

Why Become an Ancient?

There are many benefits to becoming a part of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts. The Ancients share a sense of patriotism and brotherhood. Each individual apart of the Ancients personally gains.

Patriotism

The Ancients share the love of their country and willingness to sacrifice for it. "They rode the same wave of popular patriotism." The Ancient Honorable Artillery Company is a patriotic service organization preserving historic and patriotic traditions of Boston, Massachusetts and the United States.

Fraternity

The Ancients are a fraternal organization comprised of members with common interests who enjoy each other's company. The Ancients represent living proof of the American dream. There are over 600 members from many ethnic groups and religions. The members of the Ancients are business executives, soldiers, learned professionals, educators and clergy who share a love for each other and the Grand Old Company.

Frequently Asked Questions:

What is the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts?

The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts was chartered in 1638. It was the first military company chartered in the Western Hemisphere. As the settlement which followed the landing at Plymouth increased and spread, there was no organized authority. Many of the settlers of Boston had been members in England of the Honourable Artillery Company of London (organized and chartered in 1537), and it was natural that the military training they had received in that Company should lead them to form a similar organization in the new country. In 1637 the Company was formed for instruction in March 1638 and on the first Monday in June following, an election of Officers was held on Boston Common. Since that time, the Company maintained the tradition of holding their annual elections on Boston Common on the first Monday in June by casting their votes on Drum Head.

Since 1746, the Headquarters of the Ancients has been located in Faneuil Hall – an historic citadel known to all Americans.

In its Armory, the Company maintains a Military Museum and Library, which is without equal in the United States. Here are relics of every war in which this Country has been engaged since its settlement. The Armory is open to the public daily, and many thousands of visitors from every part of the world register every year in the Guest Book.

The members of the Company trod the fields of every battlefield of New England; they fought for freedom on foreign soil; they judged the courts; they pleaded at the bar; they instituted town government and leveled forests; and they were active in settling the towns of the frontier.

Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company members served on every battlefield from Bunker Hill to Yorktown, the War of 1812 and the Civil War, both World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, and Desert Storm.

This is the Company that Washington knew, that Franklin saw march through the streets of Boston, that John Adams and John Quincy Adams visited; that has had seven members who received our nation's highest military decoration – the Medal of Honor – and has had four of its members serve in the world's most important office, President of the United States; President James Monroe, Chester Alan Arthur, Calvin Coolidge, and John F. Kennedy; the same Company which has always stood for, and always will stand for, the best in citizenship.

How can I get more Information on the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts?

The best way to obtain information is to talk to one of our members of the Ancients, either in person or through our website, www.ahac.us.com. Feel free to click on the attached link and you'll be contacted by a member of the Recruitment and Retention Committee.

What are the requirements to becoming an Ancient?

To become a member of the Ancients, you must be an American citizen, be a member of good moral standing, and be deemed a credit to the organization.

How do I become an Ancient?

You must be asked by one of our members to join the Ancients to become a member yourself. If you are interested, kindly click the link above, 'Contact' and speak with a member of the Recruitment and Retention Committee, and should they deem you a credit to the organization, an invitation may await you.

What are the time and financial commitments of being a member of the Ancients?

There is approximately one meeting a month and several socials per year. A uniform and blazer cost about \$1,800.00. Dues per year run about \$760.00. **It goes without saying, that the pride and fraternity received from being an Ancient far exceeds any time or financial commitment.**