

**News Release - For Immediate Release**

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**Subject:** Base Ball Lecture Hunterdon County Historical Society

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Flemington, NJ

***A Cradle of the National Pastime  
New Jersey Base Ball 1855-1880***



***Spring membership meeting and lecture- free and open to the public!***

Baseball historian and author John Zinn is the guest speaker at the Hunterdon County Historical Society's spring meeting on **Sunday, March 11 @ 2:00 p.m.** The meeting and lecture will be held at the Presbyterian Church, 10 East Main Street in Flemington.

Since 2010, John Zinn has been an independent historian with special interest in the history of baseball. He is the author of three books about the Brooklyn Dodgers including the first full-length biography of Dodger owner Charles Ebbets to be published in the spring of 2018. Mr. Zinn is serving as the guest curator for an exhibit on early New Jersey baseball history at the Morven Museum in Princeton, opening in June of 2018. He is also writing the companion book to the exhibit.

The afternoon lecture will begin with the early days of organized baseball describing New Jersey's important role during the antebellum period. After looking at baseball during the Civil War, the focus will shift to the post war years in New Jersey. The 19<sup>th</sup> century baseball game and how it differs from the modern version will be discussed along with a look at the *Flemington Neshanock*, one of Hunterdon County's first baseball teams. In his spare time, Mr. Zinn is the score keeper for the Neshanock vintage baseball team!

A resident of Verona, New Jersey, Mr. Zinn holds BA and MBA degrees from Rutgers University and is a Vietnam veteran. He is the chairman of the board of the New Jersey Historical Society and chaired New Jersey's committee on the Civil War Sesquicentennial.

The talk will last about 50 minutes, followed by questions; refreshments will be served. For more information, [www.hunterdonhistory.org](http://www.hunterdonhistory.org) or call 908-782-1091.