



May 4, 2020

Dear Members & Friends,

We hope this letter finds you all well in the midst of this national virus challenge! At the museum, we are well and continuing our work, despite the challenges of social distancing. The coming months look to have more challenges as we all try to navigate this "new normal" and work to return to our everyday lives.

Last week, the Board of Trustees of the Museum voted to keep the Museum closed to visitors and events until such time as we could all gather safely again. Our tour structure doesn't permit social distancing, and, like many other museums and institutions, we made the decision to remain closed for this summer in order to protect our visitors, volunteers, and staff. This is so disappointing as we had a terrific season of lectures, tours, concerts, and community events like our Boots on the Ground commemoration, planned for you.

We do plan to hold a number of events "virtually" this summer, however! We're welcoming Judith Kalaora, of "History At Play" to present her program on Deborah Sampson, the Revolutionary War soldier, over the internet. This program was originally going to be held at the Strand Theatre and this is going to be a creative "first" for us! Stay tuned for more information!

We may be holding our major fundraiser, the Knox Lecture and Gala Benefit Dinner, virtually as well. Since this event brings us most of the donations that help to keep the Museum going, we hope you will also "stay tuned" for news about this!

We're going to take the time this summer to get some projects done around the Museum. Our Collections are being refined and re-cataloged. We also hope to take on some major infrastructure projects this summer and fall, as funds permit, such as reroofing the Museum and replacing our aged furnace. We are concentrating on getting this Museum ready for its next 100 years!

Like other museums, we are also taking this time to initiate a social media program to get the story of General Henry Knox, his family and accomplishments, and his impact on Maine and our nation out via platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and our Constant Contact mailing list. We are also spending a lot of time on updating and streamlining our website to make it more useful for our members and visitors.

Through the generosity of our members and donors, combined with great efforts by our Development Committee and careful expenditures by the Board, we ended the 2019 Fiscal Year in the black! Our efforts to ensure the future of the Museum are ongoing and we still need your help.

Expect to see more communications from us in the next few weeks and months as we become more able to update you, our members, volunteers, and donors, with our progress.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at: chairman@knoxmuseum.org at any time. The Board and I welcome your comments, ideas, and suggestions. We want to hear how you are doing, too!

In the meantime, our very best wishes to you and your family, and we hope to be able to see you very soon.

Most sincerely,

Anne E. Perkins
Chairman, Board of Trustees
The General Henry Knox Museum