



GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY OF
VERMONT

NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dates to remember

Saturday, October 29, 2005

GSV meeting

Dog Team Tavern

Middlebury, Vermont

Please note that the date of this meeting was stated incorrectly in the last Newsletter.

GSV members who also attend meetings of the Vermont Society of Mayflower Descendants will note that their meeting is to be held at the same place on October 22. This isn't a joint meeting, and the fact that we chose the same place is more or less coincidental. If you go to both meetings, you'll have the pleasure of the Dog Team's wonderful ambiance and sticky buns two weeks in a row.

Among speakers we will be hearing from on October 29 will be Vincent Feeney, a well recognized expert on the Irish in Vermont.

Wednesday - Saturday, August 30 - September 2, 2006

Federation of Genealogical Societies annual conference

Hynes Convention Center Boston, Massachusetts

This will be the major genealogical event in New England for the year 2006. GSV tentatively plans to be on hand.

Thursday - Sunday, April 26-29, 2007

New England Regional Genealogical Conference

Hartford, Connecticut

For those who like to have their calendars set up well in advance, be sure that this conference is on it. Judging from the venue alone, it promises to be the biggest NERGC event ever.

Fragile cemeteries

Genealogists are well aware that among the records we often use to identify and

describe our ancestors, some are not written on paper. Gravestones provide a special sense of contact with an ancestor, since they usually (barring various schemes to move them around) denote the precise resting place of the person's remains. They are often works of art of some significance. Their destruction by erosion, over-enthusiastic weed-whacking, and, worst of all, intentional vandalism is always lamentable. This spring, acts of cemetery vandalism in southeastern Vermont attracted considerable press attention. Extensive damage, fortunately not to the oldest and most artistically unique stones, was done at the Rockingham Meeting House cemetery by two pre-teenaged youngsters. Letters to the editor of the Brattleboro Reformer by students who were about the same age expressed their outrage at the vandalism, demonstrating that educational efforts to share with students the heritage contained in a local cemetery do have an impact. We need to do more to educate the public, particularly the young public. We must work to record the information content of our cemeteries before it is lost. The Vermont Old Cemetery Association, with which GSV has always enjoyed a collegial relationship, continues to work on these efforts, as discussed elsewhere in this *Newsletter*. The need for this work never ends.

Newsletter editor

As announced in the last issue of the *Newsletter*, we are searching for someone to take on editing this publication. As of this writing, we have not had anyone come forward. Midnight raids and arm twisting will start soon.

THE YEAR WITHOUT A SUMMER

Virginia Wright of Brattleboro sent two articles on that summer of 1816. *Eighteen-Hundred-and-Froze-to-Death*, by S. L. Vigilante appeared in *Vermont Life*, Winter 1961, pp. 10-11. The second by Ivy Darrow appeared in the *Brattleboro Reformer* sometime in 1988.

CEMETERY VANDALISM

Cemetery vandalism by children and young adults continues to be an increasing issue nationwide. In Vermont we recently had over \$100,000 damage done at two historic cemeteries by individuals between the ages of 10 and 13. These children literally destroyed dozen of historic, irreplaceable, grave monuments at these old burial grounds and had no explanation as to why they participated in such a heinous deed.

This type of cemetery vandalism is a relatively new development in the New England and society needs to have remedies to stop this nationwide trend of cemetery destruction by children.

Upon conviction of cemetery vandalism many young perpetrators are often referred to the local county diversion programs (deferred sentences for 1st time offenders), where they are given community service contracts to fulfill. If the offender is allowed to participate in diversion, part of the contract should include a requirement that the offender research and write the personal history of every person whose headstone was damaged by his actions. This would not only teach the offender the historical significance of cemeteries, but would also give him/her a lesson in history.

A quarterly publication © 2005
Genealogical Society of Vermont

News, articles and comments
should be mailed to:

Mrs. Margaret R. Jenks
24 Mettowee Street
Granville, NY 12832-1037
(518) 642-1894
e-mail: mjenks@capital.net

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

The Vermont Old Cemetery Association has a curriculum unit available to teach history by using a curriculum entitled "Stones and Bones" which is available to educators on the VOCA web site, www.wover.net/~hwdby/voca/ (or do a information on-line search for Vermont Cemetery Association.) This unit puts students in cemeteries to show how valuable a resource burial grounds can be.

VOCA is in its 3rd year of partnership with the Youth Conservation Corps. This is an organization that employs young men and women in summer jobs in the US. VOCA has partially funded YCC work crews to work in old burial grounds in Vermont and repair and straighten cemetery stones. This is a great opportunity to teach respect of cemeteries to young adults by having them repair damaged stones. The participants in this program have all enjoyed the experience and some hope to continue to volunteer in cemeteries in their own communities in the future.

This May, I worked with the Vermont Flood Brook School cleaning Civil War era stones in a cemetery in the southern part of the state. This was done in conjunction with a Civil War history unit the teacher was completing with her class of about 20 students. The students were excited about the project and cleaned many lichen encrusted stones and were rather put out when they had to leave to go back to school that afternoon. I received a nice thank you card from the students stating that learning about the individuals that died in the Civil War and cleaning their stones was the best part of the day. Programs such as these are ways that we can teach our young people their history. I can guarantee that none of the students that participated in cleaning the stones would ever consider damaging a stone in any cemetery.

Do the local veteran groups i.e. VFW, Legion, etc. utilize local students to put flags on the graves of veterans on Memorial Day? What better way to teach the sacrifices of our ancestors than by encouraging local students of any age to honor our dead in local cemeteries and what better way for students to learn their

community's history than by having a school adopt a cemetery for the year and do research on the individuals buried.

Vandalism can be stopped if our young people are shown that the significance of cemeteries is that of THEIR HISTORY and should be valued and preserved for future generations.

If anyone would like more information on VOCA, I can be reached at (802) 773-3253 or email at tgifvt@msn.com

Tom Giffin
VOCA President

MEETINGS

"LIFE IN THE PAST LANE II"

Saturday September 24, 2005

The Friends of the Silvio O. Conte National Archives proudly present their Second Full-Day Genealogical Conference
Crowne Plaza Hotel
One West Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201

8:00-9:00 AM Registration

9:30 AM Richard Black, Godfrey Library, Middletown, CT

11:00 AM Keynote Speaker: Diane Rapaport, Author and Lawyer "*Finding New England Court Records*"

Noon-1:30 PM Buffet Lunch

1:30 PM: Kathy Reilly, Berkshire Athenaeum, Local History Dept. "*Going Digital: New Access to the Edward R. Knurrow Manuscript Collection*"

2:45 PM Jean Nudd, Archivist, NARA Pittsfield "*Finding Family Information in Pension Files; Revolutionary War to Spanish American War*"

Registration \$35.00 before Aug. 26, 2005, after that, \$45.00. Mail checks to Silvio O. Conte NARA, 10 Conte Drive, Pittsfield, MA 01201. Questions: e-mail Pittsfield.volumteers@nara.gov or call 413-236-3604

FALL VOCA MEETING

The fall meeting of the Vermont Old Cemetery Association is planned for Saturday October 1, 2005 in New Haven, VT. The spring meeting will be held on

May 6, 2006 at the Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse in Springfield, VT.

Join VOCA and keep up with Vermont cemetery news. The dues are \$5 for 1 year, \$20 for 5 years. The meetings are held around the state on the first Saturday of May and October.

If you know of any goings on in a Vermont cemetery, editor Robert Hooper would like to hear from you at 44 Charity St., Burlington, VT 05401, 802-862-0708 or at Hooper9999@aol.com

FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR TAKE ANOTHER LOOK!

"ADVANCES MAY REVEAL NEW CLUES TO OLD MYSTERIES"

Saturday October 15, 2005

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Courtyard by Marriott, Cromwell, CT

This seminar is sponsored by the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. For information visit <http://www.seminar.csginc.org> or <http://www.csginc.org>

NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PROGRAMS AND TOURS

GETTING STARTED

This program is held the first Wednesday of every month, at 12 noon and 6 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, a tour of the library, and a chance to meet the library staff. Non-members will receive free entrance to the library. No registration is required.

GENEALOGY IN A NUTSHELL

"Nutshell" classes are short (one hour) lectures on a variety of genealogical topics. They are held at 101 Newbury Street from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Wednesdays and repeated on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Registration is not necessary. Visit www.NewEnglandAncestors.org for details.

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OLD - TIME BLUE LAWS J. R. RANDALL Vermont

The first day of the week shall be kept and observed by the people of this state as a Sabbath, Holy day, of a day of rest from all secular labor, recreation, and employment; and if any person shall between 12 o'clock of the night preceding and the setting of the sun the same day, exercise any secular labor, business, or employment except such only as works of necessity or charity, he shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$2.

If any person shall, between 12 o'clock of the night preceding and the setting of the sun the same day, be present at any public assembly, except such as shall be held for the purpose of social and religious worship and moral instruction, or shall visit from house to house, except it be from motives of humanity or charity, or for moral or religious edification, he shall pay a fine not exceeding \$5.

If any person shall, after the setting of the sun on the day preceding the first day of the week, hold or resort to any ball or dance, use or exercise any game, sport or play, or resort to any tavern, inn, or house of entertainment, for amusement or recreation, he shall pay a fine not exceeding \$2.

If any person, on the first day of the week, or on any other day or time shall willfully disturb or interrupt any assembly of people, met together for religious worship or religious instruction, by noisy, rude or indecent behavior, or profane discourse, either within or about the place where such assembly shall be collected for religious worship or instruction, so near as to

disturb the order and solemnity of such assembly, he shall be punished by a fine not exceeding forty dollar, not less than five dollars, to the use of the town in which the said meeting shall be held.

Selling or offering for sale spirits or spirituous liquors, exhibiting shows or plays, or promoting or aiding any horse racing or gambling of any description within two miles of camp meeting held for religious worship, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding forty dollars, nor less than five dollars.

[This does not apply, however, to licensed retailers, inn-keepers, or any other pursuing their ordinary business.]

Any person who hunts, shoots or pursues, takes or kills wild game or other birds or animals, or discharged firearms except in the just defense of person or property, or in the performance of military or police duty, on Sunday, shall be fined three dollars, one-half to go to the person who makes the complaint and one-half to the State. All prosecutions for the breach of any of the provisions of this chapter be commenced within thirty days after the commission of the offense, and not after.

Massachusetts

1635. Whereas, complainte hath bene made to this Courte that dyvers persons within this jurisdiction doe usually absent themselves from church meetings upon the Lord's day, power is therefore given to any two assistants to heare and sensure, either by fine or imprisonment (at their discretion) all misdemeanors of that kind committed by any inhabitant within this jurisdiction, provided they exceed not the fine of 5 shillings for one offence.

1630. It is ordered that John Baker be whipped for shooting at fowl on the Sabbath Day.

1669. Any p'son or p'sons shall be found smoaking tobacco on the Lord's Day, going too or coming from the meetings, within two miles of the meeting house shall pay 12 pence for every such default to the collonie's use.

This small booklet, priced at 10 cents, by J. R. Randall, Providence, R. I. *Old-Time Blue Laws* (includes the records of several states....), Worcester, Mass, Charles W. Burbank & Co., Printers, 2 Allen Court, no date, VT p. 18-19; MA p.1.

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. Out of print.

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. xlvi + 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 name 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 new second edition of *A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy* was unveiled at New England Regional Genealogical Conference in April 2005. It includes about ten percent more listings than the first edition, mostly of material newly published since 2000. It is keyed to Drew Bartley's *Genealogies Found in Vermont Histories* (Vol. 10, no. 1 of *Vermont Genealogy*, also designated GSV Special Publication No. 10). And it has a different picture of a tree on the front cover. The price is \$10.00; member discount makes that \$9.00. Mail orders should add \$1.50 for postage and handling.

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

RESEARCH TOUR TO SALT LAKE CITY October 16-23, 2005

Participants will be aided in their research by experienced and well known genealogists from the Society's staff who have frequently used the Family History Library and its resources.

Pre-registration is required for the above program. 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 or visit www.NewEnglandAncestors.org. Click on Education, then on NEHGS Events for full information.

THE SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

The Vermont Chapter of the Society of Mayflower Descendants holds two meetings a year. The fall meeting will be on October 22, 2005 at The Dog Team Tavern in Middlebury.

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.

FAMILY REUNIONS

Announcements of family reunions must be received by the *Newsletter* 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.

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.

The **Hildreth Family Association** will hold its annual reunion September 28 - October 5, 2005 in the Canadian Rockies. Please contact Ron Hildreth at 516-248-7877 or RonaldBHildreth@aol.com for more information.

The annual meeting of the **Towne Family Association** will be held September 29 - October 2, 2005 at the Lake Morey Resort, Fairlee, VT. Contact the Executive Office, 15237 Pine Drive, Renton, WA 98058, 206-227-8824, vtowne@cas.washington.edu.

BOOK REVIEW POLICY

Books for review should be sent to John A. Leppman, 20 Thwing Lane, Bellows Falls, VT 05101.

B & T BACK ISSUES

Each issue is \$2 (including postage). Currently available are: Volumes 12:5; 14:1,3; 16:2; 18:1,2,3; 19:4; 20:1-4; 21:1-4; 22:2,4; 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; 6:1-4; 7:1-4; 8:1,2,4.

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

Contributions to the Permanent Fund None

All donations to the Permanent Fund will be gratefully acknowledged.

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

Janet Induni, Treasurer

ARE YOU MOVING? 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. Please do not send them to the *Newsletter* editor. 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

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF VERMONT WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW AND REIN- STATED MEMBERS

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Mary Ann Carney
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Wilbraham, MA 01095

6518
Godfrey Memorial Library
134 Newfield Street
Middletown, CT 06457

Cemeteries of Georgia, Vermont

Contains all gravestones, 362 pages
\$15.00 plus \$5.00 postage, soft cover.
Order from: Peter Mallett
P.O. Box 2001, Georgia, VT 05468

DUES NOTICE

Please look at your address label for membership expiration date.
Your membership expires on the date shown on the label.

Dues are \$20 for US addresses
Canada and Mexico \$25, foreign \$30 in US funds.

Membership includes four issues of *Vermont Genealogy* and the *GSV Newsletter*. These publications will keep you abreast of the genealogical news of Vermont and present current articles on source material, genealogy and your queries. Include a SASE if you wish a new membership card.

All Correspondence, except submissions and queries for *Vermont Genealogy* and items for the *Newsletter*, should be sent to the address below.

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

Name: _____

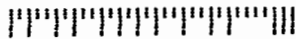
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