



BUILT IN 1690 • NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

# MANNING ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED IN 1901 TO PRESERVE THE  
MANNING MANSE OF NORTH BILLERICA, MASSACHUSETTS

Directions to Manse: From North: SE I-495S, Exit 19; Rt109E (Medway); left Medway Rd; left I-495N, (Lowell); Exit 39A-B-C to US-3 (Burlington); Exit 29, HWY 129E; Billerica Rd to Chelmsford Rd. From South: North 1-95, Exit 28A; Exit 32A-B to US-3N (Lowell), Exit 29 (Billerica); left Billerica Rd. to Chelmsford Rd. From West: East 1-90E, Exit 11A, merge onto I-495N; Exit 35 A-B-C, US-3S (Burlington); Exit 29, HWY 129E; Billerica Rd to 56 Chelmsford Rd.

## MANNING MANSE MESSENGER

MARCH 2009

Meeting of the

Manning Association Trustees

March 1, 2009, the Manning Manse Association Trustees began to arrive at Noon on this date, dodging an impending New England snowstorm, for the Quarterly Meeting. Those present: Leonard Manning, Nathaniel Manning, Peter Stuart, Tawny Manning Beckmann and Melanie Stuart Claeys.

Dues and Membership:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every supporter and contributor to the Manning Association by payment of annual dues and donations. It is by your support that this historic organization can be preserved, grow and continue for years to come. With that idea in mind, as you read about the work and interest of your Board members and Trustees, as well as other events involving the Manning Manse and the Association, I ask that you extend an invitation to your relatives near and far, with a true connection to the Manning genealogy, to also become a member of the Association or be willing to serve on the Board. You may contact any one of the Board members or Trustees (continued to Page 2)

### Manning Association Board of Trustees 2008-2009

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**2 VACANT POSITIONS REMAIN**

(continued from page 1) listed in this publication. As you know, your membership pays for the Manning Messenger publications. There are also a number of historical books and other Manning memorabilia with the Manning seal that are available for purchase (please contact Carolyn A. McLean, listed on Page 1 of this Newsletter, for further information). Because of the increase in postage, printing and other associated costs, the dues were increased to \$25.00 per year at the March 1, 2009 Trustee Meeting. All present at the Annual Reunion in Billerica, MA this past June 2008, and those who sent me payment for the 2008-2009 yearly dues, have been recorded and all monies have been deposited into the Bank of America interest bearing business account (Balance to date \$3,407.62). I apologize if you did not receive a note of receipt and a thank you from me for your payment of membership dues for this year. However, your canceled check should serve as your receipt, as well as continued Messenger mailings. Thank you once again for your attention and assistance!

Sincerely,  
Melanie Stuart Claeys, Assistant Treasurer



**REUBEN MANNING AND SONS:** This 1920's photo of Reuben Manning and three of his sons, Arnold, Nathaniel and Myron, in descending order, was published in a national issue of Farm Bureau Magazine and entitled "**The Milking Machine**". The farm was acquired by Reuben from his Grandmother, Sophia Hyde (Gager) Pember and is still owned by family members today.



**REUBEN TAYLOR and MAUD ARNOLD MANNING FAMILY circa 1930:** In recent years, the descendants of Reuben Taylor and Maud Arnold Manning have held Family Reunions in Lebanon, CT. This year, the group will devote one day of their Reunion, Saturday, June 27th, to gather at the Manning Manse in Billerica, MA. This will be in conjunction with the Manning Manse Annual Meeting and Reunion of the Manning Association. The group hopes to meet other “cousins” on this day at the Manse. The Connecticut group will continue their Reunion the following day, Sunday, June 28th at Long Pond, Ledyard, CT, hosted by Janet Holdridge Barnett. This branch of Manning's began their migration from Billerica in 1714, when Samuel, the eldest son of the builder of the Manse, purchased 240 acres of land in Windham, CT. This area was later incorporated as Scotland, CT. In later generations, the family expanded into neighboring towns of Franklin and Lebanon, where many descendants still reside today. Seated l—r: Maud Arnold, Julia (Dutcher) Frank, Myron and Reuben Manning. Standing l—r: Mary Au-

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
MANNING ASSOCIATION BALANCE SHEET  
MARCH 2, 2009

Bank Assets		
Bank of America (Dues Account)	\$	3,407.62
Bank of America (Checking Account)		19,887.07
Stocks and Bonds		
Merrill Lynch Account		<u>101,287.00</u>
	TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$123,337.48
Real Estate Assets		
56 Chelmsford Rd., North Billerica, MA		
Parcel 1: Vacant land		\$152,600.00
Parcel 2: Land & Restaurant		<u>596,000.00</u>
Fair Market Value		\$748,600.00
Accounts Payable		
None		

Items to be considered:

1. Connect to Sewer System (Estimated cost \$21,000)
2. Repairs to roof
3. Inventory of Personal property Items
4. Small amount due from Ruth Manning Estate (Estimated \$3,000)
5. Tenant not paying amount rent due

Respectfully submitted:  
Peter Manning Stuart, Treasurer

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REQUEST FROM MANNING MANSE MESSENGER EDITOR: WANTED! *COPIES* of photos of our Manning ancestors, complete with caption, to place in future Manning Manse Messenger newsletters. Send to address listed on Page 1 of this newsletter. Thank you!  
Tawny Manning Beckmann

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*Tear here to return your dues to the Manning Association*

The Manning Association

This is your dues bill for FY 2009—2010

Your prompt payment of dues as per Statement will be greatly appreciated.  
(Please use the envelope provided to assure prompt delivery of your dues). Thank you!

Manning Association Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues: \$25.00

Dues Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This statement is for the above-named member only. Please make checks payable to THE MANNING ASSOCIATION. Mail no currency in the envelope that has been provided for your convenience. NOTE: HAVE YOU MOVED? WE MAY NOT HAVE YOUR UPDATED ADDRESS. PLEASE PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION SO CAN ASSURE PROMPT DELIVERY OF THE MANNING ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER. THANK YOU!



**GEORGE WASHINGTON MANNING FAMILY, MANNING AVENUE, SAVONA, NY, circa 1880:** George W. Manning was born March 20, 1831 in Newark Valley, Tioga County, New York. He married Lydia M. Webster, daughter of Elias Webster and Lydia Gage Heath, July 2, 1851 in Newark Valley, NY. This photo taken of the George Washington and Lydia Manning family in a photographer's studio, Savona, NY: **Seated l—r: Mary Ella Manning** (married Cornelius Dusenberry 1899), **George Washington Manning (Father)**, **Lydia Belinda Manning** (married John Calvin Buckley 1878), **close female friend or relative of Manning Family, Lydia Melissa (Webster) Manning (Mother)**; **Standing l—r: George Elias Manning** (President of Manning Construction Co., Corning, NY, married Ella Jane Dimmick 1878), **Alonzo Webster Manning** (Great Grandfather of Peter Stuart, Melanie Claeys and Tawny Beckmann, married Ida May Nellis 1882), **William Sutton Manning** (married Etta Dennis 1899) **and Edwin Leroy Manning** (married Libbie Sutliff 1896). (NOTE: First borne child, of George and Lydia Manning, Henry Hoyt Manning (died at 2 yrs. old, June 1854).

**THE MANNING FAMILY HYMN**  
(To the tune of "Auld Lang Syne")

In sixteen hundred ninety-six  
Our forefather builded here  
This home from other homes remote,  
With woods encircling near.

Each board and rafter, log and sill,  
Was hewn from oak or pine;  
With toil-wrought nails 'tis held in place,  
This home of yours and mine.

It tells of struggles bravely fought  
By mean of austere ways;—  
Those stalwart men made easier paths  
For us of later days.

**'Mid peril, prayer, and sacrifice,**  
With musket by their side,  
They kept their faith with God and man, —  
Our fathers who lived and died.

No skulking Indians now molest;  
**The Redcoats' drums are stilled;**  
Yet we to-day with reverence  
For hero-men are filled.

Since first these forests were subdued,  
Two hundred years have gone;  
Men cradled here fill quiet graves,  
But still the house lives on.

With strength of massive, firm-set beam,  
**We'll meet the great world's needs,**  
For upright, stirring, strenuous life,  
**Our grandsire's spirit pleads.**

Oh, sacred memories here enshrined,  
We honor by noble past!  
**We'll make the present glorious**  
With sterling deeds, steadfast.

**Then here's to the homestead gray with age,**  
With sagging, rain-swept eaves;  
**And here's to the loyal, sheltering elms**  
**With century-waving leaves!**

(Composed at the Manning Manse, North Billerica, MA, by Ms. Myra N. Manning, for the Reunion of June 17, 1901, and adopted as the Family Hymn at the Reunion of June 17, 1904)