Center exhibition will be open from October 2009 to March 2010.

The September 11th Families’ Association is in the process of adopting USS NEW YORK in order to support the sailors beyond the commissioning. On November 5, 2009 the Association will host the crew and their families on a tour of the Tribute Center followed by a reception. The event will serve to educate the crew on the events of September 11, 2001.

If you would like to be a part of the September 11th Families’ Association committee to support the USS NEW YORK, please email kriegesr@911families.org.

Be part of the USS NEW YORK history

If you would like to be part of the history of USS NEW YORK have your name, organization, company, or the name of someone you wish to honor, engraved on silver items that will become part of the ship’s silver service. Per Navy tradition, a ship’s silver service is used when hosting guests for ceremonial occasions. The silver service will stay with the ship throughout the ship’s life, and by tradition, is passed to the next ship named for New York.

A silver registry listing items that are needed for the ship’s silver service has been established at Tiffany & Co. The jeweler and silversmith have created custom serving pieces for U.S. Navy ships for more than a century. The registry, which includes a full line of engravable pieces, can be accessed through USS NEW YORK Commissioning Committee’s official website: www.ussny.org. The USS NEW YORK Commissioning Committee funds and organizes the events during Commissioning Week and establishes an educational and special needs fund for the ship.

National September 11 Memorial & Museum

Major progress has been made on the construction of the Memorial & Museum, bringing them closer to opening the Memorial on the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. With over 80% of steel for the project installed, the north Memorial pool has taken shape, the south Memorial pool is well underway, and the Museum structures have begun to take form. As the physical structures are taking place, on this year’s 9/11 anniversary, family members will be able to walk onto the base of the Memorial Plaza for the first time.

In order to provide visitors to the World Trade Center site with a space to see the current construction and plans for the Memorial & Museum, the new 9/11 Memorial Preview Site is open at 20 Vesey Street. Visitors are able to view models and renderings of the World Trade Center site when the rebuilding is complete, and selected artifacts from the Museum’s collection. A webcam of live construction images of the World Trade Center site, allowing visitors to view current construction and to print images or send them to friends. The Preview Site provides the public with the opportunity to participate in building this institution by sharing their 9/11 story for the Museum’s collection in an on-site recording booth.

The 9/11 Memorial Preview Site is open 7 days a week. For more information: www.national911memorial.org
**Dates to Remember**

**The September Concert**
worldwide music festival
in remembrance of September 11th
for countries, dates & times:
www.septemberconcert.org

**‘We Will Never Forget’ Dinner**
Rocky Bleier,
Fm’r Pittsburgh Steeler, & Guests
Friday, September 11, 2009
Heinz Field East Club, Pittsburgh, PA
www.honorflight93.org

**The Mark Bingham Classic Golf Tournament**
Friday, September 11, 2009
Poplar Creek Golf Course, San Mateo, CA
www.markbingham.org

**8th Annual ‘Walk With Joe’ 5-k Memorial Walk**
Saturday, September 12, 2009
Monmouth Battlefield State Park,
Manalapan, NJ
www.walkwithjoe.com

**6th Annual Nicky Brandemarti Golf Tournament/Freedom Walk**
Friday, September 25, 2009
River Winds Golf Club, W. Deptford, NJ
www.nickyb44.com

**London 5-K Peace Run/Walk**
Saturday, September 26, 2009
Minster Court along Thames Pathways
www.weekofpeace.org.uk

**A Time of Remembrance**
Saturday, September 26, 2009
West Front Lawn. US Capitol,
Washington D.C.
www.remember.gov

**The Firefighter Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Run/Walk**
Sunday, September 27, 2009
From Brooklyn through the Battery Tunnel
www.tunneltotowersrun.org

**‘Beyond The Bike’**
Saturday, September 12, 2009
38 Elicott Street, Needham, MA
www.firstgiving.com/beyondthe11th

**8th Annual Bill Kelly, Jr. Memorial Golf Classic**
Friday, October 9, 2009
Greate Bay Country Club, Somers, NJ
www.billkellyjr.com

**8th Annual Brooke Jackman Foundation Benefit**
Thursday, October 22, 2009
Helmsley Palace Hotel, New York, NY
www.brookejackmanfoundation.org

**A Time of Remembrance**
Saturday, September 26, 2009
West Front Lawn. US Capitol,
Washington D.C.
www.remember.gov

To learn more about these and other events, visit: www.911families.org/events.html