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NEWSLETTER

Genealogical Society
of Vermont

Volume 1, Issue 1

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Whole No. 1

GSV is your society!

GSV is 1308 members strong. We are fortunate to have such a vibrant Society, and with your help, we can make it even better!

GSV members come from all fifty states, six provinces of Canada and three other countries. The top ten most popular places to receive GSV's *Branches & Twigs* are: Vermont (23%); California (10%); New York (7%); Massachusetts (6%); Florida (4-1/2%); New Hampshire (3-3/4%); Michigan (3-1/2%); Connecticut (3%); Washington (3%); and Illinois (3%).

What can you do for GSV?

For those of you who live in Vermont or vacation here, come and join the fun at one of our bi-annual meetings. Over one hundred of your fellow Vermont genealogists turn out for these events. They are usually held on the third Saturday of May and October. For the final plans of the date, place and events of the day, keep your eyes on the new *GSV Newsletter*.

In addition to the business portion of the meeting, there is a morning and afternoon speaker. One talk is locally focused while the other is more on methodology or source records. Members are encouraged to join each other for lunch, which is provided for \$10 or less, or you can bring your own. Half the fun is talking to other members at lunchtime! Quite often we have vendors and display items from our lecturers. Come on and join the fun!

For those members unable to attend one of the meetings, we will bring GSV to your home. This yet unnamed newsletter will visit you bringing the activities of GSV meetings, genealogical news and other topics of interest to

the Vermont genealogist. *Branches & Twigs* also graces your door with four issues. Check out the improvements to come to *B&T* in future issues.

What is new at GSV?

GSV is proud to give you its "Special Publication" series. Number 1 was *Vermont Families in 1791, Volume 1* (1992); number 2 was *Vital Records of Putney, Vermont to the year 1900* (1992); and number 3, the soon to be reprinted *Vital Records of Rockingham, Vermont ... and Records of the First Church of Rockingham, Vermont* (1994) featuring a new consolidated every-name index and new introduction. Check out the enclosed flyer so you can be sure to get your copy at the pre-publication price. The Society has several more projects waiting in the wings for possible publication. See the article on the Vermont Families Project for an update on that publication project.

How can you get involved?

The GSV Board has done a great job of providing information for the Vermont genealogist. The majority of the credit goes to Joann Nichols. Joann served as president for 18 years. Carol Church has been the editor of *Branches & Twigs* for 22 years. The Board cannot do it all alone. GSV is always looking for new ideas. Members are invited to submit genealogical or historical articles to *B&T* and join a committee.

Everyone is now familiar with the work of the GSV Publications Committee. In October of 1993, Scott Bartley organized two more committees. The By-laws Review Committee is carefully looking over GSV's current by-laws and comparing them with other societies like GSV. This non-Board member committee will present its findings at the next GSV Board meet-

ing. Suggested changes will be announced in the next issue of this newsletter and voted on at the next general meeting. The Program Committee's function is to plan the GSV bi-annual meetings. Two fine members have offered their support, but the President is still looking for a chair to this Committee. Anyone interested should call or write Scott Bartley.

Logo Contest

Can you design a fitting logo to uniquely identify this newsletter and any other GSV publication? If so, send your entry to Scott Bartley before Feb 28th. The winner will receive a one-year membership to GSV. Let your creative minds go! The winner will be announced in the next issue along with GSV's new logo at the header of this newsletter.

Fall Meeting Minutes

GSV members met at Noble Hall on the Vermont College campus in Montpelier on Oct 23. There were about 120 people in attendance. Joann Nichols, President, called the meeting to order at 10 AM.

The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer's report was given for the year ending 1993 Sep 30 and approved (summary elsewhere).

George Sanborn, chair of the Publication Committee, talked about the next project being a reprint edition of Thomas B Peck's *Vital Records of Rockingham, Vermont* combined with Peck's *Records of the First Church of Rockingham, Vermont*. This volume will have a combined index and continuous pagination. The book should be available after the first of next year. *Vermont Families in 1791, Volume 2* is scheduled for publication in the Spring of 1994.

The Committee continues to search actively for suitable materials. It is planning a review of *Branches & Twigs* in future meetings.

Brief comments were made by Kathy Wendling, Computer Committee Chair and by Jean Harvie, Librarian.

Joann announced that GSV will sponsor Scott Bartley as its speaker at the 1994 New England Regional Genealogical Conference to be held 1994 Apr 21-23 at the Center of New Hampshire Holiday Inn, Manchester NH.

John Leppman, Nominating Committee Chair, presented the following slate of officers for 1993-1995:

- President:* Scott Bartley
- Vice-President:* Kathy Wendling
- Vice-President:* Peter Mallett
- Vice-President:* [no candidate]
- Secretary:* Mary Pat Brigham
- Treasurer:* Linda Drummond
- Editor:* Carol Church
- Librarian:* Jean Harvie

John Leppman's name was placed in nomination for vp from the floor. Ken Stevens moved and George Sanborn seconded the slate. There being no further nominations from the floor for any of the offices, the full slate of officers was presented. The slate was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Kathy Wendling presented certificates of appreciation from GSV to the three retiring officers: Joann Nichols, Leo Fleury and Susan MacIntire (the latter two in absentia). Joann also received a gift certificate for books at NEHGS in Boston from the GSV Board in recognition for her 18 years of service as president. This concluded the business meeting.

The morning program commenced with Paul Dumais speaking on "Using your French Canadian Ancestors" followed by Alice Eichholz on "Using Genograms in Genealogy: A New Way of Looking at the WHOLE Family for Research" and ending with Mary Pat Brigham lecturing on "New Trends in Tombstones: Central Vermont is on the Cutting Edge" (brief introduction

to a self-guiding cemetery tour). Lunch was provided by the New England Culinary Institute.

The afternoon program featured Paul Carnahan, Vermont Historical Society Librarian, discussing "Genealogical Research at the Vermont Historical Society". The meeting ended at 1:45 PM so some people could go on the cemetery tour while about 50 souls ventured down to the expectant Vermont Historical Society which was open until 4 PM.

Financial Statement
(year ending 1993 Sep 30)

General Fund	
<i>Income:</i>	
Dues	\$26,850.00
Sales	1,320.45
Gifts	1,163.00
Interest	887.40
Meetings	216.20
Miscellaneous	9.29
Total Income	\$30,446.34

<i>Expenses</i>	
Editor's fee	\$5,400.00
Treasurer's fee	4,350.00
B&T printing	5,494.88
B&T p&h	1,392.26
B&T supplies	384.11
Meeting expenses	1,114.17
Old computer expense	306.00
New computer	550.00
Computer accessories	139.94
Accountant fee	715.00
Library expense	227.08
Advertising	79.25
Postage	767.09
Office supplies, etc.	657.19
Telephone	431.21
Gas expense	200.00
Miscellaneous	169.64
Total Expense	\$22,377.82

Net increase \$8,068.52

<i>Assets</i>	
Cash on hand	\$27,094.94
Equipment value	1,956.90

<i>Publications Fund:</i>	
Stock on hand	\$4,005.64
Cash on hand	11,132.30

TOTAL ASSETS **\$52,258.30**

A copy of the minutes and/or the financial statement may be requested by writing Scott Bartley. Please be sure to include a letter-sized SASE to receive your copy. Add extra postage for both!

VFP UPDATE

Since the editor of the Vermont Families Project has recently become president of GSV and is going to graduate school while maintaining his full-time job, volume 2 of the series will more likely be ready for the publisher by August and available in October. Whenever this volume is finished, work will begin on volume 3.

New ideas?

Let's here them!

GSV would love to here from you about ways to improve the Society, especially for members who cannot attend meetings. What are we doing well? Are there things that we should be added, changed or just plain eliminated?

The by-laws, the framework of GSV, will be reviewed to keep the Society current and fluid. Other issues to be addressed this year are the resolution of the computer fund (and its legal implications), development of an active Program Committee and analyzing the viability of life membership.

The Society is very interested in the comments and suggestions of its members; however, at this point we do not have the resources to respond to questions individually. We will try to address common concerns at meetings or in the newsletter. Thank you for your support of GSV!

Comments, suggestions and new items should be mailed to:
 Scott A Bartley, *President*
Genealogical Society of Vermont
 Astor Station
 PO Box 1118
 Boston MA 02123-1118