



Boy Scouts of America's "Little Sisters of Liberty" Project

~ by *Brendagael*

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Many issues of our newsletter of late have included feature articles on restoration projects involving one of the many *Little Sisters of Liberty*, a project that the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) took on 60 years ago. We have two more to bring to your attention in this issue, so I thought it would be of interest to provide some background information on this project of historic proportion and American spirit.

The original project was launched in 1949 by Jack Whitaker, then Scout Commissioner of the Kansas City Area Council. Each statue included more than 40 stamped sheets of copper the thickness of a nickel, was built around a wooden frame, and weighed 290 pounds. They were made by the Friedley-Voshardt Company of Chicago and sold for \$350, plus freight, to communities in 39 states, plus Guam, Panama, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines. Dedication ceremonies were held from 1949-1951. The 8-½' tall replicas were given as gifts to towns, parks and schools around America to celebrate the BSA's 40th anniversary theme, "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty."

Public outdoor art is always subject to deterioration and vandalism, and the BSA's *Little Sisters* are no exception. Some have even been thrown into storage, sold for scrap metal, or simply junked. Recently there has been a nationwide search by SOS (Save Outdoor Sculpture) for the 208 *Little Sisters* (number based on a BSA 1951 list), of which 101, to date, have been located. These images can be viewed at this Web address, maintained by Scout Troop 101 of Cheyenne, Wyoming: www.cheyennetroop101.org/liberty It is interesting to look at them all with their varied patinas and unique pedestals in their diverse settings. People are encouraged to send any photographs and additional information on condition and status of statues you visit to be posted on their Web site.



Club member **Jack Seymour** shared a newspaper article last month about the Stewart family of Fayetteville, Arkansas who had stopped in Benton to see their Liberty statue. Their vacations combine a backroads tour of America while visiting the nation's *Little Sisters of Liberty*. They've seen 80 so far. Since the Boy Scout Web site is incomplete, club members are encouraged to provide documentation of the *Little Sisters* you encounter in your area or in your travels, by sending a photo of themselves (preferably) with the statue to our Webmaster, Brian Snyder, for a page on the club Web site. Please report the condition or status of any you come across.

Happy Liberty trails!

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Below is a list of the Little Sisters that are known to have been in these locations at one time:

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Alabama (1): Birmingham ; **Alaska** (1): city not listed ; **Arizona** (1): Phoenix ; **Arkansas** (2): Fayetteville, Pine Bluff ; **California** (2): Bellflower, Los Angeles ; **Colorado** (17): Colorado Springs, Crawford, Denver, Estes Park, Fort Collins, Greeley, Johnstown, Kremming, La Junta, Longmont, Loveland, Pueblo, Red Feather Lakes, Sterling, Trinidad, Walsh, Ward ; **Florida** (4): Jacksonville, Mulberry, Tallahassee, Orlando ; **Georgia** (2): Atlanta, Rome ; **Guam** (1): Hagatna (at the entrance of Hagatna Harbor and visible to boats approaching the harbor) ; **Hawaii** (1): Honolulu ; **Idaho** (2): Caldwell, Nampa ; **Illinois** (6): Benton, London Mills, Oregon, Peoria, Warsaw, Waukegan ; **Indiana** (6): Dupont, Gary, Madison, Peru, Plymouth, South Bend ; **Iowa** (26): Bloomfield, Burlington, Cedar Falls, Cedar Rapids, Clarence, Clinton, Davenport, Des Moines, Dubuque, Fairfield, Fort Dodge, Fort Madison, Grundy Center, Independence, Iowa City, Leon, Mason City, Mount Pleasant, Muscatine, Sioux City, Spirit Lake, Waterloo, Waverly, West Liberty, West Point, Woodbine ; **Kansas** (28): Coffeyville, Colby, El Dorado, Garden City, Garnett, Glen Elder, Harlan, Hays, Hillsboro, Hutchinson, Independence, Kansas City, Kingman, La Crosse, Leavenworth, Liberal, Medicine Lodge, Mission, Overland Park, Parsons, Pratt, Russell, Salina, St. John, Topeka, Troy, Washington, Wichita ; **Kentucky** (1): Union ; **Maryland** (2): Baltimore, Bel Air ; **Massachusetts** (2): Fall River, Lawrence ; **Michigan** (2): Holly, Mackinac Island ; **Minnesota** (4): Hibbing, Northfield, Shakopee, South St. Paul ; **Mississippi** (1): Columbus ; **Missouri** (24): Boonville, Butler, Cape Girardeau, Columbia, Concordia, Independence, Irondale, Jefferson City, Kansas City, Lamar, Lexington, Liberty, Malden, Marshall, Memphis, North Kansas City, Osceola, Salisbury, Sedalia, Silva, Slater, Springfield, St. Joseph, St. Louis, Troy ; **Montana** (2): Great Falls, Lewistown ; **Nebraska** (15): Alma, Beatrice, Chadron, Columbus, David City, Falls City, Fremont, Gering, Grand Island, Hastings, Lincoln, Norfolk, North Platte, Omaha, Scottsbluff ; **New Jersey** (1): Mendham ; **New York** (6): Le Roy, Niagara Falls, Olean, Oneonta, Schenectady, Utica ; **North Carolina** (2): Raleigh, Wilmington ; **North Dakota** (1): Fargo ; **Ohio** (4): Cleveland, Ironton, Toledo, Youngstown ; **Oklahoma** (12): Blackwell, Chickasha, Cushing, Edmond, Enid, Lindsay, Miami, Muskogee, Oklahoma City, Tahlequah, Tulsa, Wewoka ; **Oregon** (3): Burns, Medford, Portland ; **Panama** (1): Balboa ; **Pennsylvania** (5): Bloomsburg, Ellwood City, New Castle, Norristown, York ; **Philippines** (1): Manila ; **Puerto Rico** (1): San Juan ; **South Carolina** (1): Columbia ; **Tennessee** (1): Memphis ; **Texas** (6): Austin, Big Spring, Dallas, Midland, Paris, Port Arthur ; **Virginia** (1): Richmond ; **Washington** (3): Centralia, Seattle, Tacoma ; **West Virginia** (1): Fairmont ; **Wisconsin** (2): Kenosha, Madison ; **Wyoming** (3): Cheyenne, Rawlins, Torrington

Little Sister Replica of Madison, WI to be Restored

~ by Brian Snyder & Barbara Arnold



Our version of the statue was a gift from Madison Rotary Club. It was placed in Giddings Park on June 14, 1951 and relocated to Warner Park on October 28, 1971. Madison's Statue of Liberty replica has become significantly damaged over the last 60 years and measures are being taken to prevent the work from deteriorating beyond repair. The community group that is rallying together to restore Liberty felt it was important to remove the rapidly deteriorating sculpture from the elements before another harsh winter took its toll on this historic piece. The Madison Arts Commission has already committed \$5000.00 in funding to help seed this grass roots effort.

Fine Arts Conservation Services, LLC has been hired to conserve the statue. The statue is in storage until funding is secured to proceed with restoration. Our fiscal receiver is Historic Madison, Inc. of Wisconsin, so contributions to our project are tax deductible. We are hoping to find the resources to fix her park site next year and put money in the Madison Community Foundation for her perpetual care in the future. Our goal is \$21,000.00. You are invited to join the community effort to save this statue. For more information about how to contribute or become involved in the

restoration effort, contact the group's co-chairs (John H. Frey, Barbara Arnold, and Sue Peck) by email at:

suepeck19@gmail.com or attend the next meeting on the 3rd Wed. of the month at 7pm (6pm in Aug), Warner Park Community Center, 1625 Northport Dr., Madison, WI 53704. **Historical photo courtesy the archives of John Frey**

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Little Sister Replica of Benton, IL to be Restored

~ by Brendagael Beasley-Forrest & Jake Seymour

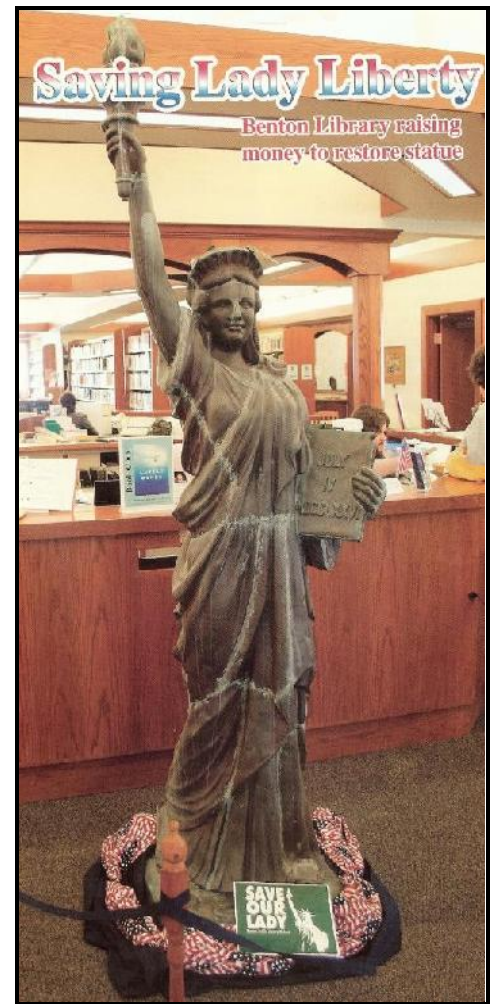
(with excerpts & photo from the March 2010 *Good Living in Southern Illinois* magazine, used with permission)

One of our members, **Jake Seymour**, is on the Benton Library District Board of Directors in Illinois. They are trying to raise the \$17,000 needed to restore their BSA *Little Sister* statue (at left), the only one of the six Illinois statues in the southern part of the state, and put her on a new foundation in a more secure location in front of their new library. Donations have ranged from \$16 raised by a grade school class to \$500 earned from a rummage sale held by the library's Teen Advisory Board. The local boy scout troop has been hosting car washes and other fundraisers.

A husband-and-wife team from California, MO that has previously renovated two Liberty statues have been hired to do the restoration. The library's "Freedom Plaza" will have a brick pathway with benches, floodlights, and security cameras on the Liberty Statue at all times.



Anyone wishing to donate time or funds to the project can contact Library Director Erin Steinsultz at (618) 438-7511 or via email at erinst@bentonlib.il.us Book bags (at left) are available for \$5.



Seymour's personal connection to the statue began a week before his 10th birthday: *I was a part of a Boy Scout color guard at the dedication ceremony. I had never seen such a large crowd in my town. There were over a thousand people in attendance (more than 10% of the city). There was great pride that our hometown had its own Statue of Liberty, and I think I believed that our statue must have been as big as the one in New York!*

After that, I got far too busy living life to give much thought to the statue. But in 1986, the year of the SOL's centennial and restoration, I was the News Director at a local radio station. We interviewed local people who had immigrated to America and saw Lady Liberty on arrival. The most memorable of those interviews was the one with Vera Hildeshimer. I knew Mrs. Hildeshimer from my childhood as the owner, with her husband, of a women's clothing store on the public square in Benton. They were hard working people, always polite and quiet. I knew that they were Jewish and had fled from Germany at the beginning of World War II. By 1986, Mrs. Hildeshimer was retired, her husband had died and she had moved away to be closer to a daughter. When I interviewed her by phone, I had no idea about her ordeal in getting to Benton, IL. She had a good life as a girl in Germany. Her family was wealthy and owned a major department store. But when the Nazis came to power in Germany, they began to seize all Jewish-owned property. Vera's family lost their business, home, and wealth. They fled with very little resources.

She related their harrowing flight across Europe trying to get to America. Several times they were almost apprehended. Finally they made it to an Atlantic port and got passage on a coal-fired steamer headed to New York. The escape was not complete, however. In the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, the steamer was stopped by a German ship. The steamer was boarded by German troops searching for Jewish passengers. Vera said that she and her family and other Jews on board hid under piles of coal near the boilers as the Germans searched the steamer. I could hear the panic in her voice as she described hiding in that coal pile. Vera said that they did not feel safe until they neared New York. Vera and her family stood on deck weeping for joy as they saw Lady Liberty.

When I look at our bedraggled Statue of Liberty replica, I sometimes think about how hard it is to raise funds to restore her. But I always think about the Hildeshimers, the coal pile, and what the Statue of Liberty meant to them.

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From the President

Since our last newsletter, we welcomed the rebirth of nature with Spring and now Summer is upon us. I am still working in the Princeton, New Jersey area and commuting from my residence in Michigan.

Newsletter Editor

Brenda Beasley-Forrest completes her last year as the newsletter Editor with the publication of this issue, honoring her five year commitment ... but she still plans to make contributions to future newsletters. On behalf of all the club members, I want to thank Brenda for the 15 remarkable editions of the information from, and about, club members and the Liberty-related topics we wanted to know about. Everyone should agree that Brenda has put a lot of personal effort into the job and the results were always obvious. **THANKS Brenda!**

Paula Plantier has volunteered to be an editor for articles submitted; Paula has a career in the publishing business and is ready to assist with articles submitted. For the time being, please submit any articles for the newsletter to myself or Brian (see back page for contact info) and we will forward them to Paula.

The club is looking for a new Editor to take over the 3-times-a-year duties of composing, publishing and mailing the newsletter—no small feat, but certainly doable. The club supplies a laptop PC with Windows Vista, including Microsoft WORD®, for composing the newsletter, and reimburses the Editor for expenses directly related to printing and mailing the newsletters. I supply the mailing labels and many of the newsletter inserts such as notices for members when annual dues are due. If you are interested in volunteering as the Editor and want to discuss it duties and expectations, please contact me directly; my contact information is in the Membership Directory and on the back cover of each newsletter. We have established e-mail addresses for the club's officers and the newsletter team.

Attending the NYC Auto Show with Friends



Christian Meyer let it be known in January that he would be vacationing in New York City in April with family and friends. I was pleased to hear that he and his party of 4 arrived safely on April 7th. I contacted Christian and invited the entire party to be my guest for a visit to the NYC Auto Show on April 10th, which he accepted. We met on a corner at Penn Station and walked 5 blocks to the Jacob Javits Convention Center. Accompanying Christian was his son Lucas, niece Justine Wittner, and friends from Strasburg, Joel Wintenberger (Lucas' Godfather) and his wife Nathalie Jankowski. Lucas (14) and Justine (probably 15) appeared to have a fun time sitting in the new cars on the showroom floor. Lucas was disappointed there was not a Hummer on display, but the Cadillac Escalade was a fine substitute – it took at least 10 minutes to get him out of it!

Supper with the Plantiers

You may recall that I am working with SLC member **Bob Snyder** in New Jersey. During the time Bob has been here, we have had the pleasure of visiting with **Paula and Mark Plantier**, including a lovely supper at their beautiful home. Our most recent supper is documented by Mark in this newsletter. It remains my hope to visit with more club members during my travels, or when I am in Michigan.

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New Gift Shop on Liberty Island

During our October 2009 visit to the Gift Shop on Liberty Island, **Brad Hill** told **Brian Snyder** and me that he was about to break ground for a new structure that would combine the existing gift shop and the ‘tent shop’ – the facility where the entry line starts and where the lockers are located. On June 16 the new shop was officially opened. I wanted to make the opening and had been in contact with Brad and his assistant Jose Sepulveda, but my travel home plans fell on that same day. We were not able to coordinate a mutually convenient time for me to come there for a ‘sneak preview’. The gift shop staff was busy relocating to the new facility and my work schedule just did not synchronize with their available time. So, I am hoping to get there by the time this newsletter reaches you and I will prepare an article for the next newsletter on that visit to provide a preview of what you can expect on **your** next visit to Liberty Island.

I enjoy every opportunity to talk, visit or otherwise communicate with club members. I wish all good health and a very safe and comfortable Summer season. I will write you again in November with more on the 2011 planning.

Cherish our Liberty.

Vince Swift, SLC President & Treasurer

Barry Maggio's Rendezvous with Lady Liberty

~ by *Brendagael*

Barry Maggio lived the first 40 years of his life in Staten Island. As a boy, he was one of the last people allowed to climb up Liberty's arm to the torch. He has flown over 50 flights in small planes and ultralight aircraft up the Hudson River corridor. For 15 years Maggio was a boat captain in New York Harbor, where he escorted NBC News crew whenever a story was told on or for the water. His is an intimate connection to Lady Liberty. On May 31st, he alarmed park officials at The Statue who contacted the FAA with a report that “An ultralight buzzed the Statue.”

Before long, an NYPD helicopter sent by the FAA caught up to Maggio near the George Washington Bridge during his return flight north and the pilot said, “We need to talk.” Maggio, who was flying an Apollo Aircraft Monsoon trike, was escorted 14 miles north to Westchester County Airport, where the control tower closed one of its runways for 20 minutes for the interview with the police. But after checking his credentials, viewing his videos, and determining Maggio was not a terrorist, police permitted him to continue his flight up the Hudson River.

Maggio was quoted as saying, "I haven't lived here in a while but I guess I didn't realize that security was that tight... Security is obviously different in Lower Manhattan, and I didn't take that into account." But as he explained to police, he had, just two weeks prior, attended a special seminar on the Hudson River Exclusion Zone along with 60 other pilots, allowing ultralights the same minimum altitude requirements as helicopters who fly by the Statue on their tours. The claimed distance of 150 feet widely reported in the media was soon refuted by the continuous on-board video Maggio made of his flight. The FAA has now stated that Barry broke no regulations.

Everyone in this story did the right thing, except perhaps the media, who rushed to report a sensational news story. Park officials weren't aware the change in regulations for minimum safe altitudes had taken effect, and they saw what looked like a suspicious ultralight early on a holiday morning near the statue and made a report. The NYPD investigated the incident politely and with professionalism. The pilot did everything that was required, and now the FAA has laid the case to rest. Look for the full length version of this article online next week at the Experimental Aircraft Association: www.eaa.org/fightplan/aircraft/issue/1007.html



Barry Maggio's photo of Lady Liberty



Iris November, SLC Founder

Iris Signs In

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Hi friends! Mort and I are spending our summer in Chautauqua NY again, only this year we are staying in a hotel for 9 weeks, having made a "deal" with the manager last year at Chautauqua Suites. Of course, that manager is no longer here, but the new manager agreed to the terms of last year, so I feel like "Eloise at the Ritz" with my bed made up every day, and Continental breakfast every morning—we are the king and queen of the "Spoiled Seniors Club"!! Mort still has health issues, and we are less active than in past years, but it still is a great place for lectures, music, and recreation. Alan Alda was here the first week for a day on the lecture platform, and he was wonderful and inspirational. The Opera Director here, Jay Lesenger, who is Opera Director at Northwest University, says he found a "chochtkey" (you know, a little something, Statue of Liberty item) for me but I haven't received it as yet--he always finds SOL fun items for me, even though I am not collecting anymore--right!!!??? My group, "women4women-knitting4peace" is going great, and I just had a small contingent of them come to Chautauqua for the day to meet the founder of the organization, and have lunch together. It was a huge success, and Susan McKee spoke to us about our accomplishments. When we grouped together in a circle to bless our shawls, dolls, and baby caps for women and children in third world countries, and for an Indian reservation in Wyoming, we were so very moved and spiritually uplifted.

If you are interested in forming a group in your community contact www.women4women-knitting4peace.org or me. Well, that's all folks for now!!

xxx Iris & Mort

October 2011 Club Meeting

~ by Brian Snyder

The preparation for the club's next meeting is under way. This will be one of the largest, most anticipated, most meaningful meetings since the club's first get-together in 1993. We are busy planning the next meeting; are you planning to attend?

The Friday October 28th event that is in the works to celebrate Miss Liberty's 125th Anniversary is a club dinner in the Great Hall on Ellis Island...after closing hours. Dignitaries invited to attend are, M. Regis Huber, Director of the Bartholdi Museum in Colmar, and Mr. Jean Wiart, President, Les Metalliers Champenois Corp. (the company that oversaw the restoration of Liberty's torch during her 1980's restoration).

Saturday we will have a show-&-sell at the Travel Inn Hotel conference room.

This is a weekend event you will want to invite all of your immediate and extended family and friends to attend. Guests of club members are not required to be a club member to participate. It's never too early to commit to attending the 2011 Statue of Liberty Club Meeting. Make it a goal, and work towards it!

Questions or comments should be directed to Brian Snyder, brian@slcmail.com.

Also from Brian: 7/15/2010 - Blue Telescope, the interactive exhibit agency, has completed a pair of interactive projects, which will educate and entertain visitors on Ellis Island in New York Harbor. Working for Evelyn Hill Inc., which provides visitor services at Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty, Blue Telescope developed the programs for use with the Microsoft Surface multi-touch device to provide engaging ways for visitors of all ages to explore the history of Ellis Island and to celebrate the ongoing story of immigration to the United States. More online at: www.exhibitoronline.com/news/enn-display.asp?counter=8995

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Lights Out on the Editor's Desk

Hello everyone! Here I'm holding a Liberty Bear cross-stitch that a former supervisor made for me; it has a tear on its face and the dates I worked at Northern State University in Aberdeen, S. Dakota. I look at this piece and it expresses how I feel at this moment, sad to be losing touch with so many of you, but looking forward to what lies ahead. Stu and I have so much on our plates right now. Because the County budget has been slashed, we are in a hiring freeze and are down 16 positions throughout our library system. So no computer assistant for Stuart, and I'm having to take on additional duties, such as compiling library statistics, help with shelf reading, and heading our library-wide recycling project, something I've been trying to get off the ground since I started here five years ago. And we've just put the house on the market so we can pick out a house together (Stuart moved to America into my house) and be a bit closer to work. We hope to get involved in some art and community projects.

I have learned so much in my tenure as SLC Newsletter Editor, and have met many amazing people, who are promoting the cause of Liberty. You have all made a huge impact on my life, and I will carry a part of you with me always. I do plan to continue offering up the occasional article and Liberty sighting. I hope you will, too; invest yourselves in this great organization! We will all be better for it.

Thank you to the following contributors to this issue: Barbara Arnold, Deborah Jacobs & Michael McPhearson, KAL Kallaugher, Barry Maggio, Nancy Martinez, Pat Meyers, Lebo Newman, Mark Plantier, Jake Seymour, Jennifer Stewart, Jo Young, and Amanda Whittaker; and of course, Brian Snyder, Vince Swift, and Iris November for your regular columns.

Thank you for this privilege of service to the Club. I hope to see many of you in New York next fall! Passing the torch...

Yours united in Liberty, always,
Brendaqael Beasley ~ Forrest



My office in Technical Services at the Library, surrounded by Liberties.

Photo by Stuart Beasley-Forrest



Club Statistics Report



I can't go out without one more analysis at our membership demographics. Again, thank you for this indulgence! At time of printing, including all renewals, new, and lapsed members, the Statue of Liberty Club is comprised of 132 members worldwide, including 114 paying members and 18 honorary members. Our members hail from 9 countries: USA (115 members); France (10) and 1 each from Argentina, Bulgaria, Canada, England, Ireland, Northern Ireland, and Norway. Stateside, our largest membership resides in New York (25) followed by California (10); Florida (9); New Jersey (8); Connecticut, Illinois & Michigan (7 ea); Ohio (5); Pennsylvania & Texas (4 ea); Missouri (3); Idaho, Indiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nevada, N. Carolina, S. Carolina & Wisconsin (2 ea); Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, District of Columbia, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma & Virginia (1 ea). There are 42 males, 46 females, and 25 couples as members.

LIBERTY TRIVIA: Which was the first U.S. Lighthouse to use electricity? The Statue of Liberty (deactivated as a lighthouse in 1902). Her torch carried an electric light that was seen for 24 miles.



Member Profile: Jo Young

by brendagael

Our member profile for this issue features Jo Young of Sarasota, Florida. Born Josephine Plecha in 1932 of Austrian and Polish parents, Jo was a native of Chicago, Illinois. Both parents died when she was young and she was raised by foster parents. Her foster mother told her stories of how she went to the Statue of Liberty in 1915 on her honeymoon, and climbed all the way to the torch. She had purchased a souvenir keepsake of one of the 7" statuettes sold in the 1880s to raise funds for Miss Liberty's pedestal. The statuette is called "Liberty Enlightening the World," the Statue of Liberty's original and still her official name. The piece sports a modest pedestal, since it had yet to be designed and built. This gift, along with a SOL pamphlet her mother also gave her that was sold to raise money for the pedestal, were

the first items in Jo's Liberty collection, and has remained her most cherished possessions. Through the years this romantic notion of Lady Liberty held fast with Jo, and she longed to one day follow in the foot-steps of her mother to see the great lady in New York's harbor.

When she married, she and her husband started an antique business in Burbank, a Southwest suburb of Chicago. Eventually the couple grew weary of Chicago's extreme blustery cold winters, and moved to the "sublime climes" of Sarasota, Florida in 1979, where they continued in the antique trade. As her SOL collection grew, word got around to the other antique dealers, and if anyone came across a Liberty collectible, they knew who to send it to!

Jo's dream was realized at last when she went to New York in 1986 for Miss Liberty's 100th birthday celebration. She ascended Liberty's crown on her solitary pilgrimage and visited with family in New Jersey.

One day Jo received a call from a lady who heard she collected The SOL. Iris November and her husband Mort came to her house for a visit and to see her collection. Iris told Jo that she was starting up a club for Liberty collectors, and in March of 1992 Ms. Young became one of the early members of the club—member #29, according to Iris's records. Iris writes:

Jo is a great lady and we had such fun as she shared her collection with us. Her granddaughter even did some of the artwork on the cover to our directory lists. Her collection, like mine, was eclectic, and she also loved the Titanic stuff. We visited her in her Sarasota home, because we were near there and asked if we could come over to visit. There was another collector at that time in the area (whose name eludes me now) and we always made Jo's house a stop on our travels.

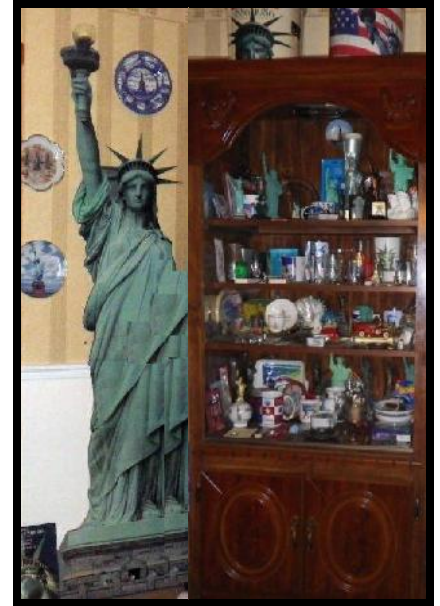
Jo loved it when Iris and Mort would come to visit and considered it a great honor. She enjoyed talking with another lover of The Lady.

There are three display cases of SOL memorabilia in Jo's dining room. Some of the more unusual items include a dominoes set with the SOL on the back of each domino; a rather old American Sign Language cardboard flashcard; a patch with the space shuttle featuring Lady Liberty in center; cigarette lighters that light up; a pair of socks; decks of cards; and a printer's block of The Lady with the lettering in reverse. Another treasure is the 13" x 18" stained glass window that daughter Susan made her of the SOL and the NY skyline.

In addition to collecting Lady Liberty and being an avid reader, Jo collects mementoes of The Titanic. She also has an impressive assemblage of the British Royal family, including a program from the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II's parents—Prince Albert, Duke of York (who became King George VI) and Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon (who we know as the Queen Mother), along with cups, plates, and other royalty collectibles. It's always fascinating as collectors to see what others enjoy collecting.

Jo is the mother of four: twin daughters Carol & Cheryl who live in Illinois, then a son, Brian and another daughter Susan, who both live near her in Sarasota. She has devoted her life to raising her children. And now she is a grandmother to eight grandchildren and four great-grandkids.

Thank you, Jo, for being such a steadfast member of the Liberty Club for the past 18 years!



Foundations of the Statue of Liberty

By Mark Plantier

Princeton, New Jersey, is a bustling Ivy League college town. Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi would have been proud of a particular group of Statue of Liberty Club members who, in May, gave tribute to his native town and Princeton's sister city: Colmar, France, in a minor incident.

Four of us sat down for dinner in Princeton's Witherspoon Grill: Statue of Liberty Club president Vince Swift, Col. Bob Snyder, and local residents Paula and Mark Plantier. Enjoying the ambience and good food at the Witherspoon Grill reminds me that such things represent foundational symbols of the idea behind the creation of the statue.

Here's what happened: Our host, Colonel Snyder, was not pleased with the seating arrangement the restaurant assigned us to, because he had requested something different at the time he reserved for us weeks earlier. I mentioned to the waiter that neither I nor Colonel Bob wanted to make a fuss about the seating but that my wife might! Everyone knows there are countries where we could be jailed for possibly harsh comments, but in America, freedom of speech rings in our favor.

I went to the restroom, and on my return to the table, I noticed the waiter was in the process of moving our party to a table with a window view, which was what the colonel had requested at the time he made the reservation. We appreciated the accommodation.



Mark Plantier, Vince Swift, Paula Plantier, & Bob Snyder

My writing this report gives me larger memories of Gen. George Washington crossing Jacobs Creek on his way to victory in the Battle of Trenton. And of Colonel Snyder, bravely fighting enemy forces in Iraq and Afghanistan to keep America free. And of the countless American soldiers and veterans, including myself, who are serving and have served because they believe deeply in the cause of freedom. Freedom: may it forever ring.



Title: ENLIGHTENING THE WORLD : The Creation of the Statue of Liberty / by Yasmin Sabina Khan
Cornell University Press, 2010, 240 pages ; ISBN: 978-0801448515

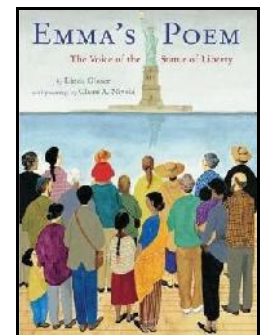
"Despite countless publications on New York Harbor's Statue of Liberty, no previous study has detailed its complex history. Yasmin Sabina Khan ably fills this gap with a lucid account connecting France's widespread grief over Abraham Lincoln's 1865 assassination with that country's own struggles to establish a lasting democracy. An important book for general audiences."—Publishers Weekly

"Khan, an engineer herself, presents a linear account of the effort from 1865 to 1886, and supplements her narrative with frequent discussions of the meaning of Liberty. Recommended."—Library Journal



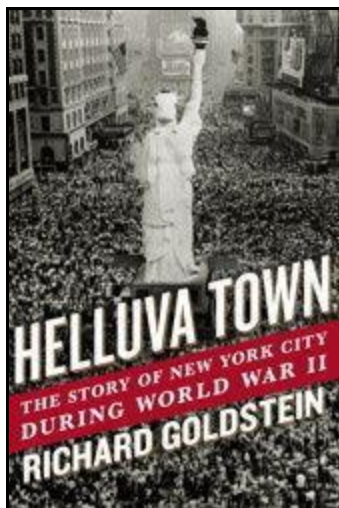
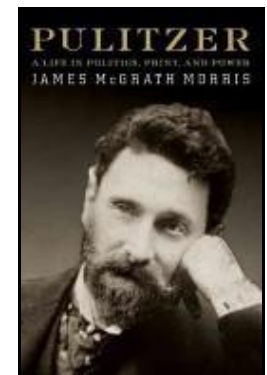
Our next featured book was recommended by Iris. She writes: "I just ordered and received a lovely book, from Borders.com. Bought it 'used' [most online booksellers like Borders & Amazon .com have new and used books] but it's brand new and it cost me \$6.53 plus s/h—a \$17.00 book. The title is "**Emma's Poem: the Voice of the Statue of Liberty**" by Linda Glaser, illustrated by Claire A. Nivola, and published by Houghton Mifflin, 2010 ; ISBN: 978-0547171845. It is classified a children's book (32 p.) and also, I'd say, a beautifully illustrated story of Emma Lazarus, and the poem

It brought tears to my eyes—but we know everything does that! Check it out! xxx iris



Title: Pulitzer: A Life in Politics, Print, and Power / by James McGrath Morris
HarperCollins, 2010, 576 pages ; ISBN: 978-0060798697

"Like Alfred Nobel, Joseph Pulitzer is better known today for the prize that bears his name than for his contribution to history. Yet, in nineteenth-century industrial America, while Carnegie provided the steel, Rockefeller the oil, Morgan the money, and Vanderbilt the railroads, Pulitzer ushered in the modern mass media. James McGrath Morris traces the epic story of this Jewish Hungarian immigrant's rise through American politics and into journalism where he accumulated immense power and wealth, only to fall blind and become a lonely, tormented recluse wandering the globe. But not before Pulitzer transformed American journalism into a medium of mass consumption and immense influence. Based on years of research and newly discovered documents, *Pulitzer* is a classic, magisterial biography and a gripping portrait of an American icon."—Google Books. Contains the chapter "Raising Liberty."



Title: Helluva Town: The Story of New York City During World War II Author: Richard Goldstein

Publisher: Free Press, 2010, 336 pages ; ISBN: 978-1416589969

I was so fascinated by the cover when this book came across my desk at the library where I work that I had to find out more about this gargantuan Lady Liberty that stood in Times Square. From Chapter 21, TIMES SQUARE IN SHADOW: p. 183: "The Statue of Liberty's torch, emblazoned with 13,000-watt lamps, was relegated to a pair of 200-watt bulbs needed to warn away low-flying aircraft." p. 184: "Times Square's 16 neon signs were blacked out by the war, but a large replica of the Statue of Liberty was erected in Nov 1944 to spur bond sales for the Sixth War Loan Drive with a stage in front for lunchtime performances by top Broadway talent." According to the New York Times archive, she was still standing there May 8, 1945, presiding over V-E Day, or Victory in Europe Day, the date when the World War II Allies formally accepted the unconditional surrender of the armed forces of Nazi Germany and the end of Adolf Hitler's Third Reich.

Liberty's Dedication Day, October 28, 1886

~ by Brendagael

As I was reading a portion of Yasmin Khan's new book (at left) I got caught up in the moment. I wanted to know more about that day. Khan writes, "The cold rains did little to dampen the ardor of the tens of thousands of giddy New Yorkers who crowded onto the southern tip of Manhattan that afternoon to watch the festivities on Bedloe's Island, a patch of land in New York Harbor. On cue, an enormous veil dropped, and the spectators gazed for the first time at the face of the massive statue that, until then, had been the subject not only of curiosity but also of skepticism. Whatever doubts Americans might have had about this unsolicited, and rather costly, gift from the French seemed at once to vanish. A 'thunderous cacophony of salutes' from steamer whistles, brass bands, and booming guns, together with clouds of smoke from the cannonade, engulfed the statue for the next half hour . . . [and] the crowd roared."

Unveiling Day, October 28, 1886, was declared a public holiday. That morning more than 1 million people lined New York's streets that were draped with red, white and blue and French tricolor bunting, to watch a parade of more than 20,000 pass by. Wall Street was the only area of the city working that day. The New York Times reported, "as the parade passed by, the office boys from a hundred windows began to unreel the spools of tape that record the fateful messages of the 'ticker.' In a moment the air was white with curling streamers." And so the famous New York ticker-tape parade was born. Wikipedia confirms that the first ticker-tape parade occurred during the Statue of Liberty's inaugural parade and that the term *ticker-tape* "originally referred to the use of the paper output of ticker tape machines, which were remotely-driven devices used in brokerages to provide updated stock market quotes." Ticker-tape parades to this day are most closely associated with New York City.

Dignitaries from both nations were in attendance at the parade. Representing America were President Grover Cleveland and his cabinet as well as the governor of New York and his staff, from a reviewing stand at Madison Square. The French ambassador attended, accompanied by the French Committee. And, most ironically, members of some of America's wealthiest families—the same families who had not contributed a single cent to the statue's pedestal—now jockeyed for seats of prominence. Impressed by Bartholdi's adulation, Cleveland looked at him and exclaimed, "You are the greatest man in America today."

Out on the water, the fog rolled in and out. The harbor teemed with ships of all sizes. A red barge decorated with the phrase "Eat, Drink and be Merry" stood docked at Bedloe's Island waiting to transport visitors willing to brave the heavy mist and winds to see the cadre of dignitaries give the statue its proper dedication.

Bartholdi stood alone in the head of the statue. He was to pull a cord that would drop the French tricolor veil from the face of the statue. For his cue, Bartholdi was to watch for a signal from a boy on the ground below, who would wave a handkerchief. The signal would come when Senator William M. Evarts, considered one of the more talented orators of his time, finished his presentation speech. Evarts began his speech, stopped momentarily to take a breath, and the boy, thinking the speech was over, gave Bartholdi the signal. Bartholdi pulled the cord, revealing the statue's gleaming copper face to the world. Whistles blasted, guns roared, bands played ... and Evarts sat down.

President Cleveland officially accepted the statue on behalf of the people of the United States with these words:

The people of the United States accept with gratitude from their brethren of the French Republic the grand and completed work of art we here inaugurate. This token of affection and consideration demonstrates the kinship of republics, and conveys to us the assurance that in our efforts to commend to mankind the excellence of a government resting upon popular will, we still have beyond the American continent a steadfast ally. We are not here today to bow before the representation of a fierce, warlike god, filled with wrath and vengeance, but we joyously contemplate instead our own deity keeping watch and ward before the open gates of America, and greater than all that have been celebrated in ancient song. Instead of grasping in her hand thunderbolts of terror and of death, she holds aloft the light which illuminates the way to men's enfranchisement. We will not forget that Liberty has here made her home, nor shall her chosen altar be neglected. Willing votaries will constantly keep alive its fires and these shall gleam upon the shores of our sister republic thence, and joined with answering rays a stream of light shall pierce the darkness of ignorance and man's oppression, until Liberty enlightens the world.

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Liberty Watch

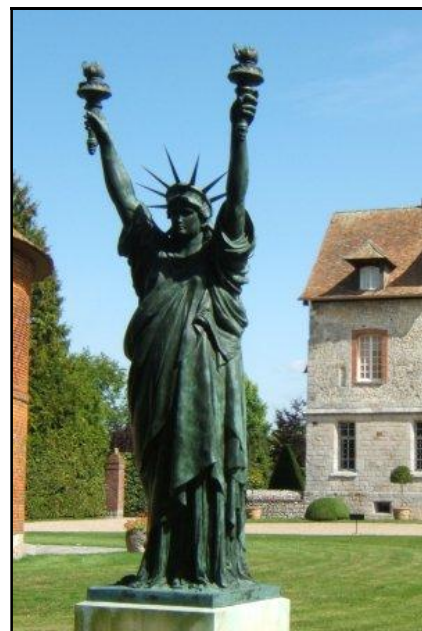
We have Liberty Synchronicity on both sides of the Big Pond in this issue. Brian Snyder sent in the image below left with this message: New York is hosting the 2014 Super Bowl, AKA Snow Bowl, and used Miss Liberty to announce it. A very creative person at the NY Post did some handy work with their computer to have her raise both arms making the signal for a touchdown.

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NFL owners voted to put the championship game in the new \$1.6 billion Meadowlands Stadium that will house the Giants and Jets later this year.



Laurent Ghesquière of France sent in the photo at right. She is called "La Victoire de la Liberté" by the legendary Salvador Dali. Who knew?? She resides on the grounds of the Le Château de Vascoeuil near the village of Giverny, about 50 miles NW of Paris. Giverny is where Impressionist artist Claude Monet lived and painted from 1883 until his death in 1926. Since 1970, Castle Vasceuil has been a regional center of art that hosts important expositions of contemporary artists of international fame. Thanks Brian & Laurent!



Brian sent in a link to a New York Times article featuring a wedding at Liberty Island. Due to copyright restrictions it is too cost prohibitive to use their photo in the newsletter, so I contacted the bride directly and she sent a photo and some additional information of interest for our club members.

Liberty in the news: Deborah Jacobs and Michael T. McPhearson pose in front of the Statue of Liberty shortly before their wedding ceremony Saturday, May 1, 2010 on Liberty Island. The couple and 100 guests rode the ferry to Liberty Island for a short ceremony near the Statue of Liberty. Friends and family gathered to celebrate the couple's long-awaited marriage after 12 years together. As an African American Baptist from N. Carolina, and a secular Jew from the Pacific Northwest, Michael and Deborah hail from very different backgrounds, but the paths they took led to the same place: a passion for freedom, peace and justice. The couple chose the Statue of Liberty because for them it symbolizes the American ideals they cherish most. Deborah is the Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey. Michael is a Gulf War veteran and peace activist who until recently served as Executive Director of Veterans For Peace (he left the job to be with Deborah in New Jersey—it must be true love!). Considering their activism, they enjoyed applying for a Free Speech Permit in order to hold the event at the Statue. Check out the 50 Faces of Liberty and other cool stuff on the ACLU-NJ Web site: <http://www.aclu-nj.org>

Also, read their blog with the article "The Torch We've Carried" at:

peaceandlove.nearlyweds.com

Congratulations Deborah & Michael!



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Liberties Over Paris



Member **Amanda Whittaker** from England spent a week in May on a Lady Liberty pilgrimage to Paris and found plenty to whet her appetite. At left she stands with a Liberty replica on L'Isle de Grenelle in the Seine River just downstream from the Tour d'Eiffel. On July 4, 1889 the American community living in Paris offered the French people this gift of a bronze replica of Lady Liberty, in response to the gift by the French of the original SOL, to whom she faces West. A declaration was delivered by French ambassador Jule J. Jusserand on the occasion of the 1916 ceremony at which Liberty's torch was first lighted with electricity: "Not to a man, not to a nation, the statue was raised. It was raised to an idea—an idea greater than France or the United States—the idea of Liberty."

Amanda also saw the Luxemburg Park SOL that was recently featured in our newsletter, as well as the replica of the Liberty's flame that has now been adopted as a memorial for Princess Diana. The flame marks the spot where Bartholdi's workshop stood. She also visited Bartholdi's grave at the renowned Cimetière de Montparnasse. There were two wonderful and beautifully presented models of Bartholdi's workshop on display in the Arts and Metiers Museum as well. "The attention to detail was out of this world" she says, "Even to having the workers' hats and coats hung up by the door!"

Amanda discovered a treasure-trove of SOLs at Disneyland Paris (commonly referred to in the U.S. as EuroDisney). There is a Liberty Arcade on Main Street USA that details the conception, inauguration and legacy of the Statue of Liberty through historic photographs, artworks and display cases. The covered walkway (seen right) spans the length of the street, lit by both gas and electric, constructed with ornate ironwork of the Statue's crowned head. At the end of the arcade is Liberty Court, an ornate building with stained-glass windows of the SOL with the numerals '1866'. This court celebrates the completion



of the Liberty monument and beckons guests behind the curtains of a traditional side-show scene, the "Statue of Liberty Tableau" where you can attend the inauguration of Lady Liberty yourself, watching from a ship in New York Harbor as steamships sound their horns and crowds cheer the completion of the SOL. Atmospheric sounds and lights bring the moment to life. Liberty Arcade, the Statue of Liberty Tableau and Liberty Court are all completely unique to Disneyland Paris, never designed or built for any Disney park before or after. The murals throughout Liberty Arcade were inspired by the Philadelphia Universal Exhibition of 1876. "Imagineers" visited a reconstruction of part of the exhibit in the Smithsonian Institute, spending hours perfecting the design before they were finally painted by Jim Michaelson. One such glorious example is shown at left.

We must put this on our itinerary for the next club trip to France! Hey French Connections—how about a *Liberty Tour de France* where we tour all the SOLs in your beautiful country? What a great way to tour France that would be!



Member **Pat Meyers** from Florida sends in the image above of the UCI New York City Center, an American-style cinema complex located in a shopping center in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

A librarian friend from VA Tech, Dr. Bruce Pencek, sent me the June pages from the *Economist* Calendar at left, and I just had to include it! It is so timely, with the recent

FIFA World Cup tournament (Fédération Internationale de Football Association), held every four years. I contacted the artist, Kevin “KAL” Kallauger, for permission to use it here, and credit him, along with *The Economist*.

Kallauger, a native of Norwalk, CT, graduated with honors from Harvard and has spent his career as a political cartoonist. For 10 years the award-winning artist worked for various publications in London, drew over 4,000 cartoons for *The Baltimore Sun* over the course of 17 years, and was recruited by *The Economist* to become the first resident cartoonist in their (then) 135-year history. Kallauger's work for *The Economist* includes over 120 illustrated covers. He has published a half-dozen books, and his cartoons are syndicated in over 100 publications worldwide. Thank you, KAL, for sharing your work with us! See more of his amazing portfolio and view some of his hilarious animation clips at www.Kaltoons.com



Nancy Martinez sent in the Liberty Watch item (above right) for the person who has everything... novelty-print ottomans from Horchow designs. One of them features the purple 3¢ Liberty Stamp, ca. 1950. From the Haute House Collection; 23"W x 17"T x 18"D; Made in the USA; \$465. (uh-huh!) www.horchow.com Search “postage stamp ottomans” or call ~~1-877-441-0088~~. Aside bit of trivia: First Class U.S. postage was 3¢ from 1932 thru much of the 1950s.



Mailbag

Hi Brenda,

23 June 2010

Hope this finds you well! Boy, it's been months since I've reached out—and here's why—I'm finally launching LIBBY! It's been crazy busy getting her ready but it's all coming together. I'm delivering my first order to Liberty Island this Friday. This order was pushed through early for July 4th holiday; the rest of the order will arrive in a few weeks and will be available online. Hopefully the libbyfriends.com website will go live by next week. Which brings me to the other reason I'm writing.



I'm going to have a stories page where people can submit their pictures, thoughts, and musing on Liberty. And who better to extend an invitation to contribute the first posts than the SOL Club! Since my database is in dire need of updating, I'm wondering if you'd be so kind as to forward this on to people you think may be interested in contributing. Thx in advance for your help, it's much appreciated! Oh, and my web developer thanks you, too! He needs the submissions ASAP :)

Sending much love, life and liberty to all with blessings for a Happy Fourth of July!
XO Jennifer Stewart, Brooklyn, New York



JENNIFER STEWART introduces

the **Libby Bag**™



Email from Lebo Newman of Carson City, Nevada

26 May 2010

We just finished our 'Liberty Lucy' (at right). This is a fund raiser put on by the family of Charles Schulz, the, creator of the comic strip "Peanuts," and the City of Santa Rosa, California, where Schultz lived and worked from 1969 until his death in 2000.

Also, there is a Lucy Liberty on EBAY right now for \$7500 or best offer that came from the St. Paul, Minnesota group that also did Peanut characters (similar to the Chicago "Cows on Parade", these characters get modified by artists and set around the towns). St. Paul was birthplace of Schulz.

Editor's note: "Look out it's Lucy" is the final tribute to Schulz as part of the 60th Anniversary of the strip. Santa Rosa started its tribute to Schulz in 2005 with "It's Your Town, Charlie Brown" and continued with "Summer of Woodstock" in 2006 and "Joe Cool's Summer" in 2007. The program raised over \$700,000 for art scholarships, and permanent bronze statues. Thirty 4-ft. statues of Lucy will be stationed about Santa Rosa this summer. See others at peanutsonparade.com.



Lebo & Merrill—she's FABULOUS! Great job! I hope you had as much fun with this as I did with my "Mermaid de Liberté," in Beaufort's Big Splash (Mermaids on Parade) a couple years ago. ~ Brenda gael

35 Renewing Members

Brenda & Stuart Beasley-Forrest
 Marlene Blackwell
 Ronald Cutadean
 Jeffrey Davis
 Jeff Dosik
 Marjorie Dougan
 Elizabeth Dougan
 Amy Dougan
 Dale Dwyer
 Judy Edwards
 Adela French
 Andy Fulks
 Judy Gambrel
 Mike & Annie Gay
 Susanne Jackson
 Paul Lajoie
 Joan Laskoff

Thank You!

Joan E. Manahan
 Dave McCutcheon
 Marian Michalski
 Theodore W. Mueller
 Mark & Paula Plantier
 Al & Ginger Plys
 Betty Pratt
 Lolly Sample
 Merle Schultz
 Joanna Sieberg
 Finn & Margaret Skeisvoll
 Brian & Kim Snyder
 Bob Snyder
 Doug Van Epps
 Stuart Warner
 Jo Young

3 New Members Welcome!!

Michel Dougan
 #110772#me. Hudson, NJ 08031 USA
 Joined May 2010 by a gift from her mother-in-law, Marge Dougan

Paul K. Wendt
 #109216#me. 1914 Ave #230 / Yuma, AZ
 07677 USA
 Joined June 2010, referred by Paul Lajoie.
 Collects 1884-1886 tokens and Washington
 portrait pieces.

Victor Yipp
 Illinois, USA
 e-mail: vyipp@hotmail.com
 Joined July, 2010; found the club in a
 Yahoo! search

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Address change for: **Theodore W. Mueller**
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President@StatueOfLibertyClub.com
 Send membership dues and address/email
 changes to Vince.

Vice President & Webmaster: Brian Snyder
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VicePresident@StatueOfLibertyClub.com

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

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SLC Website: www.StatueOfLibertyClub.com

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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.