



GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY OF
VERMONT

NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dates to Remember

GSV membership meeting

Saturday, May 19, 2001

9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Town and Country Resort

Mountain Road, (Vermont Route 108)

Stowe, Vermont.

You probably already have received a postcard mailing with details of this meeting. There will be a brief business meeting, two speakers in the morning session, a comfortably long lunch break, and one speaker in the afternoon. Among the speakers will be Elise Guyette, whose topic will be "Merging Census Data and Literature: Reconstructing the Lives of African Americans in Early Vermont." Ms. Guyette, who has extensive background in educational and scholarly research efforts with a particular interest in minorities in Vermont, will share insights about finding the history of Vermonters which should interest researchers with all kinds of Vermont background.

The telephone number of the Town and Country resort is 802-253-7595. You may wish to consider an overnight stay there if you are coming from a distance.

Vermont History Expo

Saturday - Sunday, June 23-24, 2001

10:00 - 5:00 each day

Tunbridge Fairgrounds

Tunbridge, Vermont

Sponsored by the Vermont Historical Society, this will be even bigger and better than last year's inaugural Vermont History Expo. The space for genealogy facilities will be expanded. GSV will be there.

New England Regional Genealogical Conference

November 6-9, 2003

Seacrest, Falmouth, Massachusetts

You may not have bought your 2003 calendar yet, but these are the dates for the next NERGC event.

GSV membership meeting

Saturday, October 20, 2001

9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Place to be announced

Vermont Historical Society plans

We hope, at our Spring meeting, to have pictures of the renovated Spaulding School building in Barre, which will soon house the VHS library. Moving to the new facility will necessitate closing the library between November 1, 2001 and June 1, 2002, a fact which out-of-state researchers considering a Vermont research expedition may need to keep in mind. See Mr. Carnahan's article in this issue.

Our Web Site

We need your ideas about ways to make our Web site: www.rootsweb.com/~vtgsv more useful to members and to the public at large. Every so often, we hear from a member, "I want the Web site to have genealogies of everyone in Vermont on it. When are you guys going to do that for us?" We'd love to, but we haven't had many volunteers come forward to help out with anything so ambitious. We may incorporate features which would be accessible only to GSV members, in order to make membership more useful to those who join and pay their dues. Let our Web Master Diantha Howard at dhoward@zoo.uvm.edu know your thoughts. We'll be making this a priority.

Remembering Tom Bassett

No one who has done any amount of work with Vermont history can fail to recognize the name of Thomas Day Seymour Bassett. (He usually was "T.D. Seymour Bassett" in his published work and "Tom" to his many friends). In addition to a multitude of journal articles on subjects of Vermont interest, he published books including *Outsiders Inside Vermont* (an anthology of travelers' and visitors' descriptions of the state); *The Growing Edge: Vermont Villages 1840-1880* (a condensed version of his doctoral dissertation about urbanization and

industrialization in Vermont in the nineteenth century); and most recently *The Gods of the Hills: Piety and Society in Nineteenth-Century Vermont*, a fine resource for an understanding of what those ancestors' religious beliefs were really all about. The work which will probably do most to immortalize him to researchers, however, is *Vermont: A Bibliography of its History*, published by the Committee for a New England Bibliography in 1981, listing thousands of books, pamphlets, and articles about facets of Vermont history. It is probably an exaggeration to claim that Tom could have compiled this book from memory, but certainly no one else could or would have known the field so thoroughly. As he scoured my Vermontiana collection for bits and pieces to put in the *Bibliography*, I pointed out an article in a magazine which, to state the situation gently, was hardly a standard historical reference. Somewhat against my protests - I knew that the article was riddled with errors of fact - he insisted that its coverage met standards for inclusion in the *Bibliography*, and it appears there with all six thousand-odd other entries. He could be by turns charming, beneficent, cranky, miserly, pious, and irreverent, all inside of a sentence or two. His death on January 24, 2001 deprived Vermont of one of its very special characters.

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Genealogical Society of Vermont

News, articles and comments
should be mailed to:

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Deadlines for information are:
Dec. 15, Mar. 15, June 15 & Sept. 15
for the February, May, August and
November issues of the *Newsletter*.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO BE CLOSED THIS WINTER

If you have research to do at the Vermont Historical Society library in Montpelier, you should plan to do it this summer before the library closes for its move to Barre. The VHS library will be closing November 1, 2001; it will reopen on June 1, 2002, in the new Vermont History Center in the old Spaulding Graded School on Washington Street in downtown Barre.

Although the VHS library is always a busy place, the closing has been scheduled to coincide with "slow" times in the library, thus minimizing the inconvenience to library patrons. A lot of work will be happening behind closed doors during this "down time." Staff members will be working with stacks of materials that have been set aside and never fully processed. Some of these materials are in twenty boxes in the basement, leftover from the last time the collections were moved in 1990. Some were received a long time ago; others were received more recently. All of them need to find a proper home in the publicly accessible collections before the new library opens in Barre.

The library staff and volunteers will also inventory the book collection, a task that has not been done in almost 25 years. While the teams of workers check to see that all of our books are on the shelves where they are supposed to be, they will also attach bar codes to each book in preparation for the day when we can convert our card catalog to a computerized catalog.

The library workers will also work to integrate oversized books marked with an "X" into the regular book collection. The elimination of the "X" collection, previously an impossible task in the cramped library in the Pavilion, will be one of the many benefits of the new library in the Vermont History Center.

When the new library opens it will occupy 7500 square feet on the second floor of the Vermont History Center, an increase of almost three times over the size of the current library. The stacks will remain open as in the old building, but staff work areas will be separated from public spaces. Special air conditioning and humidification systems will work to preserve

the collections. There will be separate rooms for microfilm readers, computerized databases, and maps and photographs. The Vermont History Center will also include classrooms, an auditorium, display galleries, and storage for library and museum collections.

Although the opening date for the Vermont History Center has been set for June 1, 2002, the date may change depending on how work progresses. Researchers should check the VHS's web site at <http://www.state.vt.us/vhs> to check on changes in the schedule.

Paul Carnahan
VHS Librarian

VERMONT CITY DIRECTORIES WANTED

The Vermont Historical Society has just posted on the web its publication *Vermont City Directories in Vermont Repositories*, a listing by town and year of city directories owned by eight large libraries including the VHS, Vermont Department of Libraries, and UVM Special Collections.

The listing can be consulted at <http://www.state.vt.us/vhs/CityDir>. It can be used to determine which libraries have which city directories in their collections. An added feature of the directory is cross-references for small towns that were occasionally listed in volumes with larger, neighboring towns. VHS volunteer and GSV member Robert Murphy compiled the directory in 1999.

The VHS is interested in expanding its collection of city directories. If anyone has extra copies that are not owned by the VHS (consult the list first!) we would love to have them.

Paul Carnahan
VHS Librarian

DIRECTORIES WANTED

The Historical Genealogy Department of the Allen County Public Library, 900 Webster St., PO. Box 2270, Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270 is looking to expand its special collection of Directories.

This special project is focused on collecting directories from all across the United States. Going beyond city directories, they are also interested in directories from churches, clubs, schools, any type of organizational or association (large or

small), lists of municipal employees, year-books, class reunion lists, teacher lists...in short, directories of all kinds.

If you have any of the above materials in search of a good home, think of the Allen County Library, don't let the materials end up in a dumpster.

Questions should be addressed to Susan D. Kaufman, Librarian, at the address above, phone 219-421-1225 or by e-mail at skaufman@acpl.lib.in.us. See also: <http://www.acpl.lib.in.us>

Books that go into the collection have a permanent home, none are discarded. The collection goal is to have as many sources from as many geographic locations as possible. Let's have GSV Members well represented.

FAMILY REUNIONS

The **Bidwell Family Association** reunion will be held on July 6, 7, & 8, 2001, Airport Holiday Inn, Des Moines, IA. Contact: Joan Bidwell, 3470 I Ave., Tama, IA 52339, phone 641-484-4257 or fax 641-484-7524.

The **Sikes/Sykes Family Association** is planning a reunion on the West Coast for August 3-5, 2001. Contact: Art Sikes, 1175 River Blvd., Suffield, CT 06078-1416, 860-668-0414, or Ed Chase, 900 Mountain Road, West Suffield, CT 06093-3301, 860-668-2962.

The **Foote Family Association of America** will hold its biennial reunion July 12-15, 2001 at the Sunrise Resort, Moodus, CT. Contact Pat Kenney, 93 Orchard St., Meriden, CT 06450; 203-237-8206; e-mail pjkenney@home.com.

Announcements of family reunions must be received by the editor no later than **March 15** each year to be included in the **May Newsletter**. Be sure to include date, place, name & address of contact person. Announcements received after March 15 will be used in the **August Newsletter** if they are for reunions held after Sept. 1.

BOOK REVIEW POLICY

Books for review should be sent to John A. Leppman, 29 Oak Hill Terrace, Bellows Falls, VT 05101.

BRANCHES & TWIGS

Complete runs of all 96 issues of *Branches & Twigs*, 1972-1995 are available in the following libraries.

- The Orange County, NY Genealogical Society, 101 Main Street, Goshen, NY 10924-1917 has a complete bound set, and the index.

If you know of other libraries with complete runs of *B & T*, please let your *Newsletter* editor know.

B & T BACK ISSUES

Each issue is \$2 (including postage). Currently available are: Volumes 12:5; 14:1,3,4; 16:2; 18:1,2,3; 19:4; 20:1-4; 21:1-4; 22:2,3,4; 24:1-4.

VG BACK ISSUES

Each issue is \$5 (including postage). Currently available are: Volumes 1:1-3; 2:1-4, 3:1-3, 4:1-4; 5:1-4.

Your checks should be payable to GSV and sent to: GSV Back Issues, PO Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478-1006.

MEETINGS

NEHGS GETTING STARTED

New Time and Day

This program is offered the first **Wednesday** (please note change of day) of every month from 12 noon to 1 p.m. and from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA. This **free** program gives an introduction to NEHGS, its services and ways to help you find your family roots. Tips on how to begin your own family research, tour of the newly renovated library and a chance to meet the library staff.

A REMINDER

Please look at your address label. Your membership expires on the date shown on the label. Send your check in US funds to:

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

**Dues are \$20 for US addresses
Canada and Mexico \$25, foreign \$30**

For the latest information on meetings and GSV, visit us on our web site at:
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~vtgsv>

Non-members will receive a free pass to the library. No registration is required.

NEHGS COME HOME TO NEW ENGLAND

June 3-10 and August 5-12, 2001

The program includes one-on-one personal research consultations with the renowned staff Genealogists, private research time on Monday, 5:00-9:00 when the library is normally closed, daily lectures and more.

NEHGS RESEARCH PROGRAM TO SALT LAKE CITY

October 28-November 4, 2001
November 4-11, 2001

The participants will be assisted in their research by experienced and well-known genealogists from the NEHGS staff. In addition to personal consultations, there will be lectures on genealogical topics, receptions, group meals and a historic tour of the city. The Family History Library houses the world's largest collection of genealogical data and is operated by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The Library contains over 2 million rolls of microfilmed records from all over the world.

Pre-registration is required for the above programs. Contact the NEHGS Education Department, 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116-3007; phone 1-888-286-3447 or 617-536-5740, ext. 226 or by e-mail education@nehgs.org.

SPRING VOCA MEETING

The spring meeting of the Vermont Old Cemetery Association is planned for May 5, 2001, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Fairground Road, Springfield, VT, behind the Junior High School. Please visit VOCA's new web site at: <http://www.sover.net/~hwdbry/voca/>

FGS/QUAD CITIES CONFERENCE

September 12-15, 2001

The Federation of Genealogical Societies, The Scott County Iowa Genealogical Society and the Blackhawk Genealogical Society of Rock Island and Mercer Counties, Illinois present: Great River Bend Genealogy ... a Heartland Gathering. For additional information contact: FGS, PO. Box

2000904; Austin, TX 78720-0940, toll free 888-FGS-1500; fax 888-380-0500; e-mail Fgs-offyfce@fgs.org; web site <http://www.fgs.org>

SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

The Vermont Chapter of the Society of Mayflower Descendants holds two meetings a year, spring and fall. If you have Mayflower ancestry and would like to join, contact Ms. Sharon A. Matyas, Historian, 6126 Bennett's Corner Road, Memphis, NY 13112-9780, 315-672-5882 e-mail: SAMatyas@aol.com.

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF VERMONT WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW AND REINSTATED MEMBERS:

4064 (reinstated)
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Rexford

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research interests: Washburn, Crain,
Bostick, Jeffords, Fleming

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REPLACEMENT COPIES

Please notify the Society in advance of any address changes (including summer and winter addresses) at GSV, PO. Box 1553, St. Albans, VT. 05478-1006. Your copies of *Vermont Genealogy* and *The GSV Newsletter* are forwarded to you by the Post Office with additional charges to the Society if you have filed a forwarding notice with the Post Office.

We will send you replacement copies of *Vermont Genealogy* by first class mail for a small replacement fee of \$3.25 for each issue. Replacement copies of *The GSV Newsletter* will be forwarded at no charge. Thank you for letting us know of any address changes in advance. This helps keep costs down.

Janet Induni, Treasurer

Contributions to the Permanent Fund

Contributions to the Computer Fund

Please send your donations to GSV, PO. Box 1553, St. Albans, VT. 05478-1006. Please mark your check "Permanent Fund" or "Computer Fund."

Janet Induni, Treasurer

NEW ACQUISITIONS AT THE VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Recent acquisitions, at the VHS in Montpelier, which are of particular interest to genealogists, include the following:

Alexander, W.H., ed., *Town of Glover, Orleans Co., Vermont Federal Census for the Years 1800-1810-1820-1830-1840, with an Alphabetized Index to all the Years, 2000.*

continued on page 6

VERMONT FAMILIES IN 1791, Volume 1

Edited by Scott A. Bartley

This award-winning first volume of a projected long series has stimulated research and guided many people to sources useful to establish their own ancestry. The goal of this series is to describe in detail the families listed in the First Federal Census taken in Vermont in 1791, the year Vermont joined the Union. Special Publication No. 1, 1992. xxvii + 281 pp., hardbound, \$30.00

Volume 2

Edited by Scott A. Bartley

This volume covers 107 families and has improved formatting and more complete information on the third generation. Special Publication No. 5, 1997. xlviii + 304 pp., hardbound, \$30.00

VITAL RECORDS OF ROCKINGHAM, VERMONT AND THE RECORDS OF THE FIRST CHURCH OF ROCKINGHAM

Reprinted from the rare first editions of 1908 and 1902, this is an important source for one of Vermont's oldest towns, chartered in 1752. The town records extend to 1845, church records from 1773 to 1839. New to this publication is an indispensable index of nearly 10,000 names, constructed by Christopher T. Norris and Scott A. Bartley. GSV Special Publication No. 3, 1994. 323 pp., hardbound, \$30.00

MEMBER RESEARCH DIRECTORY

Compiled by Janet E. Induni

The directory lists addresses and interests of a majority of GSV members. Each member listed provided up to five surnames of Vermont families on which he or she might like to share information. Published in 1998 for GSV members only. 63 pp., \$3.00.

VITAL RECORDS OF PUTNEY, VERMONT TO THE YEAR 1900

Compiled and edited by Ken Stevens

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 the pastors who served from as early as 1776. Special Publication No. 2, 1992. x + 406 pp., hardbound, \$30.00

GEORGIA, VERMONT VITAL RECORDS

Edited by Peter S. Mallett

The first of its kind for northern Vermont, this volume 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. GSV Special Publication No. 4, 1995, hardbound, \$30.00

INDEX TO BRANCHES & TWIGS 1972-1995

Edited by Robert M. Murphy

The long-awaited every-name index to GSV's *Branches & Twigs*, published for 24 years, 96 issues. The 180,000 index entries include every name mentioned in every issue, except those cited in connection with Society business, those mentioned in purely casual historical context, and the ancestry service ("Apple Orchard") feature, which was alphabetically arranged. Separate sections of this work list the coverage of each installment of the Apple Orchard, and provide a full author-title index to book reviews. *Branches & Twigs* included immense quantities of information of interest to Vermont family historians. Special publication No. 7, 2000, 572 pp., hardbound \$65.00.

WINDSOR COUNTY VERMONT PROBATE INDEX, 1778-1899

Compiled by Scott Andrew Bartley
and Marjorie-J. Bartley

A comprehensive index of all files in the Probate Courts of the two districts (Windsor and Hartford) in Windsor County, Vermont, between the earliest records (1778) and the end of the nineteenth century. More than 20,000 files are indexed by the name of the major party in the case, place of residence, district, type of record, year, and volume of the bound records in which the record(s) will be found. Special publication No. 6, 2000, 560 pp., hardbound, \$50.00.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR VERMONT GENEALOGY

by John A. Leppman

A reprint, with updates and some format changes, of the series recently completed in Vermont Genealogy, listing over 500 books and other published sources about Vermont and its counties and towns which are of particular use to genealogical researchers. (Family genealogies are not included in its coverage.) A useful reference work for any Vermont researcher. Special publication No. 8, 2000, 66 pp, soft cover, \$7.50 plus \$1.50 postage

SUDBURY, VERMONT: TRAN- SCRIPTION OF VITAL RECORDS AND GENEALOGIES OF RESIDENTS

by Mary Ann Z. Wheeler

A comprehensive transcription of vital and census records for this Rutland County town, plus carefully compiled genealogies of families. This book will take its place among the very best genealogical resources available about a Vermont town. A cooperative publication of GSV and Picton Press. Special publication No. 9, 2000, 416 pp, hardbound, \$49.50

10% discount for GSV members. Please add \$3.50 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% for books mailed to a VT address. Mail your checks, payable to GSV, to:

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Bowman, E.L., *Alexander Lovell Genealogy: The Ancestors and Descendants of Alexander Lovell of Medfield, Massachusetts, 1619-1709*, 2000.

Waterbury Genealogy Quest, *Cemetery Documentation Project* [inventories of the cemeteries of Waterbury and Duxbury, Vt.], 2001.

Hance, D.D. & Nichols, J.H., *Extracts from the Rutland Weekly Herald and the Vermont Courier*, 2000.

Howe, M.V., comp., *Gravestone Inscriptions of Locust Ridge Cemetery, Brattleboro, Windham Co., Vt.*, 1999.

Howe, M.V., comp., *Gravestone Listings of Prospect Hill Cemetery, Brattleboro, Vt.*, 2000.

Howe, M.V., comp., *A Record of Burials at the Vermont Asylum, later known as the Brattleboro Retreat, 1837-1900*, 1999.

Marsh, W.H., comp., *The Lineage and Descendancy of Stephen Harrington of Sharon, Vermont*, 2000.

American-Canadian Genealogical Society, *Mission of Norton Mills, Vermont, Marriages, Baptisms, Burials: February, 1888 to September, 1955*, 1999.

Morse, R.H., comp., *Waterbury Cemetery Inscriptions, Washington County, Vermont*, 2000.

Murphy, R.M., comp., *Maplewood Cemetery, Barre Town, Vermont*, 2000.

Simonds, G., comp., *A Complete Listing of the Stones in the Whiting Cemetery in Whiting, Vermont*, 2000.

Smith, A.K. & Smith, S.E., comps., *Vital Statistics from St. Johnsbury Caledonian*, 2000.

Tucker, R.W., comp., *Cemetery Inscriptions in Ludlow, Vermont*, 2000.

White, J.A., comp., *Descendants of Sylvester and Sarah (Kinney) White of Georgia, Vermont*, 2000.

Wise, R., comp., *The Ancestors of Some Early Settlers of Montpelier, Vt.*, 1999.

Wood, J.R., comp., *Descendants of Henry Rust and Allied Families: Genealogy of 12 Generations*, 1999.

Wood, J.R., comp., *Descendants of William McDonald and Allied Families: Genealogy of 7 Generations*, 1999.

Wood, J.R., comp., *Descendants of William Wood and Allied Families: Genealogy of 13 Generations*, 1999.

Compiled by Bob Murphy

"POINTS TO PONDER"

We are the children of many sires and every drop of blood in us in its turn ... betrays its ancestor. Ralph Waldo Emerson

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

George Bernard Shaw

PAID ADVERTISING

The Newsletter is now accepting paid advertising at the rate of \$3.00 per column inch. All advertising must relate to genealogy, preferably Vermont genealogy, and must be received before the deadline of the issue the ad is to appear in. Checks must be made out to GSV but sent to the Newsletter editor along with the exact wording for the ad. GSV offers no warranty on the services of the advertisers.



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