On May 28, 2011 in a ceremony on board the USS New York, the September 11th Families' Association adopted the ship to support the education, morale and welfare of the crew.

The Association has been involved with USS New York since she was christened in March 2008. During the commissioning in New York City in 2009, the Association welcomed crew members and their families to the Tribute WTC Visitor Center to share the personal stories of 9/11. Association President Lee Ielpi said, "We are honored to continue our relationship with the USS New York by formally adopting the ship to ensure that all crew members understand the significance of the 7.5 tons of World Trade Center steel in the bow stem." Last year in honor of September 11th as a National Day of Service and Remembrance, the Association hosted family members, survivors, and first responders who assembled care packages for each sailor on the USS New York. Jennifer Adams, CEO of the Association noted after the ceremony, "The average age of sailors on board the ship is 20 years old. In 2001, they were 10 years old. It is our mission as the September 11th community to help them understand the significance and personal history of 9/11. They will be the representatives of America on missions around the world."

During the ceremony, the ship's Chaplain Laura Bender stated, "We belong to New York in a way no other ship and crew belong, for we are a living memorial; we are a tribute in honor and memory; we are a symbol of the strength and resolve of our nation to stand against evil in whatever form it presents itself. No matter what mission lies ahead for USS New York, the covenant we will make with the 9/11 families, survivors, and recovery workers will be our strength."

President Visits the WTC Site

On May 5, 2011, days after the killing of Osama bin Laden, President Barack Obama visited the World Trade Center site. The President visited Engine 54, Ladder 4 in midtown and the First Precinct police station before traveling to World Trade Center site to meet with first responders and lay a wreath.

Following the wreath laying ceremony the President went to the 9/11 Memorial Preview Site where he met with a small group of family members including September 11th Families’ Association President Lee Ielpi who was moved by the visit, “The President spoke to us from the heart—there was no script—and I felt he was very sincere. I took the opportunity to emphasize to him that schools nationwide need to be teaching about the history of 9/11.” Planning is underway for the President to visit the World Trade Center site again on the opening of the memorial on September 11, 2011.

On the same day as the President’s visit to New York, Vice President Biden laid a wreath of white lilies at the Pentagon Memorial. Defense Secretary Robert Gates and former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld also attended the silent ceremony.
James Zadroga 9/11 Health Act

Last month, attorney Sheila Birnbaum was selected as Special Master for the Zadroga Act. By July 8, 2011, the fund must release information on how to apply for the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund, which will be reopened for 5 years. H.R. 847, the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, provides health care for those exposed to toxins released by the collapse of the World Trade Center towers. The act is a victory for ailing 9/11 first responders and survivors who have waited more than nine years for the federal government to approve a comprehensive plan to deal with the public health disaster caused by the attacks.

The Zadroga Act also provides the World Trade Center Health Program (WTC Program) for medical monitoring and treatment of 9/11-related health conditions. The WTC Program is set up for emergency personnel, rescue and clean-up workers who responded as well as students attending school and people employed in the area. An initial health evaluation will determine program eligibility, health monitoring and medical care for 9/11 related health conditions at the Centers for Excellence (locations under Resource Column to the left).

Facts about the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act:
Provide a total of $4.3 billion in funding for the health and compensation. Cap of federal funding for the health program over five years at $1.5 billion. Reopen the Victim Compensation Fund (VCF) for five years to file claims. Fund the VCF at $2.8 billion for six years, with $.8 billion available for payments in the first five years and $2.0 billion available for payment in year six. Claims will be paid in 2 installments—one payment in the first five years, and a second payment in the sixth year of the program.

9/11 Responders

9/11 Responders Remembered plans to build a memorial in Nesconset, NY paying tribute to the first responders and survivors of the September 11th attacks who have died of September-11th-related illnesses. Eileen Ryan, widow of NYPD Det. Sgt. Michael Ryan, and Jenn McNamara, widow of FF John McNamara, organized the group to honor their husbands, both of whom died of cancer from their work during the recovery. www.respondersremembered.com.

September 11th Families’ Association www.911families.org 10th Anniversary Ceremonies
Email kgrieger@911families.org to submit your own ceremony or event to be posted.

9/11 Education

As the school year is winding down, the Tribute Center is gearing up to serve teachers this summer, preparing them to discuss the events of September 11th with their students. 50 teachers from Queens, 23 from Brooklyn, in addition to 150 teachers from the tri-state area will be gathering for intensive workshops with Tribute staff and docents throughout June and July.

Demand for the workshops came from feedback from teachers and thousands of students who visit the Tribute Center annually. Information will be sent out to teachers in August with suggested topics to talk about during the first week of school.

Tribute Center Education program www.tributewtc.org/programs
9/11 Memorial Name Listing
The names of the 2,982 people who lost their lives in the September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993 attacks have been inscribed into bronze parapets surrounding the Memorial Pools. The Memorial Pools are located in the footprints of the Twin Towers. Every name has a code containing N for North Pool or S for South Pool, followed by a panel number that indicates the location. Kiosks will also be available to look up the location of each name.

The names are categorized into nine groups: North Tower, Flight 11, February 26, 1993 on the North Pool and South Tower, First Responders, Flight 175, Pentagon, Flight 77, and Flight 93 on the South Pool. Within these groups, names are arranged by employee and company affiliation, as well as by additional requests from family members and surviving colleagues for specific names to be inscribed next to one another. This unique design allows the names of family, friends, and colleagues to be memorialized together. To learn more about the memorial listings, please visit http://names.911memorial.org. The memorial will be dedicated on the tenth anniversary and open for families to visit.

General information has been posted for families about the 9/11 Memorial, including information on how to visit after the anniversary dedication at http://www.911memorial.org/information-911-family-members. Beginning July 6, families will be offered the first opportunity to secure advance reservations to visit the Memorial starting September 12, 2011.

World Trade Center Site under Construction
Construction at the WTC site is progressing quickly. Steel for WTC Tower 1 has risen to the 68th floor. Tower 4 is approximately 27stories, while the foundations for Towers 2, 3 and the Transit Hub are being completed. Almost 50% of the 400 trees on the memorial plaza have been planted, including the Survivor Tree. The museum pavilion structure is complete and both of the waterfalls for the memorial pools are being tested. This tremendous progress is due to the dedication of the Port Authority, Silverstein Properties and the State and City of New York.
Organize a September 11th Memorial Stair Climb
Sunday, September 11, 2011
Join the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation in organizing a Memorial Stair Climb in your town to remember the 343 FDNY active duty firefighters, 3 retired firefighters and 1 member of the NYC Fire Patrol who were murdered in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. [www.9-11stairclimb.com](http://www.9-11stairclimb.com)

Tour de Force Bicycle Ride
Thursday, September 8, 2011 – Sunday, September 11, 2011
New York, NY to Washington DC
All proceeds will go to families of police officers killed in the line of duty.
To register, please visit [www.tourdeforceny.com](http://www.tourdeforceny.com)

If you are a family member who is willing to be interviewed by the press or is interested to receive emails regarding press interviews leading up to the 10th Anniversary, contact kgrieger@911families.org.

2011 World Police & Fire Games
15,000 Athletes Compete
65 Sporting Events
Volunteer to support the Games!

Donations in Memoriam:

- Paul A. Acquaviva
- Terence E. Adderley, Jr.
- Lee Adler
- Kermit C. Anderson
- FF Michael Bocchino
- FF Michael Boyle
- Captain Patrick Brown
- Police Officer John D'Allara, NYPD
- Lt. Manuel Del Valle, Jr.
- Neil Matthew Dollard
- D.C. Raymond Downey
- Captain Michael Esposito
- FF Thomas J. Foley
- Lt. David Fontana
- Captain Vincent F. Giammona
- Lynn Catherine Goodchild
- Jonathan Graham
- Steven M. Hagis
- Lt. David Halderman
- Kathy Hayes
- FF Thomas J. Hetzel
- Michael C. Howell
- Rebecca Koborie
- Danielle Kousoulis
- Police Officer John D. Levi, PAPD
- Alisha Caren Levin
- Scott McGovern
- FF Michael D. Mullan
- Lt. Raymond E. Murphy
- FF Eric Taube Olsen
- Joseph O. Pick
- FF Stephen P. Russell
- James Samuel, Jr.
- Maria Theresa C. Santillan
- Jeffrey H. Schreier
- Michael F. Stabile
- Jonathan J. Uman
- Diane Marie Urban
- FF Louis Valentino
- Captain Patrick Waters
- FF Kenneth Watson
- FF Edward J. White III
- Donna Ann Wilson

September 11th Families’ Association
22 Cortlandt Street, Suite 801
New York, NY 10007