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Welcome to Spring 2013

Welcome to Spring 2013 everyone! We're into another year and we're already planning family events, including service projects, a Red Sox outing, and the 12th Annual Commemoration. In addition, we are working with the Board on the MA 9/11 Education Initiative and the MA Archiving project while continuing our regular business of producing the quarterly newsletters and advocating for families.

Events & Happenings

Exhibit Opens at 9/11 Tribute Center Tewksbury 9/11 Memorial Honored

A new exhibit opened at the 9/11 Tribute Center in Lower Manhattan across from the World Trade Center opened on March 28, 2013. It features eight memorials from around the world, including the Tewksbury, MA 9/11 Memorial, that incorporate steel recovered from the World Trade Center. These eight memorials are just a few of the thousands worldwide utilizing steel from the original World Trade Center that have been established as part of the global outpouring of grief and support for the victims of September 11.



Tewksbury 9/11 Memorial

During the 10th Commemoration of 9/11, a ceremony at the Tewksbury's 9/11 Memorial featured the dedication of a section of steel, roughly three-feet long and 124 lbs., recovered from the World Trade Center. The steel has been installed on the ceiling, as a permanent addition to the memorial.

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Mass 9/11 Staff

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 Operations and Programs

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In Memoriam

Senator Edward M.
 Kennedy
 Loretta W. Kowal



Memorial with Section of Steel from the World Trade Center

Ongoing Human Remains Recovery Effort

On Monday, April 1, 2013, the City of New York began a multi-agency sifting operation to carefully evaluate and search material that may contain human remains recovered at the World Trade Center Site since 2010. The operation is taking place at a forensic mobile sifting platform at Fresh Kills in Staten Island. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) is leading the multi-agency operation. OCME will keep you advised of the recovery of potential human remains.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Laura Henriksen at 911familyquestions@cityhall.nyc.gov or 212-442-8953

Nazli Parvizi
Commissioner, Community Affairs Unit

Meeting with TSA Regarding Knife Policy

George Naccara, Director of the TSA/Boston, has offered to meet with family members regarding its latest decision to allow short-bladed knives on airplanes. Mr. Naccara has also offered the families an opportunity to tour the TSA's operations behind the scenes and participate in a Q & A afterward. The TSA will work with Massport and the State Police to take care of parking. Please note that this is an informational meeting only. Mr. Naccara cannot change the policy, but you may express your concerns. Legislation is being written to overturn the decision, so you may also send your written concerns to your legislator. Because so many of you wanted to attend but could not make the first date offered, the **TSA has agreed to meet with us on Saturday, April 27th at 10:00 a.m. at Logan Airport.** If you have not responded to this new date, please email Alyse at alyse.mazerolle@Massfund.org or call 866-Fund911 and choose option #1 to leave a message with contact information. You will then receive more information about parking and meeting locations.

Proposed May 20th Visit to Boston by the KSM Prosecution Team

The DOD prosecution team travels extensively to hold meetings with those most directly affected by the 9/11 attacks. The purpose of these meeting is to provide families with information about the military commission trial of KSM, et al, at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The team also seeks to introduce themselves and offer information about services available to families throughout the trial process.

Before their visit to NY, they are proposing a visit to Boston and will be available to meet with family members on Monday, May 20th, at 9:30 a.m. Please respond to Karen Loftus, Director, Victim Witness and VFM CCTV programs, at the Office of the Chief Prosecutor of Military Commissions. She can be reached at Karen.Loftus@osd.mil. They would like to hear from you by April 27th to understand how many to expect, so they can plan the size of the conference room as well as the number of team members to bring to the meeting. Karen Loftus will be sending out an email letter to MA families regarding this visit, but please feel free to respond to her before that date if you can attend.

MMHF "Day of Service" on Memorial Day Weekend

Mass Military Heroes' Fund (MMHF) will again be creating a Flag Garden on the Boston Common over Memorial Day Weekend, providing Mass 9/11 Fund family members an opportunity to participate in a community service project. For the fourth year, MMHF will be planting 32,000 flags in the ground to represent each Massachusetts service member who has fallen in service since the Civil War.



Family member George Smith rests after planting flags in the Boston Common

The flag planting event begins at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 22, at the Sailors and Soldiers Memorial (beyond the Frog Pond as you walk toward the Public Garden). Family members are invited to help in creating this moving tribute to our American Heroes. Depending on the number of volunteers, we anticipate it will be completed by 5:00 p.m. or sooner. Please bring a screwdriver to assist in making the holes in the ground for the flags. You will be bending over a lot or sitting on the ground. If you plan to attend, please email Christie Coombs at cc.mmhf@gmail.com or call 617/482-0444 with questions.

On Thursday at 10 a.m. you are invited to join the Gold Star Families and political dignitaries as the names of fallen heroes in post-9/11 conflicts are read out loud and flags are symbolically planted in their memory. Please stop by the Common throughout the weekend to see the incredible sea of flags. Don't forget your camera! Volunteers and family members are also welcome on Monday, May 27, at 5 p.m. to help remove the flags.

Red Sox v. California Angels, Sunday June 9th

We still have tickets left for the Red Sox game against the Angels on Sunday, June 9th with a start time of 1:35 p.m. If you would like tickets, please email alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org and let her know how many you wish to purchase. The tickets are \$23.00 per person.



9/11 Families will gather on June 9th as the Red Sox take on the Angels

Alyse will meet everyone at the front gate (which one - to be determined) between 11:45 a.m. and noon to hand out your tickets. If you wish to pick up your tickets at the office, just let her know so arrangements can be made. Beginning at 12:00 noon, we will be holding a reception in Fenway Park before the game and serving food and soft drinks to family members.

2013 Commemoration Planning

Family Members and Volunteers Needed

Planning is already underway for the 2013 Commemoration event and we cannot do it without your input and participation. **If your loved one's photo is not included in our video montage or if you are interested in reading names** at the 2013 Commemoration, please contact Danielle Lemack at dblemack@yahoo.com. If you would like to get involved with the planning, please contact Teresa Mathai at teresamathai@gmail.com or Christie Coombs at mccoombs@comcast.net

We will be sending out a letter about the Commemoration in the coming weeks - Please watch for it as it contains important information. **Invitations to the Commemoration will be mailed in July. It is important to RSVP by the deadline which will be noted in the invitation.**

Proposed Projects

Documenting Biographical Information about Lost Family Members

The Board is evaluating sponsoring the publication of a “Book” that would be available to family members and the public, and would be preserved in the “Libraries and Archives” of the City of Boston and/or Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The contents of this document would include:

- Biographical information about the family members with Massachusetts ties who lost their lives on September 11, 2001
- Individual “stories” of the events on September 11th for those who perished on that day (where available)
- A record of the design and construction of the Memorial in The Garden of Remembrance in the Boston Public Garden on which the names of the 206 lost loved ones are inscribed

Over the past few years the Board of Directors of the Fund has re-confirmed that our primary ongoing responsibility is to ensure that family members lost on September 11, 2001 will not be forgotten. Toward this end we have funded the construction of The Garden of Remembrance in the Public Garden and endowed a Trust Fund for the perpetual care of that Memorial. We have funded the annual Commemoration events and expect to continue funding Commemorations in the future. We have recently initiated an Education Program to provide incentives for Massachusetts teachers and students to learn about the events of September 11, 2001.

We are now evaluating the feasibility and potential benefits of “writing a book” with biographical information about each of the 206 family members whose names are inscribed on the Memorial in the Public Garden. The Board has given preliminary approval to explore the scope of the effort, including securing assistance from family members, government offices and others. To date we have obtained an indication that Attorney General Martha Coakley will provide assistance and we hope to obtain assistance from State Librarian Albie Johnson.

Our intention is to use publically available information in order to include information about all 206 lost family members in the “Book.” We also hope to obtain additional information from our families. We expect to rely on the Family Advisory Committee and individual family members to validate information that is in the public domain, and where possible provide additional information. If we go forward with this project, we expect to engage an “independent editor” to work with the Board and family members to enable us to ensure the information included in the “Book” is accurate and appropriate.

Currently I am leading this effort. I hope this article will result in feedback from Family Members about the project, and volunteers to work on the project if the FAC and Board decide to move forward.

John Curtis
1st Vice President, Board of Directors

Proposal for Lego Memorial Fundraiser

Joe Rossi was barely a teen-ager on September 11, 2001. In 2002, like many after September 11th, he felt a need to do something to memorialize those lost. He immediately knew that his talent with Lego blocks would be the easiest medium to build a memorial. The original idea, which started as a school assignment, was to build a replica of the original World Trade Center site out of Lego's while also making it a fundraiser for victims' families.



Joe Rossi with his Lego Trade Towers

The idea was each Lego brick represented \$1.00. So with each \$1.00 donated one brick was purchased to place on the model. The cost for each brick is roughly \$0.30, so \$0.70 of each dollar would be donated. The completed model was to have around 50,000 bricks, raising roughly \$35,000. The other benefit would be the model would become a community piece, touring different areas and eventually having a home somewhere where everyone could view and learn. Although he did not finish the project, he did spend a considerable amount of his own money and time over four years and completed models of all 7 World Trade Center buildings.

Joe has contacted the Fund with a new proposal; build a model of the new World Trade Center focused on Tower One (formerly called the Freedom Tower) as a fund raiser. Joe will be presenting his proposal to the FAC in the near future. Because the Massachusetts 9/11 Fund is not currently planning to raise additional funds beyond those we receive from the "United We Stand" license plates, this might be an opportunity for family members to support another charity as part of our Community Service initiative.

The proposal for the Lego model includes the following:

The model will be built out of Lego blocks and will include the current memorial at ground zero, including everything within the street block of: West Side Highway, Fulton Street, Greenwich Street, and Liberty Street. The scale to be used for the model is not yet finalized, however if the scale were 1 foot is equal to 100 feet; the Liberty Tower would stand about 15 feet tall and would require 50,000-60,000 Lego blocks for construction. The Memorial Plaza, using the same scale, would occupy about 35 square feet and require 40,000 to 50,000 Lego blocks.

One of the major challenges of this project is how the physical construction of the project would be implemented. There will be many more details to be worked out if the FAC and Family members decide to support this Community Service project including; where to build the model, the schedule for construction, how to publicize "construction days" and how to finance the purchase of the initial supply of Lego blocks, etc.

Please contact Alyse, Christie or Teresa if you have questions, suggestions or are interested in participating in this potential project.

John Curtis,
1st Vice President, Board of Directors

Family Advisory Committee

Recruiting New Members

As always, all family members are welcome to attend our monthly Family Advisory Committee meetings. You may stop by and see what we are working on, or choose to participate on a committee or a special project. Our meetings are usually held on the **Second Thursday of each month from noon to 2:00 p.m. at our 10 High Street office in Boston.** The dates and times are selected to suit the convenience of the majority of Family Advisory Committee members. If there is sufficient interest in holding evening meetings, we might consider moving one or more of them to evenings. Upcoming meetings are scheduled for **May 9, June 12, July 11, August 8, and 29, September break, October 10, November 14, and December 12.** Please email Alyse Mazerolle at alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org if you would like to attend or you can participate via our free conference call number.

Currently we are working with Michael Wasserman and Nancy Petkunas of MPW Inc. to plan for the 12th Annual Commemoration in September. Your input and guidance is invaluable as we continue the important task of supporting our families.

Youth Corner

Spring and Summer Opportunities from Tuesday's Children

APPLY NOW!

Interested in attending these programs? Please call Tuesday's Children at 516-562-9000 or Jennifer@tuesdayschildren.org to RSVP or to register.

April 25 - Take Our Children To Work Day Meet at The Affinia Hotel, NYC

Take Our Children to Work Day is for children **ages 8-18**. Placements are now being made within industries throughout NYC. Assignments begin on April 5th.

May 5 - Navigating The College Process 11:00 am - 3:00 pm | Fordham University, Lincoln Center, NYC Exclusive presentation designed **for 9th, 10th and 11th grade students and parents** to learn what they need to know about the essential elements needed for successful college admissions. Lunch is served.

June 20-29 - Yellow Barn Music Camp

Tuesday's Children young adults, ages 15-20, are offered an exclusive invitation to participate in a unique collaboration with the Yellow Barn, world renowned music composition and performance program for young artists.

July 24-31 - Project COMMON BOND (PCB)

Tuesday's Children invites **teenagers 15-20 years old** who lost an immediate family member on September 11th to join their international peers who have experienced a similar loss for an 8 day symposium on peace-building, conflict resolution and global dialogue.

July 22-31 - PCB Group Leader Volunteer Opportunity

Project COMMON BOND is looking for enthusiastic, friendly and creative candidates (age 20+) interested in leadership roles at a peace-building and cultural exchange symposium. The Group Leader plays an important role in the success of Project COMMON BOND. Group Leaders are the first "go to" person for the participants and are responsible for making sure everyone is accounted for at all times. This year the program will be taking place at Bryn Mawr College just outside of Philadelphia, PA. To learn more about this opportunity go to this link (<http://library.constantcontact.com/download/get/file/1101544003529-1501/PCB2013CounselorPoster.pdf>).

August 15-18 - Camp TC - Tuesday's Champions

Camp TC - Tuesday's Champions is a 4 day camp for **children ages 11-15** who lost an immediate family member. Sure to be an experience of a lifetime, Tuesday's Children will host campers at the scenic campgrounds of Camp Wayne in PA. A full program will be offered that includes rotating electives, field day, talent show, campfires and more.

