

## SADDLE BROOK FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

### SADDLE BROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY – AUGUST 2014

It is with sadness that we acknowledge the passing of one of our highly valued Historical Society members. John Sistar, who passed away on June 24, 2014 had an exemplary life as one who contributed to our township and our nation.

During World War II, John served on a submarine tender in the North Atlantic. His family was instrumental in the formation of Engine Company # 2. John joined the then Saddle River Township Fire Department at the age of twenty-four, the beginning of sixty-five years of service. He became the department's chief in 1978-79. Having owned his own plumbing and heating business, John became our township's first full-time building inspector and code official. He also served on the township's planning and zoning board. John was a member of American Legion Post 415 and was a Boy Scout Leader of Pack 213.

As an enthusiastic member of the Saddle Brook Historical Society, John was the first to contribute extensive information about his family and archival materials going back to 1900. He was the Society's expert on the Plauderville (Garfield) side of our township. John's contribution to our state award-winning history, *Saddle Brook: A Portrait of Our Past*, has been noted with great appreciation. Several pages of John's recollections of Saddle Brook's "old days" are highlighted in the book.

Reportedly, John didn't want a eulogy; he felt that the people who had known him knew who he was. That was characteristic of John, a talented, unassuming, giving good guy.

Jack Wasdyke, - Township Historian

