

New logo  
here soon!

# NEWSLETTER

Genealogical Society  
of Vermont

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Whole No. 2

## SPRING MEETING

This meeting will be held at the Weathersfield Center Church in Weathersfield VT on **Saturday, May 21st**. The church is located 5.6 miles north of the Springfield village square on Valley Street (right at the Methodist Church) or 2.55 miles south of Route 131 on the [Weathersfield] Center Road (which meets Route 131 1.9 miles west of Exit 8 of I-91 or 4.75 miles east of the junction of Routes 131 and 106).

9:15 Registration begins. Coffee and donuts will be provided.

10:00 Business meeting followed by morning program:

Edith Hunter will speak on "Developing a town genealogy: the Weathersfield Historical Society method". Edith is past president and current newsletter editor for WHS and with her husband published the *Weathersfield Weekly* for many years.

2nd speaker to be announced

12:00 Luncheon: salad, Italian chicken, vegetable, rice, bread, coffee, tea and dessert provided by Depot Square Caterers of Windsor

1:30 Afternoon Program:

Thomas H Roderick will speak on "The genetics of the y-chromosome and the umbilical lines in genealogy". Tom is from Bar Harbor ME where he is a geneticist with Jackson Laboratory. He is a nationally recognized lecturer on genetics in genealogy.

3:00 Adjournment. The Dan Foster House, home of Weathersfield Historical Society, will be open for GSV members to view. It is located near the church.

**Vendor:** Bruce C Cook from Mountain Vale Computer Services of Dover NH will demonstrate several programs and databases for genealogists. If you cannot see him at the meeting, call 800-340-4073 for a brochure.

Because there is limited space in the church, reservations are required. The lecture can seat 125 people and the luncheon 100 people. The fee for lunch and the lecture will be \$9 and \$2 for just the lecture. All checks *must* be postmarked by May 10th. Checks should be made payable to the *Genealogical Society of Vermont* and mailed to Hugh S Putnam, 29 Meadow Drive, Springfield VT 05156 (802-886-8430). If space is available, walk-ins will be allowed. This is a great meeting, so do not miss out -- send your check in early!

## By-law Review Committee report

The Committee delivered to the GSV Executive Board an over-strike by-law amendment (ie. entire by-laws rewritten) which was approved unanimously. The Committee and the Board felt GSV's activities have grown sufficiently to warrant this change. The proposed new by-laws will make the Board more responsive to the needs of the GSV membership.

Our thanks go out to the Committee: George Sanborn Jr (chair), Robert C Anderson and Margaret Dowd for their excellent work in preparing these greatly improved by-laws. The current by-laws allow only members at the

meeting to vote on this change. If the new by-laws pass, future changes such as this, will require a ballot to be sent to *all* GSV members. Please review the attached proposed by-law changes before coming to the May meeting to vote.

## New England Regional Genealogical Conference

It's that time again! The NERGC is about to begin. Enclosed is a brochure covering the scheduled events in Manchester NH for April 22-23rd. GSV apologizes for the late delivery of the brochure. GSV did not receive them until March 10th! Please note the **deadline of March 31st** for hotel reservations at the conference rate. The deadline for the conference itself is April 09th for the reduced rate.

GSV is sending Scott Bartley to represent our organization. His lecture is Friday, April 22nd at 8:30 AM on "Genealogical Research in Vermont prior to 1850".

GSV needs volunteers to cover our sales booth. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Scott. Your support is greatly appreciated!

## Pre-publication sale ending soon

This is a reminder that pre-publication orders for GSV's Special Publication Number 3, *Vital Records of Rockingham, Vermont, and the records of the First Church of Rockingham* must be postmarked by April 01st! The pre-publication price is \$28.50 (includes p&h, VT residents add \$1.25 sales tax). The cost after April 01st will be \$5.00 more. Send your order today to: GSV, PO Box 422, Pittsford VT 05763-0422.

## Logo Contest

We have a winner! Congratulations go out to **Judy Welna** of Milton VT. She wins a one-year membership to GSV. Thanks to everyone who submitted entries. There were many great logos to choose from and the Board's decision was not an easy one.

## GSV on the move!

New projects in the works ... and YOU can help! The Publications Committee is developing standards to be used for two new projects: Vermont town vital records series and Vermont probate abstracts.

The town vital records series will be published town by town such as the series published in Massachusetts earlier this century. The major difference is GSV will incorporate the latest standards in transcription, namely, an exact verbatim copy. Previously these types of works were arranged in one alphabetical list. Though seemingly better because of the ease to locate a single piece of information, it has been found that alphabetizing destroys the original context which may hold the

only clue that no other source may be able to give.

The probate abstracts will extract all the genealogically important information from the records starting with file #1. Each volume will have an all-name index. The value to genealogists is immeasurable.

How can you help? Look for future announcements in this newsletter that the standards have been written. Then you can write for your copy before you start the project. You and several other GSV friends will be selected to work together on a town or district of your choice. Transcriptions will be made, proofed and indexed. Each project, when finished will be published by GSV. The Board is investigating the possibility of limited financial support for each project.

## VT Historical Records Advisory Board Conference on Historical Records

VHRAB is holding a day-long conference on Mar 30th in Randolph to gather recommendations about how to

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improve the identification, preservation of and access to records of historical importance from any interested party. The conference is co-sponsored by the Vermont Historical Society, Sheldon Museum and the Center for Research on Vermont. For more information about the meeting, call Polly Darnell at the Sheldon Museum at (802) 388-2117.

## Celebration in the Eastern Townships

The Société de Généalogie des Cantons de l'Est continues its 25th anniversary celebration with a conference on Apr 08-10th at the Hotel Le Baron in Sherbrooke QC. The theme is *My Genealogy, a Story to Discover*. One-half of the time slots have lectures given in English. For more information, call (819) 821-5414.

Comments, suggestions and news items should be mailed to:

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