

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. 17, n°3 ~ Fall / Winter 2008

Wiegand Sculpture Presented by Statue of Liberty Club Delegation to the Bartholdi Museum and the City of Colmar, France

Representatives from the Statue of Liberty Club (SLC) traveled to Colmar, France, home of Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi and birthplace of his creation, *Liberty Enlightening the World* or, in French, *La liberté éclairant le monde* (now commonly referred to as *The Statue of Liberty*, or/ou, *La Statue de la Liberté*). There, club officers Vince Swift (President) and Brian Snyder (Vice-President), along with French club members Laurent Ghesquière, Gilbert and Micky Miclo, and Christian Meyer, presented a bas-relief sculpture designed by Don F. Wiegand, to the Hon. Gilbert Meyer, Mayor of Colmar. There were about 15 people in attendance. Also from Colmar were honorary club members Jean-Marie Schmitt and Régis Hueber, as well as the Mayor's cultural representative, Marianne Chelkova. James Yogerst of St. Louis, Missouri represented the Wiegand Foundation.

Swift gave a short speech '*en français*' as he did in 2004. "As before, I hope I did not embarrass the club or myself!" he says. "I did express, in English, 'warmest regards to all' from Iris; Jean-Marie Schmitt smiled at that." Christian Meyer acted as translator. The Mayor thanked the Foundation and the SLC for the gift and expressed his appreciation for our personal visit. Questions were fielded from the two or three press representatives in attendance.



L-R: Brian Snyder, Régis Hueber, Gilbert Miclo, Micky Miclo,
Vince Swift, Christian Meyer, Laurent Ghesquière, & James Yogerst

The sculpture, designed by internationally recognized sculptor Don F. Wiegand, was donated by the SLC and The Wiegand Foundation Inc. on October 31, 2008 at the Bartholdi Museum. Vince and Brian wore red-white-&-blue neckties with Liberty designs and Liberty lapel pins. The event marks the first time the SLC has donated a major work of art to a museum. "We will put this bas-relief in the museum entrance to welcome visitors," said Museum Curator Régis Hueber. A reduction of the work was given to Mayor Meyer in the form of the SLC's 2004 Bartholdi Memorial medal, also designed by Don Wiegand.

In a ceremony at the SLC's New York convention in October 2007, the bas-relief representing Bartholdi was presented by Brian Snyder to the club's French representative, Laurent Ghesquière (also our official photographer) for safekeeping and as a way to show movement through the club from the USA to France.



SLC President Vince Swift presents the Honorable Gilbert Meyer, Mayor of Colmar the SLC 2004 FA Bartholdi Memorial Travel Medal w/ribbon (#MP8). Also pictured are Christian Meyer and Brian Snyder.

Frederic A. Bartholdi was born in Colmar, and a museum of his life works is located inside his former residence there. The bas-relief was sculpted depicting Bartholdi in the midst of creating a maquette of his chosen design for the ultimate work. After hundreds of hours of detailed handwork, the bas-relief was cast in bronze and mounted on 25"x 20" French Carpathian elm burl and American walnut woods. This cast is the Artist's Proof, that first, important cast that is inspected by the artist. It was then recorded as Artist Proof Bronze, Number 1.

About the sculptor: Wiegand of St. Louis has sculptures on exhibit in both public and private collections around the world, including pieces created for Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush that were presented to both presidents in Oval Office ceremonies at the White House. "He likes to represent people who have gone far beyond their capacities," says Christian Meyer of Habsheim, France. Among Wiegand's other works are portraits of Mary Mother of the Church, in the collection of the Vatican; of Ernest Hemingway, exhibited at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum in Boston; of Charles A. Lindbergh, at the Le Bourget airport landing site of the "Spirit of St. Louis" in Paris; and of Christopher Columbus and other pieces, located in Spain. There is also a portrait August A. Busch Jr., president of Anheuser-Busch from 1946 to 1989, on exhibit at Busch Stadium in St. Louis. Onboard Burt Rutan's Space Ship One, the stainless bas-reliefs of Lindbergh and the "Spirit of St. Louis" took flight to become the first official bas-relief sculptures in space. More information is available at:

www.wiegandstudios.com
www.statueoflibertyclub.com

www.wiegandfoundation.org
www.musee-bartholdi.com

From Laurent:

Thanks to Brian, Vince and James for coming for a short trip in Europe and for the good times we had.
 Thanks to Paul and Vince for the coins for me and the girls.
 Thanks to Christian for his translation assistance in Colmar and with the French Press Release.
 Thanks to Gilbert and Micky for selecting the nice restaurant in Turckheim.

Trip notes, by Vince:

Sunday, Oct. 26: Brian and I are met in D.C. to attend a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery along with about 40 invited guests of sculptor Don Wiegand.

Monday, Oct. 27: We did some sightseeing in D.C. and we met a University Professor and city official from Belfort, France—Robert Belot—who recently co-authored the book “Bartholdi.” He had thoughts of establishing a sister city program between NYC and Belfort. I’ve indicated the SLC cannot facilitate this and he needs to be in contact with the French Embassy in D.C. and the French U.N. delegation in NYC. Belot discovered the SLC and me through Régis Hueber at the Bartholdi Museum in Colmar. We are having supper with him as a courtesy, but this meeting actually has nothing to do with the European trip; it is just convenient timing that he was also in the D.C. area, but I assume for different reasons.

Tuesday, Oct. 28: Attended **The Spirit of Hope Award** ceremony at the Pentagon, again as guests of the Wiegand Foundation. Six awards were presented; one for each branch of the U.S. military (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard) and one for the Secretary of Defense, for their exemplary support and spirit as displayed by Bob Hope to military personnel. Flew back to Lansing.

Wednesday, Oct. 29: Travel day to Europe—I leave from Lansing, MI, Brian leaves from D.C.

Thursday, Oct. 30: We met in Brussels where Laurent picked us up at the airport and drove us to Colmar, along with the bas-relief that has been in storage at his home since the 2007 NYC meeting. On our 6-hour drive from Brussels to Colmar, I rehearsed and Laurent coached me in my presentation speech—given in French—and we all had a good laugh at how ‘poorly’ I was sounding. The same six club members that were at the Bartholdi Museum presentation, along with James Yogerst, met for dinner in Turckheim, a charmingly petite Alsatian village near Colmar. Turckheim is known for its traditional cuisine, its surrounding medieval wall, and its stunning scenery. We all shared the local specialty of sauerkraut with four-pork cuts and potatoes. On behalf of Brian, Paul Lajoie and myself, I gave our French members a set of U.S. Presidential dollars with the three U.S. Presidents that had also been Ministers to France before becoming President (John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe). The reverse of the dollars contains The Statue of Liberty image.



L-R: Gilbert & Micky Miclo, James Yogerst, Christian Meyer, Vince Swift, Brian Snyder, & Laurent Ghesquière (behind the camera!)

Friday, Oct. 31 The same hungry group had an after-presentation lunch at a restaurant in Colmar. After all members present signed a post card for Iris and Mort, it was mailed from Colmar. All then went our separate ways, with the American contingent, along with Laurent, heading for an overnight in Brussels.

Saturday, Nov. 1: The highlight of our Saturday (Brian, Laurent, me) was a visit to the Atomium, a 1958 Exhibition that is still open and really neat. We walked around Brussels center and ate at least 3X too much!

Sunday, Nov. 2: Depart for U.S. home (MI & CA).

Monday, Nov. 3: Back to the ‘day job’ and hopefully stabilized ear pressure from all the flights.

Tuesday, Nov. 4: Vote, and back to PA for me—didn’t I get enough frequent flyer miles already???

SLC *** ARCHIVE *** COPY

From the President



By the time most U.S. members read this newsletter, we will be at our Thanksgiving holiday. This is the one holiday that most means Liberty, Freedom and Family to me. I wish that every club member, regardless of the U.S. state or foreign country they live in, will enjoy Liberty and the support of family and friends during their entire year.

Representing Our Club

As I prepare this article I am on a work assignment in Harrisburg, PA. When you read this, Brian and I will have represented the SLC at two events in Washington, D.C., and commuted to Europe for a long weekend. I am certain that I will be tired upon returning to my Michigan home—just in time to vote—but I look forward to seeing several of our club's French members in Colmar. The lead article has information about our trips.

Members' Creativity

I want to acknowledge recent correspondence from members who create unique cards with designs and/or photographs of Miss Liberty. Annette Schabowski and Mary Lou Sulecki sent me uniquely designed cards as holiday greetings or with membership dues. I appreciate all cards and notes members send me, but I wanted to acknowledge Annette and Mary Lou for their very creative designs. I realize there is a lot of thought and effort that go into any artistic effort and especially those that include our Miss Liberty. Thanks to both, and to all members who include a note with their greetings card or in their membership dues envelope.

2009 Calendar

Enclosed with this newsletter is my 4th annual gift-calendar to all club members. Laurent has once again provided dozens of photos taken during his visit to Liberty Island after our 2007 New York City meeting. I asked Stephanie Holman to assist me in selecting the cover photo, and then changed my mind at the last moment. This cover photo has incredible detail of Miss Liberty. I hope you enjoy the calendar during the year and read the October 2009 meeting reminder daily.

Enjoying Liberty Materials

It is not too late to check the web site www.StatueOfLibertyClub.com to find a Statue of Liberty-oriented gift for someone special. Brian keeps the web site well stocked with gift ideas and specials. Look on the club's web site often for items that our members produce and have for sale. Great gifts!

Treasurer's Report

The club's major expenses continue to be the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter 3-times a year, an average of \$400 per issue, and monthly fees of \$20 for our web site. Both means of communications are extremely successful. Brenda and Brian have worked hard to control costs. The club's major source of income continues to be members' yearly dues of \$20. The club has 115 members (107 U.S. and 8 members in 5 foreign countries) and 18 honorary members (11 U.S. and 7 members in 2 foreign countries).

Club financial assets are:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| \$ 2,162 | USA Credit Union checking account |
| <u>490</u> | PayPal account |
| \$ 2,652 | Total financial assets |

Known expenses to be paid are:

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| \$ 500 | Approximate cost for the November issue of the newsletter w/membership list, including postage |
| 75 | Reimbursement for a 2004 medal to be presented as gift to Colmar's Mayor on Oct. 31 |
| 125 | Reimbursement for miscellaneous postage and club supplies |
| <u>100</u> | Website fees from August 2008 through December 2008 |
| \$ 800 | Approximate expenses to be paid |

SLC *** ARCHIVE *** COPY

Dick Izsak, our previous Treasurer, reports that he and Sandy are making every effort to stay healthy and maintain a good quality of life; we all wish you health and success, Dick!

If you need any more club business cards, please send me/Brian an e-mail or drop me/Brian a note and we'll mail you 10 cards (unless you specify more).

Please be cautious as we approach the winter season and its icy perils. My sincere wish to you, your family and friends for a safe and enjoyable winter holiday season; we will talk again in March 2009.

Vince Swift

SLC President & Treasurer

Hundreds Celebrate the Return of Lady Liberty to Seattle's Alki Plaza

Seattle Post-Intelligencer article of 9/7/08 by Kery Murakami
Submitted by Brian Snyder, Excerpted by Brendagael



On Saturday September 6 over three hundred crowded into the new brick plaza surrounding the Statue of Liberty in West Seattle's Alki Beach Park in a display of appreciation for how much the statue has come to mean in the more than half a century since the Boy Scouts of America put her there. One gentleman stated, "To not see the statue on Alki would be like an unlit candle."

When the World Trade Center was attacked on 9/11, it was the statue where hundreds of local citizens spontaneously and instinctively gathered to mourn and leave flowers and World Trade Center snow globes. "It's one of those things, like knowing where you were when JFK was assassinated," said Linda Pearson. "I will always remember that on 9/11 I came to the statue."

The statue has taken its blows over the years. It was knocked off its base in 1975. On April Fools' Day 1996 someone ripped off the torch. Then in 2005 someone climbed the statue and ripped off the seven rays radiating from her crown. After that incident, a different community group, the Northwest Programs for the Arts, raised money to recast the copper statue in bronze. In 2007 the statue was returned to the beach. While Seattle's parks department was fine to just let things be, others wanted more.

Paul and Libby Carr had met in 1992 at a picnic by the statue. The couple wanted to protect the statue with a taller, thinner base that could not be so easily climbed and destroyed. They also wanted a larger plaza, made of bricks inscribed with the names and messages from donors. The Carrs and other volunteers asked the community for money to build a better home for the statue. The community responded with \$176,000, including \$50,000 from the city.

The statue was removed again this summer while the brick plaza was being built, and was just returned. At the unveiling ceremony, Pearson knelt and made a rubbing of her brick on a piece of paper. It reads, "From sea to shining sea." Among the other bricks is the one donated by our own SLC, and another that says (at right):

THANKS 4 NEW HOPE
BARACK & MICHELLE
OBAMA 2008

The Carrs stood on a makeshift stage and Libby Carr said that France had given the United States the original Statue of Liberty. The Boy Scouts had given Alki this replica, as part of a national campaign putting up 200 "Little Sisters of Liberty" around the country in 39 states and 4 American territories. She said of their part in this effort, "It's all a matter of paying it forward."

One of those attending the ceremony was Harald Sund, who also present 56 years ago in 1952 when the original 16-foot replica was installed. He was nine then, and wore a blue Cub Scout uniform. His mother had come from Norway at 18, and she'd spoken of sailing to Ellis Island, not being able to speak any English, but knowing from photographs what the woman with the torch represented. Cub Scouts were gathered and entombed a time capsule at the event. The 56-year-old Statue of Liberty at Alki Beach reminds us of the longstanding and symbolic power of public art.



Yours truly, above, at the NC State Fair in Raleigh. Have you noticed what a popular subject Our Lady of Liberty is in the Arts & Crafts exhibits at state and local fairs? This one was painted by a legally-blind H.S. senior.

Photo by Stuart Beasley-Forrest

Out and About with the Editor

*G*reetings everyone! Happy Thanksgiving, and best wishes to all as you prepare for the upcoming holidays.

Some of our members have commented that they miss reading the Classifieds. Yes, the Classifieds of late have been woefully sparse or absent. If anyone has something to sell or swap, or is looking to buy a liberty item, please send your classified to me for the next newsletter.

My favorite part of doing the newsletter is getting to know the members better. I am always on the lookout for subjects for the **Member Profile** column. Please contact me if you would be willing to be interviewed. I usually email a list of questions and go from there, or I can interview by phone call.

Below is a photo taken earlier this year when I did my *Mermaid de Liberté* PowerPoint presentation to “Miss Walker’s Mermaids”, an all-girl 2nd grade class in Port Royal, SC. They’d visited all 30 mermaids and were photographed with them. The girls drew numbers and got to pick an item from the “liberty basket” to hold during class and for our group photo. I also used that time to talk about Liberty facts and history and showed them how I constructed the sculpture piece. Great fun!



I have five more newsletters to edit before I pass the torch on to the next editor. Traditionally each editor in the history of the club has volunteered for five years. It’s a wonderful creative outlet and great for a retiree or a pt. timer, or anyone who loves to write! Please consider it if you are at all interested.

Thank you to all the contributors for this issue: Joan Adelman, Ann Bartlett, Jeff Dosik, Marilyn Ebersole, Ethel Fishman, Bill Griffith, Nancy Martinez, Patrick Meyers, Barry Moreno, Mark Newman, Iris & Mort November, Silvana Pop @ the Please Touch Museum, Annette Schabowski, Vince Swift, and Brian Snyder.

Yours united in Liberty,
Brendagael Beasley~Forrest
 State Chairman, South Carolina

Please send me any items or suggestions
 by 02/22/09 for the next newsletter to:



~ by Brendagael Beasley-Forrest & Silvana Pop, Public Relations Coordinator, Please Touch Museum



The Please Touch Museum, Philadelphia's children's museum, honors the Statue of Liberty Arm & Torch, originally displayed at the 1876 Centennial Exhibition (at left) as a fundraiser campaign for Lady Liberty's pedestal, in a fun and playful way at its new home.

This special replica (at right) was specially designed by Philadelphia artist Leo Sewell and stands 40-feet high. The sculpture is made entirely of discarded toys of all shapes and sizes. The statue is the centerpiece of the museum's Hamilton Hall, the central exhibit area within Memorial Hall.

The Please Touch Museum, founded in 1976 by educators, artists and parents, occupied a converted warehouse in center city Philadelphia from 1983-2008. Seeking a larger space for years, the museum paid the city's Fairmount



Photo by Michael Branscom for Please Touch Museum

Park Commission an agreed-upon 80-year lease of \$1 for the use of Memorial Hall (pictured below) in 2005, and officially reopened to the public on October 18, 2008. "We're taking it back to its original use as a museum," says Nancy Kolb, PTM's president and CEO. "It's a little noisier than most art galleries, but nevertheless a museum." The \$88 million project boasts 38,000 square feet of new exhibits—more than triple the old museum's exhibit space—and an on-site parking lot for over 280 cars. A glass-and-steel addition houses a 100-year-old Dentzel carousel with 52 hand-carved animals.

Memorial Hall was designed by Hermann Schwarzmann for Philadelphia's Centennial International Exhibition of 1876 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia.

It was the first world's fair to be held in the United States, and was in part a show of America's emerging industrial power in the era of Reconstruction, and its healing in the wake of the Civil War. One-fourth of the nation's population—nearly 10 million people—traveled to Philadel-



phia's Fairmount Park to attend. Built to honor the soldiers of the American Revolution and dedicated by President Ulysses S. Grant, this National Historic Landmark cost Pennsylvania a then staggering \$1.5 million to build.

Memorial Hall was the art gallery for the fair, and the first home of the Philadelphia Museum of Art until 1928.

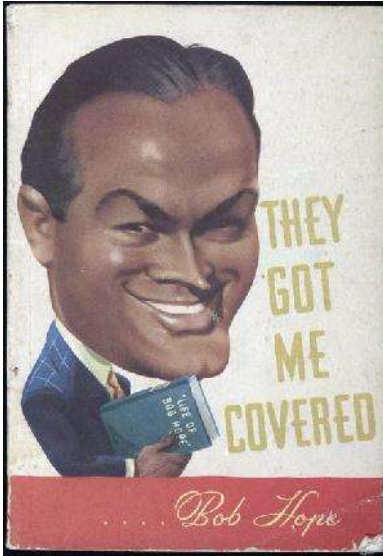
Located in Fairmount Park and overlooking the Schuylkill River, it is one of only two buildings from the exposition intended to be permanent. Most of the buildings weren't expected to last far beyond the six-month-long event.

For more information on the museum visit their Web site:

www.pleasetouchmuseum.org

Thanks for the Memory: America Pays a Lasting Tribute to Bob “Ellis Island” Hope

by Barry Moreno



Two new exciting events are happening at Ellis Island as a way of saying “thank you” to one of the 20th century’s most beloved comedians, Bob Hope (1903-2003). To mark the 100th anniversary of his immigration to America, one of the key departments at the Ellis Island Immigration Museum has been named in his honor and a special exhibit on his life and achievements will be opening soon.

The Library Renamed and an Exhibit Planned

On June 2nd of this year, President Bush signed into law a bill which gave the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Library a new name: the “Bob Hope Memorial Library.” As you all know, the library is located on Ellis Island and serves the whole park that is both Liberty and Ellis islands. The idea for naming the library in honor of the late comedian came from Messrs. Philip Lax and Norman Liss, president and vice president, respectively, of the Ellis Island Restoration Commission.

The reason for naming the library for Hope stems from the fact that the late entertainer was also an Ellis Island immigrant, having come to America at the age of four in the steerage of an English steamer in March 1908, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. Avis Hope, and his brothers. Like other poor foreigners in those days, the Hopes were taken to Ellis Island for inspection before being permitted entry into the country.

Years later, Hope returned to entertain the thousands of Coast Guardsmen who were stationed on the island during World War II, and decades later, gave generously for the restoration of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. This designation for the library is a positive move and we welcome it: it has already led to a generous response from Mr. Hope’s 99-year old widow, Dolores Hope, and their children, who have joined with the National Park Service in planning a special exhibit on Hope’s life and career: from his greenhorn days as a young English immigrant in Ohio, to his remarkable careers in vaudeville, Broadway, radio, motion pictures, television, and topped off by his unstinting devotion to bringing laughter and amusement to the millions of American servicemen stationed aboard. The exhibit will open November 24 and should run through April 2009, and will be located in the Dormitory Gallery that overlooks the Great Hall. It is sure to attract much interest from our park’s visitors.

Why Not Another Famous Immigrant?

Of course Bob Hope was by no means the only Ellis Islander to have done extraordinarily well in his adopted country. More than 12 million immigrants entered the U.S. between 1892 and 1954 through New York and Ellis Island, including Felix Frankfurter, Frank Capra, Claudette Colbert, Ayn Rand, Edward G. Robinson, Max Factor, Bela Lugosi, Irving Berlin, Al Jolson, Father Flanagan, Knute Rockne, Johnny Weissmuller and Spyros Skouras. So why not name the library for one of them? Well, it’s my belief that it’s best to keep things clear and simple and therefore to name the place for one person is the best policy. After all, Bob Hope did more than most: he gave of his talent and time for decades, making thousands of GI tours worldwide—and not just in times of war. Thus Hope stands eternal as an exceptional example of the successful assimilated immigrant, thanks to his comedy, theatrical artistry, patriotism, and endless generosity.

An aside note from SLC President, Vince Swift:

Brian and I were guests at The Spirit of Hope Award Ceremony at the Pentagon on October 28. This is an award given to military personnel or civilians supporting military personnel in the same spirit that Bob Hope gave. Coincidentally, Don Wiegand, the sculptor who did the Bartholdi image for our 2004 medal and the bas-relief we just presented to the Bartholdi Museum, is the sculptor and co-sponsor of the Spirit of Hope Award. Wiegand also did the design at right that appears on the medals.



Statue of Liberty, Tower of Hercules Become “Twinned” Sites

— Excerpted with permission from the "National Parks of New York Harbor" newsletter

On September 9th, a metaphorical bridge between the Old Country and the New World was celebrated on Liberty Island in New York. The Tower of Hercules on the coast of A Coruña, Spain, is the oldest working lighthouse in the world, built by the Romans in Northwestern Spain in the early second century. It was the last light seen by seafaring travelers headed to the New World to seek a new life. The Statue of Liberty was the first great monument they saw when they reached America.



Map Compiled by Stuart Beasley~Forrest



A Coruña Mayor Javier Losada & NPS Superintendent Cynthia Garrett “toast” to a long partnership between the two monuments

Dignitaries from the Spanish city of A Coruña as well as interested parties from around the country traveled to New York for the Twinning Ceremony, when the Tower officially became a sister monument to Lady Liberty. “Today we are signing a document officially making our monuments sisters; and yet thanks to our common values and history, the Statue of Liberty and the Tower of Hercules have always been sisters,” said mayor of A Coruña, Javier Losada. “They will always light up the world, just as they have done up to now, shining out in freedom and solidarity.”

Superintendent Cynthia Garrett told the assembled crowd about the opportunities the sister monument designation would provide to the two sites. “The new sister park arrangement we celebrate today will enable us to share ideas about education, preservation and community relations. We will exchange information about management strategies, use of technology and professional training. People who work at both monuments will have opportunities to encounter different approaches and alternative views to common work,” she said.

After signing the agreement, Garret and Mayor Losada exchanged replicas of their respective monuments.

About The Tower of Hercules:

- The Tower is the oldest working lighthouse in the world, built by the Romans almost 2,000 years ago.
- The lighthouse stands 180 feet high in the city of A Coruña in the Northwest of Spain.
- It is a National Monument of Spain and is a finalist to become a UNESCO World Heritage site, a distinction the Statue of Liberty already boasts.
- In 1788 the original 110 foot, 3-story tower was given a neoclassical restoration, including a new 69-foot fourth story. The restoration was undertaken by naval engineer Eustaquio Giannini during the reign of Charles III of Spain, and was finished in 1791.



Pat Meyers in Red Square, Moscow

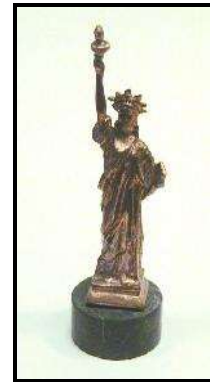
Member Profile: Pat Meyers

by brendagael

When Patrick Meyers went to Russia and the Ukraine three years ago, the last thing he expected was to be bringing home two one-of-a-kind Statue of Liberty pieces. The friend he went to visit had a famous glass artist make him one as a gift (below, far right, 8 1/2"). She said the artist attempted it about 10 times before finally making it without the arm breaking off! Later on the trip he went to Kiev and visited a flea market there, open seven days a week. There he met a bronze sculptor who had made, of all things, a SOL! (below, 4 1/2") What a bargain at about 35 grivnas (\$7).

The first thing Pat began collecting was Coca-Cola memorabilia. He quickly became discouraged with that, when he discovered that seven out of the first ten items he collected were fakes. Other past collections include toothpick holders and nutcrackers. (If you know anyone who collects them, get in touch with Pat!). Then he saw a television spot during Liberty's Centennial that highlighted many of the items being made to fund Liberty's restoration, suggesting they would be great collectibles.

Soon after that, Meyers was at a flea market in Stuart, Florida, not far from his home in Port Saint Lucie, on Florida's Atlantic coast (between West Palm and Daytona Beaches). He found a SOL statue for a dollar, and took it as a good sign. Twenty years later he has amassed over 1,400 items (including ephemera) and has since lost count! He used to go sleuthing for Liberties at local antique malls with his former wife (who alerted Pat to the Liberty Club in 1995) and another couple. They would all scatter ahead of him looking for Liberties to get him for birthday. Pat would head in the 4th direction, on his own Liberty quest. Renninger's Antiques Extravaganza of Pennsylvania, a huge three-day event, that comes to Mt. Dora, FL three times a year, has also been a good source for his Liberty collection. <http://www.renningers.com>



Meyers's collecting style focuses on one category, and once that fills out, he moves on to another. He has over 200 statuettes. For awhile he was on a plate-collecting kick, and has, to date, 150+ SOL plates. Then it was bells (he has 30). Once he came across a thimble holder at a flea market that holds 24 thimbles. He said, "I wonder if I could fill that with Liberty thimbles." A couple years later he had 30 of those!

He's been hot on the trail of salt & pepper shakers for awhile now. When Pat said he had 89 s&p shakers, I thought he meant he had a separate collection of s&p shakers with a few SOLs in the mix. But no, he has 89 individual sets! (at left). He doesn't even include the SOL/Empire State Building as a set because it's not "all Liberty." Can anyone beat that? Is Patrick Meyers King of Liberty S&P Shakers? "Now if someone on eBay would quit outbidding me, I might reach my goal of 100!" he says.



The “lawn ornament” shown on the previous page, with his best bud, Buttons-the-Cat, belonged to an immigration attorney in West Palm Beach, who was caught dealing drugs, arrested, and had everything confiscated. The statue was sold at auction to a couple in Fort Lauderdale who put it on eBay, and Pat won it! “A friend helped me get it with his pick-up truck, and all the way up I-95 everyone was honking and waving for the SOL in the bed of the truck,” he says. “It was really fun!!” He saw a torch globe for sale on eBay, and measured the statue and saw that it might fit, which it did. He installed a low voltage garden lamp with a yellow bulb that he can light at night.

Something that has interested him for some time, is how many companies manufactured Liberty commemoratives for the Centennial restoration project, and how many items did each corporation make, if anyone should come across any articles about this.

A few years back Meyers began to lose interest in collecting and stalled out when his collection had reached around 600 items. But then someone on eBay had 30 Liberty pieces for sale and Meyers won the bid for only \$50. The guy contacted him and said he had more, and that Pat could have the whole lot, with postage, for \$100. The seller sent him 160 items total. One of the items was a commemorative knife worth about \$125. Another was an ink holder listed at \$100. This got him excited again and reignited the collecting bug.



His collection also includes such oddities as an 1890 coffeepot, an ornate pickle fork, and a 15” tall cast iron radio antenna with Liberty’s torso in the inner hoop (if anyone knows its value, please let Pat know). He also has several reverse glass oval framed paintings, ca. 1918 (shown above, right). The *Palm Beach Post* did an article on his collection about ten years ago, but a woman with three quilts got more layout than he did!

A few years ago, Stuart, Florida was in the eye of two hurricanes within three weeks of each other, roaring off the Atlantic coast. Meyers packed up his entire collection and put it beneath a very heavy pool table, with plates and the like on the bottom that wouldn’t be ruined if they got wet. He put plastic and tape around the entire table. It took a solid 48 hours to wrap and pack it all up. After the first hurricane went through he began unpacking and rehangng. Then the second hurricane was called for his area. Back it went into the boxes. But alas, the entire collection got dusted and put back on display, breaking only one piece. A third hurricane, one year later, came across the state from the West coast, and appeared to be weakening, at 90 mph. But then it exploded in the center of the state and then raged over the East coast for a solid four hours. Water was coming in, and it was the most frightening experience of his life. No time to pack the collection this time. But all was spared, luckily.

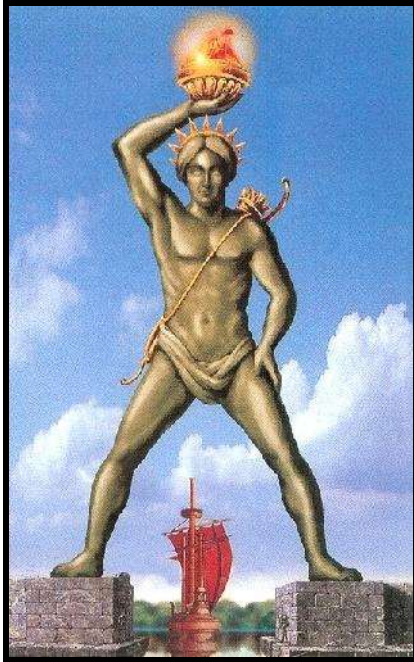
Here’s a display tip from Meyers: “I use a little WD-40 on the end of an old shaving brush (it doesn’t take much), to give my metal pieces that extra luster,” he says.

Meyers grew up in Crystal City, MO, near St. Louis. In fact, he used to shoot hoops and graduated in the same class with Bill Bradley, former NBA basketball player and U.S. Senator. After getting accustomed to the 100° temps while serving with the Army Engineers in Vietnam, Pat could never seem to get warm back in Missouri, and decided to make the move to Florida. He has lived there most of his adult life, and for the past 12 years has been in real estate. Patrick still enjoys antiquing, and going to flea markets, and yard & estate sales. Thanks Pat, for an enjoyable glimpse into your life and into your Liberty collection!

In our last newsletter were brief articles on The Colossus at Rhodes, which some believe was one of Bartholdi's influences for the design of The Statue of Liberty (see p. 9-10 of that issue) based on numerous artists' renderings of the Colossus. You may also recall Emma Lazarus's references as well, in THE NEW COLOSSUS: "Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame, with conquering limbs astride from land to land; Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand a mighty woman with a torch..." Upon reading those articles, club member and National Park Service (NPS) Librarian Technician for the SOL and Ellis Island, Jeff Dosik, submitted this follow-up article. In 1990, Dosik went on an international seminar study trip to Greece with Orange County Community College of Middletown, NY. The group visited the Greek island of Rhodes where he gave the students a lecture on the Colossus of Rhodes. This article was developed from his lecture notes.

In The Shadow of Liberty: The Colossus of Rhodes

~ article and photos by Jeffrey S. Dosik



The image above was taken from a postcard sent by Christian Meyer who was just recently in Rhodes.

The Colossus of Rhodes has its origins in ancient Greek history between 305-304 BC with the unsuccessful siege of Rhodes by Demetrius I, King of Macedonia. He earned the nickname Demetrius "Poliorcetes" meaning "Besieger of cities." Impressed with the bravery of the Rhodians in withstanding his siege, Demetrius left them his weaponry in tribute to their bravery. The weapons were sold for a large sum of money that was spent on the creation of an enormous bronze statue of their patron deity, "Helios The Sun God." Created by sculptor Chares of Lindos, and built between 294-282 BC, the Colossus of Rhodes was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, standing 110 feet in height. Although the Colossus of Rhodes is mentioned sixteen times by ancient writers, only three mention the Colossus in great detail: The ancient Greek geographer Strabo, the Roman statesman Pliny the Elder, and Philo of Byzantium. Today we know less about the Colossus of Rhodes than about any of the other seven ancient wonders.

From the accounts of these ancient writers, the Colossus was an upright naked Apollo, standing with its legs together holding a torch in one hand and a spear in other. Present day scholars, using Rhodian coins dated 280 BC, claim the head of the Colossus had a crown of rays radiating outward, similar to the present day Statue of Liberty. Other scholars claim such a diadem never existed. Nothing as large as the Colossus is recorded in ancient times, either before or after its creation. Some scholars believe the inspiration for building the statue came from the colossal monument building of the ancient Egyptians, since the island of Rhodes and Egypt had commercial relations dating back to the third century BC.



According to Philo of Byzantium, the Colossus was constructed of bronze on a base of white marble and supported with an internal iron framework of tie bars and squared stone blocks to provide stability. The location of the Colossus on the Greek island of Rhodes is not recorded by ancient writers, and its location has been a subject of debate by scholars over the centuries. One theory, that the Colossus was located in the bazaar of Rhodes to the Southeast of Mandraki Harbor (1st photo) on the site of a medieval chapel known as St. John of the Colossus, has been proved false. The most famous theory was proposed in the late 14th century by a medieval Italian pilgrim named De Martoni, who believed that the Colossus straddled the entrance of Mandraki Harbor of Rhodes with one foot resting where Fort St. Nicolas now stands (2nd photo) and the

other foot resting on the other side of the harbor (1st photo below). According to De Martoni's account, the Colossus held a torch that served as a lighthouse to guide ships. A third theory claims that since the Colossus was a thank you offering for saving them from the siege of Demetrius, it was erected in the Temple of Helios (a common practice among the ancient Greeks, to dedicate offerings in the sanctuaries of their gods) which stood at the top of the present day Street of Knights (2nd photo).



An earthquake occurred in 226 BC that toppled the Colossus and destroyed most of Rhodes. According to Strabo, the Colossus broke at the knees when it collapsed and destroyed many homes. Ptolemy III of Egypt offered to pay for the restoration of the Colossus, but his offer was declined since the Rhodians had been forbidden by an oracle to re-erect it. The collapsed Colossus remained lying on the ground for 900 years. When an Arab army captured Rhodes in 654 AD, they brought the remains of the Colossus across The Strait of Marmara to present day Turkey, where it was sold to a Jewish merchant from Emesa. The merchant transported it in a caravan of 900 camels to Syria and resold it as scrap metal.

What is the legacy of the Colossus of Rhodes in today's modern world? In the 19th century it inspired a new generation of artists, led by the Alsatian sculptor Auguste Bartholdi, who was impressed by stories of the Colossus and the surviving colossal monuments of ancient Egypt to revive colossal monument building as a lost art form. The most famous revival work was the 305 foot Statue of Liberty, built between 1875 and 1886 to commemorate 100 years of Franco-American friendship and later to serve as the symbol of the United States and all freedom loving people. This is the legacy of the Colossus of Rhodes touching our modern world.



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Statues on Parade Marathon

Excerpted by brendagael from <http://statues.mlblogs.com/about.html>



Mark Newman is in his seventh year with Major League Baseball, currently as the Enterprise editor at MLB Advanced Media, and is a lifetime honorary member of the Baseball Writers Association of America, and a Hall of Fame voter. In December 2006 he quit smoking cold turkey, traded a pair of KOOLS for ASICS, and joined the New York Road Runners. His goal was to run a marathon within the same calendar year, and he did that by finishing the ING New York City Marathon in November 2007. He ran in the St. Louis Marathon as well as the Nov. 2 ING NYC Marathon. The Fourth of July week coincided with his official kickoff for an 18-week training schedule for the NYC Marathon, so Newman decided to do a "long run" on Independence Day, seeing all 42 of the Liberty "Statues on Parade" masterpieces created to celebrate the 79th All-Star Game held on July 15 at Yankee Stadium. His interests include baseball, marathon running, Statue of Liberty, freedom, USA, New York City, writing books, and especially "his dudes." He has been invited to join our club! More details available at: <http://marathonomy.blogspot.com>

At left, Newman with the Atlanta Braves statue at World Financial Center. "This one meant a lot because it was my greatest adventure trying to find this one on the map!"~MN

Podcasting is coming to the Statue of Liberty

Submitted by Brian Snyder; Excerpted by Brendagael from www.invisibleidiot.com

All across the country, park rangers are turning into podcasters. Hundreds of brief audio and video programs are up on park websites and on iTunes giving visitors a new National Park Service (NPS) experience. "While nothing can replace a personal experience in a national park, we think our podcasts will enhance people's trips or give them the opportunity to learn about a park that they can't visit," said Mary A. Bomar, Director of the NPS. "Whether people download them to portable devices or watch them on their computers, these free electronic presentations give us another way to serve park enthusiasts of all ages.



Many parks offer interpretive podcasts about wildlife, history, and topical issues like climate change and fire management. In addition to providing visitors with general information, podcasts are a great way to offer ranger-led tours of specific areas that people can enjoy on their own schedule. More and more people are downloading guided tours onto their iPods or MP3 players prior to their national park trip. When they arrive, they literally have a ranger in the palm of their hand to guide them on a walking or driving tour.

The Statue of Liberty will provide an eTour covering Liberty Island, the inside of Lady Liberty, and a 360-degree view from her crown.

Some worry that creating podcasts and virtual tours about national parks may keep people, especially children, disconnected from the actual places. "Personally, I don't think that people are going to give up on the real thing," said Todd Edgar, Media Specialist at Acadia National Park. "After learning about parks from our online resources, people want to get outside and explore on their own."

For many other national park podcasts and virtual tours, go to www.nps.gov. If a park unit offers online programs, you will find them by clicking on "Photos and Multimedia" in the left navigation bar of their homepage.

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Ethel Fishman Documents MLB's "Liberty on Parade" in NYC

You may recall from the previous newsletter, the article about the 42 Major League Baseball Liberty Statues on Parade, stationed all around New York City, and our call for members to send us a photo with their favorite statue(s). Well, thanks to Ethel Fishman, our local "roving reporter," there are several to show you, along with the adventures that ensued when a single woman on a mission relied on the help of passersby to assist in her quest.



At Niketown, 57th St, with the LA Dodgers Liberty Statue

It was a hot, humid, and hazy week (late June/early July) to hunt for all the SOLs from below the tip of Manhattan (Liberty Island) to the top (Yankee Stadium). My goal—all 42, BUT, heat hit after a lesser number—much less—was achieved. My first photo outside Madison Square Garden was taken by a kind man. I explained the SOL Club and he smiled and nodded through it all. It turned out he did not speak English! On to the next: two young gals who did not stop talking to each other snapped and walked away before I could even get in place to do my thing. Then there was the lovely couple who said if I took their picture they would take mine. I followed them to thank them and there stood another SOL, so we exchanged pics again. Happy that they were from upstate NY, I gave them a club card. And so it went. People are funny, willing to snap a picture without any wonder as to why, what, etc.—all in a hurry (even the tourists). I ran out of cards, so I went back to my cool apartment. And so went my day on the trail of the MLB Liberty Statues on Parade. —E. F.



At Time Warner Center with the 2008 All Star Game Liberty Statue

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From left to right: At Rockefeller Plaza, with the Shea Stadium Liberty Statue. At Penn Station with the NY Mets Liberty Statue. On Broadway with the Philadelphia Phillies Liberty Statue. On the Avenue of the Americas with the American & National Leagues Liberty Statue.

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Iris November
SLC Founder

Iris Signs In

Here's what we've been doing since the summer: A special organization that began in Chautauqua 3 years ago, founded by a lovely woman, Susan McKee from Denver, CO, has been my focus. Called **women4women-knitting4peace**, it encompasses the desire of women to help heal and give comfort and hope to other women and children who have suffered unimaginable horror in third world countries. Based on the Abrahamic tradition of 3 faiths—Christian, Judaic and Muslim—the group knits dolls and shawls that are then blessed and delivered by Missionaries or other volunteers to abused widows and orphans in places like Rwanda, the Congo, Sudan, etc. My Beachwood Public Library has partnered with us, which is great! The knit or crochet patterns are as simple or as complicated as the crafter wishes, all based on the number 3, such as knit 3, purl 3, or total stitches in a row divisible by 3. The Blessing is very ecumenical, and is recited while we wear the finished shawls. It is a very spiritual moment, and we feel that we are healing the world, one stitch at a time. For more information, patterns, or to start a “peace-pod” in your community, go to www.women4womenknitting4peace.org

A week ago, just as I was addressing a letter to Brian Snyder about places to visit in NYC for our next meeting the phone rang and it was Brian!! He was on his way to Colmar, France to meet Vince, Laurent, and Christian, and visit with many of our French friends (see article). I was so excited to hear his voice and that he included Mort and me in this great adventure.

I sent special greetings to Jean Marie Schmitt with whom I became acquainted when I first started the Club and contacted the Bartholdi Museum in Colmar. His correspondence, in the beginning, started with “Madame November” and very quickly changed to “Cherie” which just tickled me—a lovely man. And of course, Regis Hueber, the Curator of the Museum now and a dear friend. What a great trip!! P.S. Loved the postcard!!

In late October Mort and I drove to NYC, via a two-night stay in the Poconos, just 90 minutes from the City. It was so beautiful with the trees in colorful array, and the sun shining each day—couldn't have been better. In NYC we saw the very best musical I think we have ever seen—so get your tickets early for next October when we have our Club meeting. “Billy Elliott—the Musical” which had opened in London 3 years ago, based on the movie, “Billy Elliott”, is simply spectacular with its choreography, sets and music. Read about it on-line. We sat in 6th row mezzanine, center, and it was perfect. It will probably go on tour and is acceptable for the 10 year old boy or girl, and especially for all of us. Also had a lovely chat with Judy and Manfred Anson, the designer of my SOL Chanukiah. For anyone interested, they are available again.

So, get your flu shots, celebrate our new administration, and be positive in all your endeavors!!

Iris @ Mort xxxxx



P.S. If you happen to buy the “KNITTING Pattern-a-day Calendar, 2009” one of my scarves and pattern appears on February 27. I'm a Calendar Girl!!

Save The Date ~ Brian Snyder

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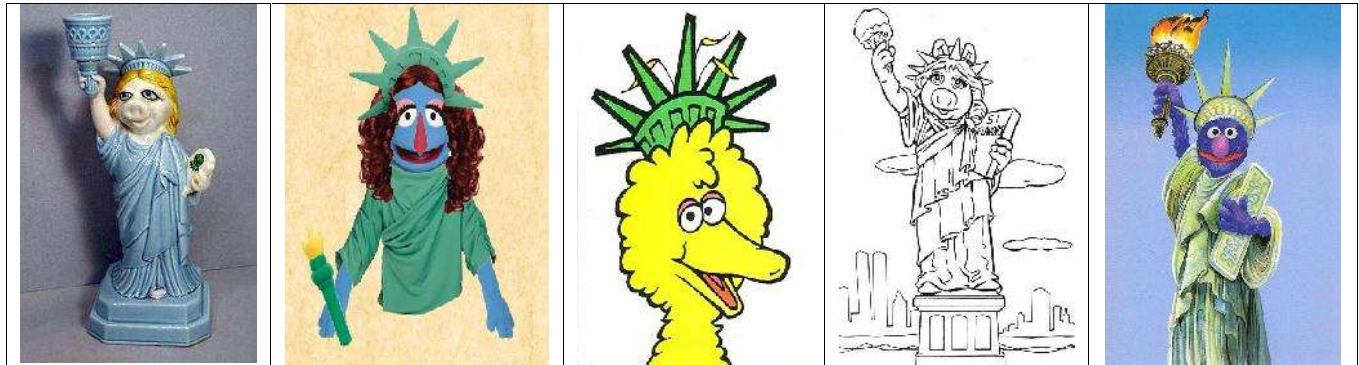
The Statue of Liberty Club will be meeting in the city of New York on October 22-24, 2009 (Thursday thru Saturday). Mark your calendars, request vacation time, save your money, and get ready to pack your bags. If you haven't attended a club meeting before, then this is YOUR year. Make it happen and be a part of the club, or read about what you missed this time next year. More details in the next newsletter.



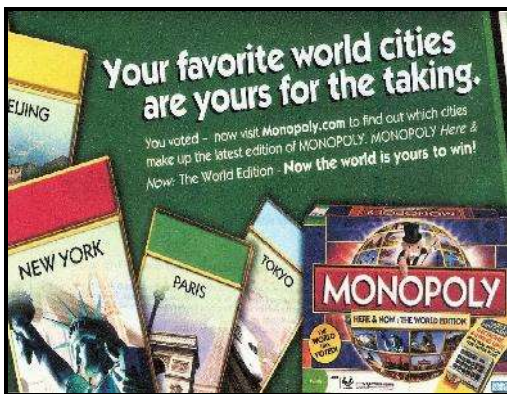
Ann Bartlett sends in this wonderful SOL Muppet Wiki that includes an online collection of the Sesame Street Muppets as the SOL, or images of them with the SOL. Delightful!

http://muppet.wikia.com/wiki/The_Statue_of_Liberty

Below are a few of many examples from the blog:



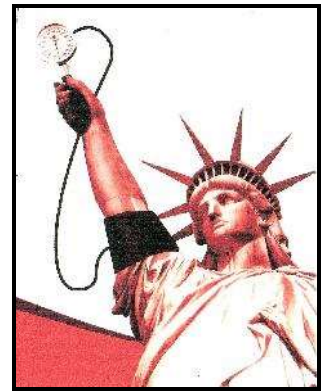
Joan Adelman sends in these two recent ads:



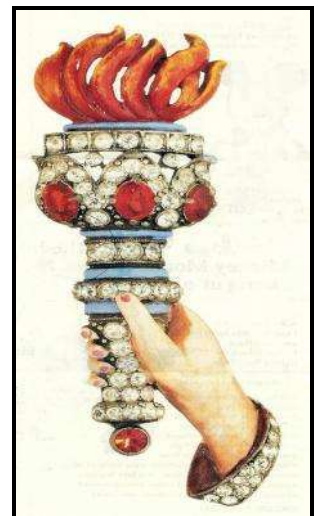
Parker Brothers announces the World Edition of Monopoly (left)

and a recent ad for AARP:

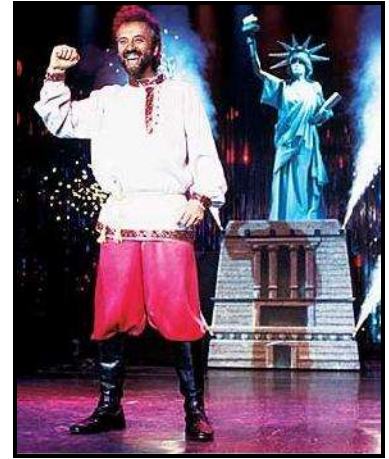
THE AMERICAN DREAM COULD USE A DOCTOR.



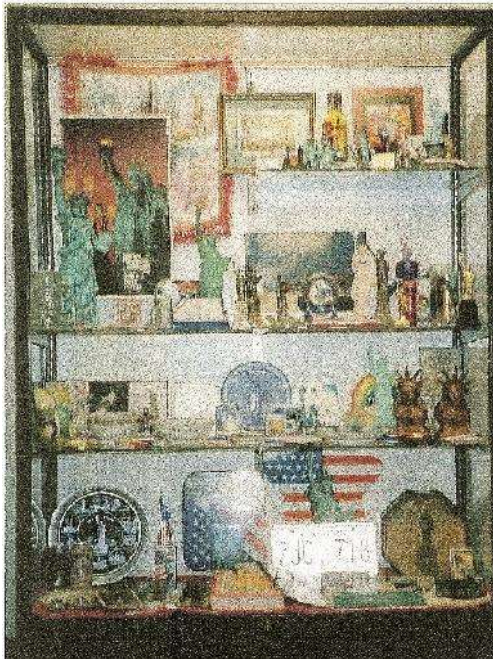
Nancy Martinez sends a wonderful article on collecting patriotic pins she found in Country Living magazine. These pins were very popular in the war years of the 1940s and were prominently worn on women's dresses and suit lapels. Some of the manufacturers include Trifari, Coro, DeRosa, Boucher, Staret, and Chanel. Among the various motifs one could find are American flags, wings, eagles, and torches. The typical pin was made of plated base metal, wood, silver, and Bakelite. The rare torch pin at right (4"H) is by Staret, a Chicago-based manufacturer, featuring glittery rhinestones, enamel, and a matte silver backing. Patriotic rhinestone pins from the '40s are making a comeback. Collectors look for over-size, signed pins with colored stones and enameled details. They can range in price from \$100 to \$1,500 apiece, depending on the maker, size, age, rarity, and condition. The one pictured here is valued at \$1,000.



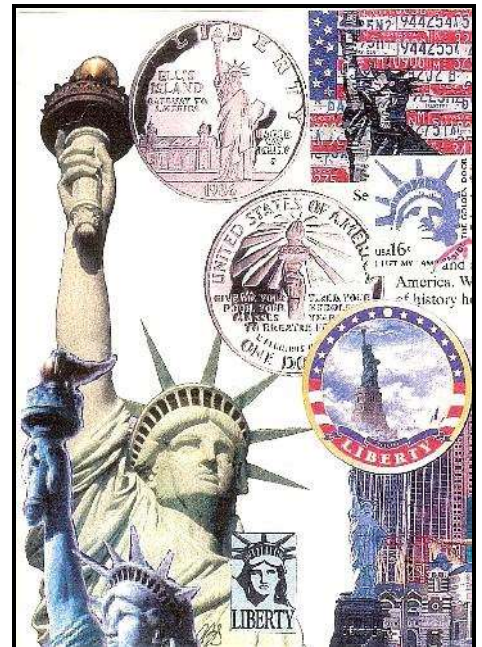
Annette Schabowski says if you're going to Branson, MO, don't miss the Yakov Smirnoff show. Yakov LOVES the Statue of Liberty. It is said that Smirnoff was even holding a Liberty statuette when he became a U.S. citizen. You know his famous saying, "What a country! What a country!" The SOL in his show is played by his wife. Looking as stoic as a statue, she surprises audiences when she "comes alive" during the performance. For tickets and information call 1-800-728-4546 or go to the Web site: www.yakov.com/show
Annette also recommends the Titanic Museum there, which has a size comparison gallery that shows the SOL, Eiffel Tower, and others.



The 1st photo below is one several of Annette's display case exhibits. This one she did for the Berwyn Library. The 3rd image below is one of her note cards (as Vince mentioned receiving) that feature Annette's original Liberty collages.



Below is an ice bucket that her dear friend Mickey gave her. She fills it w/candy when she goes to the Berwyn Art League meetings. Great idea! See next page for order info.



Submitted by **Brian Snyder:**

The Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Foundation announces their new **Statue of Liberty Note Cards**. These all-occasion note cards feature the 12 winning entries of the "Statue of Liberty Picture Contest" created by young artists in grades K-5, in honor of Lady Liberty's 120th Anniversary. Details: Twelve 5" x 7" cards per box. Regular price: \$24.00; Sale Price: \$15.00; Member Price: \$13.50

Call 212-561-4588 Mon-Fri, 8:30a-6:00p or go to: www.ellisland.org & select the "Gift Shop" tab.

DID YOU KNOW... Our Web Master, Brian Snyder, learned HTML (computer website coding) so that he could make the information about the Statue of Liberty Club available to the entire world.

Marilyn Ebersole surprised me with this fun pair of novelty socks. A great way to express yourself and start a conversation about Lady Liberty. Women's shoe size 4-10. 70% Cotton, 20% Nylon, 10% Spandex Style # 6588 \$7.00 each or 3 for \$18.00 Call 1-800-789-3668. Orders taken 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Available from www.foottraffic.com Select "Women's Novelty Socks" & "Americana & Western."



Land of Liberty Ornaments

Give your holiday celebration a patriotic touch with this pair of giant glass ornament balls emblazoned with the American Flag and "United States, Land of Liberty." Keep one and give the other as a well remembered and much appreciated gift. Each measures 4 3/4" in Diameter. \$14.99 + s/h.

Call 1-620-584-8000 or go to:

www.collectionsetc.com

The ice bucket shown on the previous page was also purchased here, but will not be available again until late March when their summer stock is relisted.



Yorkshire, England: Since 2003, farmer Tom Percy has been building a new maze design every year. This year's creation featured a SOL 10 times larger than the original NY landmark (with a length of 1,300 ft.) in fields a few miles from the city after which the American metropolis was named. Composed of more than a million living corn plants and covering 18 acres (the length of eight soccer fields), this is one of the biggest mazes ever constructed. The maze is open for a few months in summer and closes when corn is harvested in September. Past mazes by Mr. Percy include a Viking longship, the Flying Scotsman, and Big Ben. The SOL maze was officially opened by Sinatra look-alike Phil Fryer who treated guests to a rendition of "New York, New York." Stephen Briganti, president and CEO of The SOL-Ellis Island Foundation, said: "We are so pleased to see that the Statue of Liberty is being celebrated in such a unique way in York. Lady Liberty stands as a symbol for all the people in the world but it is especially gratifying to see her linking Old York with New York." More details at various Web sites online. Search "Statue of Liberty maze". Start with www.travelmail.co.uk and search "maze".

Liberty 2008 Ornament: Sixth in the ltd. Ed. series and the last to be plated in copper preserved from the Centennial Restoration of the Statue of Liberty, this three-dimensional collectible depicts immigrant arrival at Ellis Island. The back features design elements from the Statue's torch. Includes a Certificate of Authenticity. 2 1/2 inches in diameter. This quality annual collectible is commissioned by The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc. Price: \$24.00; Member Price: \$21.60 + s/h



The 1st through the 5th edition ornaments are still available. Quantities are very limited. Act Today! See order info from Liberty Note Cards, previous page.

24 Renewing Members Thank You!

Joan Adelman
 Shelley J. Assenheimer
 Alice Palace at Bearpaw Books
 Marianne Carpenter
 Marilyn Ebersole
 Ethel Fishman
 Dave Harb
 Helen J. Hoffman
 Dick & Sandy Izsak
 Ed & Kathy Izsak
 Margaret Izsak
 Susanne Jackson
 Patricia Krauchne
 Carol & Jonathan Kring
 Gail & Alan Marder
 Christian Meyer
 Gilbert Mielo
 Glenna Sue Powell
 Annette Schabowski
 Kathryn Lande Selmer
 Finn & Margaret Skeisvoll
 Mary Lou Sulecki
 Vincent Swift
 Stuart Warner

5 New Members Welcome!!

Bob & Jo Ann Anderson

Alvin Goldstein

Specialty: Statues, banks & buildings

Paul Manganaro

Amanda Whittaker

Ephemera, books, statuettes, ALL! New collector of Liberty items and very interested in communicating with other Liberty collectors. Would like to emulate Jennifer Stewart as the UK's Living Liberty. Also collects American flags.

Rich Wolfin

rwolfin@textol.com ; Specialty: Research of Bartholdi /Liberty influences on decorative interiors of the Gilded Age

SLC Contacts

President & Treasurer: Vince Swift

changes to Vince.

Vice President & Webmaster: Brian Snyder

Editor: Brendagael Beasley~Forrest

classified ads to the editor.

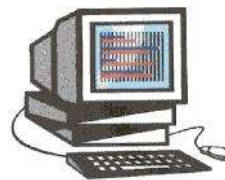
**Founder of Statue of Liberty Club (1991):
 Iris & Mort November**

USA

SLC Website: www.statueoflibertyclub.com

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.