

The Reactor

Paul Azevedo



Recreate Pacifica's Statue

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The statue of Pacifica at the 1939 World's Fair was of heroic size. Unfortunately, it has long since been destroyed. However, the city of Pacifica has the small model statues. They were a gift from Ralph Stackpole, the artist.

I think that means that a competent artist could recreate the great statue, in a larger, more permanent form than the one that was smashed by the Navy so many long years ago. How much would it cost to reconstruct the great statue of Pacifica? One million? Five million? Thirty Million? How much would it cost to rebuild the statue 152 feet tall, as tall as the statue of Liberty. It could be placed on one of our headlands, like Rockaway Point. What would it take to do this? Only time, money and skill. Time is available. Money can be raised. Someone, somewhere has the skill to reconstruct the great monument.

Why should we do this? Not for Pacifica alone. This is a way for the entire nation to celebrate Peace, as the great statue in New York celebrates Liberty. Pacifica is the logical place for it. We are named after peace on the

western rim of the nation. The east coast has its great monument to Liberty, now 100 years old. The Pacific Coast is logically the place for a great monument to peace. Pacifica is the one place on that coast that is most logical for its location.

For one thing, Pacifica is already known for the Plymouth Rock of the Pacific Coast, the San Francisco Bay Discovery Site.

The great statue has been created once, in temporary form. It remains only to recreate it in permanent form. Liberty and Peace are the two great ideas of mankind. This past year we celebrated the blessings of liberty on our land, symbolized by the great statue in New York Harbor. Now isn't it time we devoted the same effort to the concept that is as important as Liberty, the idea of Peace in the world.

How do we go about this? A city council resolution would make it official. A committee would be the next step. For a project this imposing, the committee should include politicians, such as our next Assemblywoman, Jackie Speier, and the winner of the state senate race. It should also include some wealthy San Francisco civic leaders, the kind who can call wealthy friends and tap cash sources. To start things off, an initial grant from a charitable foundation would be needed to explore the idea, determine costs, plan a budget, and seek out the funding necessary for a project of this magnitude. We should seek funds from every peace-loving nation of the Pacific rim.

To celebrate the unveiling, a great festival of peace would seem the appropriate vehicle. Let's make Pacifica live up to its glorious name. Pacifica is the logical place to think beyond war... to peace and all that that implies.