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FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is with a sad heart that I am writing this letter as 1st Vice President of the Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle (ULHS) in the absence of our President Donna Marie Disimile, who passed away unexpectedly this past September. I met Donna three years ago as I was brought onto the ULHS board. We worked closely together these past 3 years and Donna became a friend inside the ULHS as well as outside of it, as we regularly went for our pizza dinners at Esposito's, and shared the playing courts as we were team mates on Brielle's Bocce Ball League. We had many laughs and good times!! She was a strong woman, with passion and with great ideas....and she was SO ORGANIZED, it put me to shame!! We will miss her tremendously.

In 2018 the weather played a big part in our scheduled activities! We were unfortunately rained out for both our Memorial Day and 911 Ceremonies....but it didn't mean that we weren't there in spirit! In the pouring rain Fred Rimmele and I still laid out the beautiful roses for the victims of 911 at the site and raised a new flag in their memory!

(Continued on Page 3)

**UNION LANDING
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF
BRIELLE**

**601 Union Lane
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Brielle, NJ 08730**

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**We're on the web
WWW.ULHSBrielle.ORG**



Officers & Directors

President (Acting)
Peter Albertelli

First Vice President
Peter Albertelli

Second Vice President
Angie Cardin

Secretary
James Ham

Treasurer
Curtis J. Porcello Sr.

Directors
– Ann Scott
– Bridgette Markuson
– Fred Rimmele

Editor of "The Crier"
Curtis J. Porcello Sr.

HEAR YE...HEAR YE...ULHS HAS GONE SOCIAL...!!

I have been working to keep all happenings of the ULHS updated and posted on our Facebook page and on our website (www.ULHSBrielle.org), along with pictures from our gatherings that have been held.

If you need to find out any info please check out our Facebook page (UNION LANDING HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BRIELLE) or go on our WEBSITE (www.ULHSBrielle.org)...

For those Facebook users...PLEASE click on our Facebook landing page...**LIKE US**...and **SHARE IT** with your Friends and Family!! The MORE the Merrier!!

- Peter Albertelli, 1st Vice President

We have a new website address!

We are in the process of transferring all of our website content to the new domain name:

ULHSBrielle.org

SODA FOR SALE!!!!

We have very limited quantities of sarsaparilla and lemon-lime rickey soda left for purchase.

Cases are \$28 and 4-packs are \$6.

Delivery in Brielle is available at no additional cost. Please help the Historical Society and call me at (609) 658-8234 very soon to get your delicious soda before we run out!!!!

- Curtis J. Porcello Sr., Treasurer

FROM THE PRESIDENT

(Continued from Page 1)

In February we compiled a new President's Day Video ... teaching about the Presidents whose birthdays fell in that month. This video was presented at the Curtis House in celebration of President's Day.

Our hit April general meeting, "American Women and Royal Weddings", presented by Professor Melissa Ziobro of Monmouth University, was perfectly timed with the real royal wedding and was a HUGE "sold-out" success, accompanied by English fare refreshments. This is the second year that Professor Ziobro has spoken to our group, and she always gives a great presentation.

In June we had our second year of Flag Day ceremonies at the Curtis House using the new video compilation that we made, teaching the history and meaning of the Flag, the folding of the flag, and its incarnation over the years. Schools and the public were invited to attend, learn and have refreshments. The Girl Scouts, Fire Department, Borough Historian, and Mayor of Brielle were on hand for the lowering and raising of a new flag.

The tune of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" was also ringing around town the month of June! A NEW and EXCITING event was brought into our community with the debut of our VINTAGE BASEBALL GAME! It was The Monmouth Furnace vs. The New York Mutuals! It was an event that excited the community as the game was played by 1864 rules and the teams dressed for the part in vintage uniforms! We all found a piece of shade in Brielle Park on that hot day and enjoyed hot dogs and refreshments supplied by Brielle's Recreation Department as we cheered the teams on!!

In September Brielle Day was of course threatened by a rain storm...but we plowed through the early morning hours huddled under tents and umbrellas...but as the day moved on the weather broke in our favor, and that made for another ULHS Sarsaparilla success!

In October we participated in Monmouth County Archives and History Day, as we have for many years. This year's event included a History Forum "*Discussion of Buildings in Monmouth: Stories and Styles*" and the featured speaker was Gail Hunton, Chief of the Acquisition and Design Department of the Monmouth County Park System who presented "*Open Spaces, Historic Places: The Story of Monmouth County in Our Parks*".

Finally, in December we had our Holiday Celebration...and raised a glass to the past year 2018....and to the up and coming Brielle Centennial year of 2019! We look forward to bringing you more exciting meetings and events in 2019!

Onward,

Peter

- Peter Albertelli, 1st Vice President , Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle

2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS (TENTATIVE)

- January / February 2019 - General Meeting
- April 2019 - General Meeting
- May 2019 - Memorial Day Ceremony
- September 2019 - Brielle Day and 9/11 Ceremony
- October 2019 - Monmouth County Archives and History Day
- December 2019 - Holiday Party

2019 MEMBERSHIP

Time to Renew!

It is that time of year again - time to renew!

Membership renewals for 2019 should be sent in by December 31st. Individual memberships are just \$15, and Family memberships are just \$35 - or you may provide even more support by becoming a sponsor for \$125, a corporate member for \$150, or a Life Member for \$300.

The Historical Society depends on its members and their support to continue providing all of our important and informative programs to the Brielle community, and to continue preserving its history. A membership application / renewal form is included on the last page of this issue of The Crier.

If you have been attending our meetings and programs you know how busy the Historical Society has been, and if you have not, well you have missed a good time! We hope to see many more of you at future events, perhaps with a friend and new member.

- Ann Scott, Membership Chairperson

*"No problem of human making is too great to be overcome
by human ingenuity, human energy, and the untiring
hope of the human spirit."*

President George H. W. Bush

Brielle Historic Sites

We have a number of “Historic Sites” in town that are connected with our past. You may have noted “Historic Site” signs appropriately placed throughout the borough to identify them. The poles for the signs had been acquired using abandoned state highway sign posts known as “A-Posts”. I did seek assistance asking folks to keep their eyes open for any such abandoned posts but have been unable to locate any additional. Thus I had Newman Iron Works construct two new posts to identify two additional sites, and have the signs now printed and ready to be affixed. These new signs will identify the site of the 1856-1918 wooden school that once stood on Schoolhouse Road, since moved, plus the 1914 Post Office building still located on Green Avenue and which is now a contractor’s office.

- John Belding, Borough of Brielle Historian



The Post Office on Green Avenue circa 1950s. The slot for receiving mail located to the right of the front door could no longer accommodate the ever-growing town. Notice the new mailbox to the left.
Collection: The Hendricks family.

In Memoriam - Donna Marie Disimile

Donna was born and raised in Astoria Queens, New York. She began her career working for one of the largest advertising firms in New York City, where she worked for many years in positions of increasing responsibility. After leaving the advertising firm Donna began working for a large bank where she was responsible for the management and maintenance of their properties. Now, anyone who has ever been to Donna's home knows first-hand that she was perfectly suited for this new role, because everything - and I mean everything - in her house was always spotless and in a perfect state of repair! The management at the bank clearly recognized her talent as well, for by the end of her career with them Donna was responsible for the management and maintenance of nearly 200 bank branches.

Donna was inducted as 1st Vice President of the Historical Society in February of 2015, and quickly became a vital member of the Board. In 2018 she became President. Her dedication, hard work, organizational skills, perseverance, and kindness helped the Historical Society to thrive under her leadership.

Donna was also devoted Roman Catholic and a communicant of the Church of Saint Denis in Manasquan, where she was a member of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul and a Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) religious education teacher for children.

Volunteerism and giving back to the community were fundamental beliefs for Donna. In addition to all of her volunteer work with the Historical Society and the Church of Saint Denis, she also volunteered many hours each week at "Selective Seconds", the Furniture Outreach of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Belmar. Selective Seconds sells donated furniture and home décor to generate proceeds to provide to those in need. Since its inception in 2011 this furniture outreach has helped financially support thousands of families and individuals.

Donna passed away on Sunday September 16, 2018 at 73 years of age. Donna was predeceased in 2010 by her husband and partner for over two decades Red Hoffman, who owned and operated Hoffman's donuts in Point Pleasant for many years and who Donna loved and missed dearly.

I am proud to say that Donna was my friend as there are few people that give of themselves as selflessly as she did. My family and all of the Board members are all deeply saddened by her departure, but we know her legacy of giving will live on and hopefully inspire us all to do the same. She will be truly and deeply missed.

- Curtis J. Porcello Sr., Treasurer



Historical Society Meeting at Donna's House - 2016



From Left to Right: Fred Rimmele, Ann Scott, Donna Marie Disimile, Peter Albertelli, Bridgette Markuson, and Theresa Porcello

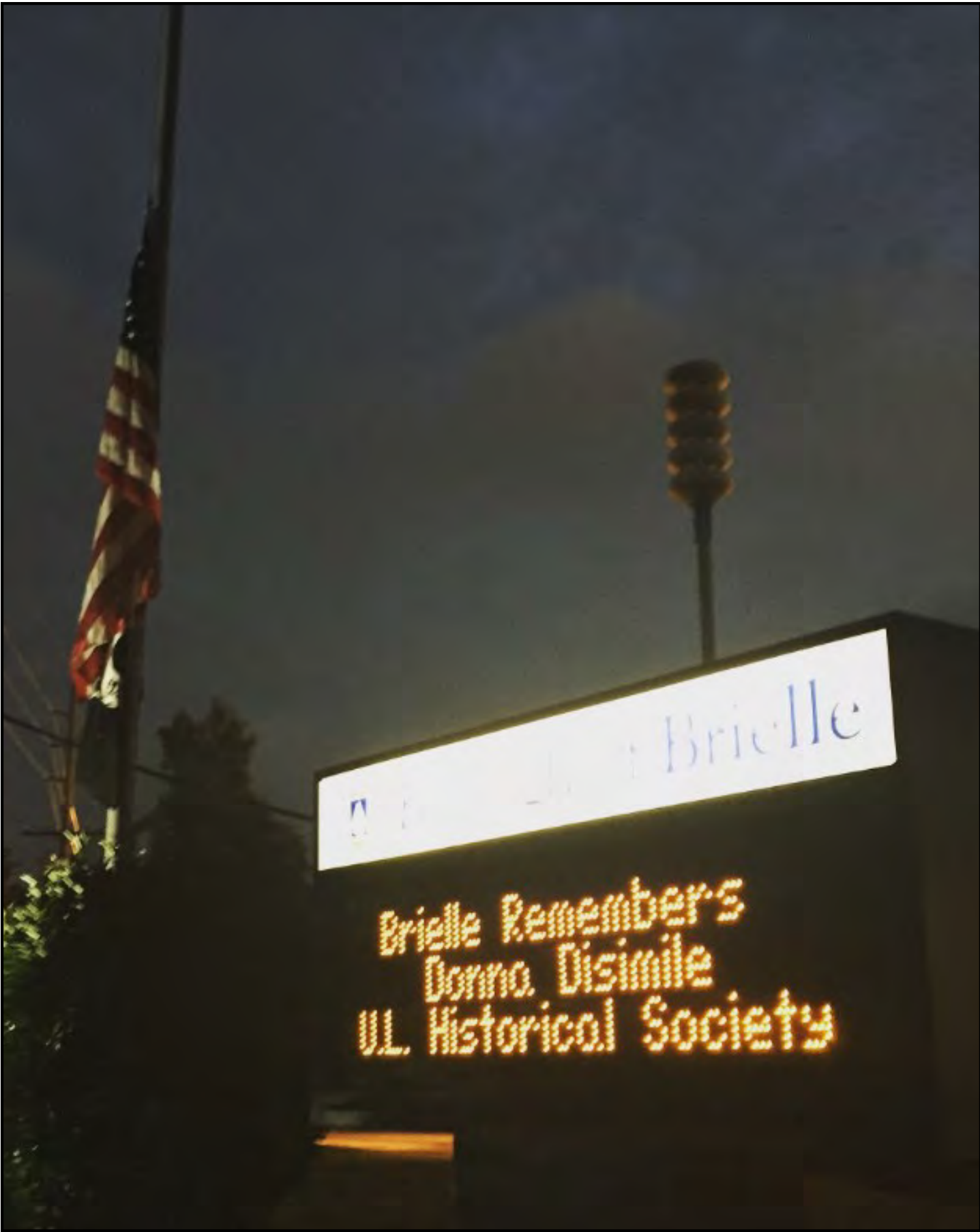
Donna Disimile

Setting up for the Memorial Day Remembrance May 2017



Left to Right:
Peter Albertelli, the Vintage Baseball Umpire, and
Donna Disimile
June 2018







Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle

2018
The Year in Review

The Board for 2018



From left to right:

Director Bridgette Markuson, Director Ann Scott, 2nd Vice President Angie Cardin, 1st Vice President Peter Albertelli, Secretary Jim Ham, President Donna Marie Disimile, and Treasurer Curtis J. Porcello Sr.
(Missing: Director Fred Rimmele)

Congratulations to the Beldings!



In January many of the Board members and members of the Historical Society were fortunate enough to attend a momentous occasion that will surely go down in the history books - the marriage of the Borough of Brielle Historian and long-time Historical Society Board member John Belding to Claire Bellucci! John sent out a quiet, word-of-mouth invitation to anyone who wished to attend the ceremony and reception afterwards, not knowing if many would be there. In the end, it was standing room only in the church as people arrived in droves to observe the nuptials and share in the couple's good fortune

John says of his new bride, *"I just enjoy walking hand in hand with her"* and advises others, *"I do recommend it, marriage, even in the mature years. Life just seems much sweeter - age should not be a barrier in any*

way, human feelings are always there, no matter what age you are".

Claire is equally enthusiastic about her new marriage, saying, *"I am very fortunate, I thank God every night, I am very happy that I met somebody."*

We wish the couple a long, happy, and healthy marriage and thank them for allowing us to be part of their special day!

- Curtis J. Porcello Sr., Treasurer



American Women and Royal Weddings - April 2018

In April the Historical Society hosted a very popular event entitled “American Women and Royal Weddings” with presentations by Professor Melissa Ziobro of Monmouth University. English refreshments were provided to all in attendance while we learned of the fascinating history of American women, several of which were from New Jersey, marrying into royalty. Usually these weddings were based on the desire of the wealthy American women to obtain royal titles and the need of the royal husbands for their new wives’ fortunes.

The event was very timely in that it coincided with the royal wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle in May at Windsor Castle in the United Kingdom. The groom, Prince Harry, is a member of the British royal family, and the bride, Meghan Markle, is an American and former actress. On her marriage, Meghan Markle became Duchess of Sussex.

About Professor Ziobro: Melissa Ziobro is a Professor of History at Monmouth University and formerly served as a command historian at the United States Army Communications - Electronics Command, Fort Monmouth from 2004-2011. She also previously served on the now defunct Executive Council of Brookdale Community College's Center for World War II Studies and Conflict Resolution in Lincroft. She currently serves on the Events Planning Committee for the World War II Era Studies Institute at the Info Age Science History Learning Center and Museum, a National Historic Landmark in Wall Township, with which she has been affiliated since 2004. Since the Spring of 2015 she has served as the General Editor for “New Jersey Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal” (see <http://njs.libraries.rutgers.edu>) . She also volunteers with the National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey and as an at-large board member of Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

- Curtis J. Porcello Sr., Treasurer



American Women and Royal Weddings - April 2018



ESSAY CONTEST

Once again in May the Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle held an essay contest for 8th grade students at Brielle Elementary School, with a \$150 award for first prize, \$100 for second prize, and \$50 for third prize. This year's topic was the establishment of the United States Air force as we know it today. The three winners were: 1st place - Aislin Crowe, 2nd - place Jack Herbert, and 3rd place Ryan Milancewich. We appreciate all the efforts of these young people in writing their essays.

- Bridgette Markuson, Director

Brielle - The Early Years

On July 7, 1881, a group of businessmen formed the Brielle Land Association, and purchased 150 acres of farm land between Longstreet's (or Debbie's) Creek and mud pond to be divided into lots for sale as vacations home sites. This land was north of Union Landing. They named this development "Brielle" upon the suggestion by one of their number who had visited Brielle, Holland the year before. He thought this area resembled the country side and the coastal towns which dot Europe's lowlands on the North Sea and the English Channel. It was during this period that the area began to flourish as a resort. The railroad had been extended south along the shore. Incidentally, Mud Pond was quickly renamed Glimmer Glass.

Early in the 19th century, Shrewsbury Township was divided and the southern section , including our area, became Howell Township. Further division in 1851 created Wall Township in the eastern section of Howell then in 1919, the Borough of Brielle was created from a portion of Wall. It consists of the original Union Landing area, the Brielle Land Association tract, and all the property up along the river as far as Old Bridge Road.

- John Belding, Borough of Brielle Historian

“Some Incidental Intelligence”

Do you ever wonder what everyday life was like around here back in the 1950s, 1920s or even further back to the turn of the 20th Century? If so, the Borough Historian has electronic copies of “The Coast Star” newspaper dating back to 1899 and will be glad to review previous issues that may be of interest to you.

- John Belding, Borough of Brielle Historian

FLAG DAY CEREMONY - JUNE 2018

On June 14th the Historical Society again held an event on the history and meaning of Flag Day and the United States flag. The event was held at the Curtis House on Union Lane and was attended by Mayor Nicol, members of the Brielle Fire Department, the Girl Scouts, and local residents. The interior of the Curtis House was decorated with a display of flags from all branches of military service and historical flags that were graciously loaned by the Manasquan Elks Lodge. There were also photo board presentations of historical flags dating back to the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, including a short narrative on each flag.

One of the highlights of the event was a video on the History of the Star Spangle Banner, origins of the Pledge of Allegiance, the history of the United States flag, folding and presentation of the United States flag, and the history of Taps.

The event concluded with the lowering the flag, folding and presenting of the flag to Borough Historian John Belding , and raising of a new flag by the Girl Scouts with the help of the members of the Brielle Fire Department.

- Curtis J. Porcello Sr., Treasurer



" Standing as I do, with my hand upon this staff, and under the folds of the American flag, I ask you to stand by me as long as I stand by it. " - Abraham Lincoln

Flag Day - June 2018





Flag Day - June 2018





Flag Day - June 2018



VINTAGE BASEBALL GAME - JUNE 2018

Once again Donna's hard work and perseverance paid off! It took a couple of years of trying, but Donna was finally able to arrange for a vintage baseball game right here in Brielle Park! On Saturday June 30th the vintage baseball game, sponsored by the Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle in conjunction with the Brielle Recreation Department, took place and it was an event to be remembered!

Admission was free, as were the hot dogs and refreshments provided by the Brielle Recreation Department. Ice cream and cookies were also available for sale. Attendees brought their lawn chairs and blankets and found some shade on the warm, sunny summer day to watch and enjoy the exciting game.

The game was played using custom-made, period-correct balls in accordance with The Rules of 1864, as adopted by the National Association of Base-Ball Players in New York on December 9, 1863. The two teams in period-correct uniforms from the Mid-Atlantic Vintage Base-Ball League were the "home team" Monmouth Furnace and the New York Mutuals from Long Island. The Base-Ball League also provided an umpire in full official uniform, including top hat and cane, to officiate the game and an excellent announcer who explained to the crowd the many differences between The Rules of 1864 and those of baseball today as they played the game.

Playing by the vintage rules truly made for a very different game than modern baseball. For example, one of the big differences is that The Rules of 1864 state, "*A striker is out if a fair ball is struck, and the ball is caught either without having touched the ground, or upon the first bound*". Therefore, if a player hits a fair ball and it is caught on the first bounce after hitting the ground, they are out, which changes the whole dynamic of the game versus that of today where the ball has to be caught before touching the ground for the player to be out. They also played with bare hands, without baseball gloves, at the time.

Overall, it was a great way to spend a summer Saturday with family and friends! We hope to have another game soon.

- Curtis J. Porcello Sr., Treasurer

"Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game."

Babe Ruth



Vintage Baseball Game - June 2018





Vintage Baseball Game - June 2018



Vintage Baseball Game - June 2018





Vintage Baseball Game - June 2018





Vintage Baseball Game - June 2018



BRIELLE DAY - SEPTEMBER 2018

Brielle Day started out with weather that was not cooperating. Rain was falling throughout the morning, steadily at times, but there were still people enjoying the event. By the afternoon, however, the sun came out, and so did the people! By late afternoon Brielle Park was filled to overflowing with people, many of whom became customers for our Sarsaparilla and other vintage sodas and ice cream, as well as our books and delicious Crane House pumpkin bread. Thanks to a great turnout and strong volunteer support at our booth we had another very successful Brielle Day!

We had ice cream floats again this year, which were enjoyed by all. Ann Scott's famous Crane House pumpkin bread, as always, was a tremendous success, selling out all 100 loaves!

The Manasquan High School Key Club sent many student volunteers who were a tremendous help with the soda and ice cream sales. In addition, Historical Society member Nicholas Vitale, along with his friend Stephen, were tremendously helpful with setting up and manning the booth, and finally helping with the break down at the end of the day. We were very glad to have these two young men there helping all day!

Once again, I would like to extend special a thank you to Theresa Porcello (my wife) for all of her extensive efforts in coordinating the student volunteers and the soda and ice cream purchase, delivery, and sales and to Ann Scott for baking and selling the pumpkin bread. Additionally, thank you to Secretary Jim Ham and Director Fred Rimmele for their assistance in setting up, and in and manning the booth throughout the day. I would also like to thank 1st Vice President Peter Albertelli and Director Bridgette Markuson for helping set up the booth.

The Historical Society would like to extend a special thank you to retired Brielle Police Sergeant Jim Seidel for once again getting the ice for us, to the gentlemen from the Brielle Public Works for loaning us the large recycling buckets to hold the ice and soda, and to the members that came out to help. It was a busy but fun day for all of the many people involved.

We need the members' support to make Brielle Day a success, as it is truly a team effort, so please come join us and volunteer next year!

- Curtis J. Porcello Sr., Treasurer

The best prophet of the future is the past. - Lord Byron



Brielle Day 2018



Brielle Day 2018



Fred and Peter



Jim Ham with His Sweets!



Getting Ice



Selling Soda



Brielle Day - 2018



9/11 Memorial Site

Much work has been done at the 9/11 Memorial Site this year.

During the spring and summer months, Gary Pstrak continued to replant new flower beds and cleared out invasive weeds. The Board approved having the “Necrology” sign replaced due to its exposure to the elements. A new and heavier sign was made by Aherns and remounted on the reconditioned plaque.

Our annual 9/11 ceremony had to be cancelled this year because of the extreme weather conditions on the day of the event. The weather, however, did not deter Peter Albertelli and me from placing the “Remembrance Roses” and raising a new 9/11 Memorial flag, which listed all of the names of those who perished on 9/11. This flag was given to us by the Estate of Dr. David DuPre and will be flown every 9/11 week.

In September while I was replacing the flag with a standard flag I received notice of Donna Disimile’s passing. I immediately brought the flag to half-mast and informed Mayor Nichol why it was done. He in turn had all the borough flags flown at half-mast and had a nice tribute to Donna placed on the Borough bulletin board.

As has been the custom during the last few years, Gary Pstrak and the Brielle Firemen hung decorative lighting on the trees at the Memorial site for the Holidays, while flowers were donated by Marilyn Rimmele and Bridgette Markuson.

About the 9/11 Memorial Site Committee: The Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle’s 9/11 Memorial Site Committee is responsible for the oversight of the maintenance of the Memorial Site, located at the corner of Riverview Drive and Birch Drive, in coordination with the Borough of Brielle, and for recommending any enhancements deemed appropriate. This committee has a Project Manager as its head (Gary Pstrak), and four Trustees, representing the Memorial Site's major stakeholders: Victims' Families, Fire Department, Boy Scouts, and ULHS.

- Fred Rimmele, Director



9/11 Memorial Site Decorated for the Holidays - December 2018





9/11 Memorial Site Decorated for the Holidays - December 2018



9/11 Memorial Site Decorated for the Holidays - December 2018



Historic Osborn Burial Ground (Graveyard) Annual Meeting - December 2018

The Osborn Burial Ground Committee is required by the provisions of the Osborn Family Burial Ground Maintenance Trust Agreement to convene an annual meeting to review work done during the previous year. A written report is then placed on file. The most recent annual meeting was held on Saturday December 8th at the graveyard. Attendees included John Belding, Mike Murphy, and Curtis Porcello.

Significant maintenance and repair activities were completed at the Burial Ground over the past year, including the sanding, scraping, and repainting of the fence, and improvements to the landscaping. Anyone interested in assisting with the necessary year round restoration and maintenance activities of the Graveyard are asked to please contact me. Additionally, donations to support the Graveyard Committee are always greatly appreciated and necessary for its continued maintenance and repair.

- John Belding, Project Manager for the Osborn Burial Ground Committee



The Graveyard Before its Restoration in 2000

2018 HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

The Historical Society ended the year by celebrating the holiday season with a celebration on Sunday December 9th at Director Ann Scott's home - the historic Captain Shem Pearce house. All members and their friends and family were invited to attend, and in total more than 40 persons joined in the fun!

The celebration gave the guests the chance to meet the Board and other ULHS members while enjoying wonderful food, drink, and holiday cheer. The guests were also invited to tour the home, which dates back to 1850, and is very interesting to see. What a wonderful way to end the year and start off the holiday season!

Best wishes to you and your families for the holidays and the New Year!



Happy
Holidays

The image features the words "Happy Holidays" written in a highly decorative, cursive calligraphic font. The text is rendered in a vibrant red color with a subtle white shadow effect, giving it a three-dimensional appearance. The word "Happy" is positioned above "Holidays". The letter "H" in "Happy" is particularly large and ornate, with a holly leaf and three red berries tucked into its upper loop. Similarly, the word "Holidays" ends with a holly leaf and three red berries. The entire composition is set against a plain white background, which is itself enclosed within a light green rectangular border with a thin red inner line.



Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle

2019 Membership Dues

Please Print Clearly

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone # (H): _____ **(W or C):** _____

E-mail: _____

Membership Category

Individual	\$15	___	Life Member	\$300 (one-time payment)	___
Family	\$35	___	Corporate	\$150	___
Sponsor	\$125	___	Donation	\$	_____

- I would like to:
- () Volunteer
 - () Give a Presentation at a Meeting
 - () Learn More about Being a Board Member
 - () Be Contacted to Learn More about the Society / How I May Help

Mail form to: Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle - Membership
Post Office Box 473
Brielle, New Jersey 08730