

**Delaware Military Heritage & Education Foundation presents  
Upcoming Program:**

Willis Phelps, ***The African American role in Delaware Military Service***  
Syl Woolford, ***Delaware's Civil War African- American Soldiers: Who Were They?***

**February 1, 2011**

**Chase Center, Riverfront Development Corporation, Wilmington,**

**Reception at 6:30 P.M.**

**Presentation beginning at 7:00 P.M.**

Donation: \$10.00 non member

\$ 8.00 DMHEF member

**FREE** students(18years & younger)

The DMHEF is pleased to present this program with Willis Phelps and Syl Woolford, dedicated local historians who have conducted research in repositories throughout the state. They will discuss recent research into the **experiences of Delaware's African American veterans**. A moderated discussion will follow the presentations, led by DMHEF board member and retired educator William Conley.

**Willis Phelps**, born in South Carolina, was three years old when his family moved to Wilmington. They lived in the segregated community of Millside, which had been built for colored workers at Dravo and other industries. Willis entered the Delaware National Guard in 1956 and served for 42 years, reaching the rank of Master Sergeant before retiring in 1998. Willis has channeled his research and passion for American history into creating presentations and living history roles based on the experiences of African American soldiers.

**Syl Woolford**, a Delaware native, holds degrees from Delaware State University and Rutgers University. His interest in history began with the researching of his own family history. He has traced his mother's family back 200 years in the city of Newark, Delaware. A recent focus of his research has been the experience of the United States Colored Troops during the Civil War. Mr. Woolford recently retired from a career in accounting and sales.

Peg Tigue

Director of Development

Delaware Military Heritage & Education Foundation