

Genealogical Society of Vermont

Newsletter

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December 2016

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DONATIONS

Alan & Valerie Rogers of Northfield, Massachusetts

Robert M. Murphy of Barre, Vermont

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The holiday season is a time for reflection upon family and many times we are lucky enough to be able share our newfound genealogical discoveries.

GSV's fall membership meeting on October 29, 2016, was held at the Franklin Conference Center at the Howe Center in Rutland, and was certainly enjoyed by those who attended. Using the information provided during the talk by Mariessa Dobrick, CA Archivist II VSARA, GSV's treasurer Jane Belcher was able to find some very interesting information on her second great grandfather, a patient of the Brattleboro Retreat. Jane received 4 pages of records about her ancestor, Moses Bohannon of Alburgh, a patient from his admission 4 September 1884 until his death, on 9 January 1886. The records provide insight into how his admission came about. Here is how to access the form to request the records if you had an ancestor who was a patient. Go the Brattleboro Retreat's website www.brattlebororetreat.org and click on admissions. There you can then access the "Protected Health Information Release Form." Simply download the PDF file, print out and complete the requested information and mail to the address provided. This is an under-utilized genealogical resource, and we thank Mariessa for bringing this to our attention.

GSV's sponsored speaker at NERGC 2017: Using the Tools of Today & Tomorrow to Understand the Past, April 26-29, 2017, at the MassMutual Center in Springfield, Massachusetts is Vermont Genealogy editor Michael F. Dwyer, FASG. His talk is entitled: Half-truths and Lies: Why Records Are Wrong. The description of the talk is as follows: Records don't lie; ancestors do. Michael Dwyer will assess a variety of evidence from case studies exposing inaccuracies, omissions, obfuscations, half-truths, delusions, and outright lies that thwarted his genealogical investigations over the last thirty years. In a guest for truth, he will share stories that will perplex, surprise, and occasionally shock his audience.

Jonathan W. Stevens, President

Great Auction Sale

\$10,000 M. L. Aiken Jewelry Stock
311 North Main Street, Barre, Vermont

Gino, China, etc., with least all various codes, transmire, severely, the Gino, China, etc., with least all various one riptice. The great mustles of specify control of the production of the p

Sale Starts at 2:30 and 7:30 Daily
will continue every afternoon and evening until the entire stock is di
EVERY ARTICLE AS REPRESENTED OR MONEY REPUNDED.

M. L. Aiken - Max Posner, Auctioneer

The Barre Daily Times, issue 10 Nov. 1914, p. 6.

INDEX TO BRANCHES & TWIGS, 1972—1995 by Robert M. Murphy, ed. 2000, 572 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 7.

Special Winter Sale Price \$20

Plus \$4.50 shipping and handling for the first copy and \$1.00 for each additional copy.

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

10% DISCOUNT

Rutland County Cemetery Books Rutland & Fair Haven District Probate Extracts

by Margaret R. Jenks

For available books & prices, see:

<u>www.cemetery.books.com</u> e-mail: <u>Peggy@cemeterybooks.com</u>

Vermont Vital Records Card Index Error

While researching the Whitcomb family, I found something curious regarding a branch of family in Springfield. According to the Vermont Vital Record Card Index, there were two children are born to William L. and Matilda L. (Kirk) Whitcomb during the year 1864, only a little more than two months apart. The first child was Estella Matilda Whitcomb, born in Springfield on 12 September 1864, followed by a second child Leonard Ansel Whitcomb on 24 November 1864. William was born in Townshend and Matilda was a Springfield native. Images of the cards are provided below. However the vital records at the town level state that Leonard is the son of Peres and Mary (Bates) Whitcomb. [Springfield, Vt., Vital Records, 5: 68] A section of that page is found below, the births referred to are No. 29 and No. 40. So what happened? It seems that Samuel W. Porter (1792-1882), Springfield Town Clerk from 1848 to 1881, made an error when he wrote down the birth of Leonard, in error giving the parents of Matilda. This error is found in the original vital record book for this period [Springfield, Vt., Vital Records 1857 to 1867: 31], and that was the information that was sent to state. The 1857 to 1867 vital records were copied into the subsequent volume that started in 1868, with the error. However, Leonard died in Springfield on 23 March 1869, of whooping cough, and his correct parents were given. [Springfield, Vt., Vital Records, 5: 181] It was probably at this point it was realized that there was an error in the 1864 birth records and the entry in volume 5 was erased and corrected. However the birthplace of the father was not changed, as the actual birthplace of Peres Whitcomb was Springfield and William's was Townshend. This is a case of an error that was made at the town level, then sent to the state level, and was subsequently (mostly) corrected at the town level, but not at the state level.

Jonathan W. Stevens

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CHRONICLING AMERICA Historic American Newspapers

The National Digital Newspaper Program "Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers," sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress is a wonderful genealogical resource. Through the efforts of the Vermont Newspaper Project http://library.uvm.edu/vtnp/ images of the following Vermont newspapers can be found online at http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/. The table below lists name of the newspaper, the place of publication, date of the first issue which has been digitized, and the last issue that has been digitized. The first part of this table was in the September 2016 GSV Newsletter.

Name of Newspaper:	Place of Publication:	First Issue Digitized:	Last Issue Digitized:		
Semi-Weekly Windham County Reformer	Brattleboro	2 July 1901	18 October 1901		
Spirit of the Age	Woodstock	1 May 1845	26 July 1913		
St. Johnsbury Caledonian	St. Johnsbury	26 April 1867	29 January 1919		
St. Johnsbury Caledonian	St. Johnsbury	10 March 1920	3 November 1920		
State Journal	Montpelier	5 January 1836	29 November 1836		
Vermont Daily Transcript	St. Albans	13 May 1868	21 May 1869		
Vermont Farmer	Newport	9 December 1870	18 May 1877		
The Vermont Freeman	Montpelier	10 December 1842	10 December 1842		
Vermont Phænix	Brattleboro	22 January 1836	22 December 1922		
Vermont Telegraph	Brandon	7 January 1836 18 March 1864	4 October 1843 14 August 1868 6 June 1883		
The Vermont Transcript	St. Albans		•		
Vermont Watchman and	Montpelier	6 December 1836	6 June 1883		
State Journal					
The Vermont Watchman	Montpelier	13 June 1883	15 December 1910		
Weekly Caledonian	St. Johnsbury	5 February 1919	3 March 1920		
Windham County Democrat	Brattleboro	21 July 1837	12 October 1853		
The Windham County Reformer	Brattleboro	30 May 1879	24 July 1896		
Windham County Reformer	Brattleboro	25 October 1901	28 December 1906		
The Woodstock Age	Woodstock	16 May 1844	24 April 1845		
The Daily Green Mountain Freeman	Montpelier	15 April 1861	31 December 1863		
The Daily Banner	Bennington	18 August 1891	18 August 1891		
The Evening Caledonian	St. Johnsbury	3 September 1918	26 June 1920		
The Northern Galaxy	Middlebury	7 February 1844	4 January 1848		
The People's Press, and					
Addison County Democrat	Middlebury	3 July 1838	25 May 1841		
The Spirit of the Age	Woodstock	8 May 1840	28 April 1843		
The United Opinion	Bradford	15 September 1882	29 December 1922		
The Voice of Freedom	[none]	19 January 1839	30 August 1848		

DEATHS.

Marriages and Deaths inserted FREE.

BURLINGTON - Eleanor Angell died peacefully on Nov. 28, 2016, at her home in Burlington, Vermont. Eleanor was born on July 5, 1923, in Schenectady, New York, and attended seven schools through grade 12 (Schenectady and Albany, New York, and Burlington). Eleanor graduated in 1942 from Milne School in Albany and in 1946 from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York, with a B.S. in Chemistry. She was one of only six women who graduated with degrees from RPI that year. Eleanor worked from 1946 to 1984 in the Analytical Chemistry Department of Sterling-Winthrop Research Institute, Rensselaer, New York (the research branch of Sterling Drug Inc.). Beginning in the 1960s, her work increasingly consisted of preparing chemical and manufacturing information for new drug applications, and she held the position of group leader of the Technical Writing and Auditing Group for 14 years. In June 1984, Eleanor moved to Burlington and became involved with genealogical research and the family history of her Vermont ancestors and their extended families. In 2000, after 12 years of research, Eleanor published the book, *Three Early Vermont Settlers: Amos Morse, George Trow, and Ephraim Ainsworth*, which explores the genealogy of the three settlers, their American ancestry and many of their descendants through several generations.

Eleanor was an enthusiastic member of many groups and organizations, including the Hardwick Historical Society, Vermont Historical Society, Genealogical Society of Vermont, Vermont Old Cemetery Association, Thomas Angell Family Association, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, American Chemical Society (emeritus) and the United Church of Hardwick. In accordance with Eleanor's wishes, there will be a graveside service in the spring at the family plot in the Main Street Cemetery in Hardwick, Vermont. Gifts in Eleanor's memory may be made to Hardwick Historical Society, 47 Depot St., Hardwick, VT 05843; and the United Church of Hardwick, 216 South Main St., Hardwick, VT 05843.

Source: The Burlington Free Press; The Rutland Herald, issues, 14 December 2016.



14th New England Regional Genealogical Conference

NERGC 2017

Using the Tools of Today & Tomorrow to Understand the Past MASSMUTUAL CENTER SPRINGFIELD, MA 26-29 APRIL 2017

The New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, Inc. tels, restaurants, and special attractions are all within walking (NERGC) invites you to join us at our fourteenth genealogical distance of the MassMutual Center. conference — Using The Tools Of Today & Tomorrow To Understand The Past — in Springfield, Massachusetts. NERGC We are offering a choice of two collaborating conference hotels: 2017 will help attendees explore:

- □ New research pathways, methodologies, and strategies, in- www.sheratonspringfield.com cluding technology and online resources;
- ☐ Ethnic genealogy of many types;
- □ New approaches for navigating and utilizing record sources (such as civil, religious, cemetery, military, and newspapers);
- ☐ Social history and family heirlooms;
- □ New England, New York, & New Jersey repositories;
- ☐ Successful research planning & project implementation; and
- ☐ General genealogical research skills & techniques.

NERGC 2017 will bring together genealogists and family historians from a variety of backgrounds. Whether you are just beginning the search for your family, are already an advanced researcher, or even a professional genealogist, the conference will provide you with an ideal opportunity to advance your Amenities: Free wireless high-speed Internet; indoor swimming knowledge and research skills.

In addition to the wealth of knowledge shared by expert genealogists, there will be time to explore the exhibit hall to understand the past and make new connections at the Society Fair, Special Interest Groups, and Ancestors Road Show — and plenty of opportunities to meet hundreds of other attendees at the Parking: \$17.00 per diem, per vehicle; \$5.00 parking available Conference who share your love for genealogy.

Watch our Facebook page, E-zine, Blog, and website (www.NERGC.org) for developing information.

CONFERENCE FACILITIES:

downtown Springfield, MA, a venue that combines the best of to the public at no cost. (Information: phyl@meganet.net) big-city accessibility and services with small-town hospitality and affordability. Springfield is easily reached from two major interstate highways and Bradley International Airport, which is just twenty minutes from the convention center. First-class ho-

SHERATON SPRINGFIELD MONARCH PLACE HOTEL

Address: One Monarch Place, Springfield, MA 01144-1099

Amenities: Internet in guest rooms, business center, fully equipped fitness center, indoor pool, sauna and massage treatments, and two restaurants

Reservations: 413-781-1010; Mention "New England Regional Consortium" to receive the group rate.

Deadline: 28 March 2017

Rate: \$145 per night. Check-in: 3:00 p.m. Check-out: Noon **Parking**: \$17.00 per diem, per vehicle; \$7.00 parking available for day guests. (May be adjusted to match prevailing rates.)

SPRINGFIELD MARRIOTT

www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/bdlma-springfield-marriott/ Address: 2 Boland Way, Springfield, MA 01115.

pool; fitness center; and two restaurants.

Reservations: 888-236-2427 or 413-781-7111. Mention "GCI" to get the group rate.

Deadline: April 4, 2017

Rate: \$139 per night. Check-in: 4:00 p.m. Check-out: Noon for day guests, with validation at the hotel registration desk. (May be adjusted to match prevailing rates.)

SOCIETY FAIR

On Thursday, April 27, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., genealogical, historical and family societies from all over New England will provide information about their organizations. The Society THE MASSMUTUAL CENTER is conveniently located in Fair will be in the corridor outside the Exhibit Hall and is open

ANCESTORS ROAD SHOW

Does your research need a jump start? Are you just beginning and don't know where to start? Do you need help reading and analyzing an old document? Have you hit that proverbial brick wall? Having someone with experience and expertise analyze your work might provide you with a new perspective to help you continue your research. This is your chance to consult with a professional genealogist.

Twenty-minute Road Show consultations will be available on a first-come, first-served basis and are limited to one per registered conference attendee. More information and a questionnaire will be posted on www.NERGC.org

EXHIBIT HALL

The Exhibit Hall has it all - books, maps, educational opportunities. The space is flexible and inviting. It is adjacent to the meeting rooms and dining area. The Exhibit Hall will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday. NERGC offers unopposed Exhibit Hall hours so you will not have to choose between attending lectures and visiting the vendors. In addition, there will be a presentation area in the Exhibit Hall where short lectures on special subjects and product demonstrations will be given. (Info: **Dave@OldBones.info**)

There are many new activities this year because we have the entire conference center for four days!

LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES

We are inviting libraries and archives with special collections of interest to genealogists and researchers to join us in Springfield. Tables and chairs will be set-up outside the Exhibit Hall for them to provide information and answer questions from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. This will be a good chance to learn about local resources for research. (Info: phyl@meganet.net)

CONFERENCE BLOG

Keep up-to-date with breaking news about the many special events and conference activities that are planned. Find out more information about the lectures, speakers, exhibitors, hotels, research facilities, & the City of Springfield. Check out the blog to get the most out of the conference:

www.nergc.blogspot.com

CONFERENCE E-ZINE

The conference E-zine, a digital newsletter that provides information and updates about the Fourteenth New England Regional Conference will be sent periodically to all those on our E-zine email list. If you would like to receive the E-zine, please provide your e-mail address on the registration form. Back issues of the E-zine are posted on the NERGC webpage at http://www.NERGC.org/E-zine.html

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are an essential part of NERGC, and we welcome additional help. You don't even have to be an attendee to volunteer! If you, or a spouse or friend, can give us one or more hours of your time during the conference, e-mail Mary Choppa at mchoppa@myfairpoint.net

SPECIAL MEAL, MOBILITY, HEARING, & VISION NEEDS:

Registrants with special meal requirements and/or mobility, hearing or visual special needs as outlined in the American with Disabilities Act must detail those requirements in writing to NERGC by March 15th, 2017.

Our registration process gives those with special meal needs the option of summarizing your requests in writing as you purchase luncheon or banquet tickets.

Registrants with mobility, hearing or visual needs should note their needs during the registration process in the space provided. Additionally feel free to contact Pamela Roberts, EdD, Physical Therapist and NERGC Volunteer at drpampt@gmail.com or call or text 860-428-2406. Pam will work with you to plan your conference experience, coordinate your equipment needs for items such as assistive listening devices or mobility scooters and coordinate special seating requirements for you to best see and hear presenters. She will share referrals to local resources for equipment and services needed but not available through the conference venues.

SIGS - SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Enthusiasm is high for these popular, informal mini gatherings which will be held on Thursday, April 27th, at 7:15 p.m. It's an opportunity to meet and share with conference participants and hosts on a wide range of topics. The topics are: Blogging, DNA, Polish & Eastern European, French-Canadian, Irish, Italian, Scandinavian, Jewish, and African-American genealogical research.

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH TOUR

Interested to learn more about where you can do genealogical research in Western Massachusetts? Register now for the Springfield Genealogical Bus Tour during the 2017 NERGC Conference. Wednesday, April 26, 2017 10 a.m. to 2pm. - leave & return from the Mass Mutual Convention Center. Sights: Forbes Genealogical Library, Springfield Archives, Irish Cultural Center, Springfield Armory, and Springfield Cemetery. You can return to any of these sites for research during the conference.

Cost: \$35; lunch available on your own at the Irish Cultural Center "Pub"

Registration: See the Activities section on the NERGC Registration Form Deadline: February 28, 2017 – space is limited!

Contact David Martin at davidchina 2000@yahoo.com



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. *out of print.*

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

(Continued on page 7)

Order Form						
Item Number Description		Quantity X	Price = Subtotal			
M 001 Membership: New or Re	newal					
			*There is no tax on GSV material.			
Name	Membe	er#	Membership fees are listed on the back cover.			
Address 1			Please include your			
Address 2			membership number for renewals and			
City	State	Zip	member discounts.			
Phone	E-mail					
For GSV publications return with a check payable in US funds to:	Membership: Nev return with a check pay		Order Total: ————————————————————————————————————			
Genealogical Society of Vermont P. O. Box 14 Randolph, VT 05060-0014	GSV Membershi 57 East Sho Grand Isle,	re North	Total Due:			

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 <u>stevens@vermontel.net</u>

Newsletter deadlines are:

Jan. 15 — March issue

April 15 — June issue

July 15 — September issue

Oct. 15 — December issue

Vermont Genealogy, the GSV Journal contact information:

Michael F. Dwyer, FASG, Editor 389 Orchard Hill, Pittsford, VT 05763

michaelftdwyer@comcast.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*.

A Quarterly Publication of the GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF VERMONT

 ${\color{red} ISSN~1087\text{-}4550} \\ {\color{red} ©~2016~Genealogical~Society~of~Vermont} \\$

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 non-members. 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, soft-bound. 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.**

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The Rutland Daily Globe, issue 2 Aug. 1876, p. 1.