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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Please let me introduce myself, I am Fred Rimmele, the new President of the Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle. I was born and raised in North Jersey - Newark and Upper Montclair, and attended Boston College where I received a Business Degree in Marketing. I served in the United States Army with a tour in Korea. While many of my family members resided in Manasquan, we only spent the summers here, where I worked at places like the Brielle Inn and the Bimini Yacht Club, and lifeguarded in Sea Girt. My wife Marilyn and I resided in Clifton, New Jersey while I pursued a career in the packaging and manufacturing of many major Cosmetic and Health and Beauty products. We moved permanently to Brielle nineteen years ago and have enjoyed the pleasant community feeling that is a key part of Brielle.

Under former President Porcello’s guidance last year we experienced major increases in membership and attendance at all events. Some highlights of the major events of the year are provided below:

The annual Antique Road Show set the stage as the best ever event of its kind by the Historical Society, with over 125 participants and 134 various items appraised by well-known experts including Clara Johnson, Colonel Bob Randolph, and John Weaver. Remarks varied from “Now I won’t feel bad about throwing it out” to my favorite, “Wait until I tell my husband!”

Cont. Page 2

BITS & PIECES

Here are a couple of items births, marriages, deaths, etc. interesting forum on worthy of your consideration etc. To access those records go “Genealogical Research” at the from the Monmouth County to <http://co.monmouth.nj.us/> Monmouth County Library Archives Center. Gary [page.aspx?ID=1990](http://co.monmouth.nj.us/page.aspx?ID=1990). If assistance Manalapan. This meeting is Zaretsky Monmouth County might be helpful, 732-308- scheduled for Tuesday March Archivist has advised us they 3771, Extension 5. Gary invites 3rd, 10:00 AM. The seminar have recently added 29,000 the folks of the ULHS to make will be facilitated by George county naturalization records use of these resources. Joynson, References Archivist. to their archives. These In addition, Gary would be Any questions, please call archives, compiled over the pleased to welcome us to what George at 732-308-7711, years, some as far back as the appears will be a most Extension 8810. 1700s include such things as

**UNION LANDING
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

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**Upcoming Events for
2015:**

April 18th -
Antique Roadshow

May 23rd - Decoration Day

September 12th -
Brielle Day

September 13th -
9/11 Observance Day

October 3rd -
Archives and History

Member of AASLH

We're on the web
WWW.ULHS.ORG

Officers & Directors

President

Fred Rimmele

First Vice President

Donna Marie Dismile

Second Vice President

Curtis Porcello

Secretary

Terre Vitale

Treasurer

Marjorie Langenberger

Director (3)

John Belding

Director (2)

Ann Scott

Director (1)

Bridgette Markuson

Membership Drive a Success!

It was an ambitious undertaking, but it turned out to be a great success story! Over 2000 of our attractive, informative brochures were mailed to Brielle residents and businesses in late December. A letter from Curtis Porcello, President, Ann Scott, Membership Chair, and John Belding, Borough Historian, introducing our society and inviting membership, was enclosed in each brochure.

The return was more than gratifying. The mailing yielded more than 35 new members, including sponsors and life members, as well as several renewals. Our current membership, as of February first, stands at more than 100, including eight life members - now that's something to feel good about! And a great way to start the New Year! - Ann Scott

Cont. from pg. 1

Continuing on a high note, the Decoration Day (Memorial Day) ceremony was a truly moving event that was strongly attended. Highlights included a "Salute to the Colors" by the 250th Brigade of the New Jersey National Guard, a presentation by members of Manasquan VFW Post #1838 on the origin of the "Poppy Flower Donation", and a speech by Mayor Nicol. The Society's annual essay contest prize was then awarded to Caroline Davidson, a student at Brielle Elementary for her essay on, "What do you think life was like in Brielle when New Jersey was founded 350 years ago in 1664?". The topic was selected as part of the celebration of the 350th anniversary of New Jersey.

A most stirring highlight to the event was delivered by Corporal Molly Burwell Heaney, Commandant of the Marine Corps League 1319. Her speech concerned the flying of the United States flag while she was engaged in combat in the Middle East in support of the freeing of Kuwait. The ceremony was concluded with the playing of "Taps" by a Scout from Troop 63. Cont. page 3

9/11 MEMORIAL SITE

The 9/11 Memorial Park was nicely decorated for the holidays through the efforts of Dr. David DuPre, Marilyn Rimmele, and Bridgette Markuson. This Christmas Season presented a new twist and wreaths were beautifully arranged. Unfortunately exceptionally strong winds prevailed, making it necessary to secure the decorations to Florist tripods, with their legs driven into the frozen ground. In addition, holiday lights were strung on the evergreens through the efforts of Gary Pstrak and volunteer members of the Brielle Fire Department. These decorative efforts created a pleasant and festive visual as you proceeded along Riverview Drive during the Holiday Season. As this article is being written it seems that Dr. Du Pre is feeling a little under the weather - something not common for this man. We wish him a healthy recovery, and we look forward to his continued dedication, not only on this project, but to the Union Landing Historical Society as well. -Dave DuPre & Fred Rimmele

Q. Is it true that tentative plans once existed to establish a floating hotel on the river here in Brielle? Do you have any details?
- See answer below

Conclusion from pg. 2. Next up was Brielle Day. As always, the Historical Society had a strong presence at the event. We had a great time peddling various books, pamphlets, and photographs, but we especially enjoyed selling our famous “SARSAPARILLA” – its return celebrated by many after a 1-year hiatus. We had welcomed assistance from Theresa and Curtis Porcello, Terre, Tedd, and Nicholas Vitale, Donna Disimile, Jim Seidel, Ann Scott, Janice Wurfel, and several members from the Manasquan Key Club. We also had a wonderful “Old Fashion Name That Place” contest held by Gail Herbert, with a \$25 gift certificate donated by Rella’s Italian Tavern for the winner.



Shortly after Brielle Day our annual tribute at the 9/11 Memorial Site was held, and was also well attended. Dr. David Du Pre once again assembled a thorough and well-inclusive ceremony. As always, we were honored with having the Brielle Boy Scout Troop 63 as major presenters. Mayor Nichol gave a nice speech, and Reverend Paul Walther of Brielle gave the blessing. This event is a rather emotional and moving tribute that the Union Landing Historical Society presents each year.

We ended the year with participation at the Monmouth County Archives Day and our year-end celebration (discussed in a subsequent article).

In conclusion, I want to extend thanks to all of our past members, as well as our new members, for their interest and support of the Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle. This is your organization and we can only be as successful as you want and help us to be. We are open to all and any suggestions that you might have concerning the improvement of any aspect of our operations, and we are especially interested in your input regarding items to add to our agendas that you feel would be of interest to our members. It is with these thoughts in mind that I, as your new President, welcome and encourage you to contact me. I look forward to serving as President of the Historical Society and another successful year! I can be reached @ fredrimmele@verizon.net

Answer: That is correct. In April 1965, George Mauro had brought an old Central RR of New Jersey ferry boat into Brielle. He constructed a dock in front of the former Brielle Inn where he moored the craft, remodeled it, and established a supper club. In October 1965 he reported that he was negotiating to purchase a 220 ft all steel Chesapeake Bay day cruiser that at the time was docked at Baltimore. It sported a pointed bow and did not resemble the ferry boat. He planned to place it on the other side of the new dock across from the ferry, to create a floating hotel, or what he called a “Yachtel”. He intended to renovate and fashion 50-60 large rooms. This vessel had been built in 1931. The steamship company owner was asking \$150,000. The transaction never materialized. - John Belding

Historic Osborn Graveyard

One of the ongoing and continual challenges faced by the Historical Society is to help make people recognize that restoration of historic sites is desirable and beneficial. However, in restoring historic sites, such as the Osborn Graveyard, we must also accept the responsibility of then appropriately maintaining them. In this vein, the student members of the Manasquan High School History Club that live in Brielle, represented by student Josh Osberg*, have voiced an interest in helping to maintain our restored graveyard. They wish to be involved in a physical way, doing community service manual labor there.

Of course, we are very pleased to have them help with the maintenance of the Graveyard. We discussed various possible avenues for their efforts. I mentioned a project or two that may appeal to them, and they seem to be of the opinion that fence maintenance would be meaningful. I concurred. Where two pieces of welded iron come together [all joints] special cleaning and priming is required, followed by a finish coat of paint on the entire fence. They believed this task would be within their capabilities, and thus it met with a favorable response. They will consult with their advisor. With their advisor's agreement, they would plan to initiate this project in the spring. Stay tuned... *Josh, a Boy Scout, has played taps for 2-3 programs of ours. - John Belding

Annual Organizational Meeting

The Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle's annual organizational meeting was held on February 8th at the Curtis House, and was attended by new and long-time members alike. The new slate of officers was presented by Ann Scott - Nomination Committee Chairperson. The slate was unanimously elected by all members present, and Ann then inducted the new Board members into office.

The Historical Society Board is now comprised of:

Fred Rimmele – President
Donna Marie Disimile – 1st Vice President
Curtis J. Porcello Sr. – 2nd Vice President
Terre Vitale – Secretary
Marjorie Langenberger – Treasurer (2 years)
Ann Scott – Director (1 year)
John Belding – Director (2 years)
Bridgette Markuson – Director (3-year term)

The Graveyard Committee is now comprised of:

John Belding – Project Manager / Head
Jim Langenberger - Trustee
Mike Murphy - Trustee
Ruth Harms - Trustee

The 9/11 Memorial Site Committee is now comprised of:

David Du Pre – Project Manager / Head
Marilyn Rimmele – Trustee (representing Victims' Families)
Fred Rimmele – Trustee (representing the ULHS)
Gary Pstrak – Trustee (representing the Fire Company)
Jack Tobin – Trustee (representing the Boy Scouts)

In addition to inducting the new slate of officers:

Financial reports for January 2015, as well as for the full year 2014, were presented by Treasurer Marge Langenberger.

Donna Marie Disimile provided an overview of the events that were held in 2014 and planned thus far for 2015.

Ann Scott discussed the great success of our 2014 membership drive, and reminded everyone that it was time to pay their 2015 membership dues (if they had not done so already).

In addition to the election of the new slate of officers, the other highlight of the meeting was the informal presentation by Ann Scott of the stories of her history in Brielle. Ann provided many very interesting tidbits and amusing anecdotes that were well-received by the audience, and also answered many questions - at times with the help of John Belding, Borough Historian. The meeting was concluded with closing comments by Fred Rimmele and a "meet-and-greet" with the Board members while enjoying wonderful refreshments and baked goods provided by Terre Vitale and Theresa Porcello – many thanks to them both!



- Curtis J. Porcello Sr.

State of the Union (Landing Historical Society) Address

It is hard to believe that more than a year has passed since I took over as President of the Historical Society, but time goes quickly when you are busy - and it certainly was a very busy and productive year for the Historical Society! When I took over as President, the primary goal I established for myself was revitalizing the Historical Society - getting more people involved, increasing the levels of awareness and support of what we are trying to achieve as an organization, and making it more interesting and fun for the members. I am very pleased to say that through the successful completion of many activities last year, most notably creating a new brochure and distributing it to every resident and business in Brielle, we achieved this goal. We increased membership by more than 50%, we had increased support from the members and the community, and we were able to get two new, and very active, members on the Board. All-in-all, a tremendous success!

It is now time for me to pass the Presidency off to the able hands of Fred Rimmele. In my time as President, Fred in his role as 1st Vice President demonstrated a clear commitment to the advancement of the Society, and a willingness to do whatever it took to get things done. I am confident that he will be an excellent President, and I feel we are very fortunate to have him leading us. In my new role as 2nd Vice President, I will do everything possible to support his success.

Another change on the Board is Donna Marie Disimile in her new role as 1st Vice President. Last year Donna graciously agreed to take over as 2nd Vice President to fill an opening created when Gordon Reinauer moved to Florida. I believe all of the Board members would agree that Donna did an extraordinary job in fulfilling the responsibilities of this position, and I expect she will do the same as our new 1st Vice President.



I would also like to welcome Terre Vitale as a new member of the Board in the role of Secretary. Terre is a life-long resident of Brielle, and well known in the community.

Terre was a tremendous help with the Historical Society's Sarsaparilla and soda sales at last year's Brielle Day event, as she has been many times in the past, and promises to be a wonderful addition to the Board. She is also a gourmet chef and graduate of the Culinary Institute of America in New York, so hopefully we can convince her to prepare a few things for our meetings and year-end party!

Former Secretary Bridgette Markuson remains on the Board as a Director, and I thank her for all of her efforts and very generous support of the Historical Society. She is a definitely a valuable asset to the organization.

I have spoken a bit about what is new on the Board, but I would also like to speak a bit of two long-time members of the Board – Ann Scott and John Belding. Ann has been on the Board since the Historical Society's founding in 1973, and John joined in 1974 (and it really bugs him that he missed a year!). Not only do they provide continuity to the organization, but they bring with them levels of knowledge, commitment, and energy that are nothing less than astonishing. It is also quite fun to watch them argue with each other – as only dear, long-time friends can do - but in the end, we all know it is always John's fault (and I think he has accepted this fact as well!).

Finally, I would like to thank Gail Herbert for all of her support as Director and long-time Board member. Gail was always willing to help, with everything from providing delicious baked goods for our events to creating our Brielle Day trivia contest, and also brought with her an extensive knowledge of Brielle history.

It has been a pleasure being President this past year, and I thank you all for your support and contributions. I look forward to the continued success of the Historical Society, and hope to see you all at our meetings and events.

- Curtis J. Porcello Sr.

April 18th - Antique Roadshow will be held at the Curtis House on Union Lane. This event is a fun time for you to bring all those prize possessions tucked away in the attic, garage, barn, or basement to be appraised. There will be three professional appraisers on site to evaluate your valuable antiques/treasures. You might be pleasantly surprised to learn the value of your treasure! No matter the outcome, it is a fun and exciting day to come out and meet your neighbors and friends, and see what they have brought as well.

May 23rd - Decoration / Memorial Day Service will be held at the Osborn Graveyard on Holly Hill Road in Brielle. This ceremony is held to acknowledge the dedication and sacrifices of all the men and women who have served, and who are still serving, in the military of our great country to keep it safe, and thereby allow us to enjoy our lives in peace in the beautiful community of Brielle.

September 12th - Brielle Day will be held in Brielle Park near the library on Union Lane. This day is one for the entire family to meet and greet all your friends and neighbors and have lots of fun. There is plenty to see including over 65 different artisans selling their crafts, several food vendors selling goodies, plus live music, activities for the kids, and displays from many local churches and societies promoting their individual organizations. Most of all, you need to visit the ULHS exhibit and enjoy a bottle, or buy a case, of the "Best tasting **Sarsaparilla** in town"!

September 13th - 9/11 Observance will be held at the 9/11 Memorial Park on Riverview Drive in Brielle. This is a special day where all can come together as a community to remember all those who lost their lives in the terrible tragedies of 9/11. Especially remembered are those souls that were lost and who have either lived, or have families living in, Brielle and surrounding communities.

October 3rd - Archives and History Day will be held at the Monmouth Co. Library Headquarters in Manalapan. This event is represented by many historical societies throughout the state of New Jersey. Each exhibitor displays memorabilia representing their town including old photos, maps, and artifacts. There are several speakers and presentations pertaining to the history of our country. This event is a very good way for all the "history buffs" and their families to learn more and see first-hand some very interesting "old" things that have been preserved and displayed nicely for all to review.

Holiday Party

The 2014 ULHS holiday party and year-end celebration held in December was an elegant affair hosted by Ann Scott, the lovely homeowner of the Historic Captain Pearce Homestead on Union Lane. Mrs. Scott provided informative and interesting tours of the well-kept and beautifully decorated home. Guests felt right at home enjoying each other's company and good cheer while dining on a delicious assortment of hors oeuvres and desserts. Even some of the lemon-lime rickey from Brielle Day found its way into the punch! Thank you so much to those who were able to join us for a nice evening to celebrate the holidays and the ULHS. It was truly an event to be remembered! - Theresa Porcello

CLOVER HILL FARM

On Sunday, November 16th, 2014 the Union Landing Historical Society was granted a "special invitation" to visit and tour the beautiful Clover Hill Farm in the Allenwood section of Wall, New Jersey, which is owned and operated by the Corson Family.

The historic Clover Hill Farm

consists of a beautiful large farm house and several large barns and stables. It is a working farm with lots of animals, from chickens to oxen, that you can see grazing in the open fields. The Corson's starting collecting antiques and artifacts many years ago. They have them beautifully displayed in their barns. They have diligently taken time to identify each item displayed, and can easily

give you the full history pertaining to each.

This the Clover Hill Farm tour made for a very special day for all who attended, and we are very thankful to the Corson family for opening their barns and stables for our members to see. Everyone who attended had an enjoyable "historical" afternoon.

- Donna Marie Disimile

2015 Membership Renewals

As a friendly reminder, if you have not sent them in already, dues for 2015 memberships are now due. Please submit the completed form below with your renewal. We appreciate your continued support! - Ann Scott and Curtis J. Porcello Sr.

I / we would like to support the Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle, a non-profit educational corporation, with its programs and scholarly projects by becoming a member.

Enclosed is my check made payable to the Union Landing Historical Society for \$ _____.

Annual Memberships

- Individual: \$15.00
- Family: \$35.00
- Sponsor: \$125.00
- Corporate: \$150.00

Life Membership

Individual: \$300.00 (one-time payment)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

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