



*September 11th
Families'
Association*

Tribute



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Memories and Meaning: Objects Speak

In February 2011, the Tribute Center opened a new exhibit, *Memories and Meaning Objects Speak*, which reflects the impact that the attacks of September 11th have had on a variety of people over the last ten years.

The curatorial staff at the Tribute Center interviewed hundreds of people who had saved very personal mementoes from September 11, 2001. Over 20 precious objects that represent unique September 11th memories are included in the exhibition. The objects are accompanied by each person's story, showing how individuals acquired the objects, why they kept them and how the meaning changed over the course of time.

One object is a victim's phone card. The card was the only thing returned to his family during the recovery operation. Initially, the family who donated the card associated only sadness and disappointment with it, but over time, they came to see it in a different light. When returning from a business trip, this father and husband would often make his final business calls from the driveway, in order to be fully present



Contributors who donated an object to the new exhibition.

with his family when he walked through the door. The family now views the phone card as a representation of the great love he possessed for his family.

In another case, two hats, both quite different, are on display. One is a hardhat worn during the recovery period and during the rebuilding; the other is a funny flowered hat worn as a way to lift the spirits of recovery workers. Both were utilitarian hats

when originally saved, but now are epic to their owners by the amount of history experienced by each.

Some of the objects, such as an airplane model from the Pentagon or a set of foreign language dictionaries from the World Financial Center, were removed from desks in offices that were badly damaged on September 11th. The objects originally had meaning as a symbol of office life before the attacks, and now they reflect a world with very different values.

Memories and Meaning: Objects Speak is currently on display at the Tribute Center through fall 2011.

February 26, 1993 Anniversary

At 12:18pm on February 26, 1993, terrorists detonated a 1,200 pound nitrate bomb in the B2 level of the garage under World Trade Center Tower 1. The resulting blast murdered John DiGiovanni, Robert Kirkpatrick, Steven Knapp, William Macko, Wilfredo Mercado, Monica Rodriguez Smith and Monica's unborn child. More than 1,000 people were injured that day, many of them seriously, and countless more were traumatized.

In May 1994, four men – Mohammed Salameh, Nidal Ayyad, Mahmud Abouhalima and Ahmad Ajaj – were each given life sentences for their roles in the bombing. The next year, Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman, was also sentenced to life for masterminding the attack. Other arrests and convictions have followed, though no one has been sentenced for the actual bombing itself.

A rose granite memorial fountain inscribed with the names of those killed was built in Austin Tobin Plaza, over the site of the bomb. The only surviving piece of the 1993 Memorial, a small piece of granite bearing the name "John D", has been preserved and will one day be displayed in the National September 11th Memorial Museum. All the names will be inscribed around the North Tower Pool on the WTC Memorial, opening later this year.

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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.

1-800-374-2723
Referrals on everything from managing traumatic stress to coping with terrorism
<http://locator.apa.org>

Faithful Response

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

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.

Mount Sinai Consortium

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

FDNY

212-570-1693
Service for all active and retired NYC Firefighters and EMS workers.

WTC Centers of Excellence

<http://www.nyc.gov>

WTC Environmental Health Center

877-982-0107

4th Annual Teacher Awards



NYS Regent Betty Rosa speaking at the Teacher Awards ceremony.

As the Tribute Center has helped teachers and students bring discussions of September 11th into the classroom, it was exciting to celebrate our fourth annual Teacher Awards ceremony on Friday, February 25, 2011. Five teachers were awarded Certificates of Merit and financial gifts from 9/11 family foundations for exemplary educational projects that explore the impact of September 11, 2001. The awards were presented by New York State Education Department Regent Betty Rosa.

Recipients included:

Evan Madin, a journalism teacher at **Queens Gateway to Health Sciences Secondary School** in Jamaica, Queens, who explored September 11th as a way to motivate students to understand media and the power and art of the written word.

Mary Albarino, a psychology teacher at **John S. Burke Catholic High School** in Goshen, NY, believes that

September 11th offers students an exceptional opportunity to see how people who experienced great tragedy and trauma are able to make choices to improve their world.

Michelle Mastrandea, a 7th grade social studies teacher at **Great Neck North Middle School** in Long Island, collaborates with a team of English, science and math teachers to create a multi-disciplinary approach.

Kelley O'Connor-Iacobaccio from **Rondout Valley School** in Ulster County creates a service-learning project, involving 16 other teachers and over 500 students from 5 schools. The projects involve older students working with younger students to explore the humanitarian efforts made in response to the attacks of September 11th.



Recipients of the Teacher Awards: Evan Madin, Michelle Mastrandea, Jill Schechter, Kelley O'Connor-Iacobaccio, and Mary Albarino.

Jill Schechter, librarian at **Woodhome Elementary Middle School** in Baltimore helps teachers and curriculum developers understand that September 11th is a supreme "teachable moment" for understanding civics, humanitarianism, and global history.

The awards have been made possible by the generous support of the The Greg Richards, Larry Polatsch, Scott Weingard Memorial Fund (GLS Memorial Fund), The Welles Remy Crowther Charitable Trust, The Christopher Slattery 9/11 Memorial Foundation, The Brooke Jackman Foundation, and the family of Firefighter Michael D. Mullan.

To be a part of the 2012 Teacher Awards by sponsoring a teacher's award or to submit a project, please visit www.tributewtc.org/programs/teachers_share.php.

National September 11th Memorial & Museum Timeline

The National September 11th Memorial & Museum has launched an interactive timeline of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2011. The timeline begins at 5:45am and ends at 8:30pm. View the timeline here:
<http://timeline.national911memorial.org>.

Navy News



The USS NEW YORK, LPD 21, had a bittersweet day on February 11, 2011 as the ship's crew said farewell to its first CO, Commander Curtis Jones, and welcomed their new Commander William Herrmann. Herrmann most recently served as USS NEW YORK's Executive Officer.

USS NEW YORK, a San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock ship that transports Marines and their equipment and can also launch helicopters, completed final contract trials on February 4, 2011, proving the ship to be ready for missions.

Commander Jones will be taking up new duties at the Pentagon. Naval tours are generally two years long, so many of NEW YORK's crew will also be changing.

LPD 24, the USS ARLINGTON, the new ship dedicated in memory of those murdered on Flight 77 and at the Pentagon, will be christened on Saturday, March 26, 2011 in Pascagoula, Mississippi.

For more information about the USS ARLINGTON, which contains steel from the Pentagon, please visit www.ussarlington.com or e-mail ussarlington@aol.com.

Work of Therapy Dogs after 9/11

On Sunday, February 13, 2011, Frank T. Shane, the founder and CEO of the K-9 Disaster Relief Foundation, came to Tribute to talk about the work he and his therapy dog did with family members and people working at the recovery after September 11th.

Frank's canine partner at the time, Nikie, was well known at the World Trade Center site and beloved by many. Frank told many stories of the way in which Nikie was able to provide mental health and crisis intervention to people of all ages. In one interesting story, he recounted Nikie's ability to help family members who weren't able to communicate with counselors because of language issues. "Nikie could be supportive to people who spoke any language," his owner said.

Frank talked about the training of therapy dogs, and was able to demonstrate his techniques with his new therapy dog – 5-month-old Chance. This was Chance's first visit to the neighborhood of the World Trade Center. He listened to Frank talk for a while, and then enthusiastically responded to the children and adults who wanted to pet him.



Frank T. Shane and Chance, his new therapy dog.

Tribute Center Volunteers



Rita Weiner, a Tribute Center volunteer, talks to visitors on her walking tour around the World Trade Center site.

"What did it feel like to stand on that pile?" a high school student asked Bill Crawford, a Tribute Center volunteer and retired New York City firefighter. "Overwhelming," he responded, "because I knew there were hundreds of firemen underneath me who I knew I would not get to." This exchange between a student and a Tribute Center volunteer took place during January and February's free admission months for New York City students, when over 2,250 young people visited the Tribute Center.

students to the attacks of September 11, 2001 in uniquely meaningful and powerful ways. Tribute's dedicated group of volunteers from the September 11th community consists of family members who lost loved ones, rescue and recovery workers, survivors, downtown residents and volunteers. Tribute volunteers recognize that they are living historians, a link to the past, and by talking about their September 11th experiences they honor the memory of their loved ones and give people insight into events of September 11, 2001.

Every week, thousands of people from across the country and around the world come to the Tribute Center to go on walking tours of the World Trade Center site that are led by our volunteers. They incorporate their personal experiences about September 11th with facts and general information. Tribute Center volunteers explore the human side of a turning point in history and demonstrate that during extraordinary moments, there are no ordinary lives.

Some iconic images from September 11th may be known to the students, but the person-to-person stories shared by volunteers in the lower gallery of the Tribute Center connect

To learn more about becoming a Tribute Center volunteer, please Nancy Gamerman at volunteer@tributewtc.org or call 212-422-3520 x112.



**FF Christopher Mozzillo
Memorial Golf Outing**

Thursday, May 5, 2011
Register: 11:00am
Start: 12:30pm
Staten Island, NY

Please contact Michael Mozzillo at
718-979-4345, or e-mail him at
cmmscholarship@aol.com

**10th Annual Joseph R. Rivero
Memorial Golf Outing**

Monday, May 10, 2011
Register: 11:00am -12:30pm
Start: 1:00pm
Armonk, NY

*Brynwood Golf and Country Club
568 Bedford Rd
Armonk, NY 10504*

joerivero.com

**Lt. Chuck Margiotta Memorial
Biker Run**

Sunday, May 22, 2011
10:00am - 12:00pm
Staten Island, NY

Please contact Mike Margiotta at
718-698-9494,
e-mail mix28@aol.com or visit
chuckmargiottascholarshipfund.com

Donations in Memoriam

Paul Acquaviva
FF Michael Bocchino
Leonard M. Castrianno
Mark Colaio
Stephen Colaio
Welles Remy Crowther
FF Manuel Del Valle, Jr.
Carol K. Demitz
Paige Farley
FF Thomas J. Foley
William Christopher Hunt
FF Jonathan Ielpi

Virginia Jablonski
Brooke Jackman
Dorothy Mauro
Denis J. McHugh III
Lt. Paul T. Mitchell
FF Michael D. Mullan
Alexander Napier, Jr.
FF Gerard T. Nevins
Todd Joseph Ouida
Joseph Pick
Laurence Polatsch
David E. Retik
Gregory Richards

FF Nicholas P. Rossomando
FF Stephen P. Russell
James K. Samuel, Jr.
Christopher Slattery
Gregory Thomas Spagnoletti
Captain Timothy M. Stackpole
Thomas Strada
Yoichi Sumiyama Sugiyama
Derek Ogilvie Sword
Gopalakrishnan Varadhan
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Donna Ann Wilson

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