

James N. Muir

Studio Update

Summer Issue 2009

What an incredibly challenging, but most exciting year since our last newsletter! While I will try to include all the activities and new work, continue to check James' website to keep informed. Last newsletter we let you know about our studio in the Village at Tequa Marketplace, we have opened another new studio space at **Crimson Shadows Gallery** which is located closer into the gallery district of Sedona at **Hozho Plaza** on Hwy 179. It is a joint effort with plein air painter, Michael Coleman . It serves as a working studio for James in sculpture, and Michael Coleman in paintings. It is open 7 days a week and you can visit with either artist "working" there most days. It is a great environment for James to complete existing commissions and work on other new pieces....

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Hozho Plaza/Sedona
Crimson Shadows
Gallery/Working Studio

As always, James continues to offer poignant statements for mankind through what he terms "*Allegorical Art*". His reputation as an historical and allegorical artist has motivated him to do many pieces that address world issues as well as the highest and best in mankind, such as *duty, honor, courage, justice, and the triumph of the human spirit*. James' work expanded over the years from initially historical to include contemporary subjects with an array of artistic commentary on the human social, political and spiritual condition to exemplify the highest qualities of man that reflect the critical nature of the times in which we live.

His book "*Lanterns Along The Path*" and recent works continue to address those concepts.



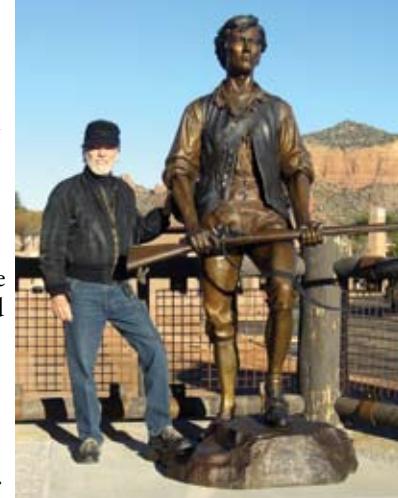
"Thomas Jefferson-1802"
Dedication/Unveiling
West Point Jefferson Hall Library
(23" Maquettes available)

James was quite proud to recently receive the "*Nomination for the 2009 Arizona Governor's Art Award*". It was a grand affair at the Arizona Biltmore Resort, attended by over 700 people. James was honored to have his work of so many years recognized and to be included with other deserving artists/individuals. James has over 20 lifesize and monumental sculptures in public locations in Arizona alone!! Going through the exercise of identifying publicly located sculptures in Arizona, made me realize I need to do a map identifying all the lifesize and monumental sculptures James has installed around the country, which is over 60 and still counting!! Other great events included the Dedication Ceremonies for the monumental sculptures "*The American Pieta*" at the museum of **Dr. Lon and Linda Mellijor** in Lake Forest, Illinois and "*Thomas Jefferson-1802*" at **West Point**.

Many thanks to the **Class of '68** and all their hard work to make the latter possible!! To add even more excitement, Mr. Jefferson decided to get into a little fire while being transported to New York; you will have to come see us or visit **West Point's Jefferson Hall Library** to get "*the rest of the story*" as the late Paul Harvey, who owns the lifesize "Newsboy", always would say. But know that it is confirmed once again, "he can withstand the test of

fire", thanks to the heroic efforts of **Tallix Foundry** in New York. These were truly the most beautiful and moving ceremonies we could have been privileged to be a part of. Mr. Jefferson has a wonderful new home at the Jefferson Memorial Library, USMA, where he will eternally be remembered and "*The American Pieta*" will continually have the opportunity to be the center of Chicago attention as well – starting with the Mellijor's annual events such as "*Freedom*" (a theme chosen to celebrate and recognize all the individuals who have served our country). We look forward to attending this summer. You never know what surprises Linda Mellijor will manage for these events, but you can be sure, she puts the "awe" in life for everyone! Blessings continued with the purchase of the 8 foot "*Sons of Liberty-1775*" for the **Sons of the American Revolution Headquarters** in Louisville, Kentucky which was a goal of James' since creating it. There will be a formal dedication once the renovation of the building is completed.

purchased specifically for this year's award presentation. In previous years the organization has purchased the "*Sons of Liberty-1775*" maquette as the First Place Award.



"Sons of Liberty-1775"

8 ft. monument and 23" maquettes Great show and great people! Upon our return, we were greeted with the good news from Fachon Wilson that the **Sheridan Public Arts Committee in Sheridan, Wyoming** had



"The American Pieta"

9 ft. monument and 17" maquettes - Dedication/Unveiling-Lake Forest, Illinois

Other great news is that the "*Some Gave All*" was installed/dedicated at the **Vietnam Memorial in Cedar City** which was donated through the tremendous efforts of the **Cedar City Rotary**. In May we traveled to the **Colorado Gun Collector's Show in Denver** to present the **Best of Show Award, "Monsoon on The Mogollon"**. This is James' early 1900's Arizona Ranger piece which was

chosen to purchase the monumental "*The Dance*" for permanent placement at the **Historic Sheridan Inn**. We will be anxious to visit there and see its new home!

Newly completed work includes: the civil war historical piece "*Cry Freedom*", "*The Gift*", and the 52" diameter "*Shield of America*"(c.1812). We were fortu-

nate that James completed the "Cry Freedom" in time for the previous **Mountain Oyster Show**, a terrific show that we hope some of you can make this next one November 22, 2009. Works in-progress include: the 24" maquette and lifesize frontier couple "**The Lighted Lantern**" and the 40" high tablesized confederate cavalryman sculpture "**The Last Horseman**".

We are taking maquette reservations for these now.



"The Lighted Lantern"
Clay In-Progress (24" high)



"The Last Horseman"
Clay In-Progress (38" high)

Our summer schedule is busy with the Loveland Sculpture Show in Colorado which we participate in each year. It is a "must see" show for collectors with hundreds of artists and sculptures!!! We hope to see you there this year, August 7,8,9.

We also hope that if you get this way, you will come visit us at the studio – be sure to make it to downtown Sedona, they have worked very hard on adding public art you will enjoy, which includes James' 7 foot "**The Dance**" and the 10 foot "**Heart of The West**".

Yours truly, Linda Muir



"The Dance"
(7 ft. high Ed.12) Sheridan, Wyoming



"Cry Freedom"
40" high Ed.24



"The Gift"
9" x 11" Ed.33



James Muir/Stephan Herrera
Human Liberty Art Award

*See You In
Loveland*

James' "Soap Box":

The Human Liberty Foundation, a long term vision of mine, awarded the first Annual Art Scholarship May '09. This years' award went to Stephan Herrera, a senior at the Sedona High School. Stephan, who is both a talented artist and musician, comes from a very talented and gracious family. It was a pleasure to be able to meet them all! We thought it especially appropriate to select this first year's recipient from Sedona, since this is where my career began in 1980. Later this year an individual will also be selected for the first Human Liberty Award recognizing someone who exemplifies being a "Champion of Liberty". I believe we are all given a means to serve mankind and consider my sculptures and writing as a way for me to do so. Everything we do for others is our own unique way of leaving Lanterns Along The Path. This path is open to all of us by using our own individual talents to serve others. The Human Liberty Foundation is another vehicle to serve through the accomplishments of others. An award and scholarship will be given annually. Feel free to submit names of individuals who you believe should be recognized and considered for next year's recognition.



"Caduceus"
12 ft monument Ed.12
and 14" high studies

Our Sculpture News ...



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