



Union Landing Historical Society

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 4

Available at Brielle Borough Hall,
the Curtis House and mailed to U.L.H.S.
members each Jan/Apr/July/Oct

October 1st, 2008

www.briellehistory.org

Editor: Suzanne J. Shea

From the Holmquist Files...

By Natalie R. Holmquist

The following article appeared in the August 7, 1997 issue of The Coast Star in the "Recapping the Record" column: 50 Years Ago. Friday, August 8, 1947 "The Brielle Chamber of Commerce appointed a committee to conduct a campaign for relief of the residents of Brielle, Holland, the town which Brielle was named after. At the time, Brielle Holland, a seaport of about 5000 inhabitants living near the North Sea

coast at the mouth of the Meuse of Mass. River, 14 miles west of Rotterdam, were starving. The committee consisted of John Howell, William Ragsdale, Lloyd R. Wilson, Netherlands was living under a Raymond Gearing and Joseph Gill." The citizens of Brielle, system of rigid rationing. The people Holland, must have been touched by and grateful for the barely had enough food to survive. concern of the citizens of their sister town, Brielle, New Jersey.

Helen Holmquist, author of The Brielle Story and mother of Richard Holmquist, had a great interest in local history, which inspired her daughter-in-law, Natalie Holmquist, to start collecting newspaper clippings, articles and notations from various sources about the early days in this vicinity.

A POST WAR KINDNESS



Funds collected by the committee were used to purchase goods that could be readily shipped across the sea. The committee consisted of John Howell, William Ragsdale, Lloyd R. Wilson, Netherlands was living under a Raymond Gearing and Joseph Gill." The citizens of Brielle, system of rigid rationing. The people Holland, must have been touched by and grateful for the barely had enough food to survive. concern of the citizens of their sister town, Brielle, New Jersey.

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9-11 Memorial Garden

By E. David DuPre, Project Coordinator
The Union Landing Historical Society conducted its annual 9/11 Memorial Observance on Saturday, September 13th at our site here in Brielle. Karen Lunder, widow of 9/11 victim Christopher E. Lunder of South Wall, and her family were honored at the service.

Following the Invocation by Deacon Donald Perusi of St. Denis Church, Manasquan, Boy Scouts of Brielle Troop 63 lowered the flag to half-staff. At that point the Necrology was read by Janet Owens of the Brielle First Aid Squad and Taps was played by Scout Sean Tobin. Mrs. Lunder was then escorted to the monument by Mayor Nicol and Police Sgt. Tomkiel where she placed a beautiful floral piece in memory of the deceased. In the meantime the Boy Scouts removed the flag from the pole and ceremoniously folded it for its presentation by Mayor Nicol to Mrs. Lunder. Deacon Perusi concluded the ceremony with the Benediction.

At a special ceremony preceding the 9/11 Observance Ruth Harms, representing the Harms Family of Brielle, whose construction company built the new Route 70 bridge over the Manasquan River, presented a segment of the old demolished bridge to the U.L.H.S. and the Borough. It represents the fact that the old bridge had been designated by the State of New Jersey as the 9/11 Memorial Bridge and it was fitting to install it at the 9/11 site. It was also indicated that the new bridge will again be designated as the 9/11 Memorial Bridge. It is posted with two sets of bronze plaques, one set each for the east and west sides of the bridge, each set composed of one Dedication plaque and the other containing the names of those killed from Monmouth and Ocean Counties.

Wording of the Dedication: This bridge is dedicated to those individuals who lost their lives on this day and to those who have lost a family member, friend, neighbor or co-worker. May this dedication be a reminder, not of destruction and pain but of enduring spirit, courage and unity of the American people, proclaimed by our forefathers that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights: that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.

U.L.H.S. Standing Committee Updates:

Thanks to this issue's contributors: John Belding, Raymond Shea, David DuPre, Natalie Holmquist and Janice Wurfel.

Historical Osborn Graveyard

By John E. Belding, Project Coordinator

More forward movement has been realized concerning our responsibilities for the maintenance of the Osborn Burial Ground. You may recall the "forest" at the lower end of the graveyard continues to deteriorate. The Brielle Department of Public Works has again been most helpful to us and has seen to the removal of two large dead trees and a smaller one. It was feared a hurricane or even a nor'easter might topple one or more on to our fence or one of the stones. In addition there are two live tall trees rather near the perimeter of the property that may prove a problem and we have a request in for their removal at a time convenient to the schedule of the Department. We desire to have a preponderance of holly trees in that forested area. The newly planted weeping flowering cherry tree planted within the graveyard seems to be doing well.

History Book Committee

By Raymond F. Shea, Chairman

The Society is very close to signing a contract with a publisher for our next book. The History Press, based in Salem, MA has offered us a deal very similar to Arcadia publishing in that the project requires no cash outlay on our part and the publisher bears all the costs for marketing and distribution into retail channels. As in the past, the Society will pre-order a large quantity of books and pre-sell them prior to the release date. On our current timetable with the publisher, release is anticipated to be Brielle Day 2009, coinciding with the 90th anniversary of the incorporation of the Borough.

The content of this new book will differ substantially from the Arcadia book. It will be a comprehensive history of Brielle from the pre-historic Indian settlements here through the Twenty-first century. There will be about 125-175 pages and about 70 illustrations, some of which may be in color. We expect the cover price to be around \$21.99 and the proceeds from sales will directly benefit the Society's many programs.

BOOK MEETING SCHEDULE: (at Boro Hall)

OCTOBER: Tuesday OCT 7th, 10am
Tuesday OCT 14th, 10am - Tuesday OCT 21st, 10am - Monday Evening OCT 27th, 7:30pm
NOVEMBER: Tuesday NOV 4th, 10am - Tuesday NOV 11th, 10am - Monday Evening NOV 17th, 7:30pm - Tuesday NOV 25th, 10am
DECEMBER: Tuesday DEC 2nd, 10am - Tuesday DEC 9th, 10am - Tuesday DEC 16th, 10am

+ Proofreading meetings as necessary.

Union Landing Historical Society
P.O. Box 473, Brielle, NJ 08730

YOUR HISTORY QUESTION ANSWERED

Your History Question Answered
by John Belding, Borough Historian

Have your question answered! E-mail to info@briellehistory.org and watch for your answer in an upcoming U.L.H.S. Newsletter!

A number of people have inquired regarding the current status of the historic Glimmer Glass Bridge. This bridge in its entirety has recently been placed on the N J Register and also the National Register of Historic Sites. It is now protected from arbitrary destruction or change, which has been the fate of so many historic structures in our state. The present choice is a total rehabilitation of this bridge for approx. \$4,000,000 or a similar new bridge for over \$10,000,000 (partly funded by federal funds which are in short supply at this time). The county engineers have not contested this to be a basically sound structure with a significantly efficient bascule-type drawbridge design. The Union Landing Historical Society will be designated an official Consulting Party working with and through the New Jersey Department of Transportation during the process of deciding when and how to proceed.

Borough Historian's "It Was Only Yesterday" collection of historical vignettes:
<http://www.briellehistory.org/archive.htm>

U.L.H.S. CALENDAR

October 11th, 2008 - Archives/History Day at 125 Symmes Dr, Manalapan 10am - 3pm. Free & open to all.

October 19th, 2008 - General Membership Meeting and Annual Harvest Home Dinner covered dish social 4:30pm, Curtis House, INVITATION ENCLOSED!

November 23rd, 2008 - Special Program - details to be announced, 2pm, Curtis House

January 2009 - Membership Dues - new membership cards will be distributed throughout 2009

January 13th, 2009 - 10am Borough Historian's Office, nominations for 2009 officers due

THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN BRIELLE DAY
a couple of cases of soda are available, suggested donation \$24/case of 24 bottles, call 732.528.1079

BRIELLE HISTORY NOTECARDS ARE BACK!
\$5/donation per pack of 10

Thanks to Squan Village Historical Society for inviting us to their Sept 10th Fall Meeting and Dinner. U.L.H.S. welcomes you to our Harvest Home Dinner 10-19-08!

U.L.H.S. WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS!
The Corrigans, The Nolans and The Zilais

EDITOR'S NOTE: To better publicize our events, the U.L.H.S. newsletter publication schedule will be changing in 2009 to February, May, August and November. Any suggestions, ideas or people who wish to write a column to expand the newsletter are more than welcome, kindly contact us to be included! We want to hear what you have to say! Happy Holidays and you will hear from us in February 2009!

★ RENEW Your Membership or JOIN the Union Landing Historical Society ★

Yes! I would like to assist the Union Landing Historical Society, Inc., a non-profit educational corporation, with its programs and events by becoming a member. Enclosed is my check to the Union Landing Historical Society, Inc. for \$ _____. Your contribution is tax deductible. Membership includes a quarterly newsletter and membership card.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP:	NAME _____
Student.....\$7.00	ADDRESS _____
Individual.....\$10.00	CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____
Family.....\$35.00	PHONE _____ EMAIL _____
Sponsor.....\$100.00	CREDIT CARD #: _____ EXP _____ SEC CODE _____
Corporate.....\$300.00	Mail along with your check or credit card information to: Union Landing Historical Society, Inc. P.O. Box 473 Brielle, NJ 08730
Life Membership.....\$500.00	
www.briellehistory.org	MEMBERSHIP DRIVE ULHS is doing a lot of great projects for our community. Please ask your family, friends and neighbors to join today! We need your support to continue and grow our programs!

Thank You!