



President's Message

Bob Murphy

There is important news to share with you this quarter. This issue is the last under the current editor, Bill Budde. Bill took over the Newsletter four years ago, introduced a new look and streamlined a number of its features. He often provided much of the content, when submissions from members was slim to non-existent. He also heralded it through some rough economic times, during which we needed to review the whole Newsletter production process. Bill will be pursuing other goals, but we are grateful for the service he has provided.

Taking over the helm from Bill will be Deirdre Dagner of Louisa, Va. She brings experience and energy to the job, and I look forward to working with her. Deirdre has an impressive resume as both editor and author, and is a member of Vermont, New England and national genealogical and historical societies. Her job as editor of this Newsletter will begin with the Feb 2010 issue.

Richard McCoy of the Vermont Health Dept. recently invited GSV Secretary Mary Pat Brigham

and me to his office in Burlington to discuss a report on Vermont's vital records that he has been asked to prepare for Legislature. Richard wanted input from the genealogical community before completing his report, and we provided that. There may be future proposed legislation that will impact genealogical researchers, and we will keep you up to date on such actions as they become known to us. See my complete article on this subject elsewhere in this newsletter.

As we prepare for a "changing of the guard" on the Newsletter, it is an opportune time to appeal once again to members to provide input. Each one of you out there probably has an issue, an opinion, or a bit of information, that would be of interest to other members. The Newsletter editor's toughest job is filling the newsletter with interesting content when there is insufficient input and assistance from members. This is not Bill's Newsletter and it will not be Deirdre's Newsletter. It is the GSV Newsletter. Please contribute and make their jobs a little easier. Thanks. Bob Murphy (rmm@sover.net)

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When my father died, it was like a whole library had burned down."

Laurie Anderson

If you cannot get rid of the family skeleton, you may as well make it dance.

George Bernard Shaw

2011 NERGC Call for Papers

Lecture proposals are now being accepted for the 11th New England Regional Genealogical Conference to be held 6-10 April 2011 in Springfield, Massachusetts. The deadline for submission of proposals is **1 March 2010**. Proposals may be submitted to Allison L. Ryall, 32 Arundel Road - Raymond, ME 04071 or emailed to allison@allisonryall.com.

The Conference is sponsored by The New England Regional Genealogical Consortium (NERGC); an organization comprised of over twenty genealogical and historical societies in the region. In keeping with the Conference theme, "Exploring New Paths to Your Roots," NERGC 2011 will help genealogists explore:

- New research pathways, methodologies, and strategies, including technology and online resources;
- The "pathways" their ancestors followed into and out of New England (including where and why they moved and settlement and migration patterns);
- Ethnic genealogy of all types, especially British Isles, Irish, Italian, French-Canadian, African American, and Native American;
- New approaches to discovering their ancestors' worlds through directories, maps, atlases, gazetteers, and online imagery;

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Contribute to your Society

Over the past couple of years, I have tried, with remarkable lack of success, to get folks to submit items for posting on our website. I have contributed a number of items, including Kelleyvale deeds, marriages and deaths reported in the Burlington Free Press, vital records from Central Vermont Newspapers and the complete run of *Branches and Twigs*, predecessor to our journal *Vermont Genealogy*. Anything of interest to genealogists doing Vermont research is welcome, including cemetery transcriptions, vital records, tax records, deeds, probate records, etc. If you have material to contribute, please send it to Diantha at diantha.howard@uvm.edu.

We are also very interested in contributions to our (now) semi-annual journal, *Vermont Genealogy (VG)*, and our quarterly *Newsletter*. *VG* is our scholarly publication, and submissions may include transcribed primary record material (bible records, diaries, etc.) as well as family history submissions (all properly documented, of course). For the *Newsletter*, anything at all is welcome as long as it relates to something that our members might find interesting or helpful. Know of a resource that you have just discovered that might be helpful to others? How about an event, broadcast or website that might interest fellow members?

Finally, after a long hiatus, we are in the process of preparing volume 3 of our *Vermont Families in 1791* series. Jonathan Stevens is the editor and needs contributions from members. Basic needs are a three generation profile of a Vermonter included in the first census of the state, all facts documented from primary sources where possible. Details may be seen on our website (just scroll down on our home page).

Bob Murphy

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- Systematic approaches for finding and utilizing record sources (such as religious, civil, cemetery, military, newspapers, etc.);
- The wealth of information available in New England's repositories (archives, libraries, historical societies, etc.);
- New ways to plan and prepare for a successful research trip, including resources close to home;
- General genealogical skills and techniques;
- Family history writing and publishing.

Preference is given to topics relating to the Conference theme. NERGC will consider proposals for hands-on workshops relating to the above areas.

2010 Meeting Announcements

February 14-20: Third Annual RootsMagic Cruise will visit Haiti, Jamaica, Grand Cayman and Mexico. Additional information is available at www.rootsmagiccruise.com.

April 28-May 1: National Genealogical Society Family History Conference, Salt Lake City, UT. Follow Your Ancestral Trail. Additional information is available at www.ngsgenealogy.org.

May 14-16: Ontario Genealogical Society 2010 Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Theme—"Essentials, Innovations and Delights." Presenters include John Philip Colletta and Quebec genealogy expert Gary Schroder. Additional information is at <http://www.torontofamilyhistory.org/conference2010/index.html>

May 17, Saturday: Genealogical Society of Vermont Meeting, Bennington Museum, Bennington, VT. See the notice on page 4.

June 26-27: Vermont History Expo, Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Tunbridge, VT. Additional information is available at www.vermonthistory.org.

July 27-30: 2010 Brigham Young University Conference, Provo, UT. Tethering Traditional Technology to Tighten Family Ties, call for papers. Proposals for presentations are due March 1, 2010.

August 18-21: Federation of Genealogical Societies, Knoxville, TN. "Rediscovering America's First Frontier." Additional information is available at

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Advanced research topics are especially welcome. Each session will last one hour, including questions and answers. Hands-on workshops should last 2-3 hours. Speakers must provide camera-ready syllabus material by 1 December 2010. The syllabus will be distributed at the conference in print and/or digital format.

There is no limit to the number of proposals that speakers can submit. Participating NERGC societies must propose one speaker (who does not need to be a member of that society) for one session; proposals for sponsored speakers must be approved by the program chair. The honorarium for non-sponsored speakers is \$225 per lecture. All speakers will receive a complimentary conference registration. NERGC does not cover travel, hotel, or per diem expenses.

Family History Bargains

I just finished teaching my eight hour *Introduction to Genealogy* class at the local Career Development Center and was reminded of the bargains available to family historians. Here are several of my favorites:

- Issued in 2008 is a DVD that I recommend for all Vermont family history researchers, *Historic Vermont Book Collection on DVD*, published by THA New Media LLC through their website (www.theHistoricalArchive.com). This contains “sixty volumes relating to the history of Vermont and its people.” The material is focused on eighteenth and nineteenth century books and is an excellent way to gather information about the historic events experienced by a Vermont ancestor. You might even discover why they left these Green Mountains for a distant Shangri-La.
- Several years ago Ancestry.com (www.ancestry.com) issued a CD that included the most valuable reference books for genealogists. The most recent 2008 version is available in Standard and Deluxe DVD editions at \$129.95 and \$169.95 respectively. If this sounds high, consider that the sale cost of thirteen of the fifteen printed titles totals \$335.38. Here is what you get (Underlined titles are only in the Deluxe edition.): *The Source, A guidebook of American Genealogy*; *The Red Book: American, State, County, and Town Sources*; *Ancestry's Family Historian's Address Book*; *Ancestry's Concise Genealogical Dictionary*; *They Became Americans: Finding Naturalization Records and Ethnic Origins*; *Finding Answers in the U.S. Census*; *U.S. Military Records*; *Military Records at Ancestry.com*; *The Official Guide to Ancestry.com*; *The Official Guide to RootsWeb*; *Abbreviations and Acronyms: A guide for Family Historians*; *Hidden Sources: Family History in Unlikely Places*; *Printed Sources: A Guide to Published Genealogical Records*; *Library of Congress: A Guide to Genealogical and Historical Research*; and *The Archives: A Guide to the National Archives Field Branches*.
- *Old Maps of New England* features images scanned from original out-of-print maps of New England states. The quality is above average and the detail gets better as the image is enlarged (up to a point). See their website for a list of free and CDs available for purchase at <http://www.old-maps.com/>
- **NEHGS Classic Reprints catalog**—The Classics Reprint catalog available through the New England Historic Genealogical Society's website is a “listing of over 10,000 rare, hard-to-find or out-of-print titles” that are offered as reprints bound like a typical book. Since many genealogy books risk going out of print due to low demand this may be an economical way to obtain the one true genealogy for your collection. More information is available at <http://www.newenglandancestors.org/store.asp>.

Want To Contact Us?

Our website is at

<http://www.genealogyvermont.org/>

News, articles and comments for the **Newsletter** should be mailed to:

Bill Budde
142A Munn Terrace
Arlington, VT 05250-8573
(802) 375-9296
E-mail: bbudde@verizon.net

Newsletter deadlines are
Dec 15 for the February issue
March 15 for the May issue
June 15 for the August Issue
September 15 for the November issue.

If you would like to **contact our journal, *Vermont Genealogy***, write:
Scott Andrew Bartley, Editor
Vermont Genealogy
20 March Avenue
West Roxbury, MA 02132-2604
E-mail: YourGenealogist@aol.com

Copies of relevant **books for journal review** can be sent to:
John A. Leppman
Book Review Editor
20 Thwing Lane
Bellows Falls, VT 05101-1640

Contact Bob Murphy, President at
PO Box 14, Randolph, VT 05060-0014
rmm@sover.net

Moving? Let Us Know

Please inform GSV if you move. Send notices to Diantha Howard, 57 East Shore North, Grand Isle, VT 05458

Advertising Policy

The newsletter accepts paid advertising at \$3.00 per column inch. It must relate to genealogy, preferably Vermont, and must be received before the deadline listed above. Checks made out to GSV are sent to the newsletter editor along with the *exact* wording for the ad. *GSV offers no warranty on the services of advertisers.*

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Membership includes our journal *Vermont Genealogy* and four issues of our newsletter. These publications will keep you abreast of genealogical news and present current articles on genealogical source material, conferences and meetings, techniques and queries. If you would like to receive a membership card, please include a self addressed stamped envelop with your dues. Send membership dues and applications to:

GSV Membership Chairperson
57 East Shore North
Grand Isle, VT 05458

All other correspondence, except for submissions and queries to *Vermont Genealogy* and items for the *Newsletter*, should be sent to Genealogical Society of Vermont, P. O. Box 14, Randolph, VT 05060-0014.

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<http://www.fgs.org/2010conference/index.php>

September 19, 20, 21: New Hampshire Highland Games, Lincoln, NH. Scottish genealogy, history and culture theme.

September 18: "Life in the Past Lane VII" Presented by The Friends of the National Archives—Pittsfield. The conference will be held at the Williams Inn on the Green, Williamstown, MA. For conference information see the Friends website <http://narafriends-pittsfield.org/calendar.htm>.

Browser Problems Spoil Your Day?

Dick Eastman reports that there is a growing list of websites that do not work well with Internet Explorer 8. Most other web browsers, including Google Chrome, Firefox, Internet Explorer 7, Safari, and several others seem to work with the very same sites that confound Explorer 8.

The solution is to use the "compatibility button" found on the tool bar at the top of the screen. This looks like a torn sheet of paper and will generally solve the problem.