

MANNING MANSE MESSENGER



SEPTEMBER 2014

Built in 1696 - National Register of Historic Places

MANNING MANSE
 56 Chelmsford Road
 North Billerica, MA
 manningassociation.org

PRESIDENT:
 Lee J. Manning

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Manning Family Reunion

SAVE THE DATE: The Manning Family will gather at the Manse on Saturday, June 27, 2015 at 11 AM to celebrate the Annual Meeting and Reunion of the Manning Association. Buffet Luncheon at Noon: \$20/Adult; \$10/Child under 10 yrs. (The Manning Family Reunion is held at the Manning Manse on the FOURTH Saturday in the month of June, annually).

↑ **Directions to Manse:** **From North:** I-95S, Exit 59 merge to I-495S toward Worcester; Exit 35C-B-A for I-495/Lowell Connector; /US-3; US-3 and merge to US-3S; Exit 29 to Billerica Rd/MA-129 to 56 Chelmsford Rd. **From South:** I-95N, Exit towards Portsmouth NH, Exit 32A-B to US-3N(Lowell), Exit 29 (MA-129 -Billerica); left Billerica Rd. to 56 Chelmsford Rd. **From West:** East I-90E, Exit 11A, merge onto I-495N; Exit 35A-B-C, merge US-3S (Burlington); Exit 29 onto Billerica Rd/MA-129; Billerica Rd to 56 Chelmsford Rd.

MANSE RESTAURANT RENOVATED

SALUTE TO WOMEN

Manning Graduates

Valedictorian

PHOTOS OF THE MANNING 2014 FAMILY REUNION

VISIT MANNING WEBSITE FOR MANNING ARTICLES FOR SALE

PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU WOULD PREFER TO VIEW MANNING MANSE MESSENGER VIA THE MANNING WEBSITE: WWW.MANNINGASSOCIATION.ORG AND NOT RECEIVE VIA US POSTAL SERVICE **PLEASE NOTIFY NEWSLETTER EDITOR** AND YOUR ADDRESS WILL BE REMOVED FROM MAILING LIST.

Happy 100th Birthday Merion Manning Ritter!



Sara Lilly Manning graduates Valedictorian

Sara was unsure about going away to Camp, "However, the atmosphere and way I was treated made me feel welcomed and loved." From her experience as a camper, Manning became a camp counselor at Vanderkamp Center, a Christian retreat and camp in Cleveland, NY. She now hopes to run a Christian camp of her own. "Being a counselor has given me the confidence to speak in group settings and helped me be confident in stressful situations. It also prepared me for what I want to do in the future." Amy would like to run a Christian summer camp or work with children. Extremely active in school, Amy was soccer and volleyball captain, National Honor Society vice president; Science Club and Drama Club treasurer; Chorus, Band, youth group church choir and coach for U5 AYSO). Amy will attend Valparaiso University, Indiana to study youth family and education ministry. Congratulations and Best wishes to you Sara! [Sara is daughter of Jerry and Amy Manning]

SALUTE TO WOMEN (The Sun, June 2014, spotlighted Becky Warren)**“RANGER’S PASSION FOR HISTORY CULTIVATED ON FAMILY FARM”**

It was during Becky Warren’s formative years, growing up on the 65 acre farm in Chelmsford, MA, that’s been owned and cultivated by 11 generations of the Warren family for 300 years, that her great-Aunt Miriam Warren first inspired her to envision her future as the nature loving National Park Service ranger and town historian that she has become. Becky’s great-Aunt, after working on the farm all day, would ask “How about we go for a walk around the farm?” Not to work but to simply walk around. On these walks, Miriam Warren liked giving Becky an oral history of the family farm and town, such as “not only did there used to be a barn here, but lightning struck and it burned” or, pointing out types of plants or a bobolink bird and to listen to it sing. Becky truly treasured those walks and times with her great-aunt. Another great-Aunt, Julia Fogg, a genealogist, shared a similar penchant for preserving and passing along the history of Chelmsford and its inhabitants. “I learned of the environment around me by listening to my ancestors, who had great things to share”. Becky’s parents Franklin and Mary still live on the farm that the family has long declared off-limits to developers. “It was through their influence that I gained my passion for history. They’re good Yankees, not great talkers because they didn’t talk a lot, but when they did talk, I listened.” Fogg first introduced Becky to the Chelmsford Historical Society. Today she is the Society’s president, often giving history presentations at the Chelmsford Public Library, Senior Center, schoolchildren and other groups. Becky’s farm upbringing among history-loving ancestors, coupled with education knowledge she gained at Essex Agricultural & Technical College and UMass Amherst amounted to the ideal preparation for her 28 year career as a Lowell-based Park Ranger for the National Park Service. “You can probably tell why I have stayed here. It’s because it’s where my roots are, and they are very deep here in New England. I have a passion for New England and New England stories. Channeling her great-aunt’s tour guide instincts, Becky cheerily engages the public daily on the job. “Here I am in a park ranger uniform and hat and my

job is to manage an operation where the bottom line is we’re trying to help people have fun on their time off while visiting Lowell, or going out to the Boston harbor islands” (where she was assigned to work this summer). “How great is that!” Becky is also an active member of the Chelmsford Land Conservation Trust, the Manning Association (whose mission is maintaining the Manning Manse [North Billerica] and its related historic records) and Chelmsford High School Alumni Association, inducted her into the Hall of Fame in 2002. “I’m not bored and I’m certainly finding challenges that keep me active, my brain working and thinking of solutions.” Family members, 3 siblings, friends, neighbors and town natives named her “Chelmsford’s 2012 Citizen of the Year”...she’s staying put in Chelmsford! Or, more accurately, Pepperell, where she has settled into a single-family home on 4 acres that pretty much maintain the area’s natural habitat of 3 centuries ago. “Pepperell reminds me of Chelmsford when I was a kid. I have vegetable and flower gardens, and the coyotes sing to me in the middle of the night. It’s that remote. Just a quiet place.” “I hearken back to what my great aunts taught me: Nature was here before we were. Appreciate what the coyotes, birds, deer, turkey and other creatures are about, and how we can live together.” Eventually, Becky plans to move back to Chelmsford year-round. In the meantime, working on the farm each weekend with family members keeps her pleasingly close to her roots. “I spend my summers with my siblings, baling fields of hay on Sunday afternoons. I can’t tell you how much that feeds the soul for me, to be out there doing something my ancestors of 11 generations did on that farm!” Becky was caught by surprise to be included in The Sun’s SALUTE TO WOMEN. “There are people who are as equally passionate about Chelmsford and its history, who do it in a less public way. To be recognized for doing what you like to do is an honor. It’s great!”



JUNE 2014 MANNING FAMILY REUNION



JON RYAN'S PUBS: MANNING MANSE NEW RESTAURANT TENANT



On July 18, 2014, Jon Ryan's Pub opened at the Manning Manse. In 2011, Bob Ryan opened his first restaurant in Tewksbury, MA to be the first in a chain of "Jon Ryan's Pubs" named for his legacy, Jonathan Ryan. The Pub is located in the restaurant section of the historic Manning Manse. "The building is a gorgeous 300-year-old Colonial home, divided into two sections. One section has undergone modern interior renovations and has been home to several restaurants over the years. But the main house has been maintained with historic authenticity by the Manning Association, which owns the property. The new restaurant has a main dining area, as well as a full service bar with pub seating. And of course, plenty of television screens for patrons to keep track of the local and national sports action. Eventually, Mr. Ryan plans to utilize two rooms in the main house for private functions and additional dining space. The Manning's welcome Jon Ryan's Pub and wish the Ryan's much success for many, many years to come!

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Important Membership Note: Please pay annual dues, in the amount of \$25.00, one time per year (preferably by, or at, June Reunion). Two newsletters are mailed annually, with dues envelopes provided for your convenience. Thank you.