



Military Historical Society of Massachusetts 2020 Year-in-Review

Holiday Greetings! The Board Of Directors and I hope this finds you and your loved ones well and happy and enjoying this joyous season.

2020 was a challenging year. But under the leadership of outgoing President David Hruban, we have adapted, and the Military Historical Society of Massachusetts continues to move forward. At the heart of the MHSM mission is promotion of the study of military history. In 2020, we were generous in our support of worthy scholars through our Grants and Scholarship programs.

- **ROTC Essay Scholarship Program:** The winner was cadet Kyle Hammalian from ROTC detachment 355. The joint scholarship of \$4000 was for his winning essay, “Strategic Logistics: How the Allies Triumphed In Europe.” Kyle received \$2500 and his University ROTC program received \$1500. His awarded essay is posted on our website. Please read it. I do believe we will be hearing more from this young man in the future.
- **The Massachusetts Historical Society:** The MHSM grant of \$2000 was awarded to Dwain Coleman from the University of Iowa for his research on Black veterans of the Civil War, focusing on the letters and papers of the 54th Massachusetts and other regiments.
- **Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War:** They were awarded a grant of \$2221 towards their campaign to erect a monument to Susie Taylor, the first Black Civil war nurse who lays at rest in Dorchester.
- **Amesbury Cemetery Commission:** MHSM contributed \$1000 to help defray the cost of producing a map delineating the final resting place of veteran graves in the cemetery.

Military Historical Society of Massachusetts 2020 Year-In-Review

2020 Grants, continued:

- **The Green Box Film:** MHSM granted \$5000 to continue the work of filmmaker Jim Kurtz in remembering his father; a World War Two flyboy; POW and survivor. Those of you who attended our Zoom annual meeting were able to view a preliminary cut and got an idea of the scope and quality of the work in progress.
- **General W. Landers Civil War Roundtable:** A grant of \$4000 was offered to this organization for 2019-2020 for their work in bringing the history of the Civil War to more people.

MHSM finances remain in great shape. For the first time our endowment went over one million dollars. Thanks to the hard work of William Wood, MHSM Treasurer, we are now a 501c3 Private Foundation. This makes us sales tax free; all donations to the Society will be tax deductible. The Board also passed a resolution to increase our endowment spending from 4% to 5% of the endowment yearly. This will allow an increase in both our grants and our scholarships.

In 2020, we welcomed six new members into our Society. I know you all join the Board in saying “welcome.” Our newest members are George Kouchakdjian; Len Kondratiuk; Cathal Nolan; Roderick Fraser; Ehud Eilam; Christopher Gately.

Due to the pandemic, we were not able to come together physically and all events, for the safety of our membership, were cancelled. Sadly, this includes our holiday party.

Looking forward to 2021....The new circumstances demand the Board continue to adjust to a new environment and we promise you, we are doing just that. Stay tuned.

In coming weeks, we will announce the 2021 MHSM Lecture Series. As we begin the switchover to a digital environment, we will take our speaker series live via Zoom. Later these lectures will be available on our website. Our first foray was at the annual meeting, where filmmaker Jim Kurtz presented a preliminary cut of his film: The Green Box. We will be happy to provide assistance to any of you who may be new to Zoom.

In my view, as your new President, one of the most promising endeavors surrounds our impressive collection of historical documents and artifacts, housed at the Gottlieb Library at Boston University. The laborious task of digitalizing our collection continues. Once this is completed and the library is reopened, I believe it will be something that will make us all proud. It is a point when our collection can be farmed and utilized in historical research. It is my hope, we will be able to offer a generous scholarship to foster research of topics based on our collection. It will bring attention to who and what we are.

We promise to stay in touch...both through email and the postal service. This will ensure you are kept up to date on all our various activities as well as advance notice of future events. In the works, is an improved content website and a newsheet for all members.

Again, the Board and I wish you all the best in this Holiday season. Stay well. Stay safe.

Cordially, Robert Gold

Your MHSM Board of Directors

Robert Gold, President

John D. Warner, Jr., Vice President

J.C. Johnson, Secretary

William Wood, Treasurer

Gene Kopelson

Paul Lawton

Brian Pillai

Alan Rieper

James Wiegel

David Hruban, Past President

Images from the MHSM Archive. The collection began as the research materials and writings of Society founder, John Codman Ropes. Containing extensive correspondence, lithographs, military maps, cartes de visite, and volumes of the Society's records, this material is housed at Boston University's Howard Gotlieb Archival Research Center.



LAW OFFICE OF
HAZARD STEVENS,
53 Devonshire Street,
BOSTON. July 1st 1864

Adjutant General
the State of Connecticut

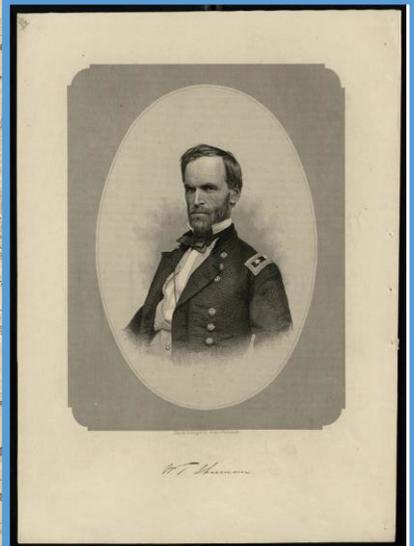
Dear Sir

I respectfully
ask if there be among the records of
your office a list of the detachment of
the 5th Iowa Vols. - which under Lt. Col. Wood
of that regiment took part in the capture
of a battery on the Newmarket Road, Va.
April 17, 1863. With the report of
the affair made by Genl. Getty was sent
a list of the standing party. This cannot
be found in the War Dept. and many of the
 brave men who gallantly stormed the battery are
likely to pass into oblivion unless the list
or a copy of it can be found.

If you find it - will you please send me
a certified copy of it.

Republ. Recrd. Vol. XVII. - gives the
reports of this affair.

Very Truly Yours
Hazard Stevens



GETTYSBURG AND VICINITY.
Showing the positions of the troops July 3, 1863. The rights, and
the land purchased and dedicated to the public by General S. Wylie
Crawford and the Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association.