



# Working Together to Preserve History

Fort Miles Historical Association

Since 2003, Fort Miles Historical Association and Delaware State Parks have worked as partners to renovate, operate and expand the Fort Miles Museum and surrounding historical area.

## The Bunker Blast March 19, 2026

A short and frequent communication to keep you, our loyal members, stay informed of what's happening with your association.

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In today's Bunker Blast: Tom Tantillo presented our Annual meeting, Harry Winn presented our last lecture of the season, our rescheduled Member Day at the Dover Air Museum and the upcoming Delaware Defense Day at Fort Miles.

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## Annual Meeting 2026

On Saturday March 14th FMHA held it's annual meeting in the Officers Club at Cape Henlopen State Park. With 100+ people in attendance, the meeting started with refreshments, moved to the annual meeting, and then to the lecture.



Tom Tantillo (FMHA President) presenting the FMHA Annual meeting

## Highlights of the meeting:

- The membership approved the addition of Gail White as a new board member and treasurer for a three year term and approved the renewal to additional three year terms of current board members Terry McGovern, Ed Paterline, John Roberts and Tom Tantillo
- There are 291 dues paying members, up from 260 in the beginning of 2025 and from 206 in 2024. A 41% increase from 2024 to 2026
- FMHA secured a 155 GPF artillery piece from an American Legion Post in Ohio, contracted with the Mahan Foundation of New Jersey to transport the weapon to their shop where they restored it and brought it to Ft. Miles where it is displayed in the artillery park. Coastal Towing donated their time and resources to move the gun into position. The GPF was one of 4 at Fort Miles during WWII.





- Barrack 606 is being restored to the WWII era with the installation of 20 period bunks, footlockers (constructed by the Bunker Busters), coal stoves and gun racks with period non-operable rifles



- In 2025 eighty-eight FMHA volunteers performed almost 21,000 hours in support of Fort Miles. 61 volunteers performed 100+ hours

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## Lecture Series

Our last lecture on the season was held following the meeting. Long time FMHA member Harry Winn presented a lecture on the history and placement of the 8" railway guns at Fort Miles during WWII.



Harry Winn has gathered considerable data about the 8" Railway Guns at Ft. Miles and how they operated. The 8" guns are often mentioned as part of the Ft. Miles arsenal but the details of their operation are rarely explained.



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## Member Day

Our Guided Tour at the Dover Air Mobility Command Museum is next week (Wednesday 3/25/2026). If you haven't already registered, you can still participate by clicking --> [here](#) <--



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## Delaware Defense Day

Hold the Date—Saturday April 25, 2025

Every April Delaware State Parks, with FMHA's support, hosts our biggest event of the year...Delaware Defense Day. It's an all day event where scores of WWII reenactors converge on Fort Miles and set up displays inside and outside of the Barracks, including many WWII era military vehicles. There's WWII era live music, food trucks and a reenactment of the German U-boat 858 surrender on April 14, 1945. And, the Museum will be open all day!







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## Volunteer Wanted

Do you have experience in public relations or communications?

We are looking for a professional in this area to be our liaison with print, television, radio and podcast media, recruiting and coordinating our historians to present our story and promote events. This individual would also write press releases and prepare advertising.

If you are interested please contact our volunteer coordinator at [volunteer@fortmiles.org](mailto:volunteer@fortmiles.org)

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FMHA volunteers work almost 25,000 hours a year: as Bunker Busters restoring and maintaining the buildings, developing and building displays; as Docents giving tours and guiding visitors at special events; and as Associate Staff managing the gift shop, lecture series, special events, membership, website and electronic displays.

If you would like to volunteer in any of these areas, please send us an [email](#).



Learn More: [fortmiles.org](http://fortmiles.org)

Fort Miles is located in Cape Henlopen State Park.  
15099 Cape Henlopen Drive, Lewes, DE 19958