

Shorelines



P.O. Box 981 Ocean View, DE 19970 www.dspf.net www.restorethetower.org (302) 537-7840

The Delaware Seashore Preservation Foundation is a non-profit friends' organization created to preserve, protect, and enhance the Indian River Life Saving Station, and the Parks within the Delaware Seashore State Park Region including the Indian River Marina, Delaware Seashore, Fenwick Island, and Holt Landing State Parks.

Update on the Fire Control Tower #3 Restoration Project

In an effort to recognize veterans of World War II and all veterans who continue to serve this country in such an unselfish way, the Delaware Seashore Preservation Foundation (DSPF), in partnership with the Fort Miles Historical Association, has undertaken a capital campaign to restore Fire Control Tower #3, one of the structures that was used during the war as a first line of defense in the event of foreign invasion.

Upon its completion, Tower #3, located in the Delaware Seashore State Park just south of Dewey Beach, will serve as a place for residents and visitors to view a piece of history and honor those who served. Visitors will be able to enter the Tower via an internal stairway and access the open air deck at the top. In addition to restoring the Tower, a simulated power station will be constructed that will have a planned interactive presentation program. This electronic program, complete with displays, will allow visitors to look up a sponsored veteran's name and his/her contribution to the war effort, and learn a great deal more about the rich history of our veterans from Delaware.

The total cost for the renovation and construction project for Fire Control Tower #3 will exceed \$450,000. In order to meet the budget, the DSPF is approaching local businesses, corporations, foundations, and individuals, and hosting a variety of special fundraising events.

First Shore Federal Once Again Supports Tower #3 Restoration

On Friday, June 24, 2016, First Shore Federal Savings and Loan presented the DSPF with a check for \$1,000 toward the restoration of Tower #3, the third such contribution that First Shore has made to the project. The DSPF is grateful for all of our community partners who are dedicated to preserving the history of our region.



To contribute to the Tower #3 Restoration Project, please send your gift to the address listed above or visit our website at www.restorethetower.org

For further information, see our recent feature in the July 5th WAVE Newspaper:

<http://www.delmarvanow.com/story/news/local/delaware/2016/06/27/saving-delaware-lookout-towers/86429664/>

Chairman's Message

For 70 years, visitors to Delaware's beaches have gone swimming in the shadow of strange concrete towers, a reminder of a time when America was at war on these shores.

Built between 1939 and 1942, the 11 observation towers along the state's coastline were designed to last 20 years. But standing on treated wooden pilings, they are likely to last another half-century.

The towers, spread over 40 miles, housed military spotters who scanned the sea for enemy vessels that might threaten industry up the Delaware River – the Philadelphia shipyard, chemical plants at Wilmington, and oil refineries critical to the Allied effort.

Once Tower #3 is restored, plans include opening it to the general public and offering interpretive tours of this historical landmark.

As I pass the Towers on my frequent journeys along Coastal Highway, I cannot help but envision one day standing atop Tower #3 with my family, enjoying the beautiful vistas while reliving a bit of Delaware's Wartime History and honoring those who have served. The DSPF's goal, with the help of our partners, is to make it happen in the near future for all families to enjoy. Please join us!

Ernie Felici, Chairman

HELP RESTORE THE TOWER!

