



UNION COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



On April 6, 2014 the Society held its 145th anniversary dinner in the Garden Restaurant on Magie Avenue in Elizabeth. It was well attended with over thirty members and guests present.

Our President, Charles Shallcross, conducted the meeting and introduced the principal speaker, Lester Sargent, whose subject was about the ten recipients from Union County who had been awarded the Medal of Honor from our government. The medal itself dates back to the Civil War.



During the course of the afternoon we were honored

Society Website

The Society wishes to announce that it now has a website which will feature some of the activities in which



Through the past several months Les had been doing extensive research about this subject and had located names and information about these heroes, including pictures of some.

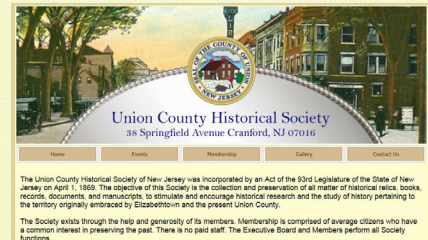
Les's efforts have resulted in inspiring the Freeholders to place a monument to these brave men on the south-west grounds of the Courthouse.

Accompanying Les's talk was a display of several pictures related to the talk.

by the presence of the Mayor of Elizabeth, Chris Bollwage,



who expressed a few thoughts about his interest in history and its need to be preserved.



the society will engage. There will also be items of interest to our members. To access this new website use www.unioncountyhistoricalsocietynj.org.

The fact that this website exists is due to the efforts of Barbara Sokol, who has made all of the arrangements with the organization that has wet it up.

The Society will be able to operate most of the functions of the website, such as adding pictures and items of current events. The bi-monthly news letter may also be included.



Pictures From Our Files

Although it would seem that only the rolling stock of a railroad is what moves, there have been exceptions. One of these is the old Roselle station of the Central Railroad of New Jersey.

The first scheduled stop in the Roselle area was near the old colonial road crossing at Linden Road, and named Mulford because of the many families of that name nearby. This station was not much larger than a good-sized two car garage with a loft. However, by 1865 the Village of Roselle had been laid out west of that station, and by 1866 it was a growing town.

The railroad acknowledged this growth and built a new depot on the north side of the tracks and called it Roselle. This was a much larger two-story building with living space on the second floor for the station agent.

This structure served the commuters and travelers for about twenty-five years, to a time when the railroad began to replace many of its older stations Roselle received a new Spanish-style station with waiting rooms on both sides of the tracks, but what about

the old station?

It was still a usable building, and instead of tearing it down, it was lifted off of its foundation and moved a few hundred feet to a new location on the south side of Westfield Avenue.

Our photo shows it resting on its new foundation shortly after the move, and not yet restored and converted to the tenement house that it served as for many years.

Boright Resumes Writing

Member Walter Boright is back to writing a monthly history feature for the Cranford Chronicle. He resumed doing so this past December after a hiatus of about a year and a half. He has written 31 articles so far. One of particular interest to our readers is probably the one about the "Shoot-out at Borough Hall" on January 1, 1940 when an employee tried to assassinate members of the council and the mayor. You can read this December 27, 2013 article by going to [www.nj.com/cranford/.../remembering the New years.html](http://www.nj.com/cranford/.../remembering_the_New_years.html).

Welcome Sweet Springtime

Well, it seems as though Spring has finally arrived and the huge piles of plowed snow have disappeared. The ice on the Rahway River is gone as are the skaters who left their skate marks on it.

The walkways to the Hanson House are again free of snow. Across the river the Canoe Club has its canoes on display, ready for use.

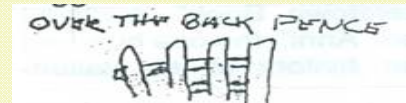
Here and there the grass is beginning to turn green and the daffodils have popped up in full bloom.



Members of the society are again working their way up the stairs to the office and catching up on the work that could not be done because of the interfering snow.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Society will not be on June 1, 2014. At the present time it is scheduled for the Hanson House, but the location and date may be changed because of a special program which may be available.



Many thanks to Charles Shallcross and Roger Frolich, Bill's son, for their great help while Bill was in the hospital and rehabilitation center.

It was indeed a pleasure to see Dick Koles at our dinner after his long period of convalescence at home.