

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°2 ~ Summer 2008

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From the President



I hope all our members and Liberty friends are enjoying the summer season wherever you are. I am currently commuting between my home in Michigan and a work project in Pennsylvania. I don't mind flying, but the summer weather and airline equipment problems can make some trips an unpleasant excursion.

2008 Club Meeting

I received a few responses to my inquiry about an off-year club meeting in either Myrtle Beach or Las Vegas. Unfortunately there was not nearly enough interest in either location, so we will not have a club meeting this year. **We will have a scheduled biennial New York City meeting in October, 2009** and I will remind you in each of the next 3 newsletters. Brian Snyder, our meeting coordinator is always looking for ideas of events and excursions for the 'optional Thursday' meeting day, so please start thinking of NYC-area sight-seeing ideas. I will offer the idea of travel to Princeton, NJ to see a beautiful college town and a Bartholdi statue there. As always, NYC-area members can think about offering to assist Brian in planning and organizing.

Mailing Address

Please let me know if the name and address are correct on your mailing label – if you have moved since the March newsletter, or are planning a move before the November newsletter please send that information to me via e-mail, a post card or note. We want to make sure your newsletter and club announcements arrive for you on the first mailing; the club pays mailing costs, again, when I receive a "Return to Sender" and then ultimately resolve the new mailing address.

"The Story of the STATUE OF LIBERTY"

While visiting my daughter, son-in-law, and 5-year-old grandson recently, I was privileged to read to my grandson a 1965-issue book titled *The Story of the STATUE OF LIBERTY*. The author is Natalie Miller with color illustration by Lucy & John Hawkinson and published by Children's Press out of Chicago. This is a standard child-focused book, approximately 15 pages of illustrations and 15 pages of text that contains a surprisingly detailed, though concise history of the Statue from its 1865 origins to the 1886 dedication. I can recommend it as a child's introduction to the Statue. This was picked by my grandson from their local library in Woodstock, GA so I could read it to him during the birthday visit. The book was reissued in 1992 as *The Statue of Liberty (Cornerstones of Freedom, ISBN 0516066552)*; I saw it on-line, used, for about \$1.

Back Issues of Our Newsletter

Brian and I are still trying to find an opportunity to work with our newsletter Editors, past and present – Iris November, Marilyn Ebersole and Brenda Beasley-Forrest to archive back issues of our club newsletter on the web site. The plan is to have as many back issues as possible available to members and visitors for review and/or research. When a new issue of the newsletter is mailed we will add the newsletter that was issued 1-year back. We are purposely leaving a one year gap in the archives so that members always get the current newsletter through the mail. We will remove members' personal information and any 'For Sale' information when we archive a newsletter.

New Membership Post Card

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I have started sending out a post card to new and renewing members for use as their membership card. Brian and I have not finalized the front side of the card – much like the original small membership, we want to include height

statistics for the Statue but from the ground up and with a picture. We are working on it around our 'day jobs'. Thanks for your patience and I do hope you like the new postage-saving idea.

2008 Calendars

I have extra 2008 calendars. If a club member would like to obtain a few extras I will just need the necessary postage. If you want the club to send a non-member the 2008 calendar, please send me their name and address; on behalf of the club I'd be willing to send a calendar and include a club membership form just in case – we are always looking for new members. As always, you can drop me a letter, card or e-mail with a request.

2004 Bartholdi Memorial medals and 2007 NYC Meeting medal

We still have a supply of the 2004 Bartholdi Memorial medals that were produced to observe the 100th anniversary of the death of Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi. Recall that we had 125 'Travel' medals struck that have a dedication on the reverse noting the club's visit to France in 2004, and 125 'Club' medals that contain only the club's name on the reverse. Each medal contains a unique number on its edge; matching numbered medals from both the Travel and the Club issues are still available. Also available is the 2007 medal-set that was presented to attendees of the 2007 Biennial New York City meeting last October. This is the unique 11-pointed-star design of Fort Wood where Liberty stands, with a set being a pair of matched medals. This set contains information about the Statue's coordinates and meeting/club information. All of these medals are cooper based and can be viewed on, and ordered from, the club web site at www.StatueOfLibertyClub.com

Volunteers

Please consider offering some of your time as volunteers for the activities we perform on behalf of the club and its membership. Brenda can use assistance with the Newsletter, and Brian and I can always use you help with miscellaneous club duties. The interaction with other club members is ample reward for volunteering. Let any of us know if you have an interest is helping – I am certain we can accommodate any schedule. THANKS!!!

Stay comfortable in the heat of the Summer and I'll communicate again with you closer to . . . Thanksgiving, 2008!

*Sincerely,
Vince Swift, SLC President & Treasurer*



THE STATUE OF LIBERTY by Jamie David (age 11)

The Statue of Liberty is very interesting to me, I have not been there yet, but whenever I go to Brooklyn I always see her twinkling over the Hudson waters.

I like her very much because she saw the immigrants that passed thorough Ellis Island. My favorite picture of her is the picture of her standing by the Twin Towers.

Her features are pretty remarkable. My three favorites are her crown, because she is the Queen of America; her book, July 4, 1776, because that date represents the day America was freed; and finally her torch that lights the heart of America.

The Statue of Liberty is the beauty of New York City, and she will always be the heart and soul of America.



The human interest story above comes by way of SLC member Ethel Fishman. Jamie's aunt, Frances Navarro, was Ethel's manicurist for years and they still keep in touch. Knowing of Ethel's love of the SoL, Frances told her about Jamie and her keen interest in the SoL. When Jamie was 8 years old, Ethel sent her some Liberty items, and upon hearing from her again recently, and sending more Liberty goodies, she asked Jamie to write how she became interested in Lady Liberty. This is her story.

Out and About with the Editor

Hello everyone! Hope you are all enjoying the fruits of summer... picnics, warm breezes, family reunions, sunsets, gardening or harvesting fresh produce, enjoying some local seafood, traveling, a good book poolside or beachside, fireworks, or whatever it is you like to do on a summer day.

Seems I have a bit of egg on my face... After all those years as a Serials librarian and scowling whenever a publisher didn't change their Volume and Number on the cover, I've gone and done the same thing. Ticked me off royally!! My sincerest apologies... For your convenience, I even have provided the proper numbers and date to match the interior pages (which were all meticulously checked!) attached here for you to glue-stick to the cover.

On July 2 I received a package from Kitty Gustafson with several back-issues of the newsletter to archive AND this fabulous "All American Girl" T-shirt (seen at right). THANKS Kitty! I wore it to work on the 3rd.

Don't forget about the **Club Members News & Announcements** column, if there's something happening in your world that you'd like to share with Liberty friends. Also any reluctant liberties you'd like fellow members to keep an eye out for you, or to sell any of your excess collection, please take advantage of the free three-line classifieds or WANTED ads. And for a small fee, you can also do a display ad. Keep those Liberty sightings, stories, photos, and emails coming! We always enjoy hearing from fellow members.

*Please send anything for the next newsletter by **10/15/08** to me at the contact info on the back page of this newsletter.*



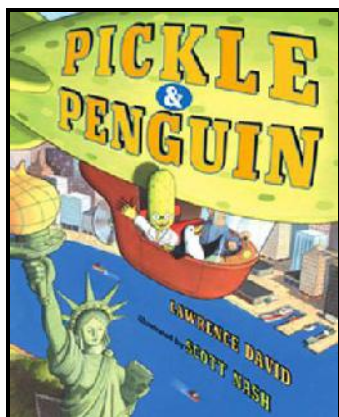
Brendagael with Mermaid de Liberté in the statue's permanent location overlooking Beaufort Bay.

Photo by Stuart Beasley-Forrest

Yours, United in Liberty,
BrendagaelBeasley~Forrest

Seattle Liberty Update

Early next week (July 14) construction will begin on the Seattle Statue of Liberty Plaza at Alki Beach. It will move into full swing with the pedestal, stairs, benches, and named brick walkway that leads from the statue down the stairs and around the plaza. A Plaza Celebration is set for September 6. Watch progress being made at www.sealady.org.



Pickle & Penguin is a delightful children's book about how two friends are lost in NYC and Miss Liberty helps them find each other. **Reading level:** Ages 4-8 ; 2004 **Hardcover:** 32 pages; **Publisher:** Dutton Children's Books **ISBN** 978-0525471028; 10" x 8"

Just opening this summer is the Hard Rock Park in Myrtle Beach. The amusement park features rides, entertainment, dining and shopping. Sporting shades and not a torch but a Zippo lighter is the Liberty Kiosk, which houses a mini gift shop that sells merchandise for whatever concert is playing behind it in the Live Amphitheater. Very Rock 'n Roll apropos, yes? Engraved on the pedestal is a quote from Neil Young: "Keep On Rockin' in the Free World."



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Iris November, SLC Founder

Iris Signs In

I have had a very good spring—starting with my brand new titanium left hip!! It works great and I tell everyone, the 3 month old left hip is very happy cooperating with the 75 year old right hip!! It's truly amazing how I had not realized the extent of my disability, till now that I am walking with such ease and **pain free**. Mort is doing okay and he is finished with his servitude as my caregiver, and he is quite happy about that.

We are in Chautauqua, NY where we rent a small place and enjoy all the activities, plays, lectures, symphony, opera, etc. that we always enjoyed in our home here, which we sold 2 years ago. The location is right in the heart of this gated Victorian village and Institution, so we can enjoy everything. In a few weeks Chris Bensch and Dan McGuire will come for the day, with Amos the big dog, and we always enjoy seeing them. As you know Chris is the Director of Collections at the Strong Museum in Rochester NY. I always rave about this wonderful Museum of Play, where our Statue of Liberty Collection lives and is viewed by some 400,000 visitors each year, especially children—which so pleases me. The Docents point out the various items of Miss Liberty, and the labels on objects on the lowest shelf are easy for the children to see and read.

I want to share 2 other events that sweeten our lives—besides the graduations of grandchildren, the 2nd great grandson on the way in August, and the activities of my amazing daughters. We were privileged to dedicate the Debra Ann November Autism Wing at the Cleveland Clinic's Rehab Hospital, East Campus, which will serve over 100 children and young adults afflicted with the Autism Syndrome. As you may know, 1 out of every 150 live births will suffer this disability, and 1 out of every 94 male births. If treatment starts early, the child will probably be able to be mainstreamed in public education, but early detection is critical. It's a wonderful facility, with every item especially designed and made for the special needs of the children.

And we also dedicated the Learning Garden at the Shaker Family Center, in Shaker Heights, a neighboring community, which beautified an area that was asphalt before and now has fountains, raised flower beds, stepping stones, and a wooden gazebo hand-carved by Rick Nelson—no relation to the singer—with a sunflower center, and an Iris flower carved into the sun motif. So special.

Hope your summer shines for you too!!

Iris and Mort xxx

Renewing Members:

Dianne Barello
Brenda & Stuart Beasley~Forrest
Helen Beck
Jeff Dosik
Dale Dwyer
Judy Edwards
Sandra Finch
Susan P. Flood
Mike & Annie Gay
Ferrell Hinton

Paul Lajoie
Dr. Paul Levine
Dr. Maria O. Kalafatic
John Mangan
Karen Mock
Paula & Mark Plantier
Merle Schultz
Dorothy Shearn
Joanna Sieberg
Magne & Eva Skeisvoll
Lewis 'Bob' Snyder

Brian & Kim Snyder
Lyle Turner
Roger Vincon
Jim Wasas
Jo Young

Returning Member:

Debbie Hammer

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AMERICAN ICONS MERGE by Brian Snyder (reporting from the Home of the 2008

College World Series Champions: The Fresno State Bulldogs—"From Underdogs to Wonderdogs!" (from 89th to 1st place)

Remember Cows on Parade? Now it's Statues on Parade! The American icons of baseball and the Statue of Liberty merge for the 2008 Major League Baseball All-Star Games. Major League Baseball [MLB] announced "Statues on Parade" that will have everyone talking. It is going to be the most amazing celebration of the Statue of Liberty since the 1986 centennial celebration in New York Harbor.

There will be 42 Statues of Liberty, each standing 8½ feet tall, weighing 250 pounds and with a cement base weighing another 530 pounds. They will be prominently displayed mid-June in high-traffic areas around the Big Apple when the Midsummer Classic comes to town, leading up to the July 15 All-Star Game. Each one will be uniquely designed with bold graphics and colors featuring each of the 30 MLB clubs, the former Brooklyn Dodgers and New York Giants, the American League, the National League, four All-Star statues, and statues commemorating the final season of Yankee and Shea Stadiums, with an additional version for the host Yankees. A final statue, to be determined, will be painted by the artist as a surprise. The statues will start "parading" at popular including Times Square, Carnegie Hall, Radio City Music Hall, the New York Stock Exchange and, yes, the Statue of Liberty. The American League one is placed at Liberty Island and the National League version on Ellis Island. Proceeds from the AL and NL statues, which will be auctioned off, will go to The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, the non-profit fundraising arm of the two sites.



"What can be better than pairing America's favorite pastime with America's most beloved icon?" said Tommy Lasorda, former manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers and a foundation board member. "And knowing this helps to support Lady Liberty and Ellis Island, where my father entered this great country, makes it even more fantastic."

To celebrate the spirit of the occasion you can buy likenesses of these from Forever Collectibles, which made the larger statues, and also designed 9-inch figurine replicas that are now available on www.StatueofLibertyClub.com. You can purchase the Liberty team of your choice, or collect all 42! They are \$24.99 each. All-Star Game t-shirts featuring Lady Liberty are also available. They make great collector's items and gifts! From our Web site you can link to the official MLB *Statues on Parade* site and see a video of the project, a map with all the locations, and a fan photo gallery.

The process of producing the replicas began in February and ended in May, but really started when they bought a souvenir statue and sent it to Forever Collectibles, which sent the designs to China. (Hey, what's wrong with USA-made statues?)



What do you think Frederic Auguste Bartholdi, would say? As a powerful creative force, he no doubt would have loved this. Bartholdi was commissioned to design a sculpture in 1876 to commemorate the centennial of America's signing of the Declaration of Independence. He had no knowledge at the time about baseball. But just think about how important baseball was to American life in that same year that he began creating Lady Liberty. On Feb. 2, 1876, the National League of Professional Baseball Clubs was established at a meeting in Chicago. Ten days later, Albert Spalding moved to Chicago and opened a sporting goods store that became known simply as Spalding; and then that April he threw the first shutout in NL history, for the Chicago White Stockings. Teammate Ross Barnes hit the first home run in MLB history that same season. The fact that 42 versions of his creation prominently displayed all over NYC would probably make Bartholdi feel pretty good.

Wait till you see the Pirates version, with the big swashbuckler prominently over her midsection. Or that Cardinals version with the red face and the bird on the yellow bat, and the way it says "RALLY TIME" on the back of Angel Liberty. There is even one of her in pinstripes. Of course. My personal favorite, however, might be simply the one where the statue is swathed in the Stars and Stripes. The SF Giants however, are MY team.

Any member who lives in NY or is going to be in NYC while they are on parade, please have a photo of yourself taken with one (your favorite preferably) and e/mail one photo to Brendagael for the newsletter. If we have enough, we'll have our own fan photo gallery page in the next issue! In addition, have digital photos taken with as many as possible and email them to Brian, who will create a special gallery page for the SLC Web site.



**Jennifer Stewart:
The Living Liberty
... Unveiled!**

Member Profile: Jennifer Stewart

by Brendagael Beasley-Forrest & Jennifer Stewart

Many of our club members have had the privilege of meeting Jennifer Stewart in person when she graciously made an appearance to be with the club and accommodated numerous photo ops for club members. She learned about the club from Brad Hill while doing an event on Ellis Island as Living Liberty. Shortly thereafter she met photographer Peter B. Kaplan through a mutual friend, who in turn introduced her to Mort and Iris November. Jennifer has very fond memories of meeting up with the group at a restaurant near 42nd St. just in time to take a few pictures before they went off to a play and she dashed to an event she was working. "Also there was the time I met up with the group in the foyer of their hotel," she recalls.



**"Have a coke and a smile."
(Remember that Coke ad
campaign from 1981?
Jennifer, where were you!)**

Performing as Living Liberty has been Stewart's fulltime job for the past 20 years. This is her story of how it all began...

I grew up in Audubon, Iowa, a small farming community in the Southwest corner of the state. I graduated from the University of Iowa in art and psychology. It was so hard to see my old stomping grounds of the arts building recently submerged under water during those devastating floods. My heart continues to reach out to fellow Iowans during this difficult time. I became Living Liberty (and started collecting Statue of Liberty memorabilia) as a direct result of winning the National Statue of Liberty Centennial Look-Alike Contest in 1986. While I was working as an art therapist teaching art to handicapped adults in Iowa City, Iowa in 1985, one of my schizophrenic students happened to comment one day he thought I looked like Miss Liberty. I didn't think much of his comment at the time, but the next year I happened to read about a national Statue of Liberty look-alike contest being held in celebration of Liberty's 100th birthday.

If it hadn't been for my former student's comment, I never would have considered entering such a contest. But the seed was planted and soon it was sprouting green leaves. I'd never before been to the SoL, and given the fact I was still living in Iowa, making a SoL costume seemed like a monumental task! But it proved to be fun, and after extensive research, I set about putting my art skills to the task constructing a crown from a laundry basket, hair coiffed using a mop, a paper towel roll transformed into the base of her torch, and refrigerator magnets as roman numerals on her tablet. Competing against 1,000 contestants nationwide, I "took home the crown" as the National Winner of the SoL Centennial Look-Alike Contest during a live broadcast of *CBS Morning News*, on July 1, 1986.

Stewart and her then husband moved to New York City so she could begin a graduate program in art therapy at New York University. As fate would have it, Jennifer never finished graduate school, but instead, began a journey as Living Liberty that would ultimately take her around the world, far surpassing her wildest dreams. Throughout her career, the "Queen of Green" has typically appeared as Lady Liberty about 150 times a year. She had traveled to Bermuda, Hawaii, Singapore, Brazil, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. But about a year ago she began supplementing her income by taking on temp work, and bought her second apt in the Brooklyn Heights co-op where she's been living for the past



15 years. She's recently become an administrative assistant at a large Wall Street firm on a trading floor. "They are very supportive of my work as Liberty and offered me a fulltime job with the understanding my Liberty work would continue," she says. "It's proven to be a perfect fit, especially since my goals as Living Liberty have solidified into a specific vision: to spread the vision of liberty to children worldwide via a kid's television show I've written." At present, Nickelodeon executives are considering that Jennifer's proposal be made into a pilot. More on this exciting news as things progress. Stewart still continues to perform at private functions, but only appearing at venues of her choosing. For example, Mayor Bloomberg is a long-standing client for an annual event she works for each fall, and another at New York University each spring. "It's nice to be at a place in my life where I can choose the jobs that interest me while focusing on where I want Living Liberty to be five years down the road," says Stewart.



APPEARANCES: Meetings, conventions, parties, and school functions. Appeared in the movie *Joe vs. the Volcano*. The writer saw her in Washington Square Park in New York and wrote a special role for her.

ENDURANCE LEVEL: She can hold the statue pose for about 20 minutes. If she doesn't move at all, people will walk right by without knowing she's alive.

LITTLE-KNOWN FACTS: Performs a Liberty rap song she wrote, and at elementary schools does a slide show about the Statue of Liberty and civil liberties that teaches kids an anti-drug message.

WORST PART OF THE JOB: When people try to tickle me.

TIME REQUIRED TO PUT ON THE GREEN STUFF: 1 hour.
Green stuff = theatrical makeup on a base of sunscreen and foundation.
[It must be *good* stuff—your natural skin is absolutely radiant!]

ASPIRATION: To make a difference in the world.

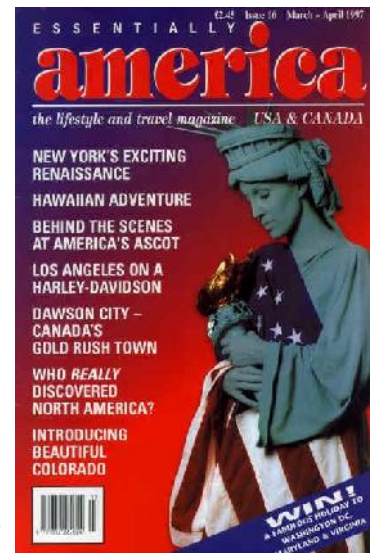
Stewart's Dad was an antique auctioneer so she grew up in an environment that fostered collecting and collections (his was glassware). Her most unique collection of Liberty statuettes was made by a group of elementary school children, as well children's drawings and paintings of Miss Liberty. "I very much admire unique creative renditions of Lady Liberty, such as those made by children or folk artists," she says. "However, professional artwork of Miss Liberty is also an interest of mine. For example, an original Peter Max painting of Liberty would certainly round out my collection nicely!" Her most cherished collectible item is a 1886 Liberty Head gold piece necklace her parents gave her as a gift after winning the national SoL look-alike contest.

Something Stewart has collected throughout her entire life is rocks. And they don't have to be gems or semi-precious stones to hold her interest. "In fact, there are very few that I own that I could identify by their geological name," she says. "I like rocks simply because they fascinate me—it's like holding time in your hands, but the thing that you're holding used to be something else like gas, liquid, mineral, or maybe even tree or a fish or a footprint." She also has a collection of nearly 100 vintage hats.

Besides collecting and being an actor, writer, emissary for the city of New York and an educator, one of Stewart's favorite pastimes is hiking. She takes at least one trip a year with her 83-yr-old Mom (who just hiked the mountains of Italy!) and her older sister who lives only a couple blocks away in the Heights.

As we were wrapping up the article, Jennifer was preparing to go away for the holiday weekend. "This is the first 4th ever I'm doing something other than painting myself green to stand around in sweltering heat! It's liberating to say the least!!"

Stewart continues to carry her torch in her ongoing pursuit for life, liberty, and happiness. To see more photos and learn more about Living Liberty, please visit her Web site: www.livingliberty.com



EGYPT: THE FIRST LIBERTY STORY

By JEFFREY S. DOSIK



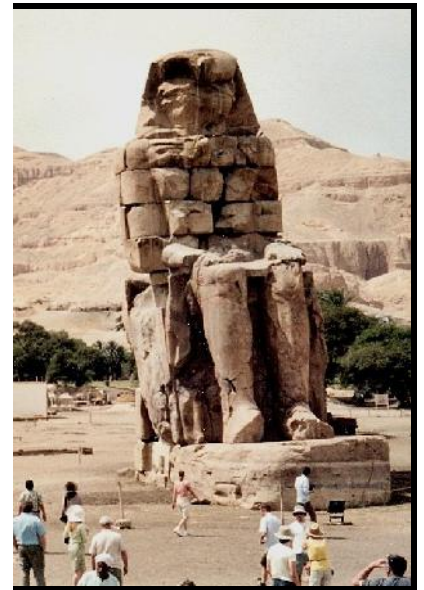
Between March 22, and March 31, 2008 I went on a ten day international seminar study trip to Egypt with the faculty and students of my undergraduate college: Orange County Community College of Middletown, NY. As a group we visited the major attractions in Egypt: The Great Pyramids at Giza and the Sphinx, the Egyptian Museum in Cairo, the Valley of the Kings, the temples at Karnak and Abu Simbel, and a four day cruise on the Nile. In visiting Egypt and seeing these great places you get a feeling for Egypt as a timeless land.

As a member of the park staff of the Statue of Liberty National Monument and the Statue of Liberty Club, I found myself walking in the footsteps of Auguste Bartholdi. When most people think of the Statue of Liberty, we think of it as an artistic product of 19th century Western Europe, an example of art in Western civilization. Most people don't realize that Auguste Bartholdi received his inspiration to create Lady Liberty from a trip he made to Egypt in 1856 with a small group of French artists: Leon Gerome, Bally and Berchere for artistic inspiration. On his journey up the Nile, like mine, Bartholdi was impressed by the Colossi of Memnon at Thebes (pictured below) and the other great works of colossal art by the ancient Egyptians—the only surviving colossal works of art from antiquity. Impressed by these great works of art, it set him on his path to revive colossal art work as a lost art form from the ancient past.

To quote Bartholdi:



We are filled with profound emotion in the presence of these colossal witnesses, centuries old, of a past that to us is almost infinite, at whose feet so many generations, so many million existences, so many human glories, have rolled in the dust. These granite beings, in their imperturbable majesty, seem to be still listening to the most remote antiquity. Their kindly and impassible glance seems to ignore the present and to be fixed upon an unlimited future. These impressions are not the result simply of a beautiful spectacle, nor of the poetry of historic remembrances. They result from the character of the form and the expression of the work in which the design itself expresses after a fashion infinity.



In 1869 Auguste Bartholdi made a second trip to Egypt to attend the dedication ceremony for the opening of the Suez Canal, the great nineteenth century French engineering feat of Count Ferdinand de Lesseps, which would link the Mediterranean Sea with the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean, and link the three continents of Europe, Africa and Asia. Bartholdi attempted to gain the support of the Khedive of Egypt, Ismail Pasha, for the building of a colossal sculpture at the Mediterranean entrance to the canal. This colossal work, if it had been completed, would have been a lighthouse similar to the Pharos Lighthouse of ancient Alexandria in the form of a giant veiled, robed woman holding aloft a sacred flame and symbolizing the “Fellah, The Peasants of Egypt in a Timeless Land.” Its artistic name would have been: “Progress, Egypt Carrying the Light to Asia.”

Although Bartholdi's "Suez Project" was incomplete, it was his first experiment as an artist with colossal monument-building; the precursor of the 1886 "Liberty Enlightening the World".

In reflecting on my college trip to Egypt, the high point was the four day cruise on the Nile. Sitting on the stern of the ship watching Egyptian farmers till the soil, I realized I was seeing the same thing that Auguste Bartholdi saw in the 19th century: "The Peasants of Egypt in a Timeless Land"— that this land is the true birthplace of colossal monument building leading to the creation of the Statue of Liberty.

At right: Bartholdi's drawing of his vision for a lighthouse at the Mediterranean entrance to the Suez Canal. He called her *Egypt Bringing Light to Asia*.



Jeff Dosik at the Temple of Ramses II at Abu Simbel, Egypt

In 450 B.C. the ancient Greek historian Herodotus, "the Father of History," commented: "Egypt is the Gift of the Nile". A gift that created one of the greatest civilizations on Earth. A gift that encouraged a young 19th century Alsatian artist named Auguste Bartholdi to experiment with colossal monument-building as an art form. An experiment which resulted in an even more far-reaching creation, his "Liberty Enlightening the World." The United States, France, and Egypt are truly the three sister nations of Lady Liberty.

SLC member Jeffrey Dosik is the Librarian Technician for the Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island, located on the third floor, west wing of the Ellis Island Immigration Museum.

A Preponderance of "Liberty in Ruins"

by Gerry Canavan & Brendagael

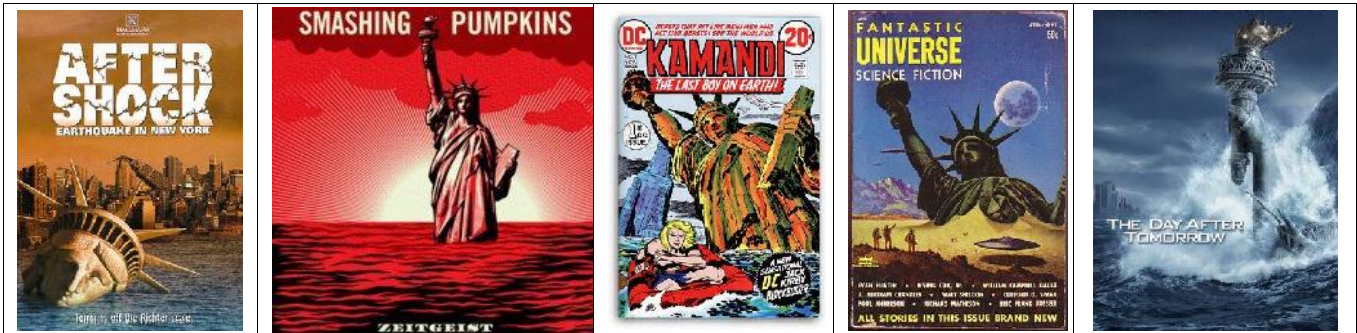
Ozymandias by Percy Bysshe Shelley

*I met a traveller from an antique land
Who said: "Two vast and trunkless legs of stone
Stand in the desert. Near them, on the sand,
Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown,
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things.
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed.
And on the pedestal these words appear:
'My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings;
Look on my works, ye mighty, and despair!'
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare
The lone and level sands stretch far away.*

Images of the Statue of Liberty in ruins date back much further than the classic twist-ending of 1968's *Planet of the Apes*, and arguably to the Statue's very construction: Bartholdi based the Statue in part on what he thought the now-vanished Colossus of Rhodes probably looked like. Like the toppled statue in Shelley's *Ozymandias* (at left), images of a ruined Statue of Liberty suggest the utter futility of human endeavor in a violent, entropic universe; though we imagine America standing at the end of history as a unique experiment in freedom and human progress, might not our current moment of prosperity simply be a brief interlude between disasters? From *Planet of the Apes* to *The Day After Tomorrow*, from 1970s comic books to 2008's *Cloverfield*, the destruction of Lady Liberty darkly hints that nothing of our great works can remain.

—Gerry Caravan

Canavan is writing his dissertation at Duke University on the topic of “science fiction and the imagination of disaster.” In his research he began noticing the same imagery coming up time and time again, with one theme in particular, the “ruined Statue of Liberty.” When Lady Liberty falls, we know it’s not just her that has fallen, but all that she stands for, and all whom she represents. This is why she is such a powerful and universal figure for apocalyptic stories and imagery. Gerry Canavan has collected a host of these images from comic books, movie posters, cards and artwork found on the Web. Here are a few examples from his blogsite:



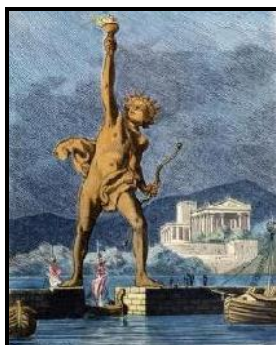
See more Liberty in Ruins at:
GerryCanavan.blogspot.com/2008/01/look-on-my-works-ye-mighty-and-despair.html

More on the Colossus at Rhodes

(aka Lazarus’s “The Brazen Giant of Greek Fame”) ~ by Brendagael

Synchronicity happens! I’ve been wanting to share these images for some time, and since we’ve just had two mentions of ancient colossi, I will dovetail into the discussion. Ancient accounts describe the statue as being built around several stone columns, sitting on a 50 foot high white marble pedestal near the harbor entrance on the Greek island of Rhodes. Iron beams were driven into the stone towers, and bronze plates attached to the bars formed the skinning. Upper portions were built with the use of a large earthen ramp. The statue itself was over 34 meters (110 feet) tall, roughly the same size of the Statue of Liberty, but on a lower platform. It was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Construction was completed in 282 BC after 12 years. The statue stood for only 56 years until Rhodes was hit by an earthquake in 226 BC. The statue snapped at the knees, and fell over onto the land. Ptolemy III offered to pay for the reconstruction of the statue, but a Rhodian oracle was afraid that they had upset Helios, and they declined to rebuild it. The remains lay on the ground for over 800 years, and even broken, they were so impressive that many traveled to see them. Given the height of the statue and the width of the harbor mouth, these artist renderings are more fanciful than probable. Moreover, the fallen Colossus would have blocked the harbor entrance.

Below are a few artist conceptions of the Colossus, some which predate the plans for the Statue of Liberty. One cannot help but wonder if these or similar early illustrations could have played a part in influencing Liberty’s design, either outright or subliminally... what Emma Lazarus called the NEW Colossus.



An 1886 engraving by Ferdinand Knab



An engraving by Georg Balthasar Probst (1732-1801)



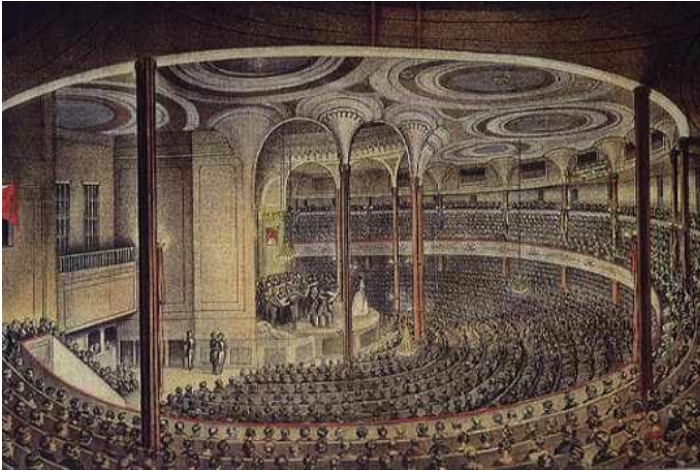
A 16th-century engraving by Martin Heemskerck

Early U.S. Immigration Service at Castle Clinton / Castle Garden / Castle Clinton

by Brendagael Beasley~Forrest; Excerpted from *Portal of Freedom* by Leslie Albrecht Huber, Jan/Feb 2008, *The History Channel Magazine* sent in by Kitty Gustafson, and other Castle Garden/Clinton sites

Millions of immigrants who arrived in New York's harbor in the 1800s never saw the Statue of Liberty, nor did they step foot in Ellis Island. It wasn't until the latter part of the 19th century that these two important historic sites were built. Before that, immigrants sought another landmark known as Castle Clinton.

Built between 1808 and 1811, the castle began life as a fort to keep people out—also when Fort Wood appeared on Bedloe's (Liberty) Island. The fort was originally called the South West Battery, but shortly thereafter (1817) was renamed after New York's popular governor, Dewitt Clinton. The fort was never tested in battle. After some time, the army left this post in 1821. In 1824 the Castle was turned over to NYC for use as an entertainment/recreation venue. In the 19th century such places were called "gardens" (we still know of Madison Square Garden) and the Castle became known as "Castle Garden." A roof was added in the 1840s (see images below), and Castle Garden served as an opera house and theater until 1854. Many new inventions were demonstrated there to amazed audiences, including the telegraph, Colt's revolving rifles, steam-powdered fire engines, and underwater electronic explosives. Other events included the triumphal return of the Marquis de Lafayette to American in 1824, and the American debut of Jenny Lind in 1850; the "Swedish Nightingale" was brought to America by none other than P.T. Barnum.



In 1855, Castle Garden, now leased to New York State, opened as America's first receiving station for immigrants. Previously, the bulk of U.S. immigrant ships arrived at several other New York docks that were rife with thieves, there being no organized control over the processing of immigrants. The newly formed Board of Emigration Commissioners decided that a centralized landing depot for New York would provide a better solution. Over the next 34 years, more than 8 million people entered the United States through Castle Garden until it was closed on April 18, 1890, when the Federal Immigration Service took over these duties from the states. Ellis Island opened in 1892.

The building was altered once again and reopened as the New York City Aquarium on December 10, 1896. It was the city's most popular attraction, attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors a year until it closed nearly a half century later in 1941.

The fort that was once built to keep out the British now serves to welcome all to America. Reclaiming its former name when it was designated a National Monument in 1946, Castle Clinton remains the major landmark within The Battery, the 23 acre waterfront park at the Southern tip of Manhattan. It now serves millions of visitors to New York Harbor. Its interior is accessible each day except Dec. 25, from 8:30 to 3:30, where tickets are sold for ferry service to the Statue of Liberty and/or Ellis Island. Tours of the Castle are offered by National Park Rangers. Costumed interpretive programs depict the soldiers stationed there during the War of 1812. Free concerts are offered every Thursday evening during the summer.



Castle Clinton National Monument Today

You may have caught the emails going around about North Seattle mural artist Eric Grohe, who can take the blank side of a crumbling building and turn it into a large-scale 3-D panorama. Here's the one he did of Lady Liberty as part of an extensive public art project in Bucyrus, Ohio. In this mural, Lady Liberty cradles a dying soldier in her arms, surrounded by the portraits of 284 veterans from Crawford County, Ohio.

The 36' x 44' mural was almost completed when the tragedy of 9/11 occurred. Grohe composed the phrase "Her torch still shines, our flag still waves," which he added to the interior arch as a memorial to this event. A book was later published featuring all the veteran submissions for the mural.

See more of his amazing murals at his Web site:
www.ericgrohemurals.com

Contributed by Ann Bartlett



There is an extensive article in Wikipedia, The Free Online Encyclopedia on "The Statue of Liberty in Popular Culture." The article lists various categories of instances where the Statue appears in literature, television, motion pictures, video games, music, sports, numismatics, and other miscellaneous sightings. And because this is an open-source Web site, you can contribute to this bank of information if you note some omissions. See: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Statue_of_Liberty_in_popular_culture. The "Statue of Liberty" entry includes her history, symbolism, physical characteristics (facts), origin of the copper used in her construction, Liberty centennial, aftermath of 9/11, parachute jumps, replicas & derivative works, and related links.

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



SLC Website: www.statueoflibertyclub.com

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