



Genealogical Society of Vermont

Newsletter

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Spring 2022

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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DONATIONS

Carleton Howard of Boulder, Colorado

Janet Pease of Northfield, Minnesota

William Robert Adams of Birch Run, Michigan

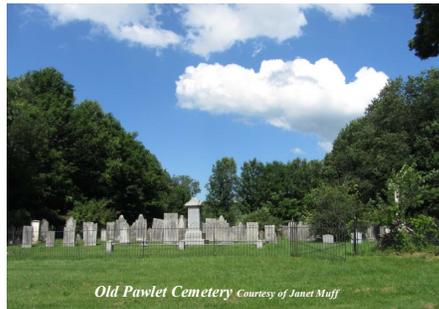
Heather Russell of Edmonds, Washington

Jill Fritz of San Antonio, Texas

Vanessa Clark of Norwalk, Connecticut

After a two-year hiatus, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, GSV will hold our spring membership meeting at the Chriss Monroe Chapel in the Mettawee Valley Cemetery, 167 Cemetery Road in Pawlet, on June 18, 2022. Suggested directions from the Barre-Montpelier, Bennington, Brattleboro, and Burlington areas are available on page 5. Pawlet is the quintessential rural Vermont community, and is especially beautiful this time of year.

Registration and "coffee" will begin at 9 a.m. The Presentation originally planned for the spring of 2020 featuring renowned findagrave.com contributor Janet Muff will begin at 10 a.m. Entitled: "Standing Stones - Preserving the Treasure in our Foliated Earth" The "foliated earth" comes from an alchemical reference that urges people to "Sow your gold in the white foliated earth." Janet will show the image from the manuscript as a part of her presentation and will explain what 17th century alchemists meant by this dictum. More to the point, she'll explain its relevance for us today, namely that we must put our individual effort (and possibly our money) into what truly matters - our own plot of land, our own earth that has been foliated by the slings and arrows of



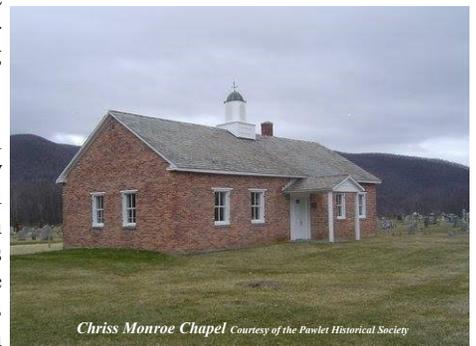
Old Pawlet Cemetery Courtesy of Janet Muff

outrageous fortune, because it carries our personal legacies and our collective history.

After a visual presentation and discussion (and luncheon), Janet and her colleague, Fay Smith, will lead a "field trip" across the road to the Old Pawlet Cemetery to demonstrate a single principle and two simple techniques for photographing old and difficult inscriptions: "No fuss, no muss. No cleaning products. And no tools."

Janet Muff is a Jungian psychoanalyst, who spends half of the year in California, where her professional interest has been the study of 17th century alchemical manuscripts, which offer profound insights into today's human difficulties. And she spends the other half of the year in Vermont, her husband's native state, where, in addition to tracing the early families of Rutland County, she has had a 30-year *love affair* with the old gravestones and burial grounds. She will discuss the treasures in our cemeteries - stones cut by early Vermont carvers - and the tragedy from a personal, artistic, and historic perspective when such stones succumb to the forces of Mother Nature or human indifference. Collective resources may well be limited in small towns, but individuals can make a big difference by photographing and thus preserving digitally the stones that do exist.

The indoor portion of the membership meeting will take place in the renovated Chriss Monroe Chapel. By agreement between the Pawlet Historical Society and Pawlet Cemetery Association, the chapel has been modified to provide program and exhibition space, as well as archive processing and storage area. The Pawlet Historical Society received a cultural facilities grant in September 2015 to convert the old chapel in



Chriss Monroe Chapel Courtesy of the Pawlet Historical Society

(President's Message, Continued on Page 4)

DEATHS.

 Marriages and Deaths inserted FREE.

Margaret Ruth “Peggy” (Ward) Jenks 1929 – 2022



Granville, NY— Margaret Ruth (Ward) Jenks, known to her many friends as Peggy, 92, of Granville, NY, passed away on Sunday, Feb. 13, 2022, at Autumn House East in York, PA.

Peggy was born in Springfield, MA, on July 24, 1929, to Azuba Ruth (Seaver) and Frank Garrett Ward and spent her childhood in Chicago, IL. She graduated from Technical High School in Springfield and went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics specializing in Dietetics from Drexel University in Philadelphia in 1951. That same year she married Robert (Bob) Charles Jenks and the newlyweds moved to DeLand, FL. For two years she commuted to Halifax Hospital in Daytona, putting her dietetics skills to work. Starting with the birth of her first child, she gave up her career to raise four children.

While in Daytona, Peggy served as a co-Girl Scout leader where they taught the troop the important life skills needed for becoming responsible young women, went camping and canoeing, and enjoyed making smores over the campfire.

As a family, each summer they travelled on long car trips to various national parks, camping as they went. They survived bears in Yellowstone, flash floods and tornados in the Midwest, and the scorching Arizona heat. They saw dinosaur bones in Colorado and 65-million-year-old petrified wood in Arizona. In fact, during her lifetime Peggy would end up living in eight different US states and traveling to all fifty, finally reaching Alaska on a grand vacation cruise with her sister, Georgiana in 2005. She and Bob also traveled abroad, visiting England, Scotland, France, and Belgium, among others.

Peggy also enjoyed spending time with family and friends at Langholm, the family's cottage on Lake St. Catherine in Wells, VT, where she'd been summering since she was a month old. She especially loved going swimming. Over her lifetime she made quilts for all the Langholm beds, reupholstered the settee (discovering two antique family quilts inside used as stuffing material), re-caned some of the chairs, and made curtains for all the windows.

Peggy loved to sew and made her own clothes from a young age and later her children's clothing. Her daughters and granddaughter had the best dressed Barbies around. Her homes were always decorated with the draperies, bedspreads, needlework, hooked rugs, and sometimes upholstery work she produced. She enjoyed experimenting with new crafting techniques. Her special talent was for all types of needlework-knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, cross-stitch, doll making, and especially quilting. She produced over 40 full-bed quilts, artistic quilted wall hangings, and special occasion quilts, including many made for charity. She donated more than 450 quilts for babies in need of comfort as well as lap quilts for nursing home patients and knitted more than 50 caps for newborns with HIV.

In 1995, after years of studying the cemeteries and gravestone carvers of the surrounding area, she purchased her Granville, NY, family home built by her great-grandfather, Uzziel Durham Laing, in 1889 on Mettowee Street where she lived until August 2021. It was her house that so many relatives staying at Langholm would drop by to catch up on family news and refill their drinking water bottles.

In that home, she was an avid gardener, winning Granville's 'Garden of the Year' award in 2011, harvesting vegetables and berries for her own table and from which she made pickles, jams, and jellies. She loved to bake and always kept the freezer filled with cookies, muffins, and the best cinnamon rolls in the world. Her garden was always filled with enormous sunflowers to feed the hungry birds, and she loved watching the finches, robins, and sparrows at her many bird feeders and laughed at Mr. Squirrel's ingenious efforts to get to the seed.

Peggy loved sharing her knowledge of baking, canning, sewing, and needlework with her children, grandchildren and extended family and friends.

One of the true passions of Peggy's life was genealogy. Her earliest genealogical memory was at 8 years old, watching her grandmother work on charts while vacationing at Langholm. In 1960, following the death of her grandmother, she was gifted one of those notebooks by her mother and began researching Bob's family ancestry in nearby Poultney, VT, where one of his ancestors, Ichabod Marshall, was a first settler.

Working with Frank Seymour of Middletown, MA, she co-authored four volumes tracing her husband's ancestry from Thomas Horton of Poultney, VT, and his descendants. She bought her first computer to type the Horton book, using the Wells, VT, probate

(Peggy Jenks, Continued on page 3)

(Peggy Jenks, Continued From Page 2)

records to teach herself to use it. When she was done, she advertised them, and with her first sales decided to do the Poultney records as well.

After discovering that many of the Fairhaven and Rutland District's probate records had been destroyed by fire, her small business expanded as she researched and wrote 8 probate books. Through her painstaking research she compiled all the gravestone inscriptions in Rutland and Granville Counties and published those inscriptions over many years in thirty volumes by township. Asked how she was able to document the inscriptions from more than 100,000 stones, she replied, "One stone at a time." Peggy further expanded her research and eventually published book-length genealogies of the descendants of Stephen Reynolds, Henry Rice, and the Spencer family, all being the earliest settlers of South Granville, NY. Her most recent publication co-authored with Danielle Roberts and Dawn Hance expanded the Rutland County probate records back to 1850. Her publications are still available from Sleeper Books. Also interested in genealogy, Andrea Macura joined Peggy in researching and exploring cemeteries looking for the answers to many puzzling questions.

In addition to her own publications, Peggy assisted her mother in publishing genealogies of the Ayers, Hatch, Laing, and Durham families, all early settlers of New England. Finally, Peggy is credited with identifying a previously unknown New England gravestone carver, Enos Clark of Danby, Vermont, by studying his lettering and decorative styles.

For almost a decade, Peggy was the editor of the Genealogical Society of Vermont's newsletter and active in the Vermont Old Cemetery Association (VOCA), the Mayflower Society, the New England Historic Genealogical Society (now known as American Ancestors/NEHGS), and the Association for Gravestone Studies, where she spent six years as a trustee. She also chaired the Seattle Genealogical Society's Computer Interest Group for four years.

Peggy was honored for her genealogical work by the Library of Congress, the London England Library, the Family History Library of the Church of Latter-day Saints, and the Connecticut Society of Genealogists. In 2014 she received the Harriette Merrifield Forbes Award for her outstanding contributions to gravestone studies.

The family would like to thank Autumn House East York, PA. and White Rose Memorial Hospice York, PA. for the wonderful care and support Peggy received while under their care.

Peggy is survived by; three daughters: Susan Feuer of Sheffield, MA; Catherine Haymaker (Richard) of New Freedom, PA; Joan Ciochon (Robert) of San Diego, CA; and one son, Robert (Laura) of Orange, CA six grandchildren: Amanda Jenks (Joshua) of New York City; Douglas (Patricia) Feuer of Miami, FL. Matthew Gorman (Misse) of Savannah, GA; Bradley Gorman (Kaleigh) of Murfreesboro, TN; Evan Jenks of Orange, CA and Zachary Jenks of Denton, TX and seven Gorman great-grandchildren: Penelope, Evelynne, Jameson, Collette, Rockford, Maxwell, and Remington; one sister, Georgiana Strickland of Lexington, KY. niece, Cynthia Wheeler, of Lexington, KY; nephew, Neal Strickland of Lexington KY; grand nephews, many beloved cousins, friends and plenty of fur babies.

A memorial service and burial will be held in Granville, NY. at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Peggy's name to the Vermont Old Cemetery Association for the repair of Rutland County gravestones. In care of: Barry Trutor, 31 Matthew Ave, Burlington, VT. 05408. Checks should be made out to 'VOCA' or Vermont Old Cemetery Association.

Source: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/margaret-jenks-obituary?id=33227542>

Editor's Note: *Longtime GSV members will fondly remember Peggy Jenks. She attended many of our membership meetings, and was a featured speaker on more than one occasion. She published award-winning books listing all the cemetery inscriptions of the 27 towns in Rutland County, plus Orwell in Addison County, and Granville, Washington County, New York. Her expertise and publications were and still are invaluable to many of us. Peggy was the editor of the GSV Newsletter 1996 through 2005. Though some of the material is dated, all back issues of the Newsletter from 1994 to present are available at <https://www.genealogyvermont.org/newsletters.htm>*



Peggy, as seen by her daughter Susan.

For more information on Peggy and her publications visit her website <http://www.cemeterybooks.com/>. Peggy's publications can be currently ordered from Sleeper Books at <https://sleeperco.com/library/ols/categories/vermont-books>. Also check out a very informative interview with her on the VOCA website https://voca58.org/Feature_Peggy_Jenks.html.

Peggy will be greatly missed by all of us.

New Members

Douglas Drake

77-6469 Alii Drive #136

Kailua Kona, HI 96740

email: capndrakeyankee@konacondo.biz

researching: Ball, Killicut, Burton

Lynne Snyder

1720 Baldwin Dr.

Millersville, MD 21108

email: MsLynneSnyder@gmail.com

researching: Grout, Dutcher, Bearss, Billings, Hojaboom

Vanessa Clark

6 Green Lane

Norwalk, CT 06850

email: vanessaclark1@gmail.com

researching: Seamans, Phillips, Newell, Osborn

-Reinstated Member-

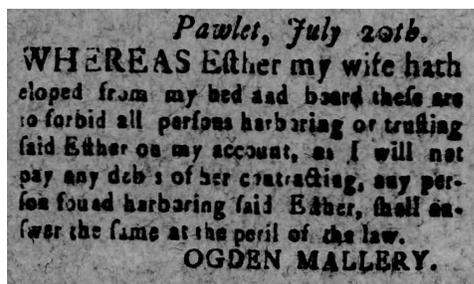
Mary Celine Scott

2890 Aber Street

San Diego, CA 92117

email: mcs4genealogy@gmail.com

researching: Scott, Hulett, White, Hyde, Benson



The Vermont Gazette
(Bennington, Vt.),
issue 15 Aug., 1785, p. 4.



Moving
or
change of
address?

Please remember to send us any changes.

(President's Message Continued From Page 1)

the cemetery, as well as to install an ADA accessible bathroom. These renovations have taken place with the support of a Vermont Arts Council Cultural Facilities Grant, and the renovated space opened in 2016. The building was originally a one-room schoolhouse. In the 1960s Chriss William Monroe (1892-1973), who served at the cemetery's grounds' keeper, played a major role in the conversion of the schoolhouse to a chapel.

Registration is \$15 for GSV members and \$20 for non-members, which includes the program and morning "coffee." A catered luncheon by Best Moon Catering of Middletown Springs consisting of a sandwich, salad, dessert, and beverage is available for an additional \$18. Registration, without lunch, may also be made at the "door." However if you are planning on the luncheon, please send your check to: **Genealogical Society of Vermont, 2962 Vermont Route 12A, Braintree, VT 05060-8779**, by June 11, 2022. Payment can also be made via PayPal at <https://www.genealogyvermont.org/upcoming.htm>.

I would be remiss not to mention the passing of Peggy Jenks. In addition to her other countless genealogical accomplishments, she served as the editor of GSV Newsletter for 10 years from 1996 to 2005. Peggy published books listing all the cemetery inscriptions in the 27 towns in Rutland County, Vermont (including Pawlet where our meeting will be held), plus Orwell in Addison County and Granville, Washington County, New York. As a tribute to Peggy's contribution to GSV and the genealogical community, her obituary is included on pages 2 and 3.

If you would like to receive this Newsletter via email, but currently receive a paper copy, please contact GSV Membership Chairperson, Diantha Howard: Diantha.Howard@uvm.edu. When you receive the Newsletter via email, it helps the society save on the printing and postage costs. Plus the electronic version includes many of the illustrations in full color and many of the links are clickable.

Thank you to all of the GSV members, whether longtime member or a new a member who have made recent donations to the society. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Jonathan W. Stevens, President

GSV Postage Rates:

Vermont Genealogy Back Issues and Bibliography: \$3.50
for the first item and \$1.00 for each additional item in the same order.

All Hardcover Publications
(except Index to Branches & Twigs): \$5.50
for the first item and \$1.00 for each additional item in the same order.

Index to Branches & Twigs: \$7.50
for the first item and \$1.00 for each additional item in the same order.

Genealogical Society of Vermont
Spring Membership Meeting
June 18, 2022
Chriss Monroe Chapel in the Mettawee Valley Cemetery
167 Cemetery Hill Road, Pawlet, Vermont

Directions:

From the Burlington Area: Take **US-7 South** through Shelburne, Charlotte and Ferrisburg to Vergennes, take **VT-22A South** through Bridport, Shorham, Orwell and Benson to Fair Haven, continue onto **NY-22A South** to Hampton, N.Y. to Middle Granville, N.Y., turn left on **Main Street**, continue onto **North Street**, turn left in Granville, N.Y., onto **NY-149 East / East Main Street**, continue on **VT-149 East** to **VT-30** in Pawlet (Blossom Corners), turn right on **VT-30 South**, then turn left onto Cemetery Hill Road, 167 is on the your right.

From the Barre / Montpelier Area: Take **I-89 South** to **Exit 3**, then take **VT-107 West**, continue on **VT-100 South**, turn right on **US-4 West** to Rutland, then take **US-7 South** to Wallingford, then take **VT-140 West**, continue straight on **East Rd**, in Tinnmouth, continue straight **Tinnmouth Rd** in Danby to Danby Four Corners, turn right on **Danby-Pawlet Road**, continue on **VT-133 West** to Pawlet, turn right onto **VT-30 North**, then turn right onto **Cemetery Hill Road**, 167 is on the your left.

From Bennington Area: Take **US-7 North** to **Exit 4**, take **VT-11 / VT-30 West** toward **VT-7A** in Manchester Center, at the first traffic circle take first exit onto Main Street, at second traffic circle take the second exit onto **VT-30 North** (Bonnet Street) towards Dorset, continue on **VT-30 North** through Dorset, East Rupert and North Rupert to Pawlet, then turn right onto right onto Cemetery Hill Road, 167 is on the your left.

From Brattleboro Area: follow **VT-30 North** through Dummerston, Newfane, Townshend and Jamaica through Bondville to the intersection with **VT-11** in Winhall, take **VT-11 / VT-30 West** toward **VT-7A** in Manchester Center, at the first traffic circle take first exit onto Main Street, at second traffic circle take the second exit onto **VT-30 North** (Bonnet Street) towards Dorset, continue on **VT-30 North** through Dorset, East Rupert and North Rupert to Pawlet, then turn right onto right onto Cemetery Hill Road, 167 is on the your left.





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 \$5.50 for the first item (*except where noted*) 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, 2962 Vermont Route 12A, Braintree, VT 05060-8779

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.

(Continued on page 7)

Order Form

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M 001	Membership: New or Renewal			

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D 001	Donation			
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Grand Isle, VT 05458

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stevens@vermontel.net

Newsletter deadlines are:
 April 15 — Spring issue
 July 15 — Summer issue
 Oct. 15 — Fall issue
 Dec. 15 — Winter issue

Vermont Genealogy, the GSV Journal
 contact information:
 GSV Editorial Board
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

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The GSV 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 2962 Vermont Route 12A, Braintree, VT 05060-8779 along with the *exact* wording for the ad. *GSV offers no warranty on the services of advertisers.*

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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; **Sale Price \$20.** 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 index of nearly 1,000 names.

Georgia, Vermont Vital Records. Peter S. Mallet, ed., 1995, hardbound. Item No. GSV 4; **Sale Price \$15.** 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 non-members. 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 non-members. (Mail orders should add \$7.50 for postage and handling, not the \$5.50 normally charged.) 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; **Sale Price \$20.** 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; **Sale Price \$5.** (Mail orders should add \$3.50 for postage and handling, not the \$5.50 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 \$3.50 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 - 26: 2, are available for \$10.00 each. There is a mailing fee of \$3.50 (\$5.50 to Canadian addresses). 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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The Orwell Citizen (Vergennes, Vt.),
issue 19 June 1902, p 8.