

## MEMORIAL HALL

The last year has been a difficult one for Memorial Hall. Major heating problems (the failure of the furnace) forced the closure of the hall from late October 2013 until March 2014 and again in 2014 from late December. The Hall will re-open temporarily for a special concert on March 19, 2015. These closures resulted in the loss of some groups with whom we were negotiating as well as groups we had already signed.

We have continued to work with local groups. In cooperation with the Library, we reopened the Hall in March 2014 with a very successful Irish night. Of course, we worked again with Wings in their very popular spring program.

Programming also included the addition of new bands. In particular, we added the Garcia Project for two performances that were very well received with the audience literally dancing in the aisles. The celtic fusion music of The Gaslight Tinkers was also a very successful performance – again dancing in the aisles. These groups have large followings and brought a number of out-of-towners to Memorial Hall much to the benefit of the Hall and local businesses.

The Hall also hosted a well-received Jazz Concert series organized by Mary Jane Finnegan to benefit a number of local charities. We finished this truncated season with the ever-popular Food Pantry Concert produced by Skip Morrow and Gary Henry and the Bright Lights Craft Fair. We closed the season with an extremely well attended Holiday Concert under the direction of Barbara Lipstadt.

Even with closure of the Hall for significant periods in 2013 and 2014, Memorial Hall Board returned a total of \$3,914 to the Town of Wilmington's General Fund. The ability to mount a complete performance season would enable the Memorial Hall Board to increase the funds returned to the Town.

### Memorial Hall Board of Directors

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