



# Union Landing Historical Society

Quarterly Newsletter  
Volume 3 Issue 1  
Available at Brielle Borough Hall,  
the Curtis House and mailed to U.L.H.S.  
members each Feb/May/Aug/Nov

February 1st, 2009

www.briellehistory.org

Editor: Suzanne J. Shea

## From the Holmquist Files... ***THEY KEPT THE HOME FIRES BURNING***

By Natalie R. Holmquist

During World War II, the women of Brielle and surrounding towns did their part in "keeping the home fires burning."

Although many women took jobs in factories, etc., to replace the men in service, many others put their efforts into volunteering. Members of the American Women's Volunteer Service organized young people in salvaging metal and other wanted materials, trained members of the community in Red Cross classes, provided motor transportation and acted as black out wardens at night.

The Brielle unit of the American Women's Volunteer Service opened a servicemen's club on Ashley Avenue with ping pong, cards, books, games, refreshments and whatever would create a homelike atmosphere for men in our country's service. Weekly dances were held there. In December, A. W. Dorrer, owner of a local food market, donated a Christmas tree which club members decorated. Sometimes dances were held at the Manasquan River Yacht Club.

The women in the American Women's Volunteer Service proudly wore the uniform dictated by the national organization as they went about their many duties. These women showed the world that American women were not soft and helpless, but were able to contribute to the war effort to help our beloved country.



During World War II women played a large role in a volunteer effort for those on the home front. These unknown members of the Brielle chapter of the American Woman's Volunteer Services provided weekly dances and canteens for soldiers along with teaching Red Cross and acting as black-out wardens.

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.

## 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

The Osborn Burial Ground Director is pleased to report our small historic graveyard has at this point in time received statewide attention. It is now listed in the New Jersey Points of Interest publication and also on the Points of Interest Map published by the Advocates for New Jersey History. This is a segment of the Wayfinding Initiative sponsored by Celebrate New Jersey. It is pleasing to note the Society's efforts to restore and preserve this graveyard have been met with approval by the professional historical community of our state.

### History Book Committee

By Raymond F. Shea, Chairman

The ULHS is currently under contract with The History Press of Salem, MA to publish a new book on the history of Brielle. The new publication will be a comprehensive history of the Borough from the earliest known Indian settlements to the present day. It will be illustrated with photos, maps and drawings, but it will not be a picture book with captions like our last book. Already the committee has selected 85 images for publication, most of which have not been previously published anywhere. We are working on the final revisions of the text prior to submission to the publisher. Our deadline stands at February 13, 2009 and I anticipate we will be working on the draft actively until then. If there are any stories, anecdotes or reminiscences of life and times in Brielle our committee would be pleased to hear them, please contact me directly at 732-528-7432 or by email rfshea@briellehistory.org.

We are anticipating a release date of September 12, 2009 - Brielle Day. This will coincide with the 90th anniversary of the incorporation of the Borough and the new book will definitely include more new information on the reasons for and the process of our Borough's formation.

### 9-11 Memorial Garden

By E. David DuPre, Project Coordinator

Once again the South Monmouth 9/11 Memorial Garden in Brielle became the beneficiary of an Eagle Scout project. This time the project was initiated by James Patrick Mulligan, brother of Andrew Mulligan of Riverview Drive who completed his Eagle Scout project three years ago at the same site. At that time Andrew designed and brought to fruition a semi-circular planting of shrubs partially surrounding the flag pole and added two garden benches adjacent to the Necrology stanchion. Following up on Andrew's project, James planned to protect the garden plantings from being trampled upon by erecting a seven-section post and rail fence behind the row of arborvitae and interspersing rose bushes along the fence. At the same time he designed and erected a large sign at the upper end of the site identifying the tract as the 9/11 memorial site.

An Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held at the Curtis House on the evening of December 29 at which Eagle Scout Candidate James P. Mulligan was recognized. Oldest brother, Glenn, also an Eagle Scout, gave the Scout Oath while brother Andrew conferred the Eagle Charge. Scoutmaster Frank Hines presented the Eagle Scout Award, with mother Mary Anne, again pinning another of her sons. Edna Black and Karen Rock of Troop 156, Howell, presented the Eagle Neckerchief and Patch. Brielle's Mayor Thomas B. Nicol read a Proclamation recognizing Eagle Scout James Mulligan's accomplishment and declaring December 29th as James Patrick Mulligan Day in Brielle. Following a few words by James' father and benediction by Monsignor Ladzinski of Bay Head, the ceremony adjourned for a reception.

*Please check to see if your U.L.H.S. dues are current.*

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](mailto:info@briellehistory.org) and watch for your answer in an upcoming U.L.H.S. Newsletter!

It has been asked if it is possible to identify the various women elected to the Brielle Borough Council and their terms of service.

Cecille M. Legg was the first lady Councilperson who began service in 1930 and was twice re-elected thus serving continuously through 1938. Mary S. Brindle served during the years 1956 through 1961. Ann Scott has served from 1981 till the present. Mamie Moon served during the years 1985 through 1998. Virginia Gould served 1999-2000 and Gina R. Murdoch served 2002-2005.

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

## U.L.H.S. CALENDAR

- January 13, 2009 - Nominations for slate of new officers and trustees
- February 10, 2009 - 10 am, Special Meeting in Brielle Council Chambers: Election of Officers/Officer Installation, Final Review of History Book Manuscript
- March 22, 2009 - Exciting Field Trip! Meet at the Curtis House at 1:30 pm. We will be traveling to a location approximately 10 miles away! Possible \$5/person fee.
- April 25, 2009 - 10th Annual Antique Road Show 2-4 pm at the Curtis House.
- May 24, 2009 - Fourth Annual Decoration Day Observance Program, Historical Osborn Graveyard, Holly Hill Road at 2pm - Details TBA
- June 12, 2009 - Second Annual Flag Day Ceremony with Cub Scout Pack 63 at 6 pm at the 9-11 Memorial Garden, Riverview Drive
- August 30, 2009 - General Meeting, 2 pm at the Curtis House - Brielle Day preparation
- September 12th, 2009 - Brielle Day, Annual Sarsaparilla Sale, Visit the Brielle Museum & Book Release
- September 2009 - 9-11 Memorial Observance, 9-11 Memorial Garden, Riverview Drive, Date/Time TBA
- October 10th, 2009 - Archives/History Day at 125 Symmes Drive, Manalapan 10 am - 3 pm. Free & open to all. Plan on attending!
- October 18th, 2009 - General Membership Meeting and Annual Harvest Home Dinner covered dish social 4 pm at the Curtis House
- November 22, 2009 - Special Program/Details TBA

CERAMICS - CLOCKS - FOLK ART - FURNITURE - GLASS - JEWELRY &

ART - ARMS, ARMOR & MILITIA - BOOKS, MANUSCRIPTS & MAPS

UNION LANDING HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S  
TENTH ANNUAL

### ANTIQUES...COLLECTIBLES...TREASURES *ROAD SHOW*

SATURDAY, APRIL 25th, 2009 from 2 to 4:00 pm  
CURTIS HOUSE, 644 UNION LANE, BRIELLE, NEW JERSEY

*Three knowledgeable appraisers will be present:*

Clara Johnson		John Weaver
Point Pleasant Antique Emporium		
Col. Bob Randolph	Point Pleasant Beach	Antiques Consultant
Randolph Galleries		Wall Township
Manasquan		

*Bring in antiques to be appraised or just come to listen!*

*Hear the stories of the antiques brought in!*

*Donation: \$5 per item to benefit the Union Landing Historical Society.*

*Bring seven items and enjoy a ride in a 1931 Model A Ford Roadster with rumble seat!*

For more information visit [www.briellehistory.org](http://www.briellehistory.org) or call 732.528.5867

Bring your antiques, collectibles and treasures to see what they may be worth!

SILVER, METAL - TOYS & BANKS - FRAMES - PRINTS - SCULPTURE

WATCHES - LIGHTING - NEEDLEWORK - RUGS-TAPESTRIES - GOLD

**BRIELLE HISTORY NOTECARDS ARE BACK!**  
**A COUPLE OF CASES OF SARSAPARILLA STILL AVAILABLE!**



This little row boat was built by a Lakewood egg farmer in the late 1920's. It was purchased for \$5 by a Brielle summer resident who's grandson, pictured here is a current member of the historical society. It was appraised at \$1200 by Colonel Bob Randolph at the Sixth Annual Antiques Road Show.