

SLC *** ARCHIVE *** COPY

From the President

Warm greetings to all club members and friends of The Statue of Liberty Club. As I prepare this article it is a beautiful Sunday in mid-June.

Feature Article by a Club Member – Redux

In the November 2006 issue of this newsletter I reported that Paul Lajoie had a 16-page feature article published in the August 2006 edition of the TAMS Journal on the New York City

Safe and Sane medals issued from 1911 through 1933. A four-page variation of Paul's article now appears in the July 2007 edition of *Numismatist*, the monthly journal of the American Numismatic Association, an organization of over 30,000 members. The full-color article includes some magnificent photos of the medals, many of which depict the Statue of Liberty, and an interesting history of the tragic conditions underlying the series.

I have asked Paul to please bring a Safe and Sane exhibit to our October 2007 New York City meeting. There will be reprints of the article available as well. If you are unable to make it to the meeting, you can contact Paul and he can email or mail you a copy of the article.

Liberty on the new \$1 Coin

I hope all members have taken the opportunity to get a sample of the new \$1 coins with the always-beautiful Statue of Liberty on the reverse. As of this writing, I have not seen a \$1 coin in circulation. In March I was able to get several rolls of the coin from a local bank at face value - \$20 for a roll of 20 Washington \$1 coins. In discussions with other coin collectors, I understand that availability is not difficult, but that many banks will not request a supply from the Federal Reserve unless members of the bank explicitly request them. I've given a few out to family members and 3-4 as tips. They are the same size, color, and composition as the Sacagawea dollar coin, which I never see in circulation either!

Call for Nominations to be a Club Officer

This October is the time to elect the club's Officers: President, Vice-President and Treasurer. As I indicated in the last newsletter, I will not be standing for re-election as club President. Brian Snyder has also stated he will not be standing for re-election as Vice-President, but will remain as the Web Master for the club, a voluntary position. Dick Izsak has indicated he will not be a candidate for re-election as the Treasurer.

Brian, Dick and I have formulated the election process – there is no formal process in the by-laws. If you wish to be a candidate for Club President, Vice-President or Treasurer, you must be a member in good standing with the club which means your yearly dues must be current – and you must write me with your intention to be a candidate for one of the specific officer positions. We will not accept 2^{nd} person nominations. Only members willing to be a candidate and willing to perform the duties of the position will be accepted for nomination.

Please consider the club and its volunteer Officer positions seriously before you step forward. Your duties are to serve the club members and to act responsibly on their behalf. Volunteers will not have to propose a 'platform' for the voting process – the purpose of our club is everyone's platform!

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Recall the stated purpose of the club from our by-laws:

Article II: Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- to encourage and promote interest in the Statue of Liberty;
- to support special projects for the Statue of Liberty on Liberty Island or elsewhere;
- to cultivate friendly relations and a free exchange of information among members; and
- to provide a forum for exchanging information between club members and non-members.

Your intent to be a candidate must be received at my Michigan home by August 18 – address in on the back cover of this newsletter.

If there is no opposition for a position, i.e., if only one member has stated she/he wants to be a candidate, there will be no formal voting for that Officer position. If there is more than one candidate for any Officer position, I will promptly mail a ballot to all club members in good standing (see explanation previous page) with the names and the position to be voted upon, with instructions to mark your ballot and mail the post card back to me in an envelope. Only an original ballot form will be accepted as a vote. Your vote will remain private, but we need to be certain that club members vote only one time.

The votes will have to be returned to my Michigan home by September 29. Brian and I will tally the vote crosscountry (I'll scan and e-mail Brian the vote-side of the ballots). We will notify the newly elected Officers by a phone call in early October and begin the transition. The newly elected Officers will assume their positions, for 2-years, <u>at</u> <u>the conclusion of</u> the Business Meeting on Saturday evening, October 27. Brian, Dick and I get to do one more funfilled biennial meeting, collectively, as your Officers!

You must be a member in good standing in order to be a candidate and to vote – please make sure your dues are current. **Thank You** and I do hope members feel that the current Officers have performed their duties responsibly.

Club Treasurer

After nearly six years as the SLC Treasurer, Dick Izsak has indicated he will turn over the Treasurer position to me over the next few weeks. Dick has skillfully managed the club's membership and the club's finances since 2001. Dick keeps the membership roles and the members' dues dates; he prepares new member packets and mails them out; he prepares the mailing labels for each newsletter and special mailings. He collects our dues and pays our bills. Dick also coordinates the 3-way conference call when the club officers conduct business over the phone 3-4 times a year. I'm sure the transition of the club's assets will be smooth.

Though I am not standing for re-election as SLC President, I will seriously consider offering my name as Treasurer in order to maintain continuity of the membership duties and the financial management of the club with a new set of officers.

On a personal note, I sincerely thank Dick for his support, his guidance and his volunteer time during the nearly 6years we have been club officers together. I am certain Dick and Sandy will continue to be valued club members.

October 25-27, 2007

I am excited that we are meeting in less than 4-months . . . I'm also amazed 2-years has gone by already. There will be a lot of information in this newsletter from Brian about our meeting. I look forward to catching up with members, new and old, at the Travel Inn in October, and on our planned excursions. Now is a good time to get your Broadway tickets to compliment your trip to the Big Apple. I will contribute my observations of the meeting in the November newsletter – as your Immediate Past President.

I hope all members, families, and friends have a safe and comfortable summer.

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Sincerely, Vince Swift, SLC President

Iris Signs In

fabulous!

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Iris November, SLC Founder

tea. The Library looked beautiful, and I was asked to cut the ribbon for the wall hanging that the art teacher, Mary Ann Breisch, had designed. It unfolded as a huge batik-like artwork of irises on a field of green and blue —just lovely!! I was so excited. After a few speeches (good for our egos), Mort and I removed the covering of the name of the library. It read "The Iris F. November Children's Library"!! Oh my, I'm tearing-up again, because I did burst into tears, as did everyone there. It was such a surprise, and such an honor, and as many of you know, I am a librarian, though retired for many years. Two of the gifts that the school gave me were a NYC 2008 calendar with the SOL on the cover, and a huge banner with Miss Liberty pictured between the lines of God Bless America!! Wasn't that just perfect! What a sweet afternoon it was, and when you come to Cleveland, I will show you my library at The Lillian and Betty Ratner School!!



Iris xxx

Have a great summer-the Novembers will see you in October !!





LIBERTY QUOTE, May 27, 1788:

The natural progress of things is for liberty to yield and government to gain ground. Idees Light

-- Thomas Jefferson, in a letter to Col. Edward Carrington

When we were in Arizona last February, we spent one day traveling to Sedona, and the sites around there. Our friend, sculptor James Muir, just opened his new gallery and workshop among other galleries on the main road into Sedona from Scottsdale. We visited with Linda, his wife, and her cute mother and nephew, while James was in Tucson working on a huge 20-foot statue. The Gallery is charmingly arranged, with many of the mini-models James used for his large sculptures, and we saw 2 of his huge pieces in the Old Town Sedona—the horse, and the dancing couple. Look on his website

Some special stories for you—first of all, my NYC granddaughter, Holland, who I told you in the last newsletter is going to Oberlin College in the Fall on an amazing scholarship, was also selected as the Valedictorian of her High School class!! I was there of course, to share the joy and the accomplishments of this lovely young woman. She was

for his work: <u>www.jamesmuir.com</u> And a huge surprise for me from my Mort. Early last year we began a project with a private school that was moving to a new building and we wanted to do something to

private school that was moving to a new building and we wanted to do something to help them. Over the year we made suggestions for the area they were designating for the library, and when it was done, we had a dedication ceremony on June 10th, an afternoon

that just perfect! hen you come to g at The Lillian

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Statue of Liberty Club Newsletter

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From the Editor's Desk

Greetings everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful

Independence Day. As you can see, I did indeed complete the *Mermaid de Liberté*, one of Beaufort's 31 Mermaids on Parade (our city's version of Cows on Parade, or like the Gambrels' Sock Monkeys on Parade). Considering I'm not really an artist, it is amazing that something I've envisioned for so long actually materialized. Since her scales are all liberty stamps, I asked the postmaster if she could reside in front of the downtown Beaufort Post Office, and he consented. The "faux tabby" wall makes a nice backdrop, and it's been fun watching folks take pictures with her. Tabby is a durable material made of local shells, limestone, sand, and water found in much of the antebellum architecture of the Lowcountry of SC. Read all about *Beafort's Big Swim* and see the other mermaids at:



Mermaid de Liberté

http://www.beaufortcountyarts.com/managinghaphanalashanal

Photo by Dennis Adams, Beaufort County Library

These legendary sea goddesses appear all over Beaufort, with some finding their way into the neighboring towns of Bluffton and Port Royal. The fiberglass forms were sculpted in halves, then assembled together onto steel poles and mounted on temporary palettes. Each artist carted them home or to their art studio, and was responsible for the theme and decoration of each. I had to smooth out the fiberglass seams with quick-drying auto putty, and then sand the entire figure smooth. The upper portion required several base coats before the liberty aqua-green skin coats were applied. My friend Charlie O'Shields came over with drill and tools and spent an afternoon helping attach the torch and crown. We secured both with screws and heavy-duty clear epoxy.

Weeks of attaching shells with strong epoxy and stamps with spray adhesive followed, then secured with layers of a UV-safe gel-coat. Her scales are comprised of 1524 SOL stamps: 1424 from the US (1424 stamps of 24 distinct issues), and 100 from France (92 stamps of five different types), St. Kitts, Nevis, and Tanzania. I logged the number of each type as I applied them. There are 18 torch stamps surround the torch (six brown 12¢, eight green & gold 29¢, and four purple 4¢ stamps), a sidewalk lamp with solar panel that lights the lamp at night. Lastly, I cut, dyed, and sewed on her fishnet drape, strung a shell necklace, and attached starfish to her crown.

I had so much fun categorizing and arranging the stamps into groups and making designs with them. (Would you expect anything different from a library cataloger who classifies and codifies books and other library materials all day?) I even incorporated some of Vince's glass stamps that he gave out at one of the Liberty meetings. The majority of stamps were comprised of over 1,000 of the current Liberty/Flag 39¢ stamps, grouped into 16 categories and "adhered" in groups by their cancellation patterns (all the vertical cancels together, the ones with red-ink cancellations, the wide-band cancellations, etc).



Mermaid arrives @ home, in the Baja

Looking ghostly in her basecoat On SLC 333 ARCHIVE 383 COPY

On deck (my studio), topcoat complete!

Statue of Liberty Club Newsletter



Each stamp was rounded at the bottom, resembling scales

Thanks again to Bob Weaver's stamp club, Joan Adelman, and others who sent me stamps! If you know someone who might be interested in owning this Liberty mermaid, they will be auctioned off on Saturday Oct. 27, 7:30-10:00pm, at the new Beaufort Civic Center (the same evening as the SLC meeting in New York!). For two weeks prior to that, all 31 mermaids will be brought together on the marsh promenade next to the civic center for folks to get a better look at them all. Bids begin at \$500. Can't you just see her hanging in a NY post office in much the same tradition as the murals found in last century's post offices? Or in the entryway to your yard, or home, or hanging from the ceiling of your beach cottage? She's only about 50 pounds w/o the cement pedestal.



Posterior View



In the Evening, Her Torch is Lit



In closing, Iris has been in touch with Bea Ellis, who is in the process of writing to all who sent her liberty gifts. Her brother has been hospitalized for several weeks and she just hasn't gotten around to writing all the thank-yous; but wants each of you to know how special that was. Every day for a period of about two weeks the Liberty love came trickling in. Thanks! Y'all did good!!

Yours, United in Liberty, Brenda Gale Beasley BromfortuSouth Carolina Vol. 16 : No. 2, Sum 2007

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2007 New York Convention Details

by Brian Snyder

Uur next Statue of Liberty Club convention will be held on **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 25**-

27, 2007. There is a special tour/event set up for Thursday the 25th, our day on Liberty Island will be on Friday the 26th, and club business including a show & sale will be all day on Saturday the 27th. You are encouraged to stay in NY on Sunday for the 121st anniversary of Miss Liberty and return on your own to Liberty Island for the festivities.

Why should you attend?

op 10 Reasons (for those who have *not* attended a SLC convention)

- 1. Put names with faces.
- 2. Because you have never been on Liberty Island.
- 3. See Manhattan with friends (they are like free tour guides).
- 4. Share your passion for Lady Liberty.
- 5. Buy something for your collection or start a collection.
- 6. See a Broadway play.
- 7. See the WTC site.
- 8. See the Statue of Liberty.
- 9. Take a friend with you.
- 10. You need to use your airline miles before they expire.

op 10 Reasons (for those who *have* attended a SLC convention)

- 1. It's been years since your last visit.
- 2. You are concerned about the club's future.
- 3. See old friends and make new ones.
- 4. It's time to visit the WTC site.
- 5. You need to add items to your collection.
- 6. You need to sell items from your collection.
- 7. It's been so long, I forgot how much fun it is.
- 8. To get your picture in the next newsletter.
- 9. I always get the limited edition collectable available to attendees.
- 10. I may be too old or broke to make it to the next one.

special limited edition Statue of Liberty collectible commemorating the 2007 convention is completed and will be available to those who attend. Some past limited edition items that were specially made for the conventions included the 1999 laser-etched Liberty torch wine bottle, a 2001 one-ounce silver medallion, and the 2004 Bartholdi commemorative bronze medal. Extra commemorative items are made available to nonattendees on a first-come, first-serve basis, quantity permitting.

Un Thursday the 25th, we will pay tribute to Emma Lazarus who passed away 120 years ago in 1887. She is best known for writing "The New Colossus", a sonnet** written in 1883. We will travel to Brooklyn where she is buried at the Beth-Olom Cemetery. We will also visit some Bartholdi statues while on this trip. This is planned as an all day trip, five to eight hours long.

****From Wikipedia**: The term "sonnet" derives from the French word "sonet" and the Italian "sonetto," both meaning "little song." By the 13th century, it had come to signify a poem of fourteen lines that follows a strict rhyme scheme and logical structure. Emma Lazarus's sonnet is 14 lines.

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Friday is the pilgrimage to Lady Liberty, usually the first ferry departure from Battery Park. The club has arranged for a private tour of restoration efforts being conducted on Ellis Island by the Save Ellis Island Foundation. This is the organization President Vince Swift identified in previous newsletters; our club is a member of this organization. We will be gathering on Ellis Island at approximately 1:30 PM, after our morning activities on Liberty Island.

Uur rooms have been blocked at the Travel Inn Hotel New York on 515 West 42nd Street. Do not make your reservations on-line unless you want to pay \$250 or \$300 per night! You will need to call the hotel directly at 212-

Saturday will be filled with our Show & Sell, auction (bring your money and liberty items to sell/trade) followed by dinner and club meeting. We will have a special demonstration on the art of Repoussé. This was the process used to form the copper skin on Miss Liberty.

Are you ready to register to attend the Statue of Liberty Club's convention? Please select your activity choices and submit the completed form found in this issue, along with your registration fees. Act today—registration forms are due soon!

Seattle Statue of Liberty Update

By Vince Swift

Beginning with our Spring/Summer 2005 newsletter, the club has been tracking the progress of a project in Seattle, WA to refurbish a 1950s era Boy Scout Statue of Liberty that has often been vandalized and generally 'seen better days'. The club donated a brick with our club name inscribed that will be part of the new Liberty Plaza at Seattle's Alki Beach Park. In our Summer 2006 newsletter Michelle Mathew, a Public Relations Coordinator for Seattle's Northwest Programs for the Arts (NPA), wrote an interesting history of the Save Public Art project up to that time.

I received a return call from Ms. Holly Santos of the NPA and am able to provide a status of the restoration project and the plaza construction. The good news is the Liberty statue has been recast and is in a warehouse waiting for her new home, Liberty Plaza, to be built. The not-for-profit NPA and the City of Seattle are working out design issues for the plaza with construction expected to begin this fall or the spring of 2008. Fundraising efforts for the plaza, including the 'Donate a Brick' program, have not reached their goal to date.

SLC members are again invited to research this project at the web site for the Statue of Liberty restoration project **<u>http:///http://htttp://htttp://http://http://http://http://htttp:**</u>



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Hot off the Press: Circle Line Loses Concessioner Bid for Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island Ferry Service by Brenda Beasley



While Circle Line had come under fire for a declining number of visitors, the age and condition of its fleet, and its limited routes, it will retain its Manhattan and other sightseeing and party cruises around the New York Harbor and develop new ones to the New Jersey shore. Circle Line charges \$11.50 for adults and \$4.50 for children for a Statue of Liberty excursion. Under the terms of a new NPS contract, the



ticket price will rise to \$12 / \$5 under the new operator. After a 60-day Congressional review period (a formality more than anything), the contract will be signed and awarded, and Hornblower could begin operations as early as October. "The ferry operator is also open to working with the city to expand service to Governors Island and Brooklyn Bridge Park", a company spokeswoman said.

Terry MacRae, CEO of Hornblower, said, "The park service wanted an improved customer experience, they wanted more education and interpretive opportunities for the guests, enhanced protection of the environment" and expanded service to other federal locations, like the Jamaica Bay National Wildlife Refuge. According to Mr. MacRae, Hornblower might use its own boats, outfitted with plasma television screens and elaborate multi-media presentations, as well as the Circle Line's eight-boat SOL/Ellis Island fleet, which Hornblower must buy as a condition of the contract. Hornblower has about \$60 million in annual revenue, about a third of which comes from the Alcatraz operation. The majority comes from dinner cruises and yacht tours.

Organized labor has criticized Hornblower for using nonunion workers on its tours. But Mr. MacRae said that some operations in Hawaii and Delaware were unionized and that he had not made up his mind about the Statue of Liberty operation, which may be renamed "Statue Cruises."

Representative Anthony D. Weiner (D-NYC), a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure committee and a longtime critic of the NPS (pictured next page), described the change as "good news and a fresh start." It was Weiner who led a coalition of New York City and New Jersey members in urging the Secretary of the Interior and the NPS to expand ferry service and open the contract to competitive bids to ensure tourists get the best deal and visitor experience.

More details would be available next month when the contract has been drawn up.

Excerpted from articles by Anthony Ramirez of the *New York Times*, Annie Karni of the *New York Sun*, and a press release of Rep. Weiner, all dated June 29.



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Congress Calls for Liberty's Crown to Reopen: Will the National Park Service Answer?

By Brenda Beasley

On June 26, the U.S. House of Representatives unanimously passed legislation authored by Rep. Anthony Weiner (D-Queens & Brooklyn) to reopen the Statue of Liberty in her entirety for the first time since 9/11/01. The Statue of Liberty is the only national park/monument that has not been fully reopened since the attacks.

"The House of Representatives has spoken, and the National Park Service should promptly restore the Statue of Liberty to her full glory," said Rep. Weiner.

For the second year in a row Weiner added an amendment to a spending bill giving the National Park Service (NPS) \$1 million to study how to safely reopen the staircase to the statue's crown—something prohibited since the 2001 terror attacks. "I'm not going to stop pushing on it and I think it's reasonable to expect that sooner or later they're going to have to answer," he said. Rep. Weiner cited that the failure of the Interior Department's NPS, which overseas such sites as the Washington Monument in Washing-



U.S. Rep. Anthony D. Weiner

ton, D.C. and Mount Rushmore in South Dakota, has had a profound impact on New York City's economy. Since her crown was closed to the public, and due to increased security requirements (that, by their very nature, limit the number of tourists into the monument), the Statue has seen a 40.8% drop in visitors. This loss of 2.24 million tourists has cost New Yorkers millions in lost economic benefits.

In a letter to Rep. Weiner last month, outgoing NPS Director Fran Mainella officially announced that the Statue of Liberty will remain closed to the public indefinitely, disregarding recent House and Senate actions to fully reopen the Statue. Mary Bomar, who was nominated for the Director post on June 26 (pending Senate approval), currently serves as head of the NPS Northeast Region in Philadelphia, which includes the Statue of Liberty. In that capacity, Bomar has been responsible for enforcing the policy of restricting access to the Statue since 9/11, and could reverse Mainella's decree, clearing the way for guests to enjoy the thrill that many visitors experienced prior to 9/11—gazing at the New York landscape through the iconic crown of Lady Liberty. According to a news report on her nomination, Ms. Bomar understands the symbolism of the Statue. Born in England, Bomar was struck by the Statue of Liberty and the Grand Canyon while traveling to the United States with her family, sparking a determination "to work at these special places."

In a letter to Bomar, Weiner asks, "Before your nomination is considered by the Senate, the public should know: Do you have the courage and vision your predecessor lacked? Will you, like your predecessor, ignore the Congress? Will you reopen Lady Liberty? You also must be aware that both houses of Congress have spoken and directed the National Park Service to reopen the Statue, including her crown."

I sent an email thanking Rep. Weiner for his efforts, and he (or likely one of his staff) sent this back:

I frequently send updates about issues we are tackling down in Washington and here in New York. If you'd like to be added to the list of recipients, please follow this link to my website to sign up for the Weiner Report at: <u>http://www.honousou/weiner</u>

Sincerely,

ANTHONY D. WEINER Member of Congress



Excerpted from Rep. Weiner's Press Release of June 26, 2007, and the **reopendidortysortwintorg** Web site.

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Liberty Watch

Five-Dollar Statue of Liberty Coin from the American Mint

Item # 168-008-3 Check/Money order for \$9.95 (+ 6% sales tax for PA residents) payable to: AMERICAN MINT

Or call #-877#807#MENTE(toll free) to pay with credit card





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Author and Illustrator, Robert Neubecker Hyperion, 2004

This book just came across my desk. In addition to the fantastic cover, there is a 2-pg spread of Lady Liberty!



New address labels from Colorful Images! **1-800-458-7999** <u>www.colorfulimages.com</u> Item # Y1156 (in Red-White-&-Blue) \$8.99 + \$4.99 shipping (reduced for multiple purchases) 144 self-adhesive Border-style personalized labels, each measuring 1-1/8" x 2-3/8". You are allowed up to 26 characters on 4 lines. The 4th line could read: statueoflibertyclub.com

STATUES OF LIBERTY

The Statues of Liberty is an alternative / punk / rock band from NYC.

http://www.myspace.com



It's times like this when I wish our newsletter were full color. Please see the image at left online: http://www.truecolorstour.com/

The Human Rights Campaigned teamed up with legendary performers such as Cyndi Lauper, Rosie O'Donnell, Debbie Harry, the Indigo Girls, Rufus Wainwright, The Dresden Dolls, Margaret Cho, and other for 16 concerts across America during the month of June. For the CD pictured at right, go to:

http://www.phanady.com/phan/truecolors

Thanks to Francine Burke who alerted us to this tour.

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Statues of Liberty



New 7 Wonders Update

In a "round-the-world-tour" of all the N7W nominees, much promotion and publicity were garnered at each site, trying to raise awareness of the program and to encourage people to vote for their local nominee. The Statue of Liberty is the only U.S. "wonder" that was been nominated. If you missed it on the news, see who the winners are at their Web site (below). The 7 winners were announced 07/07/07 at live ceremony broadcast worldwide from Lisbon, Portugal. The international show included award presentations and performances by Hilary Swank, Ben Kingsley, Neil Armstrong, Chaka Khan, Jennifer Lopez, Jose Carreras, and others.

The photos below appear courtesy of www.new7wonders.com





Note the "VOTE" was formed by people! Jennifer Stewart, the *Living Liberty*, in the N7W's NY Program

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