

The Friends of Liberty State Park

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are delighted to welcome the public to

A Special History Presentation

by Charles E. Markey

Saturday, November 15, 2008, at 1 p.m.

at Liberty State Park's "Interpretive Center" on Freedom Way

"This PARTY
in our Harbor....was unlike any other!"

The Friends of Liberty State Park invite you to the first of our region's events in anticipation of the **400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's most famous voyage and the Centennial of "The 1909 Hudson-Fulton Celebration!"**

The River we cherish took on the name of the Captain of "The Half Moon" following his voyage in 1609. In 1807, Robert Fulton commenced a steamboat service up and down the Hudson River. In 1908, a two-week gala was planned to honor our River's two heroes: it was named "**The Hudson-Fulton Celebration,**" which was set in such a unique place and time so as to crystallize much of **The American Story:** our history, folklore, geography, industry, transportation, inventions, and new citizens!

Wilbur Wright flew his airplane within 35 feet of The Statue of Liberty's torch, and Thomas Edison and his staff draped bridges, public spaces and monuments with so many new electric lights that Manhattan was called, "**a city on fire!**" The party atmosphere was enhanced with new steamers, liners, flotillas, canoes, rowboats, a recently-opened tunnel *under the Hudson*, large automobiles in long parades, fast passenger and commercial trains, and spectacular pyrotechnic displays.

This amazing "River Birthday Party" focused attention on American democracy, history, agriculture, seafaring, inventions, and the Arts!

Historian Charles Markey has dedicated his career to public service, in law, education, public administration, and library science. He has lectured extensively, and taught at Seton Hall University, where he earned his degrees in Government and Law.



September 25 to October 9, 1909

"The Hudson-Fulton Celebration"

