



Genealogical Society of Vermont

Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

GSV had a very successful fall membership meeting at the Vermont Historical Society on October 29, 2011. Those who attended can certainly attest to the fact that everyone there enjoyed themselves. A thank you is in order to all those who helped make the meeting possible, including Paul Carnahan (VHS Librarian) and Bernadette Harrington (Library Assistant), Diantha Howard and Stephanie M. O'Rourke for providing beverages, Jane Belcher for helping with publicity, Elizabeth W. Stevens for baking the coffee cakes and especially Bob Murphy, whose efforts were a tremendous help. A Certificate of Appreciation and Life Membership was presented to Mary Pat Brigham in honor of her many years of service. The three speakers—Paul G. Zeller, Scott Reilly and Russell Belding—all gave interesting presentations and everybody went away having learned something new.

Also we need to thank both Tom Record of Cornwall, our sales chairperson and Randy Brown of Rutland, our Newsletter coordinator for their continued efforts. We appreciate all that these volunteers do in order to keep the GSV ship afloat.

The Newsletter would hardly be complete without a mention of Tropical Storm Irene that hit Vermont in late August. There had not been such widespread flooding since 1973 and this storm brought many comparisons to the Hurricane of 1938 and the Flood of 1927. There was devastating damage in Cavendish, Chester, Halifax, Jamaica, Killington, Ludlow, Moretown, Plymouth, Reading, Rochester, Stockbridge, Waterbury, Wardsboro, Weathersfield and Wilmington, just to name a

few of the effected towns. While the state has done a stellar job in quickly repairing the highways, it will be years before all of the signs of the storm are gone from the landscape.

The website www.familysearch.org continues to expand their ever impressive amount of online information. In a previous message, I had mentioned the Vermont Vital Records Index, 1760-1954 (not complete at this point) being online. However the material that is currently online is indexed, which is always a great help to researchers. That said, keep in mind that like any index, there are errors and many items that are not included. Other recent additions on the Family Search site are the records of the Westminster District Probate Court 1781 to 1921 (Estates and Guardianships) (this currently only covers the time period from 1881 to 1921) and Washington County Probate Court (Estates), 1862 to 1915. With both of these collections, you will have to browse the material, as presently it is not indexed. Another collection is called Vermont Town Records, 1850 to 1995. This is select vital records (at the moment very select) for towns in Bennington, Caledonia, Chittenden, Essex, Franklin, Lamoille, Orange, Orleans and Washington Counties. Once again, this is a browse only collection, at the present time. The first images being placed on the site are the most current and they are working backwards from there.

Believe it or not, Vermont History Expo is just around the corner. This coming year's theme is "Vermont in the Civil War."

(President's Message, Continued on page 2)



rootstech

Don't Miss the \$129 Early Bird Registration for RootsTech 2012 in Salt Lake City!

A new family history and technology conference to shape the future of genealogy

**Innovating genealogy by bringing together users and creators of technology February 2-4, 2012
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- Panel discussions
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Go to RootsTech.org now to see the full list of topics and sessions.

Register Now at RootsTech.org

\$129 before November 30, 2011.

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The RootsTech conference is sponsored by Oracle, Microsoft, Dell, FamilySearch, Brigham Young University, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, **brightsolid**, Archives.com, Ancestry.com, the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Federation of Genealogical Societies, and the National Genealogical Society.

(President's Message, Continued from page 1)

Please note that Expo will be held on June 16-17, 2012, a little earlier in June this year than previously. The New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC) will be returning to the Radisson Hotel in Manchester, N.H., on April 17-21, 2013. The theme is “Woven in History: The Fabric of New England.” As usual GSV will have a presence at both of these events with a wide variety of genealogical and Vermont books for sale. We hope to see you there.

Finally, we encourage our members to receive the Newsletter as a PDF by e-mail. Number one it helps GSV save printing

and postage costs; but also viewing it on screen has advantages as well. Many of the pictures appear in full color in the electronic edition and are noticeably sharper than in the print edition. Plus many members will find that the ability to enlarge the Newsletter onscreen, tends to be a large help with the readability of the content. If you would like to receive the Newsletter by e-mail, please let us know.

May your research be fruitful and rewarding throughout the holiday season and in the New Year.

Jonathan W. Stevens, President

BOOKS NOTED

Books that have not been submitted for review in *Vermont Genealogy*.

The History of Chester, Vermont (2011) softbound p. 259. Order from Chester Historical Society, P.O. Box 118, Chester, VT 05143 or www.vtpicker.com \$25; add \$6.00 shipping & handling.

The History of Chester, Vermont is compiled by Ron Patch, Chester Historical Society President, local antique dealer and weekly newspaper columnist. Mr. Patch's website states this publication is "a well written and complete history of the town." There are local historical society publications which are carefully researched and give new insights about the history of their locality. Unfortunately, this is not one of them.

The book is attractively printed and bound. Its content is not a flowing narrative, but rather a compilation of articles from the society's files. Most were written years ago. The introduction offers a disclaimer that states "any error of fact belongs to the individual authors." Any compilation of this sort makes judgment calls about which archived articles are worth publishing and which are not. The reader of this work will be left to assess the wisdom of these decisions as the book's material traverses its uneven course. The chapters from various sources are interleaved with advertising from current local businesses, a measure which may put the book's publication on firmer economic ground, but which also gives it something of the flavor of a high school yearbook and detracts from its scholarly pretensions.

Misspellings abound. A few examples, amusing, perhaps, but distressing in their demonstration of poor editing standards: "Bennington Wentworth" for Benning Wentworth; "Hew Hampshire" for New Hampshire; "town cleric" for town clerk." This sort of anthology is very hard to assemble without telling the same stories over and over. That happens a lot here. For example, the story of the founding of Chester is recounted several times. In one sketch, Cumberland County,

New York (roughly the southeastern quadrant of present-day Vermont) is said to have been named by King Charles II, who was on the throne about a century before the events being described. A reader finding errors like that will question the reliability of the entire book. The book reproduces verbatim the Chester section of Hamilton Child, ed., *Gazetteer and Business Directory of Windsor County, for 1883-84* (Syracuse, N.Y., 1884), not the business directory from that work. This is hardly an exclusive rare document which interested readers would never have known about. Is reprinting it really useful?

The architectural study prepared for the application to include the Chester Historic District in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984 is available elsewhere, but its inclusion here, with pictures, brings forth a lot of worthwhile information. Format and standards of building description are inconsistent and potentially introduce a bit of confusion; one building is referred to by its 19th century owner, another by a 20th century one.

If, as they say, the devil is in the details, there are lots of devilish details to work on here. Copying someone else's material uncritically is not the same thing as research.

Reviewed by Jonathan W. Stevens of Chester, Vt.

[This was featured in the NEHGS e-newsletter, "The Weekly Genealogist"]

The Closing of the National Archives in Pittsfield, Mass.

The National Archives at Pittsfield is closing; the last day the facility will be open to the public is September 16, 2011. (The facility will also be closed on September 6.)

The remaining National Archives branches within the Northeast Region are the National Archives at Boston, located in Waltham, Massachusetts, and the National Archives at New York City.

NARA-Pittsfield is in the process of transferring its microfilm room collection to the Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield's public library. The collection includes 71,000 rolls of film that contain census records, passenger logs, and other items of interest to those researching their family histories. After the material has been relocated and processed, the collection will be available to researchers via delivery to the Athenaeum's first floor, where state of the art digitizing microfilm readers/scanners are available.



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DEATHS.

 Marriages and Deaths inserted FREE.

DEIDRE ANNE (BURRIDGE) DAGNER 1950-2011

LOUISIA, VA. - Deidre Anne Dagner, 61, died on Saturday, September 10, 2011, at the Hospice House of Charlottesville. She was born on February 27, 1950, in Yonkers, New York, daughter of the late Charles and Ernestine (Ochs) Burridge. Deidre was also preceded in death by her sister, Dawn. She is survived by her husband Tony; her children, David and his fiancée Veronica, of New Jersey, Donovan and his wife, Anne, Anton Jr. and fiancée Shannon, and Liana and her boyfriend, Keith, all of Virginia; and by her grandchildren, Calla, Cecelia, Dylan, and Victoria; and her three sisters, Dara and her husband, Robert, of New Jersey, Debra and her husband, Michael, of Pennsylvania, and Donna of New Jersey.

EDITORS NOTE: Deidre was a descendant of the Burridge family of Braintree and served as the editor of the GSV Newsletter for the four issues in 2010. Though part of the GSV family for a short time, she will be missed and fondly remembered by us all.

Descendants of Giles Roberts of Scarborough, Maine

by Joann H. Nichols

For \$20, plus \$3.50 shipping for the first copy and \$1.00 for each additional copy

Don't let the title mislead you, Giles Roberts was the immigrant ancestor. This book contains a wealth of information on the Roberts family in Vermont. Towns mentioned are: Barnet, Barre, Berlin, Bethel, Brandon, Brattleboro, Bristol, Brookfield, Brookline, Burlington, Cavendish, Dover, Dummerston, Fairlee, Fletcher, Grafton, Greensboro, Guilford, Halifax, Hardwick, Hartford, Hyde Park, Jamaica, Londonderry, Lyndon, Montpelier, Moretown, Morristown, Morrisville, Pomfret, Putney, Readsboro, Rochester, Rockingham, Rutland, Somerset, Springfield, St. Johnsbury, Stratton, Sutton, Thetford, Topsham, Townshend, Tunbridge, Underhill, Walden, Wallingford, Wardsboro, Washington, Waterbury, Weathersfield, Westford, Westminster, West Fairlee, Weston, Wilmington and Woodstock.

INDEX TO THE HISTORY AND MAP OF DANBY, VERMONT (1998)

Compiled by Joann H. Nichols

Limited Number Available, Only Twenty Copies Remain

For \$3.50, plus \$1.50 shipping for the first copy and \$1.00 for each additional copy

Index to J[ohn] C. Williams, *History and Map of Danby, Vermont* (Rutland, Vt., 1869; reprinted S.L. Griffith Library, 1976).

DONATIONS

Doris Walker Atteberry of Cincinnati, Ohio
Barbara Bullock Jones of Charlestown, New Hampshire
Beverly B. O'Neill of Sebastian, Florida

NEW MEMBERS

Christine Webb

92 Fern St.
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Marjorie Cox

3 Whitney Court
Plymouth, CT 06782
email: RaymondCox3@comcast.net
researching: *Cox, Preston, Eggleston*

GSV Special Publication Number 13

VITAL RECORDS OF SPRINGFIELD, VT.

by Scott Andrew Bartley

Back Issues available:

For \$15, plus \$3.50 shipping for the first copy and \$1.00 for each additional copy

TREASURER'S REPORT OCTOBER 29, 2011

	FY 10 Actual	FY 11 Budget	FY 11 Actual	FY 12 Budget
Income				
Interest	\$1,465.81	\$300.00	\$339.12	
Dues	\$11,100.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Fall 09 Mtg.	\$280.00			
Spring 10 Mtg.	\$637.00			
Fall 10 Mtg.	\$345.00	\$306.00	\$565.00	
Fall 11 Mtg.		\$300.00	\$300.00	\$500.00
Spring 12 Mtg.				\$800.00
Fall 12 Mtg.				\$300.00
Donations	\$515.00	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Publications Sales	\$1,588.75	\$1,500.00	\$1,011.05	\$1,000.00
Newsletter Ads	\$6.00			
Miscellaneous	\$25.00		\$15.00	
NERGC	\$1,419.05		\$2,389.14	
Total	\$17,381.61	\$12,906.00	\$15,019.31	\$13,000.00
Expenses				
<i>VG</i> Printing	\$3,215.12	\$3,200.00	\$3,075.14	\$3,200.00
<i>VG</i> Delivery	\$1,039.69	\$1,050.00	\$1,187.20	\$1,200.00
<i>VG</i> Editing	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
Newsletter Printing	\$851.40	\$900.00	\$1,114.81	\$1,200.00
Newsletter Delivery	\$260.00	\$300.00	\$295.14	\$300.00
Vermont Families III	\$61.99	\$75.00		
Fall 09 Mtg.	\$572.50			
Spring 10 Mtg.	\$502.50			
Fall 10 Mtg.		\$734.00	\$830.00	
Fall 11 Mtg.				\$800.00
Spring 12 Mtg.				\$800.00
Postage	\$424.84	\$500.00	\$198.29	\$250.00
Website	\$101.30	\$100.00	\$87.35	\$100.00
History Expo	\$50.00			\$50.00
PO Box Rental	\$72.00	\$72.00	\$72.00	\$76.00
Bulk Permit	\$185.00	\$185.00	\$185.00	\$185.00
NERGC	\$110.00	\$1,000.00	\$669.00	\$110.00
Office Supplies	\$32.71	\$40.00	\$204.71	\$200.00
Memberships	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$195.00	\$145.00
Miscellaneous			\$343.50	
Biennial Report Fee			\$120.00	\$15.00
Total	\$12,154.05	\$12,831.00	\$13,077.14	\$13,131.00
Balances				
Checking	\$12,860.64		\$14,069.18	
Money Market	\$10,808.86			
EM CD 18 mo.	\$11,068.95		\$22,317.20	
Perm CD 2 yr.	\$13,882.15		\$14,214.61	
Pub. CD 2 yr.	\$20,393.58		\$20,881.99	
Total	\$69,014.18		\$71,482.98	



GSV PUBLICATIONS

The society offers the following publications for purchase by our members and readers. GSV members receive a 10% discount on the purchase price. Postage and handling is extra—please add \$3.50 for the first item and \$1.00 for each additional item in the same order to the same address. Mail your checks, payable to GSV, to:

Genealogical Society of Vermont, P.O. Box 14, Randolph, VT 05060-0014

Vermont Families in 1791, Vol. 1 is out of print.

Vermont Families in 1791, Vol. 2. Scott A. Bartley, ed., 1997, 304 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 5; \$27.00 members, \$30.00 non-members. This second volume covers 107 families, has improved formatting and more complete information on the third generation of early Vermonters.

Vital Records of Putney, Vermont to the Year 1900. Compiled and edited by Ken Stevens, 1992, 406 pp. Item No. GSV 2; \$27.00 members, \$30.00 non-

members. This is a complete compilation from all primary sources available in the town. This is augmented by the ministerial records of the pastors who served as early as 1776.

Vital Records of Rockingham, Vermont and the Records of the First Church of Rockingham. Reprinted from the 1902 and 1908 first editions, newly indexed by Christopher T. Norris and Scott A. Bartley, 323 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 3; \$27.00 members, \$30.00 non-members. Reprinted from the first editions of 1908 and 1902, this is an important source of one of Vermont's oldest towns. The town records extend to 1845

(Continued on page 7)

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News, articles and comments for the newsletter should be mailed to:

Jonathan W. Stevens, President
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stevens@vermontel.net

Newsletter deadlines are:
 Dec 15 — February issue
 Mar 15 — May issue
 June 15 — August issue
 Sept 15 — November issue

Vermont Genealogy, the GSV Journal contact information:

Scott Andrew Bartley, Editor
 Vermont Genealogy
 20 March Avenue
 West Roxbury, MA 02132-2604
drew@yourgenealogist.com

Send copies of relevant books for journal review to:
 John A. Leppman
 Book Review Editor
 20 Thwing Lane
 Bellows Falls, VT 05101-1640

Moving? Let Us Know

Please inform GSV if you move.
 Send notices to:
 Diantha Howard
 57 East Shore North
 Grand Isle, VT 05458

ADVERTISING POLICY

The newsletter accepts paid advertising at \$3.00 per column inch. It must relate to genealogy, preferably Vermont, and must be received before the deadline listed above. Checks made out to GSV are sent to PO Box 14, Randolph, VT 05060-0014 along with the *exact* wording for the ad. *GSV offers no warranty on the services of advertisers.*

A Quarterly Publication of the
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and church records from 1773 to 1839. New to this edition is an indispensable index of nearly 1,000 names.

Georgia, Vermont Vital Records. Peter S. Mallet, ed., 1995, hardbound. Item No. GSV 4; \$27.00 members, \$30.00 nonmembers. 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, and Methodist Church of Georgia and North Fairfax.

Windsor County, Vermont Probate Index, 1778-1899. Scott Andrew Bartley and Marjorie-J. Bartley, compilers, 2000, 560 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 6; \$45.00 members, \$50.00 nonmembers. This is a comprehensive index of all files in the Windsor County Probate Court Districts — Windsor and Hartford. The records cover the period from the earliest 1778 records through the end of the nineteenth century, more than 20,000 probate files. The files are indexed by the name of the major party in the case, place of residence, probate district, type of record, year, and probate record volume .

Index to Branches & Twigs, 1972—1995. Robert M. Murphy, ed. 2000, 572 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 7; \$58.50 members, \$65.00 nonmembers. This is the every-name index to GSV's Branches & Twigs, published for 24 years in 96 issues. The 180,000 entries include every genealogically important name mentioned in every issue. Separate sections of this work list the coverage of each Apple Orchard installment, and provide a full author and title index to book reviews. Branches & Twigs included large quantities of information of interest to family historians.

Sudbury, Vermont: Transcription of Vital Records and Genealogies of Residents. Mary Ann Z. Wheeler, 2000, 416 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 9; \$44.55 members, 49.50 nonmembers. This book is a comprehensive transcription of census and vital records for Sudbury, plus carefully compiled genealogies of families. This book is among the very best genealogical resources about a Vermont town. This is a cooperative publication between GSV and Picton Press.

A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy, 2nd edition. John A. Leppman, 2005, softbound. Item No. GSV 11; \$9.00 members, \$10.00 nonmembers. (Mail orders should add \$1.50 for postage and handling, not the \$3.50 normally charged.) This is a new edition of A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy was released in April 2005. It includes more listings than the first edition, most published since 2000. It is keyed to Scott Andrew Bartley's Genealogies Found in Vermont Histories (Vol. 10, No. 1 of Vermont Genealogy, also designated GSV publication number 10.).

Vermont Genealogy Back Issues:

Issues 1: 1-13: 4, are available for \$5.00 each, except special issues 10: 1 and 11: 1 & 2, which are available for \$10.00 each. Issues 14: 1 & 2, 14 : 3 & 4, 15: 1 and 15: 2, are available for \$10.00 each. There is a mailing fee of \$2.00 (\$3.00 to Canadian addresses) for each single issue, \$2.50 (\$3.50 to Canada) for each double issue (i.e., the \$10 issues). For multiple issue orders, please add \$1 for each additional 1 to 5 issues. Note: issues 1: 4, 3: 3, 3: 4 and 4: 4 are out of print.

Genealogical Society of Vermont

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Send membership dues and applications to:

GSV Membership Chairperson

57 East Shore North

Grand Isle, VT 05458

All other correspondence,
except for submissions and queries to *Vermont Genealogy*, should be sent to

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