

Table of Contents

Spring Greetings!	1
Events	2
Red Sox Game	2
Tall Ship Cruise	2
Tall Ship Cruise Cont'd	3
Emailing of Newsletter	3
Private Page on Website for Family Members	3
Faces of Remembrance Project	4
Education Committee	4
High School Update	4
Does Your Loved One Have A Private Memorial?	5
FAC Corner	5
The Family Advisory Committee Needs You	5
Send Us Your Updated Info	5

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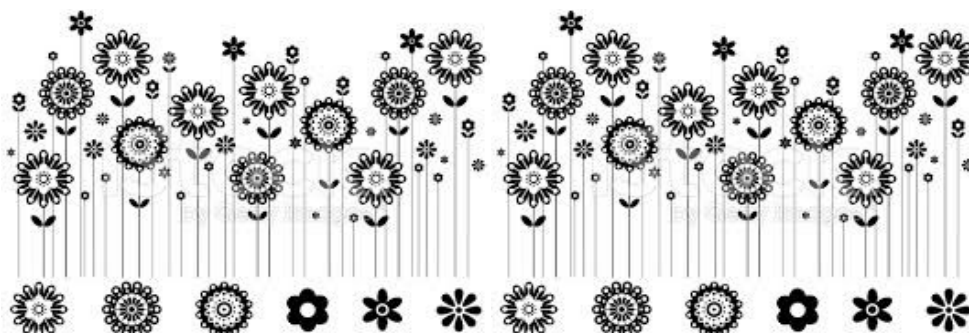
SPRING GREETINGS!

Spring is in the air and the Family Advisory Committee is as always busy planning events that include pure fun, service projects and, of course, the 16th Annual Commemoration.

After fifteen years, family members have expressed the desire that we streamline the program format for “non-milestone” anniversaries. The program for the 16th anniversary will be simplified yet retain all the elements that remain important to us: reading loved ones’ names, viewing the video montage, presenting the Madeline Amy Sweeney Award, enjoying a meal together, and laying the communal wreath and individual flowers at the 9/11 Contemplative Garden. This year, we will begin our Commemoration with the Flag Lowering at the State House at 8:30 a.m., followed by the Moment of Silence and Reading of Names. The House Chamber ceremonies will include fewer speakers and less music, we’ll brunch rather than lunch, and proceed to the wreath and flower laying after brunch rather than convening before the Reading of Names. We’ve retained a new event planner to assist us in making our plans a satisfying reality and hope you can participate.

Service events are also in the works and will be announced as plans are available. The possibility of another trip to the Pentagon later in the year is under discussion.

FAC members are pleased to volunteer their time on behalf of Mass 9/11 families. We meet in Boston, generally monthly, between March and December. Our efforts include producing the three-times-yearly newsletters, organizing social and service events, and planning the Annual Commemoration. The committee work is an enjoyable and fulfilling experience. Some remote participation is possible, as are special projects for those who’d like to help but can’t make the larger commitment. Please give volunteering some consideration and contact Karin Charles) or Iris Friedman (iris.friedman@massfund.org) if you’re interested.



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EVENTS

Annual Fenway Park Outing Red Sox Versus Tampa Bay Rays



The Mass 9/11 Fund is looking forward to attending the upcoming Red Sox game at Fenway Park on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14. They will be playing the Tampa Bay Rays.

We'll cross our fingers for nice weather and cheer for our beloved Red Sox. Spending time with other family members for this event will surely be an enjoyable way to spend the afternoon.

Tall Ship Cruise

We are pleased to announce that the Mass 9/11 Fund is planning another Boston Harbor cruise for family members. The date is June 18 (Father's Day), which is when the magnificent Tall Ships regatta will be in port. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience a piece of maritime history. And we'll have the entire yacht to ourselves!

The event includes a lovely lunch and the ride around the harbor. The itinerary is:

Boarding Location: 60 Rowes Wharf, Boarding Gate B (*behind the Boston Harbor Hotel*)

Boarding time: 1:30 pm

Buffet Lunch: 1:30-2:30 pm

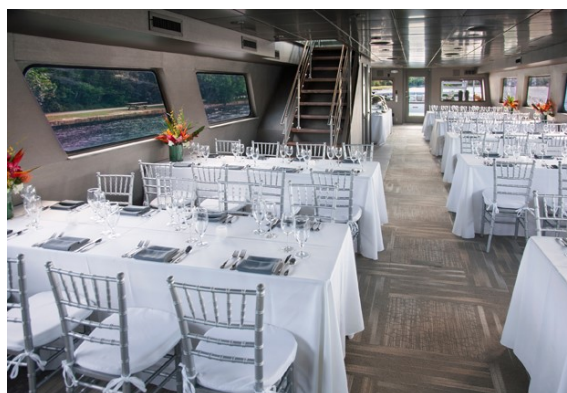
Cruising: 2:30-4:30 pm



The cost is \$40 per person. We have purchased 40 tickets with the option to purchase 45 more. So bring your whole clan to experience the Tall Ships event while socializing with other family members.

Want to come? Starting at 9:00 a.m. on May 22, please send an email to Alyse Mazerolle at alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org. The email must include the name of each family member in your party. The tickets will be awarded on a first-come-first-served basis. In the interest of fairness, please do not contact Alyse before the starting time. If your request is fulfilled, Alyse will send you an invoice that covers the exact number of family members included in your request. You can pay online by credit card, debit card, or echeck. Kindly remit promptly. Unfortunately we will not be able to refund payments if you need to cancel.

We hope you're able to attend this special event!



Emailing of Newsletter

As we kick off 2017, we have decided to go green and go paperless. Creating, publishing and distributing the newsletter is a very involved process that takes a significant amount of time. There is also a considerable cost for postage, supplies, and photocopying. Since we have limited resources, **future newsletters will only be emailed** to all family members. Current and past newsletters will continue to be available for viewing on our [website](#).

Please be sure that we have your current email address so that you'll be certain to receive the newsletter as well as other correspondence. Feel free to contact Karin Charles (karin.charles@massfund.org) or Iris Friedman (iris.friedman@massfund.org) if you have any questions. Thank you for your understanding as we implement this new process.

Private Page on Website for Family Members

We are also creating a private page for family members only, on our website to announce upcoming events that will only be available to family members only. Each family member will create their own login and password.

Faces of Remembrance Project

Gina Johnson is still hard at work, drawing the portraits of our loved ones. Unfortunately, she had an unexpected delay over the summer but has resumed work and is making headway. There is no date yet in place for expected completion, but we will be sure to keep everyone posted and let you know as soon as we hear anything. We are also working on securing a place to exhibit these wonderful portraits for the families and public to view.

Education Committee

Our Education Committee, under the leadership of Chairperson Linda Gay, has been actively at work presenting the recently completed documentary to Burlington High School, Coyle Cassidy, Cardinal Spellman High School and Needham High School. Students have been very receptive to the presentation and we are receiving very positive comments from the students who want to learn more about 9/11. We are beginning to see the fruits of the education efforts as a real learning experience and are hoping to reach an additional two or three high schools before year's end. Unfortunately, Linda Gay has found it necessary to resign from the Board and Education Committee Chair position to tend to her health and other personal family matters. Linda has left us in good hands with her strong organizational efforts and we are pleased to advise that the Board Member Beth Chambers will be assuming the responsibilities as Education Chair going forward. Beth Chambers has participated in the high school presentations and we are thankful for her time in continuing this effort.

We thank you Linda and the Education Ambassadors for their dedication and hard work in this important Education initiative. If you are interested in participating on the Education Committee or can assist with referrals to local high school principals, please contact Beth Chambers at beth_chambers@ccab.org or Alyse Mazerolle at alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org. The education Committee plans to meet in June and can use your help.

High School Update

On Monday, May 9th, members of the Mass 9/11 Educational Committee joined Needham Firefighter Shawn Donovan at Needham High School to present our 9/11 documentary to five history classes totaling 100 students. Shawn also presented slides from his time at Ground Zero in the days after the disaster. The discussion was lively as students asked interesting and insightful questions about his experience. The groups were reminded of the fact that Susan Blair (Sally White's daughter) was an alumna of Needham High School. There is a memorial for Susan at the school.

On Thursday, May 11th, Beth Chambers and Alyse met family member, Pat Bavis, at Catholic Memorial High School in West Roxbury. Pat's brother, Mark, was an alumnus. We presented our Educational Program to over 120 students. We're thankful to Pat, the newest member of the Education Committee, for arranging this visit.

When Beth Chambers talks to high school groups, she always discusses the town of Gander, Newfoundland, where almost 6,000 passengers flying to the USA from Europe were forced to land on 9/11. Gander has one of the longest runways in the world and within hours, 40 planes had landed. Being a small community, there were few hotel rooms. The community provided housing, clothing, food, medicine, and entertainment to everyone for the five days that they were stranded. That gesture of kindness to thousands is now dramatized in the Broadway musical *Come From Away*.

Does Your Loved One Have a Private Memorial?

The Massachusetts 9/11 Fund website includes a [Private Memorials page](#). This page is overdue for updating and the FAC now seeks your help. Does your family sponsor an award, scholarship, or event, or operate a foundation? Was a special venue created in honor of your loved one? Please send website addresses, summary information, to Iris Friedman (iris.friedman@massfund.org). We'd also appreciate your checking the web page for obsolete missing items. Thanks in advance for helping with this effort!

FAC Corner

The Family Advisory Committee Needs You!!

The FAC represents you, the families, so we encourage you to become more involved. Our future meetings for the calendar year are held on the second Thursday of each month. We meet from noon to 2 p.m. at our office, located on the 4th floor of the Independence Wharf Building, 470 Atlantic Avenue, Boston. In the past, some of you who work during the day have helped us in numerous ways, from your homes, without coming in for the meetings. If you are interested in joining our endeavors on behalf of the Mass 9/11 community, we remain open to working with you to see what is convenient for your schedule. Your contributions and active participation in our work will bring to fruition the words *We Will Never Forget*. It has been 16 years since that tragic day we lost our loved ones and sometimes it feels like it was only yesterday! We need to honor our loved ones through remembrance and paying forward through service. We need your help to do so.

If you are interested in attending our meetings, calling in during our meetings, contributing from home, or discussing other options for participating in our working committee, please contact the FAC Chair, Karin, via her email at karin.charles@massfund.org.

Send Us Your Updated Information

Wow! Sixteen years have gone by and our children are growing up fast. They might be out on their own by now... so with that said, we are constantly updating our database to ensure Mass 9/11 Fund communication is reaching everyone. Please send any updates to your information to Alyse at alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org. If you feel you have not been receiving our electronic mail, please put info@massfund.org on your safe list to make sure your spam filter is not rejecting our email. You always reserve the right to opt out of receiving communications from us.