



# FORT DELAWARE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

2019

## CANNON WHEELS

At last, after many weeks of deliberation, the matter of replacement of the deteriorating field cannon wheels is behind us. Two new period correct wood wheels have been purchased and delivered to the Fort. One has been installed to replace the worst of the two existing wheels, and the other safely stored at the Fort for future use. The cost for this project was covered by Longwood Foundation funds. The balance of these funds was used to clean, encapsulate and preserve our very precious Neugas prints and to complete the restoration of six additional Civil War documents that are hanging in our Main Conference Room.

## FRED CARSPACKEN MOURNED

The officers, directors and members of the Fort Delaware Society mourn the loss of Mr. Fred Carspecken who passed away earlier this year. Fred was best known for his excellent work over the past four years in the preservation and reframing of several of our most valuable Civil War documents. His cheerful willingness to help and his most welcomed talents will be sorely missed by all of us.

## 69TH ANNUAL LUNCHEON MEETING

Wilmington/Christiana Hilton  
100 Continental Drive  
Newark, Delaware

Gathering time 12:30 p.m.  
Luncheon 1:15 p.m.

*Henry Kyd Douglas,  
Jackson's Youngest Aide  
by Taylor Reynolds*

Reservations: \$30.00 per person

*Invitations are in the Mail!*

## HVAC SYSTEMS REPLACED

Taking advantage of a grant from Crystal Trust, supplemented by some left over funds from the Hillcrest Fund, the Society was able to completely replace our Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems. The installation was done by Maichles HVAC CO. In addition to equipment upgrades, some vitally needed air-return ductwork was added to greatly enhance the air balancing, thereby providing improving air flow, both heating and cooling in our headquarters building. The improvement in comfort level is amazing. If you are in the area, please stop in and see for yourself.

## VOLUNTEERS

Being an active Society member means more than just paying Annual Dues and attending the general meetings. Your help is sincerely needed.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Age is laying its hand on the Officers & Directors of the Fort Delaware Society. Replacements are needed to perform several jobs critically important to creating and maintaining the public image of the Society as a viable, active, professional organization.

A new Editor for this newsletter is needed. The job is focused on writing and publishing the bi-annual Newsletter. Board Chairman Bill Robelen has been doing it for many years past, but, as Bill will eagerly tell you, his age is catching up with him, and he is "running out of steam".

Director Hugh Simmons, who has served on the Board for the past 21 years, is in the process of relocating to South Carolina to be closer to family. He will be stepping down from his position as a Director at the end of this term to focus on the move.

Hugh has served as Webmaster for the Society since 2007 and will maintain the current website for as long as needed. However, the current website is outdated. A new webmaster is needed to design, launch and manage a new website.

Hugh has served as Editor of the *Fort Delaware Notes* since 2006 and has been researching and contributing articles since 1995.

If you have any interest at all in any of these positions, please contact President David Price, or Bill or Hugh.

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## *Society Displays on Pea Patch Island*



*Artillery Shells & Fuses*



*Rifles & Swords*



*Chapel Cross, Door Keys, & Hardware*



*Museum Case Set Up Crew*



*POW & Garrison Research Table*



*Field Cannon Display*



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## *Society Sponsored Events in 2018*



*Guest Speaker Polly Steenhagen*



*Port Penn Soldiers Aid Society*



*Kidsfest*



*Painting Flower Pots*



*Uniforms & Clothing*



*Making Bean Bags*

Fort Delaware Society  
P.O. Box 553  
Delaware City, DE 19706

## **FORT DELAWARE STATE PARK**

School group attendance was up about 5% in 2018.

Visitors represented 43 States, three Provinces of Canada plus 18 countries were represented.

For the first time since they were installed on the Endicott Center, solar panels were used for general lighting in the Fort.

The paranormal tours again sold-out for another successful year.

## **FORT DELAWARE SOCIETY MISSION**

To foster an awareness of the existence and significance of historic Fort Delaware and to preserve its legacy.

## **THE ROBELEN BUILDING**



2711 Staff Lane, Fort Dupont  
Delaware City, DE  
19706

*Archives*

*Library*

*Collections*