

# The Statue of Liberty Club Newsletter



*Give me your tired, your poor,  
your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!*

Vol. 16, n°3 ~ Fall / Winter 2007

## Club Observes Liberty's 121st Anniversary at its 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting

### From the President

It's Monday, October 29, and by now everyone including Brian has returned home from the activities of our club meeting in New York City last week. We did have a very good turnout for the 3-days of activities, the weather was damp, but no major rain showers, and the events were great. Laurent and Delphine Ghesquière made the trip from France and were guests of Mark and Paula Plantier. Delphine broke her left elbow in a fall while shopping in NYC and was wearing a cast nearly the entire time

of their visit. When she returned to France, Delphine underwent surgery and had screws inserted in the offending elbow and was ordered to stay home from work for a month! We sincerely hope she feels better soon and regains full use of her arm. Laurent was our un-official photographer for club activities. Below is one he took of the group at the base of the Statue.



**Front Row:** Paula Plantier, Brian Snyder, Stephanie Holman, Marilyn Ebersole, Paul Lajoie **Row 2:** Delphine Ghesquière, Belle Durkin (Ted Mueller's granddaughter), Josh Levy (the Levys' grandson), Reema Beneeka (Paul Lajoie's niece who lives in NYC), Vince Swift **Row 3:** Lebo Newman, Ginger & Al Plys, Ruth & Julian Levy, Marge Dougan, Adela French, Laurent Ghesquière **Back Row:** Ethel Fishman, Ted Mueller, Mark Plantier, Nancy Sherman, Alan & Gail Marder, Jean & Bob Weaver **Attended other events:** Kay Lande, Joan Laskoff

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Thursday, October 25

Fifteen members, including returning member Marge Dougan, boarded a bus for Union Square Park. We were fortunate to view several impressive statues located in the park, including a statue of the Marquis de Lafayette by Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi. Additionally, we saw statues of George Washington on horse, Abraham Lincoln, Gandhi, and Woman with Children. There was a plaque in the park with the following history of the sculpture “Bartholdi, sculptor of the Statue of Liberty, cast his Marquis de Lafayette statue in 1873. It was dedicated on July 4, 1876. Originally set facing the Washington statue, it depicts Lafayette pledging his sword to the General.”

Next stop was the Brooklyn Museum. The Museum has on display the 30-foot replica of the Statue of Liberty that was commissioned in 1900 and sat atop Liberty Warehouse at 43 West 64<sup>th</sup> St, near Lincoln Center. While the “little” Lady Liberty is acknowledged to be amiss in features or details, she is an acceptable representation and is accessible in the parking lot of the Museum. The five-story Museum is a worthwhile destination spot in itself. I didn’t get to all the floors, but was impressed with the 12 sculptures by Rodin (a contemporary of Bartholdi) in the Museum lobby.



**Bartholdi's 1873 statue of General Lafayette pledging his sword to General Washington**



**Brooklyn Museum's "Little Liberty" reclaimed**



**Ruth Levy and Paula Plantier honor a Jewish tradition by leaving a stone on the grave of Emma Lazarus.**

Our last stop was the cemetery in Brooklyn where Emma Lazarus is buried. We actually stopped at four separate cemeteries before returning to our first cemetery stop where we were directed to the Lazarus family grave site. The club placed a floral wreath on the grave and Julian Levy read *The New Colossus* from the plaque at the foot of Miss Lazarus’ grave. He was accompanied by Paula Plantier and Nancy Sherman in the singing a portion of the sonnet—yes, there is music to that famous piece. There are other notables buried in that cemetery and members took the opportunity to admire several of the more spectacular grave markers.

Friday, October 26

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Two vans filled with club members arrived at Battery Park for the ferry to Liberty Island. The combination of a full-moon-high-tide and choppiness in New York Harbor combined for a challenging boarding of the ferry. We literally had to be pulled onto the ferry by Circle Line staff because the boat was so high in the water and was bouncing in the choppiness. Security to board the ferry and to enter the pedestal has not relaxed any – it is still a ‘hassle’ . . . just ask Paula.

We were graciously entertained again this year by Brad Hill and the staff at the Statue of Liberty Museum Store – a lot of gifts left the island after that visit! Brad and staff provided each member with a gift packet that included a ‘VIP’ Liberty badge, free lunch coupon, and a merchandise discount coupon. Our sincere **THANKS** to Brad and the Museum Store staff. Brian and I presented Brad with a gift set of the 2007 meeting medals.



Nearly all club members regrouped on Ellis Island in the afternoon for a private tour/presentation by the *Save Ellis Island Foundation* on the progress of restoration efforts of some of the Ellis Island buildings. Many worthy endeavors receive little public funds, and this is no exception. Past issues of this newsletter contain more information about the restoration efforts and a web site to visit. During the tour we came across a broken fire-sprinkler head that was within the restored area. From our observations, there did not appear to be any damage to the restored areas.

One of our goals while on Ellis Island was to return the refurbished wood base of the Bartholdi bust holding his Liberty statue that is on display in the Ellis Island Library. This is the same image used as the basis for our 2004 Bartholdi Memorial medal. The wood base was showing signs of wear from being moved around and was sent back to the original sculptor, Don Wiegand in Chesterfield, Missouri, for restoration. The newly improved base arrived at my house, I drove it to NYC, and several club members, including Paul Lajoie, carried it in its FedEx box from Battery Park to Liberty Island, and finally to Ellis Island. This made me recall the care Tom Hanks took for his FedEx package in the 2000 film *Cast Away*. Stephanie Holman and Brian Snyder took the opportunity to visit the Library and its two famous librarians, Jeff Dosik and Barry Moreno, both club members.

Brian presented an example of the 2007 meeting medal to the NPS for the Liberty Collection; I will be sending an example to the *Save Ellis Island Foundation* for the fine restoration talk by Sarah Muccifori.

### Saturday, October 27

From 11am to 4pm in the conference room of the Travel Inn, we had approximately seven club members offering Liberty items for sale and a display of Paul Lajoie's NYC Safe and Sane medals. Many club members took the opportunity to visit other locations in the city, relax in their hotel room, and/or visit with others in the conference room.

At 5:30pm we began our meeting/dinner; as before, we had a number of topics to cover and had seven raffle prizes donated for the drawings. The club added \$164 to its bank account from the raffle.

During dinner we had a demonstration of repoussé from Dennis Heaphy, a part-time metals worker for Liberty Island. See: <http://EllisIslandReenactment.com>

In the meeting that followed dinner, Joan Laskoff read from her research notes for a book project she is working on regarding the diary of Frédéric Bartholdi kept during his first trip to America.

I believe the highpoints of the meeting were our calls to Iris & Mort November, Dick & Sandy Izsak and Brenda & Stuart Beasley-Forrest. Several reasons kept these members from attending this year. We look forward to the next meeting to be with them again. Each couple was sent a 'Do Not Open Until We Call You' package before I left Michigan for New York. In the package was a set of the 2007 meeting medals.



Vince receives a gift from Adela French

Photo by Marilyn Ebersole



Photo by Laurent Ghesquière

Through Brian's efforts with Don Wiegand – the sculptor mentioned above – the club presented to the Bartholdi Museum in Colmar a 'bas-relief' (seen at left) of the same image found on the 2004 Bartholdi Memorial medal. The club shipped the artwork to France where Laurent will make presentation on behalf of the club to the Bartholdi Museum.

Barry Moreno joined us for dinner and donated a copy of his 2004 book, *Images of America: The Statue of Liberty*, and a number of collectible postcards showing the cover of the book. All were donated to the raffle. Also joining us for dinner was Glenn Stoops, who many will recall if I identify him as *Mr. Bartholdi* at the Liberty Island Museum Store.

Throughout the dinner there was much chatter about the next biennial meeting in 2009 – yes, approximately 100 weeks from your receipt of this newsletter.

There was even discussion of a mini-meeting on the west side of the U.S. next year. More will come of that possibility in the March newsletter.

The 2007 meeting medal and set of elongated (“squished”) George Washington dollars were presented to all attendees of the weekend activities. While supplies of the 121 limited edition sets last, members who were not at the meeting can order a set. More information is found in the “2007 Meeting Medal” article in this newsletter. Members were sent a postcard from ... check the postmark ... Liberty Island, announcing the medal set.

### Club Officer Elections

During our Saturday dinner I announced that I will be the club’s Treasurer for the next 2-year cycle. However, we did not get volunteers for the club’s President and Vice President positions. For the immediate future, Brian and I will continue to manage the club’s business affairs, but we do need your assistance.

This is the final newsletter for 2007, so I will take this opportunity to wish all club members a Blessed Holy season, a Happy Holiday season and a comfortable winter season.

*Sincerely,  
Vince Swift, SLC President & Treasurer*

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## THOUGHTS BY BELLE DURKIN ON HER DAY AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY WITH GRANDPA AND THE CLUB

*A long line, make that very long.....I was very worried because signs said “No Backpacks”. Going through was a little surprising because they puffed air up at you. It startled me. You had to stay in there for 20 seconds. So that was a little freaky.*

Now, I am at the base of SOL and looking up at it. I am a bit scared looking up at it – it looks so big. There are lots of nice people in Grandpa’s club. Now we are waiting for the other people in the group so they can take a picture. It’s pretty cloudy out now. I think it’s going to rain. I am now surrounded by older people. Two ladies are singing a song about having a hat.

Built in 1886 in France. They built a frame and put the copper on it. Looking up at the spiral staircase inside is a sight to see – also a bit scary. It is a beautiful sight from all sides. You used to be able to walk all the way up to the torch. A sign to immigrants that they were close to home, and it was a sign of freedom.

Ellis Island – a place where immigrants came to prove they were healthy enough. People marked chalk letters on immigrant’s jackets that said if they were good to go or if they had a disease. X – suspected mental defect, C – conjunctivitis, Pg – pregnant, etc. Ellis Island had hospitals for those who were sick, injured or pregnant, mentally ill or had different illnesses. Button hooks were used to lift up their eye lids. If they had the slightest thing, they were sent to the hospital.

Right now Grandpa and I are sitting on the bench waiting for the 1:00pm ferry. Grandpa got me a light up pen that has Lady Liberty on it. It lights up different colors.

*Belle Durkin of NYC accompanied her grandfather, Ted Mueller of Westport, CT, on the club’s Friday outing. Thank you, Belle, for contributing your thoughts about your day on Liberty and Ellis Islands. It is very refreshing to experience these impressions through the eyes of a 10-year-old!*



## From the Editor's Desk

Autumn greetings from the Lowcountry! There's lots of good news to report from the home front. Thirteen months after I first met Stuart online, and one year after our first meeting in person, we were married. A native of Scotland (Lesmahagow, near Glasgow), and most recently a resident of Bexhill-on-Sea on the South coast of England, Stuart is adapting beautifully to a much drier, warmer environment. We are truly thankful to have found each other against such unlikely odds. Stu has developed the "eye" for spotting Liberties (you know what I'm talking about...) and has been nothing but supportive of my Liberty madness (well, normalness/saneness for us Liberty collectors—which is why I love you all so!). He even surprised me by becoming a SOL Club member last Spring. We're hoping Stuart will soon find a job in Information Technology. We had perfect weather, high tide, and a welcome absence of gnats and mosquitoes for our outdoor wedding and reception. It was a memorable, intimate gathering of longtime friends and family.

Then, on the very evening some of you were at the Liberty meeting in New York, I was attending Beaufort's mermaid auction. Five couples from town pooled their resources and purchased *Mermaid de Libertè* so that she would remain in Beaufort. She sold for \$2100! That, combined with a phone call from Vince in NYC, and the very cool Liberty geocoins made for a wonderful evening.

As always, keep those Liberty links and sightings coming! The cut-off date for submissions for the spring issue of the newsletter is **February 15, 2008**. My contact information is on the back page. And yes, the new spelling of my name (formerly Brenda Gale) is an homage to my Celtic beau.

Yours, United in Liberty,

## BrendagaelBeasley~Forrest

### It's a Small World... After All

by Brian Snyder, Vice President

On Sunday, the day after the SLC Convention, I decided to go back to the Statue of Liberty for her 121st anniversary celebration. While on top of the pedestal my cell phone rang and it was a work friend from Fresno, Calif. I'd not seen her in six months nor talked to her in two months. She said, "Guess where I am?" Knowing I was in a much cooler place than where she was, I played along. She said, "At the Statue of Liberty in New York!"

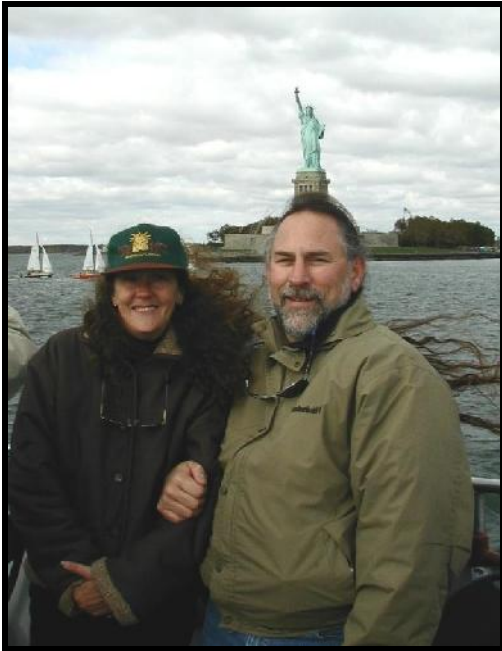
"No way! How do I know you aren't kidding me?"

She said she was standing right behind her. "Describe what is around you... I don't know if I believe you," I asked. I quickly ran around the pedestal to the back side and there she was down below talking to me on her cell. I played around with her for a few minutes and finally said, "Guess where I am?" By this time I was ready to bust at the seams with what I wanted to tell her. I told her to look up at the top of the pedestal... "I'm waiving at you!!!" I could hear her scream through the phone and from the ground. Neither of us knew we were traveling at the same time, and it wasn't until the night before that she decided to drive down from Boston. After a few laughs that I had outdone her, she was on her way to Ellis Island. It was truly a small world that day!



**Stuart & Brendagael Beasley-Forrest  
Our Scottish Lowcountry Wedding  
October 6, Beaufort, SC**

Photo by Carol Beasley



**A windblown Merrill & Lebo Newman visit the SOL in 2001, one month after 9/11**

## **Member Profile: Lebo and Merrill Newman**

**by Brenda Beasley-Forrest**

About 15 years ago, Lebo and Merrill Newman had a studio in the lower level of their house where they would collect items to use on recycled trophies to make one-of-a-kind awards for their employees. They went to flea markets, garage sales and antique stores to collect the oddball items they would put on the awards. One day Lebo looked up and realized they had filled a six foot long windowsill with various Statues of Liberty without even thinking about it. Curious as to what subconscious theme was going on in his head, Lebo began reading and researching The Lady, and realized he was in love. In love with the symbolism and the iconic nature of all that Liberty means to the USA and the world, and that she embodies the patriotic feelings he had for all the great things about this country. It was then he started getting serious about collecting. Merrill bought into the collecting, quite literally as well as figuratively, and she shares the passion. Lebo and Merrill's families have been in the USA for over 225 years, so there were no attachments created by ancestors passing by Lady Liberty or processing thru Ellis Island. It was simply an awakening of latent feelings for the country and what Liberty meant.

Says Lebo, "I'm probably the most conservative long haired guy you've met—fiscally conservative, socially liberal.

Lebo found out about the Statue of Liberty Club via a few other collectors he met online while searching eBay, auctions, etc. His first contact was with Mike Brooks, fellow collector and Club member who recently passed away, and David Weingartner, who has the world's premier collection of miniature buildings, which comprises a substantial sub-collection of Statue of Liberty items. "I was led to The SOL Club when a woman who tried to buy a Liberty lamp away from me at an Antique Fair told me it was a good source for Liberty items, way back in '93," he says.

Lebo and Merrill feel that the entire collection they bought from Mike Brooks will always rank high in their emotional attachment to the SOL collection. "While we have many unique pieces separate from his collection, says Lebo, "the knowledge that we gained from working with Mike and the times and stories we shared of our mutual passions for collecting will always make those pieces stand out." The Newmans also have bought other collections and unique pieces from serious collectors who have found themselves ready to divest of their collections. "We cherish those as well, as we feel we can give them a dutiful home where the pieces will be kept together and appreciated appropriately," he says.

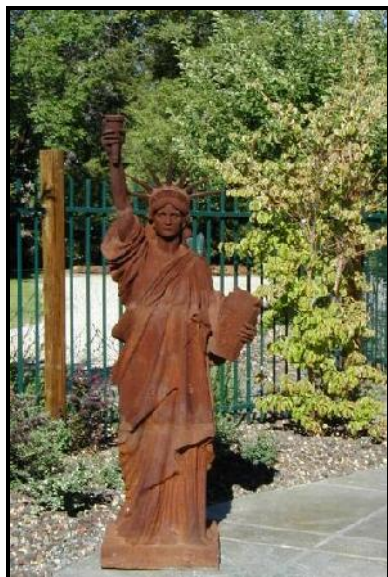
Other parts of the collection they consider favorites are Liberty interpretations: Outsider Art pieces, sculptural renditions, etc. An example of a favorite antique item is a piece with the Statue of Liberty holding a flag that waves when the wind blows a propeller that sits below it while attached to a bicycle handlebar. Antique product pieces with Liberty as the logo or inspiration are also favorite items to find. "We love it all!" he says, but admits the older the better, the bigger the better, and the more unique the better; yet they find themselves buying brand new items as well, because, "Who knows how items will be viewed 50 years from now?! We screen out items we feel are out of taste, yet buy virtually anything with a political point of view even if it does not coincide with our politics, since she stands for freedom of speech as well."

Before getting bit by the Liberty bug, the Newmans used to collect Americana—bowling kitsch, noddies, snow globes, etc., but concentrate solely on Liberty now, except for Merrill's Dragonfly's, shoes and classic clothing, and they enjoy collecting art and love all mediums. Lebo does most of his Liberty collecting research online, and ask questions of other collectors. Mike Brooks was, and still is, an important source of information on the Lady.

"Thanks, Mike!"



Newman is a landscaper by profession and passion, with partnerships in three companies—two in Nevada, and one in California. He also does consulting for the Landscape Industry as well as business brokering, assisting mergers in the Green Industry. Both Newmans are graduates from being in career Air Force military families, and believe that living in places other than the USA gives you a different way of looking at the world, and what one’s place in it is. “The Lady is a symbol of all that is great about our country. It is important not to lose sight of that. And who knows, maybe collecting will, in a small way, do just that. That may sound silly but ‘Oh Well’.”



**From the Newman Collection:** The iron SOL is from London and sits near the pool. The next frame is a small snapshot of the collection. The Woodstock Liberty is a statue the Newmans sponsored & commissioned for the Santa Rosa ‘Peanuts on Parade’ fund raiser, like the Chicago Cows, Rockford’s Sock Moneys, and Beaufort’s Mermaids.



**Liberty Quote:**

"They that can give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety deserve neither."

-- Benjamin Franklin

Motto of the *Historical Review of Pennsylvania*, 1759.

**Alki Beach (Seattle) Celebrates Liberty’s Return**

Submitted by Brian Snyder & Laurent Ghesquière, Edited by Brenda Beasley-Forrest

Thanks to efforts by Northwest Programs for the Arts and impassioned West Seattle-ites, Liberty rose again to her pedestal on 9/11 after a major renovation from years of inclement weather and vandalism. This was fitting day, since she became a local symbol of for New York in the days following the attacks at the World Trade Center. The festivities included a live band performance, followed by the unveiling by Mayor Greg Nickels and lots of feel-good speeches by members of the community.

The original statue was donated by the Boy Scouts and installed in 1952 at Alki Beach Park. The new statue was cast in bronze at The Bronze Works in Tacoma, WA.

–from Seattle’s public blog, <http://www.seattle.gov/artsandculture>, [www.montana.com](http://www.montana.com), 9/12/07

What a testament to this powerful, universal icon!  
For this beautiful color poster & more information see:

<http://www.seattle.gov/artsandculture>



## America's Sweetheart Doesn't Disappoint

Article & photos by Marilyn Ebersole

There she was, standing tall, all 151-feet, 1-inch of her, welcoming tourists to Liberty Island. On the eve of her 121<sup>st</sup> birthday, I was making my first Lady Liberty pilgrimage since 9-11. Lady Liberty and I are old friends. In my role as Editor-in-Chief of the *VFW Ladies Auxiliary Magazine*, I made 16 trips from 1984-2000 to join in her birthday celebrations.

This year, I was shocked to see how the security infrastructure had marred the impressive concourse leading to the base of the Statue. FEMA trailers must be more attractive than this built environment eyesore, necessitated by the increased security precautions.



Once I recovered from seeing—or not seeing—an unobstructed view of America's Sweetheart, my disappointment dissolved when I entered the new two-story museum installation in the statue's pedestal. The exhibits are displayed in light and airy surroundings with easy-to-read labels, accented by audio-visual displays.



**Belle takes notes for her school report while her grandfather looks on.**

For me, one of the many conference benefits is making new friends and sharing stories with SOL groupies. Representing France at the weekend event were Laurent and Delphine Ghesquière, who'd last visited Miss Liberty in July 2006 with their two daughters during a cross-country trip. Laurent documented conference events with his impressive camera equipment while good-sport Delphine, despite a broken arm, carried his tripod.

Ted Mueller drove down to the city from Westport, Connecticut, with Belle, his nine-year-old granddaughter. Notebook in hand, Belle took copious notes while she toured the museum and the Ellis Island restoration. I recommend this conscientious 4<sup>th</sup> grader submit her school report for publication in the SOL Club newsletter [see page 4].

Kay Lande Selmer, whose Norwegian ancestors were associated with the mine that may have produced the Statue's copper, joined the group for dinner, as did the popular Barry Moreno, Statue of Liberty National Monument librarian. The talented Joan Laskoff, who premiered her documentary film at the Rochester, NY conference *We Put Her There: The Contributors*, on the planning and building of the SOL, shared her research of Bartholdi's writings. She read excerpts from Bartholdi's diary, kept by the sculptor when he crossed the U.S. in the 1870s, in an effort to raise interest and funds for the proposed gift from France.

It was good to renew friendships with Gail and Alan Marder, a lively couple from Queens who never knows a stranger. Stephanie Holman wearing Urban Cowgirl couture, traveled to the Big Apple from her home in rural Idaho, while Ethel Fishman arrived by cab from her home a short distance away.



SLC \*\*\* ARCHIVE \*\*\* COPY

An admitted consummate shopper, Ethel was anxious to check out the new gift shop merchandise and to steer me to the mother lode of tacky SOL memorabilia.

Nancy Sherman of Bay Shore, New York, left the conference with a warm spot in her heart for the Liberty Island employees who found her "lost" sweater. Nancy didn't miss her sweater until she returned to her hotel room. She made a frantic call to the monument's Lost and Found ... and "yes" they had her sweater and offered to mail it to her home.

The day-long trip to pay homage to Miss Liberty and to tour the Ellis Island restoration projects were just a couple of highlights organized by Vince Swift and Brian Snyder. The meticulous event planners organized bus transportation, special tour guides, admission tickets, a catered dinner, and discounts in the Gift Shop—resulting in a super, fun, educational, enlightening time for all.



At right: Ethel Fishman admires a Bartholdi model in the Statue of Liberty Museum.

*Liberty was born a celebrity, a towering monument to an historic friendship. While fame often fades quickly, Liberty has grown even more renowned as the "Mother of Exiles," welcoming a flood of immigrants, and as a symbol of America itself. The price of this fame has been exploitation for commercial and political ends. Yet Liberty remains a proud and shining figure.*

--From a plaque at the entrance to the Statue of Liberty Museum.

Renewing Members: 32

Thank you!!

New Members: 3 Welcome!!

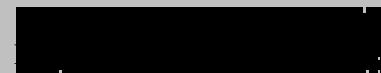
- Joan Adelman
- Joel & Maureen Bednarz
- George Dukov
- Ethel Fishman
- Nancy Frost
- Asher Hetrick, Jr
- Dick & Sandy Izsak
- Ed & Kathy Izsak
- Margaret Izsak
- Patricia Krauchune
- Carol & Jon Kring
- Julian Levy
- Tom Lofton
- Lindsay MacDonald
- Gail & Alan Marder
- Nancy Martinez

- Christian Meyer
- Barry Moreno
- Ted Mueller
- John Nersten Jr.
- Lebo Newman
- Glenna Sue Powell
- Angelo Rosato
- Lolly Sample
- Kathy Sheeran
- Nancy Sherman
- Finn & Margaret Skeisvoll
- Mary Lou Sulecki
- Vince Swift
- Janet Taylor
- Arnold Unger
- Roger Vincon

Marjorie Dougan (returning)



Dave McCutcheon



*Dave is a Park Ranger with the National Park Service at the SOL and Ellis Island National Monuments.*

McKenna L. Schumacher



This is a very nice home video of a visit to the Statue of Liberty when the twin towers still stood. Enjoy the memories. ~Ann Bartlett

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...>

Have your Liberty costume at the ready for any costume party event. Keyword search for numerous themes at CostumZee: <http://www.costumzee.com/keyword/state-of-liberty/>

## 2007 Biennial Meeting Medal

by Brian Snyder

The medal prepared for the club's 2007 Biennial Meeting is a variation of a Liberty medal that contains *The New Colossus* in its entirety on the reverse side – in very small letters. The shape of the medal is the 11-point star of Fort Wood on which The Statue of Liberty stands. On the front are the longitude and latitude coordinates of Miss Liberty and the dedication date of October 28, 1886. The reverse is unique for this year only; it notes the 121<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Statue, the date of our club's meeting October, 2007 and the names of:

**Iris November, Founder**  
**Vince Swift, President**  
**Brian Snyder, Vice-President**  
**Dick Izsak, Treasurer**  
**Brenda Beasley, Editor**



Both sides contain the formal name of **Liberty Enlightening the World**. The medal set is actually a pair of identical solid copper medals. Each pair contains a unique 'tracking identifier' for those interested in Geocaching – a form of treasure hunting. For more information see: <http://www.geocaching.com/>

Only 121 pairs were made for the club and the reverse design will not be reproduced again. We produced 121 sets as 2007 is her 121<sup>st</sup> anniversary. That number also provides each club member the opportunity to own this one-of-a-kind collectible medal pair. The cost is \$17 for U.S. addresses and \$20 (USD) for foreign addresses. The cost includes postage paid. Orders should be sent to:

Brian Snyder / 1901 West Hill Pkwy / Fresno, CA 93722 USA

## Treasurer's Report by Vince Swift

As of November 12, 2007 the club had;

\$2,435.77	in our USA Credit Union checking account
<u>\$120.00</u>	in our PayPal account
\$2,555.77	total assets

Known expenses to be paid are:

\$ 500.00	approximate cost for the November issue of the newsletter, includes postage.
600.00	approximate cost for shipping and receiving the Bartholdi bas-relief to France.
150.00	reimbursement for 2004 medal sales and 2007 medal club gifts.
<u>60.00</u>	website fees through December, 2007.
\$1,310.00	approximate expenses to be paid

Thanks to Brenda's cost-saving efforts, we are continually trying to put out a 1<sup>st</sup>-class newsletter at a reasonable cost. Brian is looking into other internet providers for the website who can provide the service we need at a lower cost.





Iris November, SLC Founder

## Iris Signs In

Mort and I were sooo disappointed that we missed the meeting in NYC which we had been planning on for two years!! Mort was packed up with boxes of goodies to share and sell, and I had stories to tell—but a sudden 6 days in the hospital knocked my guy off his feet and no travel was allowed for 3 weeks—which covered the Meeting. We were personally thrilled, however, to receive the Group call on Saturday night when we opened the medals that Vince had sent to us with instructions not to open till he called. We did as we were told, and what a wonderful surprise—the medals are so detailed, right to the flame, and to see my name on the list of our leaders was so moving for me. Mort wants his name on next time!! I heard that all was wonderful, and received some messages from attendees. I miss you all!!

Speaking of The Strong Museum, it will reopen to the public on July 12th, after a major expansion, which will include a butterfly world, a pop-up storybook area where children can sit in a book as part of the story, and a pre-school where children will enjoy the museum and researchers can evaluate how they play. A win-win project!!

We are doing ok here, nothing new to report, except for the new book about Emma Lazarus which I am sure you know about. By Esther Schor, published by Nextbook/Schocken, \$21.95. It's the book I wish I had written—well researched, and probably

A bit long at 350 pages for such a short life lived, but I will read it too. Well, here's to a healthier and joy filled 2008, and another chance to get together in 2009!!

*Iris xxx*

## Statue of Liberty Ferry Update

by Brendagael Beasley-Forrest

The takeover of the ferry contracts for the Statute of Liberty and Ellis Island has been delayed for three months. The decision by the National Park Service (NPS) will allow Circle Line-Statue of Liberty Ferry Inc., which has held the contract since 1954, and Hornblower Yachts, the San Francisco-based firm that won the 10-year contract, more time to negotiate several aspects of the transition, says a Park Service spokesman. For the past several weeks, the two companies have been negotiating a price for Circle Line's seven boats. The contract requires Hornblower to purchase them.

The Jan. 1 deadline also moves the transition to an off-peak time when fewer people are visiting the city. Another factor contributing to the Oct. 1 deadline being pushed back, according to a spokeswoman for Hornblower, is that it is too close to the Sept. 26 deadline that Congress has to sign off on the deal. Hornblower has to set up a New York office, hire a staff and build a reservation system and create a Web site in less than 90 days.

Unchanged for now, tickets will still be priced at \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for children. Ferry tickets, now and in 2008, cover the ferry trip to both islands and admission (which is free) to both national park sites. Also new is the "Flex Ticket" which gives you a three-day window in which to use your ticket. You'll get to skip the ticket line on the southern tip of Manhattan, but you won't get "priority entry to security check-in," which everyone with a reserved ticket gets. The new ticket site notes that you need five to six hours to fully see both islands. The first boat departs at 9am. There are eight time-slots for the day with the last departure at 1:30pm. To avoid longer waits it is advisable to take the first boat of the day, with a monument pass of course. See *NewYorkology's* "Tips on visiting the Statue of Liberty" at [http://www.newyorkology.com/archives/2007/04/statue\\_of\\_liber\\_5.php](http://www.newyorkology.com/archives/2007/04/statue_of_liber_5.php) If you're starting your visit from New Jersey rather than Manhattan, refer to this link for all visits in 2008: <http://www.statuecruises.com>

~~ Excerpted from the 11-2-07 article found at [www.newyorkology.com](http://www.newyorkology.com)

**Classifieds**

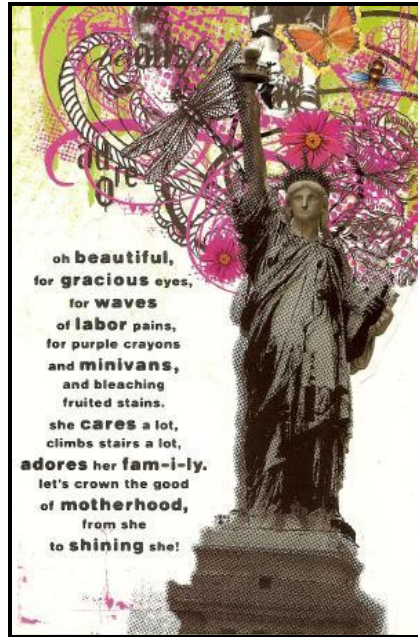
Members, please take advantage of this column to network and sell / swap any-thing Liberty. Listings up to 3 lines are free to members and only \$6 for nonmembers.

Documentary filmmaker and club member Joan Laskoff now has her videorecording *We Put Her There: The Contributors* on DVD. The film chronicles the struggle of ordinary citizens, both in France and in the US, to finance the Statue of Liberty. \$39.95 (plus \$6.00 shipping and handling). See our Web site for details.

**LIBERTY CARDS!**

SLC \*\*\* ARCHIVE \*\*\* COPY

Here's one that is sure to delight the Gambrels--a Liberty sock monkey card! \$2.99 at: <http://www.monkeymoments.net> (search "Liberty") Inside card says:  
*Anything is possible!*



The birthday card at left, for mother's birthday, is set to the song "America the Beautiful."

Inside the card:

**Awesome mom.  
Killer theme song.  
Happy Birthday**

American Greetings  
#3828504

For more Liberty cards see:  
<http://www.ameriangreetings.com> & search "Liberty."

Sent by Kitty Gustafson

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[REDACTED]

**SLC Website:** [www.statueoflibertyclub.com](http://www.statueoflibertyclub.com)

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"Looks like another NY destruction movie is on its way to theaters January 18. Watch for Liberty's head in this trailer." --Brian  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RMF\\_lohzglY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RMF_lohzglY)

**Renew Online!****\$20 Annual Dues**

SLC members may renew annual dues or new members can join the club by using their credit card or PayPal's account online from the club's Web site.

The SLC Web site (below, left) has a link to allow dues payment with your Visa/Mastercard or PayPal account. Payments can be made from a personal bank account or credit/debit card. PayPal will send the payment electronically to the SLC account.

Members will get an electronic confirmation of the transaction. The renewal membership card will be sent by Vince Swift, club treasurer.