ABOUT THE CHARLES K. STILLMAN LEGACY SOCIETY

Dr. Charles K. Stillman was one of the three founders of the Museum. He was a practicing physician in New York from 1907 to 1911. In 1911, he left New York for his home in Mystic for a period of rest intended to be temporary, however, he never returned to the city. While in Mystic, he engaged in yachting and fishing activities and became one of the founders of the Block Island Tuna Club. He was an active participant in programs against the pollution of the Connecticut River. His grandfather was Clark Greenman, who along with his two brothers Thomas and George ran the Greenman Brothers Shipyard on the site we know today as Lighthouse Point at Mystic Seaport. It was on Christmas Day in 1929 that Charles Stillman, Carl Cutler, and Edward Bradley met to form the Mystic Historical Association which ultimately became Mystic Seaport. Just one decade later, Charles Stillman passed away, a tremendous loss to his friends and family and also to the Museum. However, he had planned ahead and made provisions for a large portion of his estate to be gifted to the Museum. This first bequest helped to establish an endowment for the programs and future operations of the Museum, and began what has become a tradition of legacy giving among members and friends of Mystic Seaport. To learn more about including Mystic Seaport in your plans contact the advancement office at 860.572.5365 or go to www.mysticseaport.org/legacygiving

SEVEN ESSENTIAL ESTATE PLANNING STEPS

1. Make an appointment with your attorney
2. Inventory your assets: Real property, Cash and investments, Retirement plans, Pensions
3. Choose your beneficiaries: Spouse, Children, Charities
4. Plan for medical decisions: Instructions for your care, Long term care insurance, Medical power of attorney
5. Provide instructions for your executor: Who to contact, Where important documents are kept, Durable power of attorney
6. Follow through: Execute all documents and file with your attorney, Inform your family and executor of your plans
7. Review regularly after life events: Children finish college, Retirement, Change in marital status, Birth of grandchildren, Loss of spouse

ADVISOR'S CORNER

WITH SUCCESS COMES RESPONSIBILITY

Greater accomplishment brings with it both opportunity and responsibility. As we achieve more success, we can commence to think about and plan for education funding, tax planning, retirement savings, investments, asset allocation, estate planning, charitable giving and our own legacy.

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY STORY BE?

I would like to share with you a Mystic Seaport legacy story. Frank C. Munson began his career as an office boy for the Munson Steamship Line at the age of twenty. By the age of forty, he was President of the Line. Throughout his life, he worked for the development of the American Merchant Marine, the broadening of foreign commerce, and the enlargement of knowledge of the contributions made by our maritime ancestors to the development of our country; politically, economically and spiritually.

Through the generosity of his wife, Coral Mallory Munson, the Frank C. Munson Memorial Chair for American Maritime Studies was established at Mystic Seaport in 1954, creating the first graduate-level maritime history and literature program in the country. To further her vision, Mrs. Munson named Mystic Seaport in her will and through this bequest provided additional financial support for this “first in the nation” educational program.

Many of the program’s 1200 alumni have been secondary school teachers who have returned to their classrooms to share their new understanding with their students. College professors have also joined the Munson cadre over the years and the Institute has repeatedly garnered prestigious National Endowment of the Humanities grants to teach college and university faculty from across the country. More than eighty colleges and universities have had their faculty study at the Munson Institute, and then pass that legacy of knowledge along.

Throughout our lives we leave our imprint on those we love and the institutions (like Mystic Seaport) about which we care deeply. Like the stories of mariners past that are a featured component of our exhibits and programs, the legacy we each bequeath conveys the story of our lives and accomplishments.

Questions for you and your Advisors to Consider

Where am I now? Where am I headed? Can I achieve my goals? How can I achieve my goals? Am I making progress?

What if I outline my money? What if I become seriously ill or disabled? How can I provide for my heirs? What can I do about taxes? Can I leave a legacy?

“...we leave an imprint on those we love and the institutions about which we care deeply.”

by CHRIS FREEMAN

Director of Development & Legacy Giving

THE CHARLES K. STILLMAN LEGACY SOCIETY

BUILD FORGE INSPIRE
The bequest of Charles K. Stillman in 1938 established the first endowment fund to support Mystic Seaport. His leadership set an example which others have emulated ever since. Today our endowment stands at just over $40,000,000 and generates vital support that provides a strong foundation for our continued growth and success.

At present there are 67 named funds that support a wide range of areas within the museum. A few of these named funds are memorial endowments that honor loyal supporters of Mystic Seaport. Others provide scholarships and financial aid to help ensure that cost is not a barrier to participation. Many were established to provide operating support to specific areas of the Museum from the library to the shipyard, for youth programs and education and collections care.

New named funds may be established with an initial gift of $100,000. Such a gift may be pledged over two or three years or the gift may be made outright. If you are aged 70 1/2 or older, you may make a qualified distribution to charity from your IRA and have that count toward your required minimum distribution.

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If you are interested in contributing to an existing endowment fund or establishing a new named endowment, please call the Advancement office at 860.572.5365.