



# FMHA

FORT MILES HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
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Fall/Winter 2005

## **Welcome to the Newsletter of the Fort Miles Historical Association.**

### *Membership Information*

Our FMHA membership continues to grow! We are now near the “magic” 400 member tally which demonstrates the interest folks have in both our organization and our mission. The summer and fall Antique and Craft shows brought in another 40 or so members (and a special thanks goes out to the FMHA members who worked the four events and Fran and Bev for organization.) I would ask that you continue to talk up FMHA as the more members we have the more “clout” we have in furthering our mission to preserve and protect” Fort Miles. We are going to launch a new/renew membership campaign beginning at our annual meeting in April, 2006 (see below). We are going to open several new membership categories such as student, small business and life membership. We will have flashy new “rack card” with membership information. More info about membership on this website soon.

### *WWII Weekend in April 2006 and Annual FMHA Meeting*

The annual FMHA meeting will be held at the Fort Miles Orientation Building in the Cantonment (across the road from the Observation Tower, last building on the right) on Saturday, April 29, 2006 from 1-3 pm. This will be an opportunity for members to meet with FMHA officers, hear what has been happening over the last year, purchase FMHA materials and later that evening at 8 pm, attend a 1943 dance to be held in the same building with a “swing” band. FMHA worked with the Park staff this past year on these dances and they were a great success! We expect that same success this year!

### *FMHA Winter/Spring 2006 Upcoming Events*

FMHA would like you to put the following date on your calendar: Saturday, January 21, 1-4 pm Biden Center in the State Park. Dr. Gary Wray and Lee Jennings will be presenting two lectures on Fort Miles with refreshments being served. This will also be an opportunity to purchase the new book authored by both Gary and Lee with proceeds going to FMHA as well as othe FMHA materials. We have some new T-shirts and tote bags which are really neat! Call Gary at 645-0753 if you plan to attend so we can get numbers for refreshments.

## *Fort Miles Board of Directors*

Your FMHA Board meets every month to do the business of the organization. Your Board members are (and a big “Thank You” to all of them for their hard work on this project): Ted George, Secretary; Steve Hyle, Treasurer; Bev Dalecki, Fran Richmann; David Main; Bob Frederick, and Joe Johnson. And thanks to Lee Jennings as always!

### *Towers Campaign*

As mentioned in the last newsletter, Steve Hyle, Bob Frederick, David Main and Gary are working on a capital campaign to restore Fire Control Tower 3, and southernmost tower at Dewey Beach for public access. We have joined forces with the Friends group of the Indian River Lifesaving Station led by Shirley Price to broaden the idea to include Sussex County WWII veteran memorial at the Tower. We are in the process of working on a Memo of Understanding between our two groups to further this exciting effort. It is expected that we will need somewhere in the range of \$250,000 to open the tower for our public. More info on this effort as plans progress.

### *Lewes Brochure*

Your FMHA team worked with the Lewes Chamber of Commerce on the really nice enclosed brochure celebrating all the things one can do in the Lewes area during the winter and spring. We are enclosing a copy of the brochure for you and ask that you look over it. If you have one, just pass it on to another interested party that you know.

### *FMHA Friends Group Approved*

Over the last several months the FMHA has been working with the state to work out a Friends group agreement that will recognize FMHA as the only Friends group working with the Parks and Recreation on Fort Miles. I am happy to report that at our FMHA board meeting on November 29, 2005 the agreement was approved. We will talk more about this important agreement at our annual meeting on April 29, 2006.

### *Website Newsletter*

This will be the last newsletter that will be mailed by regular mail. The size of the organization and the expense of mailing (the PO has announced a raise next year for first class), plus the success of our website, means that for those who have computers the next newsletter and all others will be posted on our website. For those of you who do not have computers contact Gary so I can make a note to continue to mail you a hard copy.

[www.fortmiles.org](http://www.fortmiles.org)