



Genealogical Society of Vermont

Newsletter

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1
New Members	1
Stratton Resources	2
Orleans County Resources	3
Preserve the Pensions	3
FamilySearch.org Update	4
Wilmington Record Digitization	4
Used CD Sale	5
GSV Publications	6
Contact Information	7

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Winter is now upon us, maybe not by the calendar just yet, but it certainly feels like it outside. A large thank you to everyone involved with setting up our fall meeting in Rutland. It was a stellar success, the food was great and plentiful, and all the speakers were excellent. The Franklin Conference Center at the Howe Center is certainly a location that we will consider in the future.

Every year it seems that the flags placed on veterans' graves are a little cheaper (in quality but not in price). For many years my mother and I have placed the flags in all of the cemeteries in Andover. The big problem this year was the copper staples were so cheap, the flags became detached when they were placed in the holders. I had to restaple several with a staple gun, but those staples were really too large and it ended up being rather

unsightly and dangerous. The wood is much cheaper grade than in the past, and is slightly thicker in diameter. Believe it or not this makes a real difference in how they fit. This means that the shafts had to be cut down in order to fit into the holders, either with a hand plane or a jackknife. The situation was even worse this fall, many had swollen and were almost impossible to remove from the holders. We customarily remove the flags around Veteran's Day; this time having to cut many out with a small keyhole saw. The swelling also caused the tops to split, and I managed to get a rather nasty cut on one. Another disturbing problem is the theft of holders for the scrap metal value.

The long belated Spring 2013 issue of our journal *Vermont Genealogy* has been sent to the printer. The GSV Board has taken on the responsibility of editing, and this issue is filled with useful and interesting material including: compiled genealogy, transcribed source material, and book reviews. Work on the Fall 2013 issue is well underway and we hope to get back on schedule in the coming year. Watch for the new issue in the coming weeks.

Technology is a wonderful thing. It certainly has been helpful in genealogy, with the availability of material at our finger tips, that one could not imagine just a few years ago. Yet at the same time, it has re-introduced a proliferation of inaccurate material. Just because a book is now digitized and online does not make it definitive. If it contained errors and (or) omissions, it still does, regardless of the format. The copyright has expired and it is now in public domain, plain and simple. A mistake is still a mistake, and unfortunately

(President's Message, Continued on page 2)

NEW MEMBERS

Clarise Soper
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email: cbsoper@yahoo.com
researching: St. Cyr, Thibault (Tebo), King

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researching: Williams, Griffith, Hughes, Jones, Edwards

Dianne Leary
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email: dleary123@yahoo.com
researching: Dean, Wills, Warden, Leary, Barrett

Dale H. Cook
2905 Purple Finch Rd
Roanoke, VA 24018
email: webmaster@plymouthcolony.net
researching: Packard, Spear, Badger



DONATIONS

Vernon & Helen Person of
Olney, Maryland
to the
Preserve the Pensions Project

Carole A. Gardner
of Santa Fe, New Mexico

TOWN OF STRATTON GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES ONLINE

The town of Stratton's municipal website has several items of interest for the genealogist who has an interest in the town. The Stratton History page http://townofstrattonvt.com/Stratton_History.html offers a wealth of resources all courtesy of town clerk, D. Kent Young. Included are downloadable PDF's of the *History of Stratton, Vermont to the End of the Twentieth Century. Echoes in the Forest the Family History Supplement* both written by Young. Other downloadable files include a lot and range overlay map of Stratton, a summarization of the land records beginning with the proprietor's book and continuing through land records volume 5 (this is to about 1853 and includes range and lot locations), a summarization of the town records to 1915, detailed census data through 1920, and the records of the Church of Christ in Stratton with baptisms and proceedings beginning August 30, 1801, transcribed from the original text found in The Vermont Historical Society Collections MS 285.8743 ST 82.

Special Holiday Sale Ends February 1st 2014

INDEX TO BRANCHES & TWIGS, 1972—1995 by Robert M. Murphy, ed.

Special Sale Price \$30

Plus \$3.50 shipping and handling for the first copy and \$1.00 for each additional copy.

Regular price \$58.50 members, \$65.00 nonmembers.

Index to Branches & Twigs, 1972—1995. Robert M. Murphy, ed. 2000, 572 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 7. 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.

(President's Message, Continued from page 1)

many long disproved errors are being propagated all over again. The lesson here is to evaluate your resources. Remember a scanned book online may give you a few pointers, but it is always good to go back to the primary sources, whenever possible.

The GSV Board is planning our spring 2014 meeting and currently evaluating speakers and venues. Look for updates, the meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday May 17, 2014, but look in future GSV Newsletters and on our website www.genealogyvermont.org for more information. Also mark your calendars for the Vermont History Expo, held on June 21 & 22, 2014 at the Tunbridge World's Fair Grounds. GSV has registered for our usual booth in Floral Hall, so chances are you will see me there, selling our wares.

all around Rutland County guru, Margaret R. "Peggy" Jenks, has a new edition of her *Fair Haven and West Haven Cemetery Inscriptions Rutland County Vermont* available. This is very exciting news for those who are interested in those particular towns. The very best researchers update their material. She has also published a new genealogy *Early Families of Washington County, New York: Stephen Reynolds of Granville, New York and Henry Rice of Hebron, New York and Related Families of Kenyon, Cole and Wightman [see ad on page 4]*.

Here is wishing all of you a happy holiday season and may your research be bountiful and rewarding in the coming new year.

Jonathan W. Stevens, President

Longtime GSV member, former editor of this Newsletter, and

ORLEANS COUNTY RESOURCE

Underutilized for history and genealogy researchers in some Orleans County towns is the *Hazen Road Dispatch*, the annual journal of the Greensboro Historical Society. This journal began as a Bicentennial year newsletter in 1975 after which the Greensboro Historical Society was organized. It is thought to be the longest-running publication for a historical society in Vermont. The newsletter, and later the journal, consists of articles by local writers about historic sites, reminiscences, families, the summer colony, early settlers, migrations from Orleans County, book reviews, In Memoriam (deaths in town the preceding year), farming, local industries including the granite industry, and the rediscovered Revolutionary War -era blockhouse. Surrounding towns treated are Greensboro, Hardwick (Caledonia County), Walden, Craftsbury, and Stannard.

Plans are for a possible book-length anthology of a variety of previous articles for a celebratory 40th anniversary issue in 2015.

Back issues are still available, and indexes available from 1975-1991, then by 5-year increments to the present.

Contact Wilhelmina Smith, president, Greensboro Historical Society, Highland Lodge, Greensboro, Vt. 05841. Email: willie@highlandlodge.com.

Submitted by Patricia Haslam of Stowe, Vt., Membership #78.

USE GOOGLE BOOKS TO GET FREE COPIES OF PAGES OF FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY BOOKS

[Editor's Note: *The following was posted by the FamilySearch blog by Nathan W. Murphy, on 4 November 2013.*]

Earlier this year, FamilySearch announced a free lookup service for genealogy books and microfilm available at the renowned Family History Library in Salt Lake City. The response was overwhelming, 1000s of people contacted us to take advantage of this free service. Another way to utilize this service is to start with limited preview Google Books and get us to scan the entire page and email it to you for free.

For more details see <https://familysearch.org/blog/en/google-books-free-copies-pages-family-history-library-books/>.

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WAR OF 1812 PRESERVE THE PENSIONS PROJECT

Dear Genealogical and Historical Societies,

We are so grateful to all of you who have contributed so generously to the War of 1812 *Preserve the Pensions* project. The digitization of the records left by these veteran ancestors is something to be truly grateful for.

Here's a research success story using the newly digitized War of 1812 Pensions on www.fold3.com from BCG Board-Certified Genealogist, Debbie Hooper, CG, which really inspires. Thanks to Ms. Hooper for sharing!

Ms. Hooper had been working on a project for a client who believed his ancestor was born in Sussex County, VA. Work in census records led me to believe his father was (we'll call him) John X. After having no success finding the ancestor in probate, land, newspaper, and church records, she decided to look at fold3 for Revolutionary War records for John's father or the subject's grandfather. None of the Revolutionary War pensions revealed anything, so she took a shot at the War of 1812 Pensions. It was a longshot since the subject was supposedly born in 1812, and may not be listed as an heir and their was no family history of having served in 1812.

As it happened, Ms. Hooper began looking through a War of 1812 widow's pension, although she decided it had nothing to do with the subject. But it was interesting, so she kept on reading. And there, on the last page, was a statement from the widow that she married William X (not John) in 1807, and they had only one child, the ancestor she'd been looking for! *She could not believe it!* Not only did she discover that she was wrong about the father, she now had a document stating both parent's names.

Ms. Hooper concluded her story by saying, "What makes this even more ironic is that without *Preserve the Pensions*, this document would not have been available to me yesterday, today, or the foreseeable future with the government shutdown affecting NARA. My donation will be sent tonight."

There is so much more to be found in the War of 1812 pensions for your research, and that of your society members and patrons.

Remember that the pensions are being every-name indexed for the first time and you may find your ancestor in someone else's pension.

Continued donations will help this work continue and ensure the safety of these fragile documents for this often forgotten generation.

Warm Regards,
 Rebecca Whitman Koford, CG*

Help us save America's records!
www.preservethepensions.org

* CG (SM) and Certified Genealogist (SM) are service marks of the Board for Certification of Genealogists® and are used under license by Board-certified associates who meet program standards and periodic competency evaluations

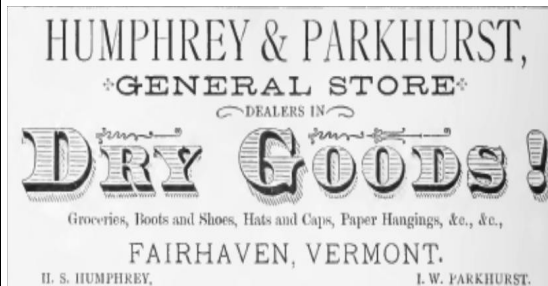
“THE GOODLIEST SOYLE”**FINDING, READING, & INTERPRETING
NORTH CAROLINA LAND RECORDS**

The newest webinar in our series of land records in North Carolina by Helen F. M. Leary will be presented on January 17, 2014 and continue free for all to view through January 19, 2014 on the North Carolina Genealogical Society website, webinar tab: ncgenealogy.org.

In “*The Goodliest Soyle*”: *Finding, Reading, & Interpreting North Carolina Land*, Ms. Leary discusses the ways a person acquires land. In colonial times, English Common Law governed property rights. Knowing the law, the records it created, and the location of those records, is necessary for successful searches.

Once found, the genealogist must read and interpret the record. Correct analysis is important to glean the maximum information from each document. Ms. Leary provides the listener with tools and tips to reach a successful outcome.

Submitted by Maryann Stockert Tuck, NCGS Webinars
webinars@ncgenealogy.org

**TOWN OF WILMINGTON TO DIGITIZE RECORDS**

Wilmington-The town of Wilmington is getting a grant or nearly \$158, 000 to start digitizing all of its official records to save them from the threat of flooding.

Waters from Tropical Storm Irene that ravaged Wilmington in 2011 had threatened documents that were rescued by Town Clerk Susie Haughwout. That happened minutes before other documents that had been left behind were ruined.

About 200,000 pages of documents going back to 1797 will be secured through the digitization efforts.

Published in the Rutland Herald on 1 October 2013.

**BOOKS BY MARGARET R. JENKS**

STEPHEN REYNOLDS OF GRANVILLE, NY

HENRY RICE OF HEBRON, NY

and Related Families of Kenyon, Cole and Wightman

2012 — 245pages, indexed, \$50.00

FAIR HAVEN & WEST HAVEN, VERMONT — 2013

COMPLETELY REVISED SUMMER 2013

2 newly found cemeteries, 1,400 new names,

177 Pages, 18 Cemeteries, 11, 378 Names, Maps, Indexed, \$35.00 Postpaid

New York orders, add sales tax

Margaret R. Jenks, 24 Mettowie St, Granville, NY 12832

peggy@cemeterybooks.com

GSV is offering the following used CDs for sale. All are used, but in good condition and have been donated to GSV. Please contact GSV President Jonathan W. Stevens at stevens@vermontel.net for additional information and availability. Note that there is only one copy each and these titles are offered on a first come first serve basis. Shipping on the CDs is \$2.00 for the first item and \$1.00 for each additional item. We hope to be able to offer additional titles in future Newsletters.

REDUCED PRICES ON USED FAMILY TREE MAKER CDS

Note: These CDs require that you have Family Tree Maker or the Family Archive Viewer installed.

CENSUS INDEX: U.S. SELECTED COUNTIES 1790		\$1
CENSUS INDEX: U.S. SELECTED COUNTIES 1800		\$1
CENSUS INDEX: U.S. SELECTED COUNTIES 1810		\$1
CENSUS INDEX: U.S. SELECTED COUNTIES 1820		\$1
CENSUS INDEX: U.S. SELECTED COUNTIES 1830		\$1
CENSUS INDEX: U.S. SELECTED COUNTIES 1840		\$1
CENSUS INDEX: U.S. SELECTED COUNTIES 1850		\$1
CENSUS MICROFILM RECORDS: MASSACHUSETTS 1850 [contains images of the microfilm]	[5 disc set]	\$5*
CENSUS INDEX: U.S. SELECTED COUNTIES 1860		\$1
VETERANS' SCHEDULES: U.S. SELECTED STATES 1890		\$1
FAMILY ARCHIVE VIEWER		\$1

*\$5 shipping on this item

**Half-Off Special Holiday Price Now Through
February 1st 2014**

***Descendants of Giles Roberts of
Scarborough, Maine
by Joann H. Nichols***

\$10 (Regularly \$20)

***Plus \$3.50 shipping and handling
for the first copy and \$1.00
for each additional copy .***

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



Merrill Lee Aiken in front of Lang Jewelry & Optical Company, Barre, Vt. (1912).



G S V P U B L I C A T I O N S

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 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 non-members. This volume presents all births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials recorded in the town. All the civil books

(Continued on page 7)

Order Form

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M 001	Membership: New or Renewal			
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WANT TO CONTACT US?

Our website is at
<http://www.genealogyvermont.org/>

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

Jonathan W. Stevens, President
P.O. Box 14,
Randolph, VT 05060-0014
stevens@vermontel.net

Newsletter deadlines are:
Dec. 15 — February issue
Mar. 15 — May issue
June 15 — August issue
Oct. 15 — December issue

Vermont Genealogy, the GSV Journal contact information:

Vermont Genealogy Editorial Board
P.O. Box 14,
Randolph, VT 05060-0014
stevens@vermontel.net

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.*

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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: Genealogies, Vital Records, and Census Records. Mary Ann Z. Wheeler, 2000, 416 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 8; \$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.).

Index to the History and Map of Danby, Vermont, Compiled by Joann H. Nichols. (1998), softbound, Item No. D1; \$3.50, plus \$1.50 shipping for the first copy and \$1.00 for each additional copy. An index to J[ohn] C. Williams, History and Map of Danby, Vermont (Rutland, Vt., 1869; reprinted S.L. Griffith Library, 1976). **Limited Number Available.**

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, 15: 2 and 16: 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.

***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*

Genealogical Society of Vermont

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Dues are \$25.00 for US addresses.

Canada and Mexico are \$30.00

All other foreign addresses are \$35.00 in US funds.

Membership includes our journal *Vermont Genealogy* and four issues of our newsletter. These publications will keep you abreast of genealogical news and present current articles on genealogical source material, conferences and meetings, techniques and queries. If you would like to receive a membership card, please include a self addressed stamped envelop with your dues.

Send membership dues and applications to:

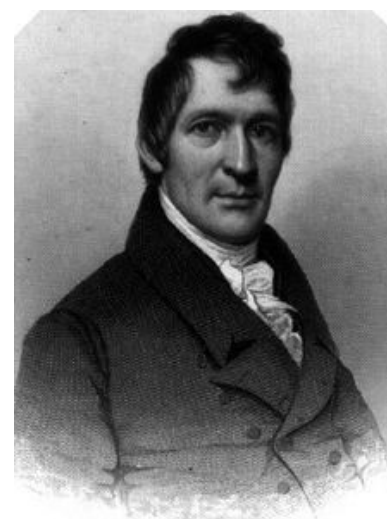
GSV Membership Chairperson

57 East Shore North

Grand Isle, VT 05458

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

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



Cornelius Peter Van Ness
Governor of Vermont 1823-1826