

## SPRING 2016

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# THE BATTERY

## GROUNDBREAKING KICKS OFF FORT'S EXPANSION



Fort Miles and Delaware officials broke ground Feb. 20 on an artillery park that will feature seven big guns from the World War II fort's collection. Shown (l-r) are David Small, secretary of the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control; Ray Bivens, director of the Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation; Ted George, member, Fort Miles Historical Association; Mike Dunkes, FMHA secretary; George M. Ward, Jim Pierce, Larry Boyer, FMHA board members; Dr. Gary D. Wray, FMHA president; Anna Lopez; Sen. Ernie Lopez, R-Lewes; Claire Lopez; Bob Frederick, FMHA vice president; Rep. Stephen T. Smyk, R-Milton/Lewes; and FMHA board members Joe Johnson, Beverly Dalecki, Cliff Geisler and Joe Kosaveach.

*Photo by Ann Ward*

# 3 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

**1 BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER  
AND VOLUNTEER**

**2 GIVE A DONATION  
TO SUPPORT OUR  
RESTORATION WORK**

**3 REMEMBER A HERO  
ON THE WALL OF HONOR**



## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT DR. GARY WRAY

Welcome to the 13th year of Fort Miles Historical Association – a year we expect will be exciting and busy. Several important events are planned this year, and we must thank our more than 320 members for their continuing support and our active board of directors for keeping the momentum going. Each and every board member works hard for FMHA as do our busy Bunker Busters, who volunteer every Thursday and Friday in the museum and outside in the Fort Miles historic area. If you would like to join us, contact John Roberts or me. Here are activities for this year.

### Artillery park work in progress

Workers are moving dirt beside the Orientation Building to pour concrete pads for our artillery pieces and for a walkway to what will be the northwest entrance to the Fort Miles museum. Kent Construction won the general bid recently and will subcontract with our friends at Lockwood Brothers, who moved the Missouri barrel in 2012 from Dahlgren, Va., to Fort Miles. Lockwood will move each gun to its new pad. The big pad will be for the Missouri gun barrel, its girder and slide, right outside the future museum entrance. When completed, the middle barrel of the BB 63 will sit majestically overlooking the Delaware coastline as did the Cape Henlopen Lighthouse.

We held a groundbreaking ceremony Saturday, Feb. 18, 2016, with DNREC Secretary David Small, Delaware State Parks

Director Ray Bivens and Delaware legislators, including state Sen. Ernie Lopez and state Rep. Steve Smyk, at the artillery park site to launch the effort. It will take at least four months, depending on weather, to finish the construction that has been planned for more than three years. Thanks should go to our state partners for working with us shoulder to shoulder to make real this exciting addition to Fort Miles. After the pads are poured and the guns placed, our Bunker Busters will build the walkway that will connect the pads. All funds for this project were secured through fundraising, grants from the Delaware Legislature and our state parks partners.

### Building to house bathrooms

Near the artillery park, we will install a new lavatory facility beside the Orientation Building. Thanks to a grant from the Longwood Foundation for \$245,000, we will have a new building for "rest stops" inside the Fort Miles historical complex to replace portables that we have had for years. This upgrade is important because part of our strategic vision is becoming a "destination" for field trips for adults and school kids.

A new lavatory facility will make for a better experience for our Fort Miles visitors. Our Bunker Busters will landscape and finish outside prep work for this building during the year. This building will be across the road from our new mess hall built by our Bunker Busters inside a barrack. Both facilities will help us better serve our visitors.

### Tower 3 project to tell our story

In 2007, FMHA signed a Memo of Understanding with our fellow Friends group to the south, the Delaware Seashore Preservation Foundation, to work together to rehab Tower 3 at Dewey Beach and open it to visitors. In December 2015, both groups decided to work more closely to focus our efforts on fundraising to achieve our goal.

Our state parks partners have designed a wonderful complex that links the tower with the bathhouse at Dewey Beach and becomes a rest stop for visitors and a site where we can tell the Fort Miles story for our southern coastline guests. In August 2003, Fort Miles Historical Association was born in front of Tower 3 with Lee Jennings (the late Delaware State Parks historian), David Main, Bob Frederick and this writer. We spoke to an audience (which included Jim O'Neill of Delaware State Parks and Chazz Salkin, former Delaware State Parks leader) about the importance of the towers.

It has always been the goal of FMHA to tell the story of Fort Miles beginning at Tower 1, up to Tower 2 and then in much more detail at Tower 3. This joint project between FMHA and DSPF will do that. Most folks do not know the role the towers played in the Fort Miles story. This new project will tell that story, inform our downstate friends about Fort Miles and invite them to visit our museum inside Battery 519 at Cape Henlopen State Park.

*Continued on page 3*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### President

Dr. Gary Wray

### Vice President

Bob Frederick

### Secretary

Mike Dunkes

### Treasurer

Larry Boyer

### Assistant Treasurer

Joe Johnson

### Board Members

Merlin Beil

Bev Dalecki

Cliff Geisler

Joe Kosaveach

Dan Lyons

Jim Pierce

John Roberts

George Ward

## MISSION

The Fort Miles Historical Association is a nonprofit group that has its mission to preserve, protect and defend all aspects of Fort Miles working with community and state stakeholders and other interested parties. The FMHA also has its goal to work as an active partner with the State of Delaware to develop the historical potential of Fort Miles.

To learn more, visit

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



On Facebook: FortMiles1942

## NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY — MIKE DUNKES

### Be part of a winning Delaware team



An important change in the way we handle membership records is in place. FMHA has purchased a new software program that will allow us to better manage memberships and communicate with you. To properly implement the new program, your membership has been entered into the software program with a renewal date of July 1, 2016.

If you received this newsletter, you are listed as a member through July 1, 2016. The one exception is if you renewed after Jan. 1, 2016, your membership is not due for renewal until July 1, 2017. We encourage you to renew now. Your renewal between now and July 1 will not be due for renewal until July

2017. The new renewal form is included in this newsletter.

You will note that we list membership and contributions separately. Contributions above the sustaining membership level will include a one-year membership but will be recorded as a contribution to FMHA in addition to membership. Contributors above membership levels will be recognized in future publications and fundraising campaigns. Please check the box if you do not want your name included in our publications.

Also, we are offering our new Fort Miles Historical Association hat at the reduced price of \$15. Check the box and add \$15 to your renewal form to receive an FMHA hat with your membership confirmation.

Your membership is the anchor of our association. When we apply for grants and state funding, our membership and volunteer hours are an important part of those applications. With your support, we have successfully secured funding for a new restroom facilities building and the first stage of our gun park. Construction is under way on the gun park. None of this could have happened without your continued support.

That support extends well beyond FMHA. You may have heard that Delaware State Parks won a prestigious national award. The American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration announced that DNREC's Division of Parks and Recreation (Delaware State Parks) has won the National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in the state parks systems category. The award recognizes state parks systems based on their ability to address the needs of the people they serve through the efforts of citizens, staff and elected officials.

Hats off to Delaware and its state parks system. We are a small state, but the parks administration supports an atmosphere of cooperation with FMHA and other Friends of state parks groups, and we were able to rise to the top.

Gary Wray, Cliff Geisler, Larry Boyer and I recently represented FMHA at a meeting in Dover for Friends groups from all state-run parks in Delaware. Ray Bivens, Matt Chesser, Matt Ritter and others representing the parks administration made it clear that the recognition would not have been possible without the support of the Friends groups.

FMHA is proud to be among the top volunteer groups in Delaware with more than 13,000 volunteer hours in 2015. We welcome you to explore volunteer opportunities with FMHA. We have fun and enjoy contributing. If you want to join, contact me at [mdunkes@verizon.net](mailto:mdunkes@verizon.net).

# FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

( . . . Continued from page 2 )



*The News Journal published this photo of the move on Feb. 11, 2016.*

We see this as a 10-year project but its completion will be a magnificent addition to our Delaware seacoast.

## Artwork moves to Fort Miles museum

Several important pieces of Fort Miles artwork will be displayed in our museum. In 1978, I became the Cape Henlopen administrator in charge of the Lewes school on Savannah Road and, on my first day of cafeteria duty, I met the Howard Schroeder painting of the Fort Miles soldiers in a tower looking at ships. For years, students in the school looked at that Schroeder painting in the cafeteria. In the early 1980s, as the district-level administrator in charge of the school, I asked the school board to move the piece to the town of Lewes because the district planned to remodel the school. I was concerned about how the painting would be handled during construction. Now the wheel is coming full circle.

In 2012, I approached the town of Lewes and the Lewes library about allowing the General Miles (oil) painting by Mary Marshall and the Schroeder painting (on wood) to move to our museum and its new geothermal HVAC system. Town and library leadership agreed. This year, the two (with two Schroeder paintings in the Biden Center that our parks partners are lending to us) will be located inside a newly painted room in our museum. We have asked local artist Brax Hudson to help us design the room, and we recently gave Schroeder family members a view of what we have in mind to show their father's work. Brax has also agreed to design a work of art showing our display of our 16-inch Missouri gun on its new pad and it, too, will hang in the new Fort Miles Museum Art Room with the three Schroeders and the Miles painting. I am happy to report that Friday, Feb. 5, 2016, the two paintings were carefully moved to their new venue at the Fort Miles museum.

We have been working with the family of Mary Marshall, in Lewes and in California, to better tell her story.

Her father taught her to paint, and she excelled at portrait painting. Mary was one of the first painters of Adm. Ernest King, in 1937, before he became famous during wartime leading the U.S. naval effort against Germany and Japan. She moved to Delaware and married local banker and school board member Joe Marshall. She painted several important locals, including the Beebe family. With a commission from the officers of Fort Miles, she painted the oil portrait of Gen. Nelson Miles, which was displayed for years in the fort's Officers Club. When the fort was decommissioned, the base commander gave the portrait to the town of Lewes to preserve.

That is how the Schroeder and Miles paintings were united upstairs in the Lewes library. It is our plan to tell the stories of these three local painters (Schroeder, Marshall and Hudson) in the museum's new art room. FMHA thanks the Marshall, Patterson and Schroeder families for collaborating with us on this project.

## Join us April 30

Our 2016 FMHA season opener will be our annual big spring event. We will use our new mess hall, renovated by our Bunker Busters during the past year, with staff provided by our companion Cape Henlopen State Park Friends group, Friends of Cape Henlopen. For the past several big spring events, FOCH has provided food for our many visitors and, this year, will have the mess hall with new picnic tables provided by Eagle Scouts led by Dr. Don Hattier. The event will begin at 10 a.m. and close at 3 p.m. with a Wall of Honor presentation inside our museum. The museum will be open for tours. We invite everyone to see what we have been doing for the past year.

## FMHA volunteer hours accumulate for 2015

As I mentioned, four of us began FMHA in August 2003 under Tower 3. During most of the early years, a few of us worked cleaning the inside of Battery 519. Gradually the organization grew as word spread about our vision. It is with great pride that FMHA reported 13,664 volunteer hours to the state for work at Fort Miles by our Bunker Busters (7,756) and our active board (5,908), with 32 of our volunteers qualifying for state park passes (100 or more hours qualifies for a pass) in 2015. This equals more than six full-time employees working on Fort Miles at no cost to the state, saving the state more than \$300,000 in employment costs (as figured by AARP). Ray Bivens, state parks director, said at our recent banquet that a key reason Delaware won a national award for the best-managed state park in the nation was the First State's tremendous parks volunteers. The efforts of the Bunker Busters and board members contributed greatly to the national state parks award. Lee Jennings would be very proud.

*Continued on page 5*

# A WARM FAREWELL AND A HEARTY WELCOME

At the beginning of 2015, a park administrator said it would be a year of change. Boy, was he right. This update will be the last I write for the FMHA newsletter. In September, I became park manager, which means that I am no longer the lead for the Fort Miles project.

I'm excited to introduce Sean Carrow, the new Fort Miles interpreter. Sean has been a long-standing seasonal interpreter for Fort Delaware State Park. He has extensive knowledge and passion for military history. Sean also brings a strong background in art and graphic design that will help develop displays around Fort Miles. He will take Fort Miles into many new directions that will improve the visitor experience.

I'm turning the rest of the column over to Sean Carrow so he can introduce himself and talk about events at Fort Miles. I wish Sean the best as he takes on this new challenge to bring Fort Miles to the forefront in educational programming.

— Shawn Heacock

Thank you, Shawn, and congratulations on becoming park manager. Hello and greetings to all FHMA members. As the new interpretive program manager at Fort Miles, I look forward to working with all of you to drive what Fort Miles has to offer its visitors.

This season, we're offering great programs, including daytime tours of Battery 519 and lantern tours at night. Mark your calendars for our big event April 30, 2016. We have been gearing up, getting guest speakers, volunteers and event programs made.

I know as the new interpretive program manager this will be a great way to launch the season, and I look forward to meeting everyone.

— Sean Carrow

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

(... Continued from page 4)

### New CAP 2 exhibit

Several years ago, I gave representatives of the Civil Air Patrol a tour of our museum. I learned they had nowhere in Delaware to tell their story of CAP 2 during World War II. We started the conversation with them to change that. The "first responders" to the German submarine attack on the East Coast, beginning in January 1942, were those "little yellow airplanes" of CAP. German submarines hated CAP because the boats were forced to dive to avoid them, making the U-boats abort their immediate mission (German submarines spent 90 percent of their time on the surface, only submerging to attack or avoid an attack).

A "race" began immediately after the war started between CAP 1 in Atlantic City, N.J., and CAP 2 in Rehoboth Beach, Del., to see which could be federalized first to fly missions. CAP 2 won. Those guys were heroes. Several were lost flying over the Atlantic against German submarines. Their valuable story needs to be told and our Fort Miles museum is the perfect place to do that.

This story is soon to be told in our FMHA museum because of the efforts of FMHA board Secretary Mike Dunkes and FMHA member Everett Bennett. Everett has done a wonderful job developing exhibits for our visitors, with storyboards of the role CAP 2 played during the war. Everyone attending our event April 30 is invited to see the CAP story, told in detail for the first time in our museum, because of the work of Everett and Mike.



Above is a site graphic for the Artillery Park at Fort Miles.

### Fort Miles on Facebook

We have a new Facebook page, thanks to the hard work of high school senior Sarah Koon, our Fort Miles intern (and nominated by U.S. Sen. Tom Carper to the U.S. Naval Academy). Visit [FortMiles1942](#) to stay current with our mission and activities. Board member George Ward, who heads our publicity effort, regularly posts photos on the page. If you have Fort Miles information that needs to be posted, contact George or me. You can also visit my Facebook page to see my recent talks at the Wilmington, Del., Rotary at the Hotel DuPont, the Bethany Beach Town Hall and other Fort Miles news.

# WE GET BY WITH HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

Larry Boyer, Treasurer



Several FMHA board members attended the Friends of Delaware State Parks Leadership Meeting in February, along with state parks leaders, friends groups and nonprofit organizations that promote the mission of state parks.

Parks staff shared its capital project process, staff changes and efforts to improve communication. The meeting included a roundtable discussion on those topics and a discussion among friends groups on how to work more effectively together to help Delaware parks.

Friends groups can shape individual park activities and legislation and serve as strong advocates for parks' missions. Members often attend and testify before Delaware legislative subcommittees to support DSP initiatives.

Ray Bivens, director of the Division of Parks and Recreation, shared that Delaware won the 2015 National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in the Field of Parks and Recreational Management. Ray's sincere words about how friends groups contributed to winning this award through volunteerism and advocacy were great to hear and well received.

Fort Miles Historical Association is a friends group that has partnered with Cape Henlopen State Park for many years to support the park's mission. In turn, the park supports FMHA's mission to establish a world-class World War II museum on a WWII site.

This partnership benefits each organization, the total of which is greater than the whole. Annually both organizations validate the partnership agreement, which outlines objectives and responsibilities. Also included are items such as annual plans, promotions and contracts. This document protects both organizations.

It's very important to remember that everything accomplished at Fort Miles couldn't have been done without this close partnership with DSP. For example, through the development of an annual plan, we mutually agree on restoration, marketing and other projects we expect to complete. This plan is vetted and approved by the FMHA board and senior parks personnel. We agree on who will do the work, when it will be done and how it will be funded. This is a good time to mention one of the most important dimensions of our partnership: volunteerism. Parks and FMHA cannot possibly finish all the projects on our lists. We depend on volunteers for that. FMHA is fortunate to have a very active board and an extremely talented and active group called the Bunker Busters to carry out projects on our list.

Making this happen are Cape Henlopen State Park Superintendent Paul Faircloth and his staff. They offer historical guidance, equipment, funding and engineering expertise.

Here is an example: The FMHA board requested and received a grant from the Longwood Foundation to help build a restroom facility near our barracks and Orientation Building. FMHA and Cape Henlopen State Park needed the facility for park visitors but neither had all of the funding, engineering and construction resources. Through mutual effort, the building will open this spring.

A second example of that cooperation is under way as this article goes to press. Fort Miles is acquiring two artillery shells similar to ones fired from the 16-inch gun barrel from the USS Missouri at the fort. Parks staff vetted the historical accuracy of the shells and FMHA's board negotiated with officials at the USS New Jersey Museum to obtain the shells. CHSP will donate the truck and trailer to pick up and deliver the shells. Bunker Busters will place the shells at the museum. That is partnership in action.

An Irish proverb says:

*There are good ships and wood ships,  
Ships that sail the sea,  
But the best ships are friendships,  
May they always be.*

For Cape Henlopen State Park and Fort Miles Historical Association, our relationship to help and support each other's mission and purpose is based on mutual respect and trust that are fundamental to our future.



*Bunker Busters build windows.*

# HISTORIC PAINTINGS MOVED TO FORT MILES



Photo by George M. Ward

Outside Lewes Public Library, Fort Miles volunteers carefully crate the Schroeder painting for transportation to Fort Miles. The painting will remain in its protective crate until being put on public display this year.

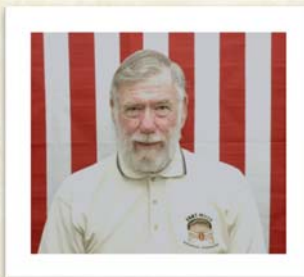


Photo by George M. Ward

Fort Miles Bunker Buster Pat Bragdon (left) and local artist Abraxas Hudson move the untitled Howard Schroeder painting of two soldiers standing watch in one of the fire control towers that line the coast of southern Sussex County. The painting had been in the old Lewes school's cafeteria before being moved to the Lewes library.

## SPREADING THE WORD, PREPPING THE GIFT SHOP

### George M. Ward, Publicity Chair



The Fort Miles Historical Association continues to receive a lot of favorable ink for our activities from local and statewide media, including articles and photos of the association's December banquet and acquisition of paintings of General Miles and fort activities. Look for much more as construction of the gun park and bathroom

facility moves forward. We also have a Facebook page that I encourage you to visit, like and SHARE to help us get our message out. We would like to no longer be considered Delaware's best-kept secret.

Two summers ago, we opened a gift shop in the Orientation Building on a very limited basis. It showed promise as a way to generate revenue for FMHA. Last summer, we expanded the hours of operation, which led to higher profits. It also helped promote tours of Battery 519 and the Fort Miles story.

I want to thank my wife, Ann and our co-leader, Kae Johnson. Kae schedules our volunteers and puts in many hours staffing the shop.

Thanks to volunteers Tom Anderson, Mike Boteler, Larry Boyer, Debbie Bragdon, Bev Dalecki, Irv and Sue Eberhart, Joe and Pat Frick, Cliff Geisler, Dan Lyons, Bill Manthorpe, Don McCauley, Marty McLaren, Jim Pierce, Don Taylor, Bob and Ellen Wheatley, George and Dottie Wiker and Bill Ziegler, without whom we would not have been able to operate the shop as many days as we did.

We very much hope that even more people will volunteer. If you would like to help, please contact Kae at [leilakae17@gmail.com](mailto:leilakae17@gmail.com).

We add a large thank you to Etta Kosaveach. She stepped up last summer and helped Ann with knitting the small purses that are so popular with younger female customers. We sold 70 and could have sold more. We won't be caught short this summer: the plan is to start the sales year with 100 purses. We'll have a plethora of purses this summer.

The very exciting news for this summer is that we will take credit cards. Our cash-only status of the past two summers cost us numerous sales. So many of our potential customers were on bikes or on the way to the beach and weren't carrying cash. Our credit card machine will be able to take charges from smart phones.

Please stop by the Orientation Building, say hello and check out the new Fort Miles merchandise. All profits go to restore the fort.

# MORE PROGRESS TO REPORT AT FORT MILES

John Roberts



We have repurposed one of the barracks, T604, as our new mess hall. We have a food prep and serving area, separated from the seating area by a wall consistent in design with the other two mess halls in the park.

We've upgraded the lighting and the electricals and we're busy repairing and reconstructing all windows and doors. We are ready for our April 30 event, although restoration will continue well after that date.

We also are rehabilitating T603, which is next to our mess hall. With the help of Don Hattier and his crew, this is now the tailor shop and the WAAC barracks. Electricals have also been upgraded in this building.

The crew has been using our shop in Battery Smith as a manufacturing and assembly line to rehabilitate the dozens of windows from these barracks. We're replacing deteriorated wood, broken glass, incorrect fittings and bringing everything back to what we believe is the 1943 period. Some concessions have been made on choice of materials, mostly for improved durability. These will appear to be correct, however.

## Ammunition delivery system moving forward

We have about two-thirds of the rail system in place. We can deliver a shell from the shell room all the way to the breech of the 12-inch gun. This is fantastic progress. Fred Noll and his crew deserve a huge thanks because this is back-breaking work with a lot of careful fitting and relationship finesse with the machine shop at Dover Air Force Base. We've made substantial progress in a month or so. Well done.

Fred also has taken the lead in having wooden shell replicas made. He did considerable research to get the correct dimensions from original shell drawings and transferred them to wood. Poplar is used for its durability and ease of machining. These are made by building up a "butchers block" blank. This was selected for improved stability and to avoid splits, checks and warping. Our first shell is spot on dimensionally, and balanced on our shell hoist.

## Work continues to build security doors

Thanks to a donation from Coastal Defense Study Group and matching funds from our friends at the state, we have enough steel to build new security doors for the mine casemate, 519 and Smith's plotting rooms. Fred, et al, have a few of these completed, and we will install them this spring and summer. We will be able to prevent further vandalism and have the ability to offer tours of these structures.

## The 16-inch Missouri gun is ready for assembly

All of the parts for this gun have been prepared for assembly. They've been cleaned, derusted, painted and trial fitted. Once we get to the assembly stage, probably late spring or summer, everything is ready to go.



Continued on page 10



# JOIN THE FORT MILES HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



FMHA is developing a world-class World War II museum at Fort Miles, in conjunction with Delaware State Parks. Components of the museum will include the authentic restoration of Battery 519, and Artillery Park featuring a 16-inch gun from the USS Missouri and the restoration of Control Tower 3 located in Delaware. Your membership and contributions support for projects.

### Please check one:

- General level, (life member) \$1,000
- Colonel level, \$500
- Major level, \$250
- Captain level, \$100
- Small Business \$75
- Dual/Family \$20
- Individual \$15
- Student \$10
- \$15 extra for FMHA hat
- Please check the box to keep your donation private. It will not appear in any FMHA communication.

### Make checks payable to:

Fort Miles Historical Association  
Dr. Gary Wray, President  
120 E. Wild Rabbit Run  
Lewes, DE 19958

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# MORE PROGRESS TO REPORT

*(...continued from page 8)*

## Woodworking shop grows

We've expanded our woodworking ability considerably. We now have a planer and a joiner. These have proved valuable in the fabrication of the new and restored window and door assemblies for the barracks. We've also been using these and the planer in the park's maintenance building to make the wooden blanks for our 12-inch replica shells.

We are shopping for a nicer table saw to round out our capabilities. Our machine shop has been in use, making parts for the rail system and parts for the Missouri gun, drilling and tapping broken bolts and fabricating parts no longer available for our artifacts and displays. This is possibly the first time a machine shop has been at Fort Miles since the early 1950s.

As our project list expands, we're relocating inessential systems and storage to other areas in Battery Smith. This will free floor space in our shop. It will also allow us to work more safely.

## Safety continues with zero injuries

Since we started the Bunker Busters in August 2008, I am proud to say we have had zero reportable injuries. We have a good balance between being practical and being safe. We will strive to improve our practices as we grow. Great work for all of our crew.



## Trip takes me to Battery Townsley

In February, I visited a battery restoration project, Battery Townsley. This is in Fort Cronkhite, in the Marin headlands just north of San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge.

The leader of that project, John Martini, has been watching our progress for a few years. We've been in contact the entire time.

The fort also has a 16-inch barrel from the USS Missouri, and it was next to ours on the USS Missouri the day the Japanese surrendered in 1945. Townsley only has the barrel, but it has been restored and is quite impressive. Their battery is clean and fairly dry because of the Pacific Coast climate. Most of their rail system is in place, but the sections in the gun rooms have completely corroded. Still, an impressive tour, and I recommend it.

As impressive as their effort is, we are clearly in the lead of all fort restoration projects. Many factors are responsible for this, but the biggest difference is the people.

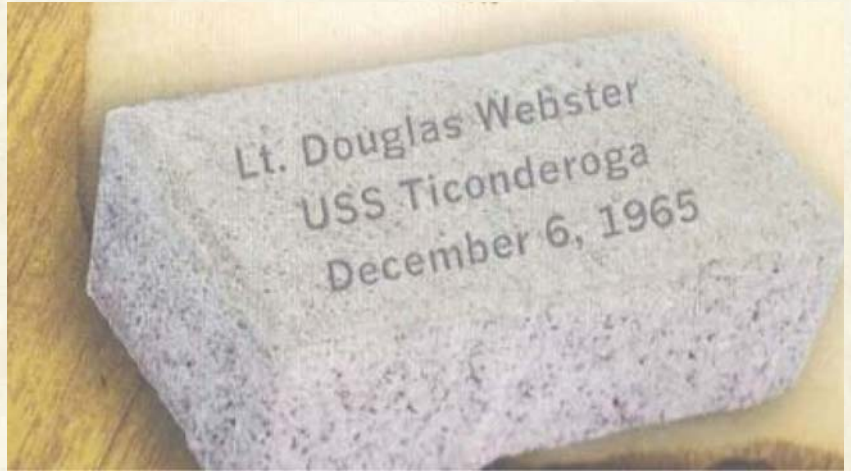
Thanks to the Bunker Busters, park staff and everyone else for working collaboratively to make this happen. And we have plenty more to do.



# ORDER YOUR ENGRAVED PAVER

## for the Wall of Honor at the Fort Miles museum

Now you can support the new Fort Miles museum, receive a tax deduction and see your name or that of a loved one honored on a handsome brick paver. Each engraved paver will be prominently displayed in Battery 519, America's first WWII museum at an actual military site. More than 10,000 visitors each year will see your paver, and we will send a tribute card to whoever you designate, telling them of this special honor. The tax-deductible cost for each paver is just \$200, including delivery and installation in a well-lighted entrance area. This first phase of the "Wall of Honor" will accommodate just 500 pavers and orders are being accepted on a first-come basis. Reserve your paver now by returning the form below.



### Engraving Instructions

*LIMIT 3 LINES OF 16 CHARACTERS PER LINE spaces, punctuation and symbols count as characters*

line 1 \_\_\_\_\_

line 2 \_\_\_\_\_

line 3 \_\_\_\_\_

line 1 \_\_\_\_\_

line 2 \_\_\_\_\_

line 3 \_\_\_\_\_

YES, I want to purchase a paver at the Fort Miles Museum. All donations are tax deductible. Enclosed is my check made payable to the Fort Miles Historical Association.

\$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ paver/s.

name

phone

street

city

state

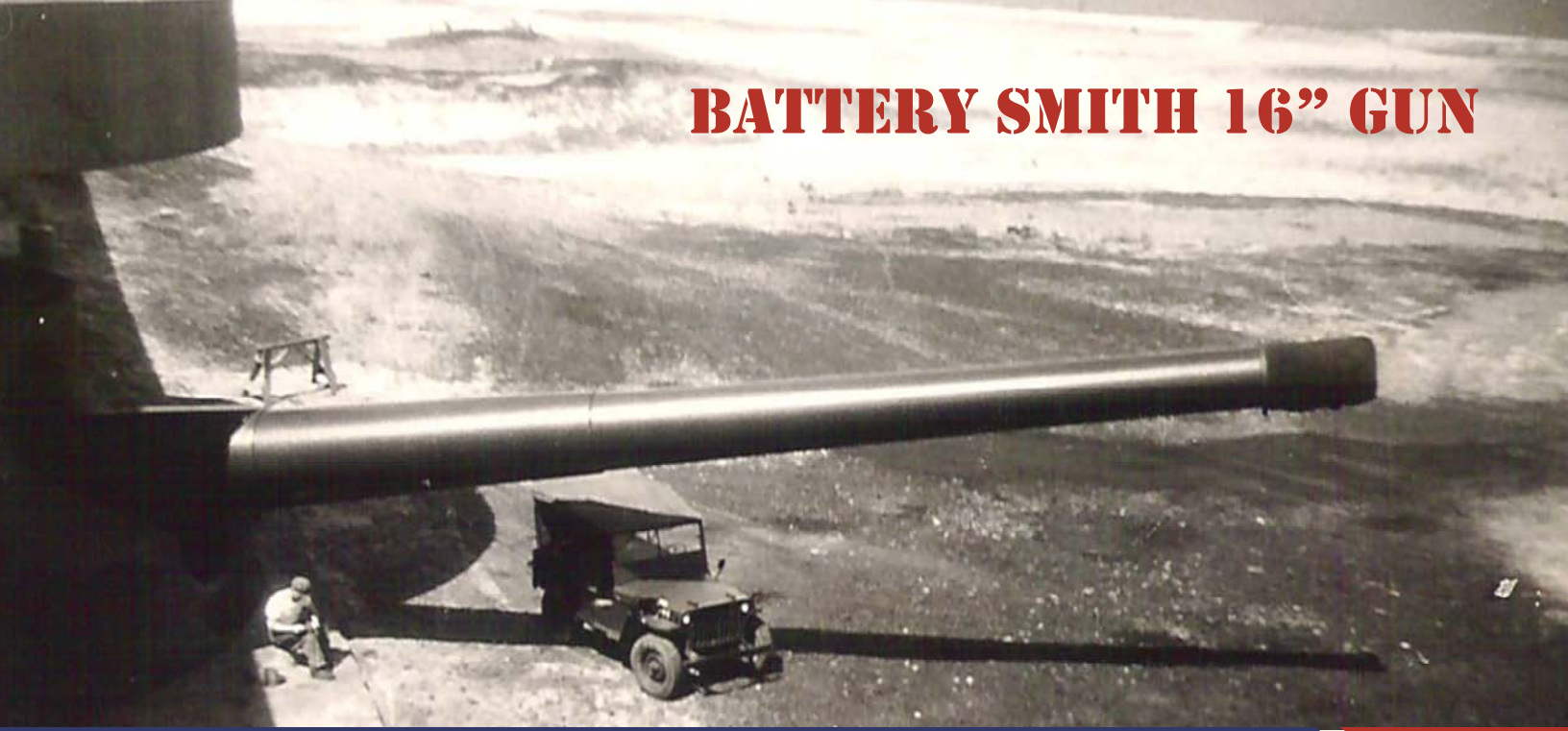
zip

email

Send orders to:

Fort Miles Historical Association  
Dr. Gary Wray, President  
120 E. Wild Rabbit Run  
Lewes, DE 19958

# BATTERY SMITH 16" GUN



Fort Miles Historical Association  
120 East Wild Rabbit Run  
Lewes, DE 19958

