

Turtle Bay News

A Publication of the Turtle Bay Association

Winter 2012 Volume 55, Number 1

A Night of Remembrance ~ 9/11/2011

Dee Howard

Ten years to the day, more than 200 of our neighbors gathered in silence as the highland bagpiper paced the length of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza to the Performance Circle piping the mournful tune *Amazing Grace*. Thus began our commemoration of the event which in many cases is still affecting us today. We hear a siren, we see a plane that is flying a tad too low, we see police cars racing in a line down Second Avenue... and we are suddenly drawn back to that day when the unthinkable occurred. The day we also reached out to one another for reassurance and with the sure knowledge that, as a people, we would survive this tragedy.

This year's commemoration, assembled under the auspices of *Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza* and the *Turtle Bay Association* included individuals, families, elected officials, representatives of many faiths, musicians, a well-known local author, community activists and our local first responders.

But the single shared thought among us was to join in an evening of remembrance of the lives lost or shattered on 9/11/2001, of those left behind to pick up their lives and



move on even if touched only tangentially by the event. Our purpose was to come together as the tight community

REMEMBRANCE continued on page 5

On The Road with Turtle Bay

Jo-Ann Winnik

With the promise of discovery, the hint of adventure, and the threat of rain in the air, forty-eight Turtle Bay residents and friends gathered on the corner of 50th Street and Second Avenue at 7:30

AM on a Sunday September morning. A big, comfortable bus soon arrived. We boarded the bus, chose our seats, and off we went for an outing to Montauk. On the bus were people who knew each other quite well, those who had met while waiting, and others who came alone.

As we drove on the highway, we realized that we would arrive in Montauk one hour earlier than expected. A call was made to the local guide to tell him of our dilemma. "That's just fine!" he

said. "Now I'll have an extra hour to tell you all about Montauk."

For two delightful hours, our guide shared with us the history of the area. As an 83 year old lifetime resident of Montauk, he seemed to enjoy guiding as much as we enjoyed hearing his information. He told us stories about the area being a summer pasture for cattle, sheep and horses. The annual cattle drives came alive as we saw two of the three houses built for keepers who guarded herds. We learned that these houses were the only buildings on Montauk until the late 19th century. We saw the lighthouse built in 1797 and commissioned by George

MONTAUK continued on page 3

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

Brrrr

To the residents of Turtle Bay,

Put on your mittens and hats...it's cold out there! As we enter a New Year and winter comes full force, we'd like to express our warmest wishes to the Turtle Bay neighborhood.

In this issue, you will continue to discover who the TBA directors are, and more faces will appear in the next issue of the newsletter. Since the spring newsletter, a lot has happened in the neighborhood, including the restoration of the M50 week end bus service, the creation of bike lanes, the renewal of the East Side Esplanade project. TBA continues to monitor the situations of the various and numerous construction and renovation sites located in TBA to render everyone's life more pleasant.

If you feel, whether as individuals or as business owners that TBA does not act as the community support which you could expect, please contact us and let us hear your voices, concerns, and how we can help.

We also hope everyone can make it to the Love Thy Neighbor Valentine Party. It will be a great time (as it was last year) and we would love to see everyone there. Flyers for the even have been sent out but, just in case, here are the details:



28TH ANNUAL LOVE THY NEIGHBOR VALENTINE PARTY

Monday, February 13, 2012; 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Fabio Piccolo Fiore Restaurant
230 East 44th Street
\$45 PER PERSON (\$50 AT THE DOOR)
For information please call 212.751.5465

Your Turtle Bay News editors,
Pascale Longuet and Steve Hennessey

board at work

The following is a summary of the issues and activities addressed at recent Turtle Bay Association board meetings.

- TBA is closely monitoring the activities and events unfolding at the various homeless shelters located in and around the Turtle Bay area.
- TBA, as well as dozens of other-organizations has joined the Greenway Group in support of the East Side Esplanade Project.
- TBA is concerned for the safety of cyclists and pedestrians in the neighborhood further to the creation of bike lanes, and is taking the steps it deems appropriate to improve security in the area.
- TBA continues to work to beautify the neighborhood through the TBA Tree Program and support of the Turtle Bay Tree Fund.



TURTLE BAY ASSOCIATION

224 East 47th Street
New York, NY 10017
Phone: 212-751-5465
Fax: 212-751-4941

E-mail: office@turtlebay-nyc.org

Website: turtlebay-nyc.org

Check our Bulletin Board:
east side of Second Avenue,
between 48th and 49th Streets,
on outside wall of the supermarket.

Board of Directors

President: William E. Curtis

Vice Presidents: Millie Margiotta,
Dolores Marsh, Bruce Silberblatt

Treasurer: Francine Irwin

Directors:

Ethel Bendove, Bunny Blei, Meryl Brodsky, Orin Buck, William E. Curtis, Denise Hamilton, Marie Louise Handal, Steve Hennessey, Dee Howard, Bill Huxley, Richard Irwin, Pascale Longuet, Millie Margiotta, Dolores Marsh, Pat McDougald, Sandra McKee, Gini Otway, Michael Resnick, Carol Rinzler, Jeannie Sakol, Bruce Silberblatt, Michael Tuckman, Jo-Ann Winnik

Emeritus:

Barbara Connolly, Helen Shapiro

Turtle Bay News

Editors:

Steve Hennessey, Pascale Longuet

Contributors:

Bill Huxley, Millie Margiotta, Gini Otway,
Bruce Silberblatt

Photographer:

Vivian Gordon

Community Calendar

17th Precinct Community Council

Last Tuesday every month

Open Meeting, 6 p.m.

Sutton Place Synagogue

225 East 51st Street

212-826-3228

(No meetings July, August,
December)

Community Board 6

Second Wednesday every month

Full Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

NYU Medical Center

550 First Avenue

212-319-3750

Helping Our Neighbors...



Improving Our Neighborhood

The Turtle Bay Association often makes donations to non-profit organizations whose efforts contribute to the well-being of our community. We welcome nominations for these donations from members of The Turtle Bay Association.

Do you know a group you'd like to nominate? By all means, let us know by snail mail (224 East 47 Street, New York 10017) or by email (office@turtlebay-nyc.org)

MONTUAK from page 1

Washington. Now a museum, we were surprised to learn that it is visited by a million people annually. We heard about Carl Fisher whose grand vision of Montauk as the Miami Beach of the North ended with the stock market crash of 1929.

One of our stops included Gosman's Dock, a harbor inlet with magnificent views of Montauk. Some of us were content to watch the boats in the harbor while others browsed in the shops or stopped for coffee. As we continued to the restaurant at the famous Gurney's Inn, a resort nestled among the dunes of Montauk, we said good-bye to our guide. Arriving at the

restaurant, we found that six luncheon tables were waiting, situated beside spectacular ocean views. Between the setting, the delicious menu, and good companionship, it was a happy afternoon.

But the day was not over yet. Our next destination was the Duckwalk Vineyards where a guide told us about the production of the award-winning wines. After sampling five different wines, we were delighted to see that there was live entertainment on the patio overlooking the vineyards. While some of us made purchases, others sat on the patio, contentedly listening to the music and sipping wine.

On the ride home, there was much conversation, and a bit of snoozing. What seemed so clear was that a remarkable sense of community lives in Turtle Bay. The bus was filled with not only purchases and people, but with an abundance of good will. Sharing a full day of activities, meeting new neighbors, and making new friends, seemed to define the best part of Turtle Bay life. Everyone wanted to know when the next excursion would take place. We arrived at the corner of 50th Street and Second and said our goodbyes with a new, or perhaps renewed awareness of how great it is to live in this remarkable neighborhood.

Getting to Know Your Neighborhood

These Are Your Turtle Bay Board Members

We continue to introduce you to members of the Turtle Bay Association Board of Directors. Look again in the next newsletter for more. If you see a Board member around the neighborhood please feel free to say “hi.”



Bill Huxley

Bill joined the TBA Board in the 1990's and has headed the Tree Program since its inception six months later. In addition, once a year he organizes a 10,000-piece mailing to attract new TBA members. Since retiring fifteen years ago, Bill has been a volunteer at the UNICEF gift shop on E. 44th Street. He is also a public member of the Parks Committee of Community Board 6, a VP of Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, and the President of the Turtle Bay Fund.

Marie-Louise Handal

Marie-Louise has been an active member of the Turtle Bay Association since moving into the neighborhood in 1978. For three decades she has been a Board member and currently serves as the Chair of the Parks Committee. She has also served as Managing Editor of the TBA Newsletter and Chair of the Membership Committee. In the 90's she was the first Chairperson of the TBA Parks Committee and took on a leadership role in the renovation of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza Park.

She has served as Vice President of the Parish Council and has been active in educational programs at the United Nations Parish, Holy Family. Professionally, after a 30-year career as an international banker and bank corporate communications consultant, she joined the pilot program for the NYC Teaching Fellows. In association with Americorps taught in the South Bronx, and was part of a successful turnaround of a local high school. She currently works as a math teacher for the preparing union members who are returning to university-level work.

Carol Ann Rinzler

Carol Ann has served on the Turtle Bay board since 1991. A former member of Community Board 6, Carol is an author specializing in health and nutrition



Steve Hennessey

Having been involved for only a year, Steve is one of the newer members of the Board. He currently is on the Communications committee and co-edits The Turtle Bay News along with Pascale Longuet. When he's not enjoying some of the neighborhood's great restaurants or hanging out in Dag Park he makes a living as a graphic designer working alongside Frankenstein and Marilyn Monroe at Madame Tussauds Wax Museum. He's only lived in the neighborhood for a short while but he's on a mission to meet every single one of his neighbors so you'll see him around Turtle Bay.

Gini Otway

Gini has lived in Turtle Bay for 30+ years. For the past 30 years she has been involved with animal rescue—City Critters is the 501(c)(3) I work with—and also serves on the Democratic County Committee for Manhattan. Years ago when she was chair of Environment/Sanitation TBA was the first and only area of Manhattan to be cited as 100% clean. She is once again Environment chair.



Bunny Blei

Bunny is a native New Yorker who grew up in Brooklyn and graduated from Brooklyn College. She was the first female president of the advisory council of the male apparel group of Dun and Bradstreet. She is now the administrator for an after school program at the Brotherhood Synagogue Hebrew School. She has been active in Turtle Bay for the last 12 years, now serving as Membership chair and helping out in the office as needed.

REMEMBRANCE from page 1

that we are to share memories and stand united, unbowed, to extend comfort to one another as we did 10 years ago.

The program opened with a welcome from Sherrill Kazan and Bill Curtis, Presidents, respectively, of Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza and the Turtle Bay Association -- the sponsoring organizations. We were then led by young Molly Maresca in the Pledge of Allegiance, and joined in singing "God Bless America."

With the skill of the presenters and participants, the program moved smoothly from thoughtful comments to heartfelt song to moments of silence.

Pamela Hanlon read aloud to us the late Kurt Vonnegut's speech from a gathering in October 2001, held on this same spot. In his remarks at the time, Mr. Vonnegut very mindfully named not once but twice, the ten men from Engine 8, Ladder 2, Battalion 8 lost to us on that day, so that we would *know* their names for all time.

On this night, as their comrades stood for them and saluted, retired Captain William Dudley lit 10 candles traced with the name of each fallen firefighter. A haunting rendition of Taps, the traditional song of mourning and farewell, wound through the darkened Plaza: "All is well, safely rest... do not fear, Friend, goodnight" as the words to the tune go. Each of us surely reflected on the lives of these men and the loved ones left behind as the simple eighteen notes of that song rang true through the night.

We heard words of Gathering, Comfort, Unity and Community from religious leaders. Our elected officials spoke eloquently, and we were grateful to have each of these individuals join us after what must have been a grueling day of many

other public appearances.

Thoughtful and heartening letters were read on behalf of Governor Andrew Cuomo, Mayor Michael



Bloomberg and City Council Speaker Christine Quinn who joined us in spirit.

One of our neighbors, Lefty Sansmith, performed a song he composed called "Heroes of 9/11"—if you missed it, you can view it on www.youtube.com

Joseff Goodwin led us in a community sing of "America the Beautiful" — and we lit the flashlights we had been given earlier in the evening, bringing points of blue light to shine in the darkness as we sang. To light the darkness, isn't that what we always seek to do in times of turmoil?

After a few final remarks, neighbors drifted up to the front of the Circle to view the photos of the firefighters and stand in the light of their glowing candles, then mingled to speak about their thoughts and recollections of that day ten years ago.

We are pleased that so many neighbors took the time to come together for this solemn yet hopeful event. As the final song of the evening pointed out...we're still standing.

The organizers would like to thank those who generously donated their



time, expertise or services to make this event happen:

- The Holy Family Church
- Islamic Cultural Center of New York
- St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
- Sutton Place Synagogue
- Pamela Hanlon, author of *Manhattan's Turtle Bay*
- Soloist Jeanne Waller and her accompanist, Mark Zeray
- Soloist Retired Chief Bruce W. Walker, Buglers Across America
- Soloist Lefty Sansmith
- Elite Food Bar (donated trays of bakery cookies)
- Morton-Williams Marketplace (donated bottled water and ice)
- New York City Parks & Recreation (chairs, tables, cleanup)
- Vanderbilt YMCA
- Members of Committee for A Night of Remembrance – 9/11/2011

TBA Celebrates Their Volunteers with Sparkling Reception

Bill Huxley

The Turtle Bay community relies on the generosity and time of volunteers who work to make the TBA neighborhood a great place to live. This year, TBA's smashing cocktail reception at the World Bar in Trump Tower October 24 gave their volunteers the opportunity to mingle with some of Midtown East's most interesting people. Among them were Jessica Lappin and Brian Kavanagh from the City Council and State Assembly; Ellen Imbimbo, Fred Arcaro, and Frank Scala from Community Board 6, and an assortment of reps from several nearby neighborhood groups. Shirley

MacLeod was there from Murray Hill, Mary Clare Bergin and Gail Haft from SAC, and Buddy Radisch from Beekman Place Association. The 17th Precinct was represented by Deputy Inspector John Hart, and perennial favorite, Detective Frank Bogucki.

A generous selection of butlered hors d'oeuvres were offered including tasty bacon-wrapped sirloin skewers and miniature Maryland crabcakes. And let's not forget the open bar which was also a big favorite!

The reception gave everyone the

chance to take a break from the hard work they have done all year and to mingle with friendly faces from around the neighborhood. Without the time and dedication of our volunteers, it would not be possible to accomplish all of the goals that TBA strives to achieve each year.

The TBA volunteers are an asset to the success of the community. If you would like to be a bigger part of your Turtle Bay community—and to attend the exciting annual event next year!—please contact the office and sign on as a TBA volunteer.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are many people in our area in need of assistance, and most organizations depend on contributions from the community. The holiday season was a wonderful time to experience the joys of giving back but don't forget that any time of year is a good time to experience the spirit of giving. Here are some places where you and your family can volunteer time or make donations in order to bring a smile to your neighbors in need in the new year.

New York Cares

New York Cares was founded by a group of friends who wanted to take action against serious social issues that faced our city in the late 1980s. Finding few options to help, they created their own organization to address the problems from the ground up. Their staff works with partner organizations to identify their most pressing needs, creates projects to bridge the gaps, and recruits, trains and deploys teams of volunteers to make a difference. Tutor public school children, prepare and deliver meals to HIV/AIDS patients and homebound seniors, help disabled athletes train, staff food kitchens, install computers in community centers, take care of animals in no-kill animal shelters, and so much more.

<http://www.nycares.org/>
212-228-5000

NYC Service

NYC Service oversees more than 38 innovative initiatives that aim to achieve three overarching goals: making our city the easiest place in the world to volunteer, targeting volunteers to address the city's greatest needs and promoting service as a core part of what it means to be a citizen of the greatest City

in the world. Volunteering is easy. You can search for opportunities by interests, skills, location and/or schedule using their searchable database of volunteer opportunities.

<http://www.nycservice.org>

City Meals-On-Wheels

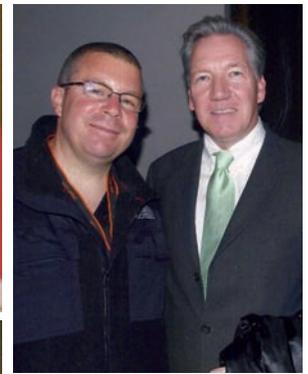
Citymeals-on-Wheels raises private funds to ensure no homebound elderly New Yorker will ever go a day without food or human company. They fund 31 community-based agencies that bring weekend, holiday and emergency meals to homebound elderly New Yorkers who can no longer shop or cook for themselves. Volunteer opportunities include friendly visiting, meal delivery, senior chats (via phone), and senior script (letter-writing).

<http://www.citymeals.org/>
212-687-1234, volunteer@citymeals.org

"Beth Israel Blanketeers" (out of neighborhood)

Do you knit or crochet? Volunteers knit or crochet baby blankets for special needs newborn patients. They provide the yarn for each blanket.

Beth Israel Medical Center, (212) 420-3570
http://www.chpnyc.org/services/bi_volunteer/



VOLUNTEER RECEPTION



CHRISTMAS PARTY



ANNUAL MEETING



New Business Members

A&E Television Networks
235 East 45 Street
212.210.9796

The Family School
323 East 47 Street
212.688.5950

**Instituto Cervantes
Spanish Language School**
211 East 49th Street
212.308.7720
newyork.cervantes.org

**Corrections in business
directory:**

Muriel Siebert & Co. Inc
Securities Brokerage
885 3rd Avenue Suite 1720
212.644.2400
20% off published commission
rates.

Pescatore Restaurant
955 Second Avenue
212.752.7151
10% discount

Buttercup Bake Shop
973 Second Avenue
212.350.4144

arts & activities

TURTLE BAY MUSIC SCHOOL

Additional info: 212.753.8811

January

Friday, January 27th, 6:30pm
The Composers Concordance
featuring faculty member Sean Satin

February

Friday, February 3rd, 6:30pm
This is Prophetic! Opera inspiring the
World and the World inspiring Opera.

Laura Kay, soprano

Friday, February 17th, 6:30pm

Cody Brown & guests, new music
drums, piano, alto sax, voice, cello, and
more!

March

Friday, March 9th, 6:30pm

Hilary Castle, violin

Thursday, March 29th, 6:30pm

Zach Mo, piano

**J.P. MORGAN TOURNAMENT OF
CHAMPIONS**

January 20-26, 2012

Vanderbilt Hall, Grand Central Terminal
J.P Morgan tournament of champions
brings world's best squash players to
grand central terminal

LOVE THY NEIGHBOR VALENTINE PARTY

See the Lettter From the Editors on page
2 for details.

JAPAN SOCIETY

Tokyo Underworld 2012: An Evening with
Robert Whiting
Thursday, February 16, 6:30pm

**NEW YORK ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE
2012**

March 17th, 11:00am
44th Street and Fifth avenue

**new &
newsworthy**

There is a new "Walk-in Medical Care" center that opened at 919 Second Ave.
at 49th Street. It can handle emergencies as well as general healthcare.



TBA MEMBERSHIP COUPON

Yes, I want to join the Turtle Bay Association to help support
our community's quality of life.

Annual Membership Dues

- Senior \$10
- Individual \$25
- Family \$30
- Business \$40
- Benefactor \$100
- Pacesetter \$250

Name _____

Address _____ Apt _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail _____

I would like to become more involved in TBA activities.

Please make your check payable to Turtle Bay Association.

Mail to: Turtle Bay Association, 224 E. 47th St., New York, NY 10017

BOOK ORDER FORM

Manhattan's Turtle Bay

Story of a Midtown Neighborhood

A Contemporary History of Turtle Bay
Arcadia Publishing • 160 pages; 50 photos

\$15.00

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for _____
book/s, plus \$3 per book for postage/handling

Make check payable to
Turtle Bay Association

Mail to
**Turtle Bay Association, 224 East 47th Street,
New York, NY 10017**

Sales Proceeds Benefit the Turtle Bay Association