

# 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 May 1, 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: Member Day and the Dover Air Mobility Command museum, Delaware Defense Day at Fort Miles, Upcoming D-Day Ceremony and FMHA Leadership Changes.**

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## **Member Day at Dover AMC Museum**

On March 25, 2026 approximately 65 FMHA members visited the Air Mobility Command Museum at the Dover Air Force Base for a private guided tour.

The Members were split up into three groups, and the tours went as long as 3 hours. FMHA member, docent and bunker buster John DeSalvio, who is also an AMC volunteer docent, organized the tour and led one of the tour groups. After the tour many of the attendees went for lunch at Mission BBQ in Dover.



One of the Three Tour Groups at AMC

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## Delaware Defense Day

On April 25, 2026 over 1000 people came out to Fort Miles on a cold and windy day to partake in the largest Fort Miles event of the year, Delaware Defense Day. This event was sponsored by the Fort Miles Historic Area of Cape Henlopen State Park in collaboration with FMHA and the Harbor Defenses of the Delaware, who filled the barracks with exhibits and re-enactors.



Part of the Submarine German Surrender Ceremony



Of the 1000 people who came to the event, 271 toured the Museum, and over 100 attended the morning artillery demo and firing.

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# D-Day Ceremony

On **Saturday June 6th** FMHA will host its annual D-Day Ceremony at Fort Miles. This event, open to the public, will be advertised in the weeks leading up to the event. Put it on your calendar!

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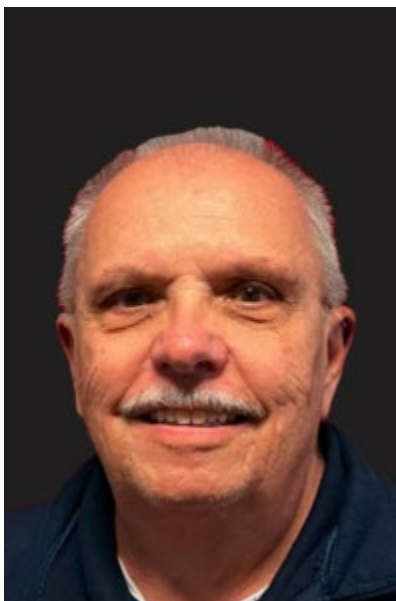
## FMHA Leadership Changes

On May 12th Tom Tantillo will step down as President after a two year term.



Tom Tantillo

Ed Paterline will succeed Tom as President of FMHA.



Ed Paterline

Ed has been on the Board of Directors since 2023 and has coordinated the docent program, lecture and speakers series and has managed our artifact program. Many of you saw Ed give the recent lecture on the Berlin Airlift, have seen him on TV or heard him on the radio or podcasts promoting Fort Miles and FMHA.

April also saw the addition of Chuck Payette to the Board of Directors. Chuck has been a member since 2018, an active volunteer for several years on the information technology team and was recently named FMHA's Membership Director.

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## Volunteers 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, prepare advertising and could also write newsletters.

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