

Manning Manse Messenger

Built in 1696—National Register of Historic Places
56 Chelmsford Road, North Billerica, Massachusetts
Manningassociation.org

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OUR WEBSITE!

You can now pay your dues on-line as well as access past *Messengers*, see photos, etc.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

We in the Manning Association have been hard at work on several fronts. With everyone living busy lives, it is sometimes hard to cut out a slice of that time for a volunteer position such as working with the Association; however, I believe that the time spent on an endeavor that builds the present, understands the past, and appreciates what the future can hold is a very important mission. The board members on this organization have spent time to doing just that over the past many years.

One accomplishment: Setting up a new website to spread the word of our organization and its purpose and rich history. My thanks goes out to Tommy on our board for this work. Over time it will get better and better with the ability to order items online, pay dues, and see what events or changes are happening at the Manse or with the Manning Association.

Second accomplishment: Creating a museum with the current items we have collected over the years. Currently we have purchased and set up display cases to showcase various items. Over time the number of cases and presented items will increase. We anticipate that items members have donated that have special connections to the Manse or members of the Manning Association will be welcome additions. I would personally like to thank the Mannings who came to our Annual Reunion this past year with Manning artifacts from California. These and other items are priceless to our organization! We plan on having one day a month open to the public with a member of the Manning Association available to give a tour of the Manse and the museum, as well open by appointment upon request. We will be rotating items over time in the museum considering there isn't enough room for all the artifacts.

On a personal note, this past May I donated 60% of my liver to my father who was on a waiting list. Both of our surgeries were successful overall. I had a larger incision than initially planned, but we both have recovered well up to this point. I encourage (Cont. on p. 4)

2018 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES (as promised at the 2019 Annual Meeting)

The Annual Reunion and Meeting of the Manning Association Stockholders was held on Saturday, June 23, 2017 at the Manning Manse, 56 Chelmsford Road in Billerica, MA.

At 9:30 am Trustee Ruth Ladd led a group of one, Craig Peverly, on an almost 2-mile hike through the Manning State Forest on both sides of Route 129. At 10:30 am President Jeff Manning and Ruth led a group of four intrepid folks on half-hour tour of Manning human and natural history: a long-abandoned amphitheater, bog, the town-managed portion of the State Forest with a stone marker for Warren H. Manning's studio, a lovely stream, the forest itself, and a view of Warren Manning's house on Rt. 129.

Meanwhile, Carolyn McLean, dressed in costume, provided a engaging program with historical information about the Manse, the Manning ancestors, and current family connections. At noon 16 members of the Manning family enjoyed Jon Ryan's Pub fare in the historic Manning Manse. Attendance was down due to conflicts, illness, and other unknown factors.

The annual Manning Association Stockholders Meeting was called to order by President Jeffrey Manning at 1:28 pm. Attendees were: David Warren, Peter and Karin Stuart, Craig and Shirley Peverly, John Cooper, Kathy Nici, Rosemary Whitney, Carolyn Purcell, Jeff Manning, Constance Adams, Carolyn McLean, Catherine Manning, Edward Manning, Jeanne Madden, and Ruth Ladd.

States represented included: CT, MA, NY, and NH.

As Secretary Becky Warren was ill, it was agreed that the minutes would be included in the next Messenger.

Copies of the Treasurer's Report on the Manning Association's finances were distributed by Treasurer Rosemary Whitney. She noted we have more cash on hand this year than last with \$110,762.95 as of May 31, 2018. \$10,000 of that is the tenant's security deposit. The tenant reports business is down so we are not getting the percentage of his income that exceeds a base amount. Rosemary also noted that we needed to repair a vent in the kitchen and will need to repaint the Manse. Jeff noted other small repairs that will be needed for the exterior. It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Rosemary also noted that several people have donated to the Association in some variation of 1696, the year the Manse was built (\$16.96, \$169.60). This is MUCH appreciated!

Kathy Nici said that her family's oral tradition is that Artemis Manning (#1024) was an abolitionist and that the local abolitionist group met at the Manse so it's possible that it was part of the Underground Railroad and perhaps that was the source of the leg-irons, a photo of which was in the spring Messenger.

Kathy and her sister, Jeanne Madden, also said that their ancestor, Henry Manning from Massachusetts, was wounded in the Civil War, captured, and taken to Andersonville. He escaped by wearing a Confederate uniform but was then captured by the Union army and jailed in Illinois. He was released once he was able to tell them he knew a minister in Illinois who vouched for him.

Ruth Ladd, Editor, asked for submissions for the Messenger. She is also trying to develop a list of all the presidents of the Association so any information is welcome.

Jeff said he is very concerned about the declining membership of the Association and the associated loss of connection with the Manse. He plans to go to the Robinson-Manning Reunion in Lebanon, CT in August to drum up support for our Association. He also noted that he found out about the Association from an article Carolyn McLean had written.

On the status of the Manse, Becky Warren is getting an estimate for painting. Jeff said the tenant wants to put a patio behind the Manse – between the road and the kitchen area. He will show those interested the proposed location following the meeting.

Jeff continues to work towards a Manning Museum at the Manse. He wrote an article and posted it on-line and gave a talk to a group that toured historic sites in the area, including the Manse. The tasks that need to be done include: designing the museum area, adding security, purchasing display cases, labeling artifacts, advertising when it would be open (once a month initially?), and perhaps hiring a docent. There is much to be done so he would welcome anyone interested in working on it. Kathy Nici suggested offering to give tours to school kids and have a handout for them to take home.

There was a discussion of how the Mannings were involved in Harvard University. Shortly after the University was established, a Manning helped raise the money for a building, which included the library. More recently Warren H. Manning's glass plated with landscape architectural drawings were given to Harvard.

(Cont. on p. 4)

MYSTERIES AMONG OUR ARTIFACTS



This was identified by kinswoman Grace Wettermann as a footwarmer. She said she has an almost identical one. She wrote, "it was filled with hot rocks that had been heated in a fireplace and taken to church and put in the family pew."

2019 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

The Annual Reunion and Meeting of the Manning Association Stockholders was held on Saturday, June 22, 2019 at the Manning Manse, 56 Chelmsford Road in Billerica, MA.

Kinfolk gathered on the lawn of the Manning Manse while Carolyn McLean provided an engaging program with historical information about the Manse and had those in attendance trace their lineage to William Manning. Folks enjoyed touring the Manning Manse to see the new exhibit cases and artifacts on display. At noon members of the Manning family enjoyed Jon Ryan's Pub fare in the historic Manning Manse. Attendance was down due to conflicts, illness, and other unknown factors.

Dwight Dixon, dressed in full regalia as a Sudbury Minuteman, provided a wonderful presentation on the various clothing styles and weapons of the colonial era. He brought several examples of clothing and shared stories of how their purpose and use changed over time.

The annual Manning Association Stockholders Meeting was called to order at 2:42 pm by Ruth Ladd, in the absence of Jeff Manning. Jeff recently underwent surgery and was unable to travel. Attendees: David Warren, Abby Warren, Becky Warren, Ruth Ladd, Robin Greenberg, Lee & Leslie Manning, Eileen Harvey Qualset and Cheryl Qualset, Tommy Manning, Carolyn McLean, Constance Adams, and Rosemary Whitney. States represented included: MA, VA, NH, and CA.

Reports

The minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting will be included in the next Messenger.

Rosemary Whitney submitted a Treasurer's Report on the Manning Association's finances, including a balance sheet with current assets totaling \$136,846.50 as of May 31, 2019. The Profit & Loss report for January through May 2019 indicates \$37,282.81 in total income, \$17,438.18 in total expenses with a net income of \$19,844.63. On a motion by Lee, seconded by David, the Treasurer's Report was accepted and placed on file.

Tommy Manning provided an update on the status of the Manning Association website www.Manningassociation.org that he has been updating. Additional pictures and information would be greatly appreciated.

Ruth Ladd, Editor, asked for submissions and ideas for the next editions of the Manning Manse Messenger.

(Cont. on p. 4)

MANNING NEWS

We are saddened by the news that Susan Gayle McIntosh of Swampscott, MA, passed away. Some may remember her father, Richard McIntosh, who was the Association's treasurer for many years. Susan helped him with mailings. She was born July 13, 1953 and passed away unexpectedly June 14, 2018.

We have lost track of many Manning relatives through returned mail or failed email and missing address, most of whom are stockholders (certificate number indicated) so we would love to find them (or find their status). If you know any of the following, please write to or email the editor:

Raymond P. Boyes, Jr. of Wilmington, OH (#10)
 Mary Manning Carroll of Phoenix, AZ (#14)
 Stuart A. Conwell of Verona, PA (#62)
 William Proctor Fenstemacher of Newton Highlands, MA (#8)
 Dorothy Hackbarth of Bayfield, WI (#2)
 David N. Hunt of Salem, NH (#42)
 James D. Hunt of Orman Beach, FL (#50)
 Jeffrey Scott Johnson of Fort Collins, CO (#47)
 Donna Langevin of Northboro, MA (#95)
 Nathan A. Lupoli of Hampton, NH (#4)
 Sandra J. Lupoli of Hampton, NH (#17)
 Rachel Lupoli of Hampton, NH (#52)
 Alston Pardee Manning of Chapel Hill, NC (#46)
 James Manning of Enfield, CT
 Robert Nelson Manning of Wilmington, DE (#45)
 Kenneth Newton of San Diego, CA (#85)
 Audrey Manning Northway of Cumberland Center, ME (#78)
 Molly Northway of Cumberland Center, ME (#91)
 Donita Rae Nyman of Winchendon, MA (#9)
 Lois A. Pey of Milbank, SD (#55)
 Carolyn Manning Rappeno of Colchester, VT (#33)
 Ernest Arthur Rhodes of Beaufort, SC (#16)
 Doris R. Sheridan of Troy, NY (#60)
 Martha Manning Stein of Franklin Lakes, NJ (#76)
 Jane B. Stonefield of Townsend Harbor, MA (#74)
 Nancy G. Sutton of Londonderry, NH (#18)
 Ryan Manning Sutton of Londonderry, NH (#3)
 Betsey Taylor-Kennedy of Bolton, MA (#23)
 Catherine W. Wilson of Townsend, MA 01469 (#21)
 Jane Manning Woodman of Marlborough, MA (#30)

(Cont. from p.1)

everyone to think about becoming an organ donor, if not for a living relative or friend, then at the very least get the sticker that goes on your license that shows you are an organ donor.

The Manse is generally in very good condition. We look forward to having a large attendance for the June 2020 reunion. It will be the 120th Anniversary of the first Manning Association gathering, and I hope we can make it a special occasion!

In closing I would like to recognize Becky and David Warren, Carolyn McLean and Ruth Ladd for their many years being involved in the Manning Association. I wish I had discovered this place many years ago, but they all have spent many years of their lives being involved in the recent history that the Manse holds. It would not be the same without them on the board guiding the organization through the good and troubled times.

If you have any questions or comments, feel free to reach out to me via email at celticfan@townisp.com.

Jeff Manning

(Cont. from p.2)

It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to amend the bylaws as distributed, effective June 23, 2018.

The annual meeting of the Manning Association stockholders adjourned at 2:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth M. Ladd
 Secretary Pro-Tem

(Cont. from p.2)

Ruth noted the great work Jeff has done in procuring new display cases as we move toward creating a museum to tell the story of the Manning family and the Manse. The proposed outdoor deck and patio to be built behind the Manse by the tenant has been delayed due to weather.

Becky read a letter from Jerry and Amy Manning with updates on their family's activities, including (Cont. to p.6)

YOUR 2019-20 DUES MAY BE OVERDUE

Dues are just \$25/year (July 1-June 30). Such a deal!

Our dues help the Association towards our goal of having a museum in the Manse (which is already starting to take shape so you should come to reunion and check it out!) plus help with the maintenance of this very old structure. There aren't that many buildings in the country that are 323 years old!

Dues and donations can be mailed to: **Rosemary Whitney, 59 Seabury, Hampton, NH 03842.** **NOTE: Please only send them to Rosemary!**

2019 REUNION AND ANNUAL MEETING

We were honored to have Minuteman Dwight Dixon come to speak to us about the clothing worn by and equipment used by Minutemen during the Revolutionary War. He also spoke a bit about his experiences as a re-enactor (additional photo on page 6).



Dwight Dixon standing by the fireplace in the Manning Manse



He didn't just show us colonial outfits, he shows us the uniforms of the Regulars as well



Dwight has quite a collection of arms of the type used in the Revolutionary War

The Manning Association
Incorporated in 1901
to preserve the
Manning Manse
of
North Billerica, Massachusetts
Built circa 1696
and on the
National Register of Historic Places

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*There was an enthusiastic group watching
Dwight Dixon's presentation.*

**WHEN YOU PAY DUES, PLEASE
CONSIDER INCLUDING A DONA-
TION, TOO!**

Perhaps \$16.96 or \$169.60 in honor of when
the Manse was built. Or maybe \$19.01 or
\$190.10 in honor of when the Association was
incorporated.

(Cont. from p.4)

their son's graduation taking place on the same day as
this reunion.

Election of Officers

Carolyn McLean offered a proposed slate of Trustees
and Officers of the Manning Association for 2019-
2020 term:

Rosemary Whitney, Treasurer
Rebecca A. Warren, Secretary
Jeffrey Manning
David E. Warren
Tommy Manning
Ruth M. Ladd
Abigail S. Warren

Ruth Ladd motioned to accept the slate of officers, se-
conded by David Warren. Secretary to cast one ballot
for the slate of officers.

The annual meeting of the Manning Association stock-
holders adjourned at 3:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca A Warren

Secretary