



"NATIVITY" of VERMONT GENEALOGY

Members should receive their new journal, *VG* more or less the same time as this newsletter. The first number of *VG* has been put together with the aim of setting a tone appropriate to the GSV as it has matured over the years. GSV officers have come to the rescue for the initial one or two numbers, but the editor wants this new journal still to be a place for members to feel that their contributions are not only welcome, but are in fact what makes the journal possible. Don't feel shy. Above all, don't be intimidated by "fancy" form. It's the editor's job to help. Glad to discuss ideas and offer suggestions. The editor of *VG* anticipates a honeymoon period, hopes it will be used by all members in good spirit to provide feedback and suggestions. [Even better... come to GSV spring meeting and "Face the Editor"!]

Submissions are invited--genealogical source materials [church, Bible, cemetery, etc.], methodological articles, compiled genealogies, book reviews, and queries. In forthcoming issues of the *Newsletter*, we should have "chatty" down-to-earth discussions of just what is meant by each of these categories. "Compiled genealogy," for instance, doesn't have to be a seven-generation production (that would be a book anyway), perhaps not even three- or four-generation coverage. (The submissions for *Vermont Families in 1791* are small examples of compiled genealogies.)

The editor wants to include materials from all parts of the state for a variety of time periods and ethnic groups. We recognize that Vermont genealogy is not just 1700s, or even pre-1850! And we're not all 100% Yankees, either!

General guidelines for specific kinds of source records are being developed, and helpful suggestions for members who may be unsure how "fussy" the editor is going to be. These may appear in future numbers of the *Newsletter*. In the meantime, feel free to consult with the editor at any time.

Robert Rodgers, Editor
Vermont Genealogy
RR1, Box 201
New Haven, VT 05472-9727

NEWSLETTER

Your new *Newsletter* editor, known to many of you for my Rutland County cemetery books and *Thomas Horton Genealogy*, has been active in genealogy since 1968. Purchase of a 100+ year old family home has brought me almost to my beloved Vermont. A number of maternal ancestors were first settlers in Granville, NY. My children have over 80 direct ancestors buried in Vermont, mostly in Rutland and Windham counties. Of special interest now are the men who carved the old gravestones. Another volume on the *Other Hortons of New England*, is being researched.

Working with the Publications Committee, I look forward to bringing you notices of upcoming events, meetings, reports of GSV Board and committee meetings, policies and regulations, Society business, and news of interest to members.

At present the deadlines for information will be: Dec. 15, March 15, June 15 and Sept. 15 for the January, April, July and October issue of the *Newsletter*. This first issue is late due to the change in editorship. Future issues should reach you in a timely manner. This will only be possible if the news articles are received on time.

Peggy Jenks, Editor

SPRING MEETING

This year's meeting will be held on Saturday, May 18 in the Congregational Church on the village green, just off Vermont Route 17 at New Haven Village. VT route 17 intersects US Route 7 at New Haven Junction.

Meeting Schedule

- 9:00 Registration & coffee
- 9:30 GSV business meeting followed by morning program:
- 10:00 "Face the Editor" Meet the new GSV Publications Team, Robert Rodgers, editor of *Vermont Genealogy*, and Peggy Jenks, editor of *Newsletter*
- 12:00 Luncheon served by the New Haven Church, with part of the proceeds to benefit its bicentennial goal to restore old church records from 1797. (These will be on display)
- 1:30 Meldon J. Wolfgang III will speak on: "Sleuthing in the stacks: using non-traditional resources to uncover genealogical clues". He will have his maps and books for sale.

FALL 1996 MEETING

The October 1996 Twenty-fifth Anniversary meeting will be held in Burlington. Watch for more on this.

GSV Newsletter
a quarterly publication of the
Genealogical Society of Vermont

News, articles and comments
should be mailed to:

Mrs. Margaret R. Jenks
24 Mettowee Street
Granville, NY 12832-1037

FALL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was held on 12 October, 1995 at the Sheraton Conference Center, South Burlington, Vermont. A board meeting was held shortly after 5 p.m.

"By consensus, it was agreed that the books remaining in the GSV library collection after the Vermont Historical Society has taken all that it can use shall first be offered to other libraries in Vermont with substantial genealogical collections, next to the New England Historic Genealogical Society, then to the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, and then National Genealogical Society." Scott Bartley reported that the disposition of the GSV library is proceeding slowly.

Janet Induni reported that the present paid membership of the society is 1178.

The following budget for FY 1995-1996 was accepted:

Promotional Expenses	\$ 500
Grants (2)	1,500
Program	1,200
Office supplies	1,600
President's Fund	1,000
Audit expense	500
NERGC expense	200
GSV Newsletter:	
printing, postage	2,800
VT Genealogy: Editor	
printing, postage	16,000
Total	\$25,300

Gifts to the Computer Fund,

Donations:	Membership #
Connie R. LaMarche	3488
Harmon L. Rimmel	252

Balance as of 15 Dec. 1995 is: \$2200.90

Gifts to the Permanent Fund

Evelyn Bodine	not a member
Chemical Bank Matching Gift	
Program for John Brady	4247
Lucille M. Brown	4363
Brenda Cross	2667
Beatrice Fisk Mellett-Harding	4348
Isabel Vandervelde	4515

Balance as of 15 Dec. 1995 is: \$6826.79

ANTICIPATED PUBLICATION SPRING 1996

VOLUME 2

VERMONT FAMILIES IN 1791

Edited by Scott A Bartley

Scott Bartley is busily working on Vermont Families in 1791, Volume 2. He believes this book will be available for sale sometime during the Spring. Though an exact count is not in, this volume will include upwards to 200 families, a significant increase from the 126 families appearing in the first volume.

Scott is corresponding with authors who will most likely all be included in the next volume. If you have not been contacted recently, do not fret. He has not lost your submissions! With over 1100 entries received to date, it has been an impossible task sorting through all the material received. But you can help out before work is started on Volume 3.

Take a look at the material you submitted probably as far back as 1990. Compare it to the style and format in Volume 1. The material received that is closest to the format established in Volume 1 will be chosen first. Scott has found that the work it takes to reformat each entry to the standard format is amazingly substantial. For this reason alone, Scott is requesting that anyone who has previously sent in material (or those sending new material), consider the following:

Resubmit your entry or entries typewritten and **closely** follow the format from Volume 1. If you have a computer, please use a word processor. Submit your updated entry on any size diskette. Label this diskette with IBM or Mac and with the name and version of your program. To be on the safe side, also include an ASCII version of the file. These entries will be chosen **first**. Remember to cite all the facts in your submission. If you are not sure how, use Volume 1 as a guide. Scott will work with you on the citations, so do not worry about them being perfect. That is part of the editor's job. The most important thing is that your submission be in the correct format.

Scott wishes to thank everyone who has submitted material so far. Without your help, the project could not be the success it is. The first volume has sold over 1500 copies and is in its third printing. The project is far from over, and with your help, Volume 3 will not be far behind!

RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Society is located at 96 Center Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701, phone (802) 755-2006. This building is the Nickwackett Fire Station built in 1860. The Nickwackett Engine Co. No. 1 was organized on 17 August 1859. This was a reorganization of the original fire fighting company incorporated in 1829. The society maintains exhibits, present programs and schedule walking tours. The Society's archives, exhibits and library are open for public use year round during the following hours: Monday 6:00-9:00 PM, Saturday 1:00-4:00 PM except holidays.

B & T BACK ISSUES

New price for back issues of *B&T*!!! Each issue is \$2 (including postage). Currently available are: Volumes 11:4; 12:2-5; 13:all; 14:all; 15:1-3; 16:1-2, 4; 17:4; 18:all; 19:4; 20:all; 21:all. Your checks should be payable to GSV and sent to: GSV Back Issues, PO Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478

Wanted: Elaine Carlow, member #4472, is looking to purchase *B&T*, Vol. 17:3 & 4, Vol. 19: 1 & 3. If anyone can help her, please contact her at: 3401 Miller Road, Arnold, MO 63010

WARNING:

Ken Smallbone B.A. (Hons), Genealogist and Historical Researcher from Basingstoke, Hants, England is sending out flyers. He is offering an "Introductory Special Offer" for a check submitted for \$200 US and promised a bonus of 50% free research time in England totaling 13 hours. Papers on an ancestor who signed a document in 1840, with other sources documented, were sent with the check. Mr. Smallbone stated what sources he had perused with no success and urged the querist to send another check for him to continue the research. The sources he searched could not have taken 13 hours and his conclusions are reported to be almost irrelevant regarding some areas.

Editors note: Exhaust all of the holdings of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City before paying for research in England.

Vermont Families in 1791, Volume 1

Edited by Scott A. Bartley

This award-winning volume, out of print for many months, has now been reprinted. This first volume has spurred on many people's research and guided them to sources they needed to prove their own ancestry. You too can be part of the excitement. Get your copy soon, before they are gone again.

Vital Records Of Putney, Vermont To The Year 1900

Compiled and edited by Ken Stevens

Putney is one of the oldest towns in Vermont, having received its first charter on December 26, 1752, from Benning Wentworth, Royal Governor of the Province of New Hampshire. A second charter was granted on November 14, 1766, by Sir Henry Moore, Royal Governor of the Province of New York. The first town meeting marking the inception of formal town government was in Putney on May 8, 1770.

In this volume, Ken Stevens extracts the births, deaths and marriages from the earliest town records and arranges them in an organized format for the first time. This is not just a verbatim listing of such events, but a complete, concise and accurate compilation from all primary sources available in the town. This material is augmented by the ministerial records of baptisms, marriages and deaths found in the fragmented records of Rev. Josiah Goodhue, first pastor serving from 1776 - to 1797; as well as those of Rev. Elisha D. Andrews (1807-1829); Rev. Amos Foster (1833-1870). In addition, the ministerial records of church admissions and dismissals from the town churches are included.

One third of these entries are records of births and deaths copied from the grave-stones in all fifteen cemeteries in Putney. These listings are not found in the town clerk's records.

Vital Records of Rock- ingham, Vermont and the Records of the First Church of Rockingham

This is a reprint of a very rare volume of data first published in a limited (60 copy) edition in 1908. The new, enhanced version includes a newly constructed integrated index covering both the town records and church records of one of Vermont's oldest towns. Chartered in 1752, Rockingham was, for many, a gateway to other locations in this state, Canada and the American West. As such, the records of its first church, 1787-1839, and of its official vital records, will be important resources to many genealogists.

The nearly 10,000 name index was constructed by Christopher T. Norris and Scott A. Bartley.

Georgia, Vermont Vital Records

Edited by Peter S. Mallett

This volume continues GSV's work of providing readily available source and reference material for researchers of Vermont genealogy. Designed in the same vein as the Putney volume, Georgia, Vermont, vital records presents all births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials recorded in the town. All the civil books were transcribed as well as the records from the Georgia Plains Baptist Church, Congregational Church, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, and Methodist Church of Georgia and North Fairfax. This book is the first of its kind for northern Vermont.

The price of each of these four books is \$30.00. Please add \$3.50 for postage for the first book, \$1.00 for each additional book in the same order to the same address. Please add the Vermont Sales Tax of 5% (\$1.25/book) for books mailed to a Vermont addresses. Mail your checks, payable to GSV, to:

**Genealogical Society of Vermont,
PO Box 1553
Saint Albans, VT 05478-1006**

COMPUTERS

In 1980 when I indexed my mother's genealogy book on a neighbor's TRS-80 Model 1 computer with 4K memory, little did I realize what was to come. I had caught the "bug" and by 1981 was the proud owner of a TRS-80 Model 3 with all of 32K memory. That machine and the daisy wheel printer, which is still going strong, served me well through my first volume of Horton genealogy and several cemetery books. I often noted that a computer was a typewriter that remembers.

My first computer was replaced by one with 128K memory and a much more powerful word processing program. Hard drives were still very expensive and had minimal memory compared to those available today. Camera ready copy became much easier to prepare.

During this same period, genealogists with programming knowledge began to write special data-base programs to help us organize our records and prepare all sorts of forms and charts. Most of the early programs have fallen by the way, but a few have survived and been improved. The good ones now allow us to add biographical data with word processing and transfer our data from one program to another.

The 1990s has seen the available memory sky-rocket, hard drives, laser and color printers, soft-ware for almost every home task, as the cost of computers declined. Our children and grandchildren are learning computer skills as they learn to walk and talk. Senior citizens are losing their fear of computers. A few years back, most said they would stick to their typewriters. My 91 year old mother is now compiling her fourth genealogy book, the third on her computer.

As we near the 21st-century we wonder what will be available next. We can connect with the world through a modem. There are scanners, fax, voice-activated programs, and many more. It will surely be the century of the computer.

Peggy Jenks

VERMONT RECORDS IN QUEBEC, CANADA

The Missisquoi Historical Society, Archives Dept., 2 River Street, PO Box 186, Stanbridge East, P.Q. J0J 2H0 Holdings include manuscripts; local history; census: NY 1790, Vermont 1791, 1800, Canada 1790, 1825, 1851, on film Canada: 1831, 1842, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901; church records; cemetery records including 22 Vermont cemeteries in Grand Isle Co. & Franklin Co.; index to the Richford, VT Gazette and Journal-Gazette 1880 - 1957; vital records; etc. For the complete listing send a long SASE with 55 cents postage to George F. Sanborn, Jr., 24 Thornton St., Derry, NH 03038-1628

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The National Archives, 100 Dan Fox Dr., Pittsfield, MA is open to researchers Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Wednesday 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM.

MEETINGS:

The spring meeting of the Vermont Old Cemetery Association (VOCA) will be held on May 4. Plans are to hold the meeting in Bennington County. Contact Elizabeth Beckwith, PO Box 105, Underhill Ctr., VT 05490. Your editor is scheduled to give the program on October 5 "Cemeteries, Going-Going-Gone, Documenting Them Before They Are Lost"

"IN YOUR ANCESTOR'S IMAGE" A conference for the Nation's Genealogists, August 14-17, 1996 at Rochester, NY, is sponsored by the Federation of Genealogical Societies and hosted by the Rochester Genealogical Society. For more information contact Roger D. Joslyn, CGS, FAGS, at PO Box 4061, New Windsor, NY 12553-0061

Rochester's site on the Genessee River has drawn visitors since 17th-century map makers documented it and 18th-century artists sketched it in awe. On the heels of the 19th-century Erie Canal Builders came the railroad workers, who bridged

GSV Newsletter, 1996 January

"the river with the waterfalls." Next, entrepreneurs created a mill town, which developed into a 20th-century community of image makers. The Erie Canal acted as a siphon drawing Vermonters west!

FAMILY REUNIONS:

Announcements of family reunions must be received by the editor no later than March 15, 1996, to be included in the April Newsletter. Be sure to include date, place and name and address of contact person.

The **Stovall Family** Association, Inc. will hold its triennial national reunion in Louisville, KY August 16-18, 1996. Contact Lyle K. Williams, Editor, 5000 Rock River Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76103-1226 (817) 457-5383

The Sixth Bi-Annual Family Reunion of the **William Strother** Society will be held at the Sheraton-Fredericksburg Resort and Conference Center, Fredericksburg, VA August 8-11, 1996. Contact Edward L. Strother, 36 Puget Drive, Steilacoom, WA 98388-1521 (206) 584-5043

Genealogical Society of Vermont
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