

www.StatueOfLibertyClub.com + Spring 2014 + Volume 24, Issue No. 1

| SLC ******* ARCHIVE ******* COPY



Birth of a Small Archive By: Joan Laskoff By rigorous research, I have discovered that the salt of the earth is not the astronauts or the TV hosts (salty though they are!) but librarians and archivists. Librarians guard the

treasure and if you are serious about

your project, they give you the keys. This was borne out in making documentary films entirely from still photographs on Gustave Eiffel and Joseph Pulitzer, two 19th century giants. I began in 1971 but I was dealing with events from a hundred years earlier when movie cameras did not exist and even still cameras were in their infancy. I wanted every picture from 1860 on to be authentic and without "talking heads" so I depended on prints, drawings and engravings from publications of the day. (Later Ken Burns used this method in his great CIVIL WAR series; but I used it first!)

By chance the central figures of my two early films were both deeply connected with Miss Liberty. Could this be accidental?

Eiffel met the Statue when her sculptor, Auguste Bartholdi, called on him to design an armature able to keep his colossal lady upright in the gales of New York harbor. Eiffel declared "*The wind! The wind is my greatest enemy!*", and then conceived a unique bridge pylon to put inside her, the world's biggest statue.

Originally I had planned a film on the Statue of Liberty and the Eiffel Tower, two international symbols emanating from – astonishingly – the same hand. What better story? But as I researched Eiffel's engineering feats, starting with the Tower, there emerged an array of worldwide viaducts, bridges, churches, department stores and pre-fabricated pontoons, each

breaking new construction frontiers. The upshot was that Eiffel's life and works took over that film.

In

This Issue



Gustave Eiffel's iron support structure with anchor cables. Picture from the June 13, 1885 *Scientific American* in the NPS Library of the Statue of Liberty National Monument.

My husband and I went to Europe for infinite photography and meetings with Eiffel's grandchildren, already grandparents themselves, and full of memories, pictures, stories and warm hospitality. A lifelong friendship ensued.

Joseph Pulitzer met the Statue before she was ready for shipment –and nearly abandoned in France. The New York pedestal she was headed for was not ready, due to lack of funds. The wealthy citizens of the American Statue Committee, after several years of fund-raising, had given up in despair. Congress also declined to help. Pulitzer launched one of his full-blown crusades. He appealed directly to his readers and printed the names of the donors of every penny and dollar that came in. In three months he raised the needed \$100,000. [continued on page 2]

ife and works took over that film.		SLC ^{\$\$\$3}	³ ARCHIVE ⁵³⁵³⁵³	COPY
Birth of a Small Archive	1	From the President	4	
From Iris November	2	From the Vice-President	6	-
Hanukkah at the White House	3	Member Information	7	-

[Continued from the Cover Page]

In researching Pulitzer it turned out that there was no live footage on him in newsreel archives, though quite a lot on his contemporaries such as J.P. Morgan, Andrew Carnegie, J.D. Rockefeller, and Jay Gould. This was strange because Pulitzer was a publicity bloodhound for his newspapers, *The New York World, The Evening World* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*; but for his private life he was neurotically withdrawn.

I needed a full complement of imagery for the politics and culture of the late 1800's.

Libraries and archives from The New York Engineering Library and The Cooper Hewitt Museum, to colleges and university opened their doors. At the Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library of Columbia University, I had the thrill of holding in my hands the original pencil drawings made by William Morris Hunt for the pedestal. It took several calls and 2 exciting days of meetings; the five drawings I selected occupied 6 seconds of the 28 minute film. The project took months, paging through every issue of Harpers Weekly, Leslie's Weekly, Judge, Puck, etc. from 1864 to 1910. From the first anxious phone call through countless meetings, sometimes having to wear gloves, sometimes using only pencil, the custodians were wonderful, wheeling out one heavy volume after another and allowing us to photograph at will. Seeing how careful we were, Williams College trusted us to take "Reference Only" books home. Dartmouth University's miraculous librarian, John Crane, lent us a staff meeting-room, which we darkened and spread out cameras and tripods; he even let me loose in the stacks for unhindered search

After that, The Statue herself fairly cried out for a film just on <u>her</u>, which I had been longing to do all along. This project took me to France, to Colmar, where Régis Hueber, the guru of the Bartholdi Museum, could not have been more helpful or friendly and the documentary *"THE CONTRIBUTORS*, the Story of the Statue of Liberty," developed.

Research for these films resulted in a vast collection of pictures, photos, engravings and cartoons. This collection has now gone to the Columbia University Library in New York City.

Packing up over 20,000 pictures and indexes was like saying good-bye to an old dear friend. But it is very good to know that the archive is in the best hands and will be useful to other scholars.

Wanting to buy Liberty Collectibles? Ready to sell your Liberty Collectibles? Read page 7 for information on Classified ads.

SLC *** ARCHIVE *** COPY

From Iris November

It's not spring in Cleveland!



Never in my memory has a winter been so unrelenting as 2014 so far! Apologies to Al Gore-- yes, there is climate change occurring!

Our activities have been somewhat curtailed due to health issues, but we plod on, and enjoy every day. Have you noticed how often Miss Liberty has appeared in the media recently. I am sometimes not happy with the reasons, but I do love to see her.

Isn't it interesting how friends always find Ms. Liberty items for you-- I stopped truly collecting many years ago, but I am often gifted by those who know of my collecting passion for The Lady so I still receive wonderful, funky gifts. From emery boards to dishes, to bookmarks-- the variety amazes me. Thank you to all those who enjoy my enjoyment!

Over the years I have encouraged everyone to write about themselves, their collections, their family traditions and menus, recipes, etc. I am trying to do as I say--wrote one book on philanthropy and fund raising called, "The Fine Art of Schnorring", and really want to get to work on my second. A writer friend of mine from Chautauqua, NY, Gail Hoff-- we met in a writing class taught by Tom Bird one summer in Chautauqua-- found a book written by Tom and sent me a copy, "The Call of the Writer's Craft--Writing and Selling the Book Within". Written in 2009, it encompasses his writing methods and philosophy. Every time I start to read it, I get so motivated that I start writing immediately-unfortunately life gets in the way, so I sputter along, starting and stopping. However, the inspiration is still with me, so keep watching for a book signing in your neighborhood! And definitely, start your own memoir, and enjoy the process!

Tell Spring, I am ready! Love, Iris and Mort

OOPS SLC *

SLC *** ARCHIVE *** COPY

The newsletter Editor and his proof-reader regret the error – that nobody pointed out – in the footer of the last newsletter, 'Fall/Winter 2013'. We try to maintain the format for each newsletter and forgot to change 'Summer' to 'Fall/Winter' on most of the pages; the Volume and Issue are correct. And the picture on page 11, lower left is Paul Lajoie, not 'Pau'. The mistakes were discovered while preparing this newsletter. Our thanks to the membership for not demanding a recall and reprint.



The Statue of Liberty Club

Hanukkah at the White House 2013/5774 Reprinted from the web site of The White House

On Thursday, December 5, the President and Mrs. Obama welcomed members of the American Jewish community to the White House to celebrate Hanukkah. They hosted two receptions in the Grand Foyer of the White House. Guests included leaders from a broad range of national and local Jewish organizations; Supreme Court Justices; Administration officials; Members of Congress; leaders from the religious community, representing an array of denominations and organizations; athletes; actors; academics; musicians; authors; journalists; and other community stakeholders. The U.S. Marine Band, America's oldest continuously active professional music organization, known as "the President's own," performed in the East Room.

At both receptions, the food preparation occurred under the strict rabbinical supervision of Rabbi Levi Shemtov, Lubavitch Center of Washington (Chabad), in cooperation with the Rabbinical Council of Greater Washington. Watch this remarkable still-camera video that captures the koshering of the White House kitchen.

Afternoon Hanukkah Reception

At the afternoon reception, arriving guests were welcomed into the White House to the sounds of Zemer Chai ("living song"), a choir of 30 singers from the Washington, DC metropolitan area dedicated to sharing the rich and diverse musical heritage of the Jewish people. Founded in 1976, the choir sings the full range of the Jewish repertoire.

The President and Mrs. Obama joined guests for the ceremonial candlelighting program as the eighth day of Hanukkah was drawing to a close. The President made remarks, recognizing the creators of "Thanksgivukkah" and the 10-year-old inventor of the "Menurkey," created because of the intersection this year of Hanukkah and Thanksgiving. He then invited a military chaplain, Rabbi Amanda Lurer to recite an appropriate blessing to remind the gathering and the world of the meaning of this holiday. Rabbi Lurer serves in the U.S. Navy and recently returned from a nine-month deployment in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Following the blessing, Lainey and Kylie Schmitter, ages 8 and 4, respectively, lit the candles with a little help from their mom, Drew Schmitter. A military family, Lainey's and Kylie's Dad, Jacob Schmitter, is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy currently on his fifth deployment to a forward operating base in Afghanistan.

SLC *** ARCHIVE *** COPY

The Menorah



President Barack Obama holds up Kylie Schmitter as she and her sister Lainey Schmitter light the menorah during the Hanukkah reception in the Grand Foyer of the White House, Dec. 5, 2013. (Official White House Photo by Lawrence Jackson)

The Schmitters lit Manfred Anson's Statue of Liberty Menorah, which pays tribute to the promise of America for Jews who have emigrated here to find new opportunity and, in many cases, rebuild their lives. In 1986, to celebrate the centennial of the Statue of Liberty, Anson created the Statue of Liberty Menorah, taking the design of a centuryold Polish seven-branched menorah and adapting it for Hanukkah. [ED: See definition at the end] He used a Statue of Liberty statuette for each branch of the menorah, transforming Lady Liberty's torch of freedom into the candleholder for each night of Hanukkah and for the service candle. Also, he inscribed important events in Jewish history – from the Exodus from Egypt to the Holocaust and the establishment of the State of Israel –onto the base of each statuette and crowned the menorah with the American bald eagle. The Statue of Liberty Menorah being used this year at the White House was cast from the original mold in 2011 at the request of Dr. Aaron Feingold, who donated it to the National Museum of American Jewish History. SLC *** ARCHIVE *** COPY

Evening Hanukkah Reception

At the evening Hanukkah Reception, guests were treated to the sounds of Pizmon, the coed Jewish a cappella group of Columbia University, Barnard College, and The Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Pizmon (Hebrew for the chorus of a song), performing Jewish music as a source of inspiration and community outreach, was founded in 1987 and is the first collegiate Jewish a cappella group.

The President and Mrs. Obama joined guests in the Grand Foyer for remarks and a candlelighting program. On a serious note, President Obama noted the passing, a few hours earlier, of former South African President Nelson Mandela. He spoke of Hanukkah as "a story of miracles, of a light that burned for eight days when it should have only

The Statue of Liberty Club

Volume 24, Issue 1

lasted for one and a people who surmounted overwhelming odds to reclaim their historic homeland, so they could live their lives in peace and practice their religion in peace." The President then invited Rabbi Joshua Sherwin, a military chaplain who serves as the rabbi at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, to offer an appropriate blessing to remind the gathering and the world of the meaning of this holiday. The candles on a special menorah brought from the Jewish Museum in Prague were lit by two Holocaust survivors from the former Czechoslovakia, Margit Meissner and Martin Weiss, from Bethesda, Maryland. Both are volunteers at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington.

The Menorah



Holocaust survivors Margit Meissner and Martin Weiss participate in the Menorah lighting with President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama during the Hanukkah reception in the Grand Foyer of the White House, Dec. 5, 2013. (Official White House Photo by Lawrence Jackson)

The nineteenth-century brass menorah used at the evening reception – and the fate of the couple who owned it – illuminates the turbulent history of the Jewish community in Bohemia and Moravia during the first half of the twentieth century and the ultimate triumph of good over evil. In 1922, Abraham Isaac and Hayyah Ettinger, a husband and wife who lived in the Czech town of Hrušov, donated the 19th century brass menorah to the local prayer hall. They are named in the Hebrew inscription engraved on the menorah's base:

The menorah was used in the prayer hall until the Nazis burned it down on the night of June 11, 1939, and demolished the rest of the building during the following winter. On November 23, 1939, after the annexation of the Czechoslovak border area (the Sudetenland), the Nazis expelled the Ettingers and their three children and deported them to Poland. The Ettingers were murdered by the Nazis in an unknown place in 1943.

Today, the menorah has been used to celebrate Hanukkah at the U.S. Ambassador's Residence in Prague, a mansion that was built by a Jewish family in the 1920s and seized by the Nazis and used as a headquarters for their leaders during the German occupation.

SLC *** ARCHIVE *** COPY

[ED: from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Menorah_(Hanukkah) The Hanukkah menorah is, strictly speaking, a nine-branched candelabrum lit during the eight-day holiday of Hanukkah, as opposed to the seven-branched menorah used in the ancient Temple or as a symbol.]



From The President

Greetings to all ... I won't even discuss the winter weather because it is not over yet, but I sincerely hope everyone – worldwide – safely survives the wrath of natural forces!

Merle B. Schultz

I received notice of the January 2013 death of **Merle Schultz**, our long-time member from Menomonie, Wisconsin. Merle was a Liberty collector, a scrapbook enthusiast, a poet and a tourist/traveler.

In 1986 Merle wrote a long poem, *Olympia, My Lady Liberty*, which Merle had translated to French. Large cards of the poem were printed; I have many of the French translation but none of the English cards, assuming they were also printed. I requested an English version from her son and permission to reprint the poem in the club's newsletter; I have not had a response at this time.

Lighting the Statue of Liberty Menorah at The White House

On December 20th, **Iris November** sent me an email with the following message "Just talked to Judy Anson, Manfred's wife and she told me about this link to the lighting of the Anson Menorah at the White House. Thought it makes a lovely story." Manfred and Judy Anson were long-time members of this club and attended several New York City meetings. The White House web site's article is reprinted in this newsletter starting on page 3; the URL link, URL **#1**, is provided on page 7. There are two video segments at the link.

The base of each candle has an inscription noting "... important events in Jewish history", as mentioned in the White House article. The nine inscriptions, starting from the

right candle are:

SLC *** ARCHIVE *** COPY

Exodus from Egypt Babylonian Exile 597-538 BCE Judah Maccabee 168 BCE 2 revolts against Rome Galut [Means the Diaspora] Herzl Zionist Congress. Basel 1897 Holocaust 1939- 1946 Israel 1948 The Shamis or 9th candle reads 1886-1986 [100th anniversary of Lady Liberty]

Years ago, Iris purchased an identical Menorah from the Swann Gallery in New York City. At my request, Iris

The Statue of Liberty Club

Spring 2014

Volume 24, Issue 1

provided close-up pictures and the inscriptions for this newsletter; see photos #1 and #2 on the back page.

Interesting Old Photos

Iris also forwarded an email containing 37 old photographs – dating back to President Abraham Lincoln's 1861 Inauguration. The last photo had the caption "**Unpacking the Head of the Statue of Liberty, delivered June 17, 1885**" – see photo #3 on the back page. If the caption is accurate, this photo would have been taken on Bedloe Island, now Liberty Island, as the pieces of Liberty were being unpacked for eventual assembly.

The face has a different forehead shape than the face currently on display in the pedestal's museum, which has a rounded forehead – see photo **#4**, provided by **Laurent Ghesquière**, on the back page.

Very Pleasant Visit

I had the pleasure of visiting, and lunch, with **Jean and Bob Weaver** in Florida. The Weaver's are frequent attendees at the club's New York City biennial meetings. The report that they recently donated 1,400 Liberty items to the Museum of Arts and Sciences in Daytona Beach, Florida – see URL **#2**. I was in Bob's office and there are still a lot of Liberty items – some one-of-a-kind – in the various collections. Like many of us, when Bob has at least 2 related items, a new collection is established. I told Jean and Bob that this office (Jean called it a "man-cave") reminded me of the office at **Paul Lajoie**'s home – I was there in October – in that it is wall-to-wall Liberty and other collections ... my kind of place!

We discovered that Bob and I have several threads in common from our past careers with RCA computers in the 1970's. Jean and Bob are natives of Michigan and Bob is a graduate of Michigan State University (MSU) – I currently live in Michigan; I have been on the MSU campus many time in the 20+ years I've been in Michigan. Bob is deep into genealogy, as is Paul Lajoie and both volunteer to help others; in the past 5years I have been working both side of my family tree. Of course there is also the Liberty connection, but we all have that common relationship. We also discussed the possibility of calling a mini-meeting in the Florida area because of the large number of members there and in the neighboring states. I will discuss this with club officers!

Thanks to Jean and Bob for a fun visit.

Le Cadeau (The Gift) to Columbia University

During our Saturday activities on October 5, 2013 in New York City, **Joan Laskoff** mentioned she had donated a large photo collection to Columbia University – the photos she used to produce her Liberty video. The collection was donated during the Summer of 2013. We talked briefly then I asked Joan to write and submit an article for this newsletter. Joan's article is the cover page article.



I discussed the possibility of the club visiting Columbia University, again, during a future meeting to see some of the collection and how the University envisions using the wealth of material. I will let the idea on the table for Brian Snyder, our meeting coordinator, and Joan; both can contact the University with our request for a future visit. The club visited the campus during our 2001 New York City meeting. Visit URL **#3** for the Library receiving the donation. By the way, the title of this report is *Le Cadeau*, French for *The Gift*, which is the title of Joan's French language version of *The Contributors*.

Long Walk to Freedom

Below is an exchange of email between **Johann McLellan** and myself in December, 2013.

From: "Vince Swift" President@statueoflibertyclub.com To: McLellan, Johannes Sent: 06 December 2013

Subject: South Africa's Loss

SLC *** ARCHIVE *** COPY

I want to express my condolences on the loss of your great South African leader Nelson Mandela; he was also a great ambassador of justice to the world.

Vince Swift

Johann,

President, The Statue of Liberty Club

From: "Johannes McLellan"

To: "Vince Swift" President@statueoflibertyclub.com Sent: Friday, December 6, 2013 Subject: RE: South Africa's Loss

Thank you Vince,

It truly is a very sad day for South Africa to suffer a loss of such a great man. There is a very strange atmosphere in the country as we are sad that he is no longer with us, but we reminisce on his life and feel like celebrating his life rather than mourning his death. Flags across the country are at half-mast and it chokes you up to see – We are extremely grateful to have had a leader like Madiba and hope that his legacy will live on.

I would like to leave you with a quote from his book, Long Walk to Freedom:

"I have walked that long road to freedom. I have tried not to falter. I have made missteps along the way. But I have discovered the secret that after climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb. I have taken a moment here to rest, to steal a view of the glorious vista that surrounds me, to look back on the distance I have come. But I can only rest for a moment, for with Freedom come great responsibilities, and I dare not linger for my long walk is not ended."

His long walk is finally over and we hope that he will rest in peace.

Thank you once again for the kind words – I have sent your message to family, friends and colleagues

Best wishes and regards to everyone and may you have a blessed Holiday Season

Johann

Enjoy the Springtime. Cherish Our Liberty, Vince Swift



Flame of Liberty with Eiffel Tower in background

Photo by Brian Snyder



We are moving forward on the Club's next trip to Paris, Colmar and Belfort. If you have ever wanted to travel to Europe and wanted someone to go with...don't miss this fantastic opportunity.

This year was chosen for The Flame of Liberty, *Flamme de la Liberté*, located in Paris celebrating its silver anniversary.

From the Vice President

Contact has been made with the Bartholdi Museum, Mayor of Colmar, Mayor of Paris, U.S. Embassy, New York Times, SAMBA, and others.

I anticipate spending 2 days in Paris visiting the Eiffel Tower, the grave sites of Lafayette and Bartholdi, the Flame of Liberty, and other locations. We will be traveling to Colmar for the Museum of Bartholdi and to Belfort to see Bartholdi's grand Lion of Belfort. This should be 5 days in France but you are always welcome to add a few days onto your trip!

We still need a few more travelers so please contact me at **vicepresident@statueoflibertyclub.com** very soon to be included in the direct communications for this adventure. The direct communications will include details on hotels, transportation, and events. September is not that far away since airline tickets will need to be purchased in May – June.

Air Fare **Example**: Round trip New York JFK to Paris CDG on Sept 12-21 is priced at \$753 today, March 10, 2014.

The Statue of Liberty Club





Liberty Island Control Center

Photo from Total Recall Corp.

Total Recall Corporation, a video-centric security technology provider specializing in surveillance solutions, has brought together nine state-of-the-art technology vendors to deliver an award-winning IP-based, digital video surveillance solution used by the U.S. Park Police, National Park Service (NPS) and the Department of Interior (DOI) to enhance public safety and improve operational efficiencies at the recently renovated Statue of Liberty National Monument and Liberty Island.

In preparation for the March 2013 reopening, Total Recall redesigned the Statue's surveillance and security system from top to bottom, including migrating from outdated analog CCTV to the latest in IP-based digital video technology, building an intelligent and ultra-modern command center to help the NPS and U.S. Park Police do their jobs more effectively and enabling the park to cover areas with video surveillance that they could not reach before, such as the security screening facilities.

IP-based technology and the system's innovative design enable it to cover the entire perimeter of Liberty Island. The technology will be used for the day-to-day safety and security of the park's visitors while also helping the U.S. Park Police and NPS monitor traffic flow, assist ferry service operation, reconnect parents with misplaced children and effectively respond to any medical emergencies on the island or inside the Statue.



Monitoring of boat dock Photo from Total Recall Corp.



31 Renewing Members ... Thank You!

Shelley J Assenheimer Ronald Cutadean Paul Doucette Michael J Forster Kitty Gustafson Asher Hetrick, Jr Jan Kaneyuki Patricia Krauchune Carol & Jon Kring Amanda Libertv Tom Lofton Gail & Alan Marder Dave McCutcheon Johann McLellan Christian Meyer Marian Michalski

Micky & Gilbert Miclo Harry Misuriello Karen Mock Joyce & Ted Mueller Merrill & Lebo Newman Paula & Mark Plantier Glenna Sue Powell Dale Rogers Lolly Sample Annette Schabowski Kathy Sheeran Nancy Sherman Mary Lou Sulecki Paul Virgadamo Jean & Robert Weaver



Classified Ads in the Club Newsletter

The origins of our club is the collector of The Statue of Liberty memorabilia and admiration of the Statue.

Club newsletters from the first 10 years usually had 1-2 pages containing **Want-to-Sell** and

Want-to-Buy ads submitted by members. The ads provided members with a forum to buy and sell Liberty items

Submission of classified ads has diminished over the years – but we know the majority of members are still collectors as is evident in the Membership Directory's 'Specialty' information listed with members' names. In an effort to rekindle buy/sell information for collector items, the newsletter editor will accept up to 10 want to buy/sell items from a member – FREE. Ads, from members, are free provided they are reasonable in size (12 words per item) and the number submitted is 10 or less. Please send the information to via e-mail (preferred) or regular mail to the newsletter Editor – Vince or Brian for now.

SLC *** ARCHIVE *** COPY

Join, Renew or Donate Online!

\$23 Annual Membership Dues (U.S.)\$25 Annual Membership Dues (International)

SLC members can renew their annual memberships, or new members can join, using a credit card or PayPal account from the club's web site at

www.StatueOfLibertyClub.com/club.html

Using online renewal will send your payment electronically to the SLC bank account.
Members, new and renewing, will receive an electronic conformation of their payment transaction.
A paper application can be found on the above webpage. The application contains a mailing address.



SLC Contacts

Editor: open position For now, Vince Swift and Brian Snyder will work as co-editors. Editor@StatueOfLibertyClub.com

Founder of Statue of Liberty Collectors' Club (est. 1991): Iris & Mort November

ins & wort novembe

lbrtyclub@aol.com

SLC Website: www.StatueOfLibertyClub.com

URL #	Internet Address						
1	http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2013/12/06/hanukkah-white-house						
2	http://www.moas.org/main.o	cfm	SLC *** ARCH	IVE *** COPY			
3	http://library.columbia.edu/locations/avery.html						
The St	atue of Liberty Club	Spring 2014	Volume 24, Issue 1	Page 7			



Spring 2014

Volume 24, Issue 1

Page 8







