



SPRING 1998 MEETING

The meeting will be held on **Saturday, May 16, 1998** at the Brandon Inn in the center of Brandon, a location we have enjoyed in the past. A program of speakers on areas of historical and genealogical interest is planned. You will get details in a post card mailing closer to the time of the meeting.

The cost of the Meeting, morning coffee and the luncheon will be \$13.00 for members, \$15.00 for non-members. Reservations must be post marked by **May 9, 1998**. Please mail your check, marked spring meeting to: Genealogical Society of Vermont, PO Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478-1006

Meeting Schedule

- 9:30 Registration starts & morning refreshments
- 10:00 GSV business meeting
- 10:30: Morning Speaker
- 12:00: Luncheon.
- 1:30: Afternoon Speaker(s)

FALL 1998 MEETING

We usually have a meeting the third Saturday in October, but that comes within one week of the New England Regional Genealogical Conference on October 23-25 (see below), and many members will want to attend that. We are therefore tentatively planning to have a GSV meeting to coincide with the Annual Meeting of the Vermont Historical Society on Saturday, September 19, 1998. We will work with VHS on a program which will be of interest to GSV members and will reserve some time for a brief business meeting of GSV.

For the latest information on the Spring Meeting and GSV, please visit us on our Internt home-page at:

http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/induni_n_j.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Sometimes it seems that GSV moves slowly, but like Ol' Man River, our organization just keeps rollin' along, and sometimes we do make progress. Here are some things you will want to know about.

Vermont Families in 1791

You are no doubt aware that the long-awaited Volume II is published, and work is proceeding on Volume III. Contact Scott Bartley directly if you have material to submit, revise, or delete.

Index to Branches & Twigs

Under the direction of Alden Rollins, detailed guidelines for a comprehensive name index to the twenty-four years of *Branches & Twigs* have been developed and appropriate computer software recommended. Several members have indicated willingness to participate in data entry, but more volunteers can be accommodated and would lighten the load of what promises to be a big project. The plan is to supply every volunteer indexer with the necessary indexing software; the volunteer will have to have adequate computer capability and a Windows® operating system. Each volunteer would take a block of issues (depending on how many people participate), and then a chief indexer would see to the merging of the files into one index which would meet standards of format and coverage. At this writing, the position of chief indexer is still open.

Branches & Twigs included many thousands of names, even if we exclude the already alphabetized "Apple Orchard" feature and names mentioned in entirely non-genealogical context. The indexing project is not a small one. We feel it will be greatly beneficial to the value of the publication to future researchers, and we encourage your participation if you can spare some time and talent. Contact John Leppman if you are interested.

Member directory

This new publication will be available in the spring of 1998. March 1 is your deadline for submitting information for your listing to Janet Induni. Your listing will include your name and address, e-mail address if you wish, and up to five Vermont surnames which you are researching. The surnames will be cross indexed. This should provide useful information to members about what other members are interested in corresponding about, and it will be updated frequently enough that it can be reliably used. The directory will be available only to GSV members and will not be knowingly provided to anyone intending to use its information for commercial purposes. It will be priced to reflect our cost in producing it.

Vermont Historical Society League of Local Historical Societies

The annual meeting of this group will be held on Saturday, May 9 (a week before our May meeting) in Northfield and will feature a program on "Doing Family History." GSV will plan to be on hand to lend our expertise and interest.

New England Regional Genealogical Conference

This conference is held every year and a half, and the next one will be in Portland,

GSV Newsletter ©
a quarterly publication of the
Genealogical Society of Vermont

News, articles and comments
should be mailed to:

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

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

Maine, October 23-25, 1998. A brochure with registration information will be mailed to every GSV member. GSV will sponsor a speaker and have a booth in the exhibit area as usual, and the educational and personal stimulation at these conferences is always a pleasure.

We would like to have a selection of worthwhile used books for sale at our booth this year, including books on Vermont topics and/or of genealogical interest. If you have books of that sort which you were thinking of disposing of, we will be interested in having you consign them to the GSV Book Shop. You would set a selling price which you considered reasonable and GSV would split the proceeds with you 50/50 if the book sells. More on this in the next *Newsletter*.

Preservation of local records

GSV has a fund which provides grants of up to \$750 seed money for projects aimed at preservation and/or publication of previously unpublished records. This might include town and church records of genealogical interest; or other unusual and interesting records. (This is not a fund for publication of individual family history material.) If you or your local government, church, or historical society has a project which you feel might qualify, notify us and we will send an application form. Those who attended the May 1997 meeting in St. Johnsbury and heard Alden Rollins' plea for preservation of town records will understand that nothing we do as an organization could be more useful than this.

B & T BACK ISSUES

Each issue is \$2 (including postage). Currently available are: Volumes 12:5; 13:2-3; 14:1-4; 15:1-3; 16:1-2, 18:1-4; 19:4; 20:1-4; 21:1-4; 22:2,3,4; 24:1-4.

VG BACK ISSUES

Each issue is \$5 (including postage). Currently available are: Volumes 1:1-4; 2:1-4

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

BOOK REVIEW POLICY

Books for review should be sent to John A. Leppman, 29 Oak Hill Terrace, Belkows Falls, VT 05101

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Fiscal year ending September 30, 1997

GENERAL FUND

Income:

Membership Dues:	\$20,728.97
Lifetime Membership Dues:	500.00
Contributions (Permanent & Computer Fund):	480.00
Interest:	1,053.84
Program Fees (semi-annual meetings Oct. 96, May 97, Oct. 97):	1,762.00
NERGC:	750.00
Miscellaneous:	8.50
Total Income:	\$25,283.31

Expenses:

Editor's fee:	
Vermont Genealogy Newsletter printing (4 issues):	3,000.00
Newsletter postage & delivery (4 issues):	1,702.68
Vermont Genealogy printing (4 issues):	404.52
Vermont Genealogy postage & delivery (4 issues):	8,805.80
Program Expense (semi-annual meetings Oct. 96, May 97):	728.94
Promotional Expenses:	2918.36
Postage (all but periodicals):	604.00
Office supplies:	1,205.02
Telephone:	431.15
Subscriptions to VMCTA, VOCA:	13.90
NERGC:	5.00
Bank service charges:	365.00
Computer Fund expense:	0
Miscellaneous:	150.00
President's Discretionary Fund:	12.92
Total expenses:	50.00
Total expenses:	\$20,397.29

Excess of Income over

Operating Expenses: \$ 4,886.02

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Induni, Treasurer

FAMILY REUNIONS

Announcements of family reunions must be received by the editor no later than **March 15** each year to be included in the *May Newsletter*. Be sure to include date, place, name & address of contact person.

Announcements received after March 15 will be used in the August *Newsletter* if they are for reunions held after September 1.

A REPORT ON THE GSV FALL 1997 MEETING

"Genealogical History 'From the Bottom Up'; The Reconstruction of Early Vermont History," was the title of our morning program. The paper presented a new historical/genealogical methodology. Reconstructive rank-and-file history was defined as the social reconstruction of entire populations, beginning with individuals and piecing together every available bit of information about their lives into career-line biographies. Such biographies are then combined into reconstructive composites, not only of towns, counties, and regions, but of entire political populations. Then the quantitative demographic and social results are subjected to the rigors of comparative analytical statistics.

Three major implications, of paramount significance for both early Vermont historians and genealogists alike, arise from this new methodology. First, in the process of their individual family research, genealogists should be aware of the far larger historical context to which they contribute and the very special meaning that context had for their families. In doing so, they help eradicate the traditional divide between self-righteous historians and the people they castigate as "genealogical antiquarians." For example, the Green Mountain Boys were far more than a revolutionary military regiment. Anyone whose ancestors belonged to that early guerrilla organization can claim a heritage in a radical religious and political movement originating in the depths of colonial Puritan religious and political persecution.

The second implication involves the creation of a history of the commonality, the inarticulate masses of early American society. By clearing away the myths of elitist "trickle-down" history, individual families may take their rightful place in major historical movements and rise far beyond their local town status. With the reconstructive method, not 100, but rather nearly 500, individuals can claim Green Mountain ancestors.

And, finally, both Vermont genealogists and historians should be ever-mindful of

the continuing impact of established, elitist, pro-Puritan historians. Not only does their overwhelming influence still skewer early Vermont history, but its unstated objective is to nullify it by stereotyping the entire early Vermont populace as a "bunch of troublemakers" and deny them their rightful place in the development of the American democratic tradition.

Donald A. Smith
34 South Main Street
Millbury, MA 01527

Our first afternoon speaker, worried that the audience would go to sleep with their full stomachs, was Ken Stevens on "**Locating and evaluating genealogical evidence: A Wilson multi-family case study**". Ken presented eight typical case studies he has encountered in his work on the Wilson families of New England.

Each of these studies presented conflicting data. For example, Mary Wilson, marriage intentions 27 Sept. 1721 to John Bennett in Kittery, ME. Mary Wilson, married 16 Sept. 1722 John Remick who had married Elizabeth Ham in 1713.

There was only one Mary Wilson, dau. of Joseph and Hannah Wilson of the right age in the area to have married at this time. The solution: The will of Elizabeth Ham's father proves she was married to John Remick in 1731. John and Mary Bennett sold some land in 1750 that had belonged to her father Joseph Wilson. Thus the 16 Sept. 1722 marriage is fictitious.

Another problem: Did Daniel C. and Almira/Elmira (Pollard) Wilson have one

or two sons named Gilman A.? Pittsfield, Rutland Co., VT records show Gilman A. b. 5 Jan. 1859, the IGI 29 Dec. 1858 & died in Mendon, VT. The Mendon records show he died 19 Aug. 1861 age 2 years, 7 months and 14 days which exactly fits the Jan. birth date. The child was not in the family at the time of the 1860 census or any later census, nor has any gravestone been found for him.

The list of scholars in Mendon for the year 1862 lists a Gilman A. Wilson. On 6 Nov. 1871 Mendon, VR, Gilman A. Wilson, age 21 [b. c 1850] Pittsfield, son of Daniel C. & Elmira Wilson, married Susie Nims. Gilman A. Wilson, age 29 [b. c 1851, same parents] married 13 March 1880 Plymouth, VT VR, Betsey A. Dix. The death on 9 Dec. 1926 of Gilman A. Wilson, born 25 Aug. 1850 age 76 years, 3 months and 14 days is recorded in Pittsfield. This second Gilman A. was of an age to be the scholar in 1862.

It is hard to believe the 1859-61 Gilman A. ever existed. It would be highly unusual for parents to give two living children identical names. This problem showed a horrible set of records which defy analysis. Perhaps one of you will shed some light on this problem.

Ken Stevens
P.O. Box 118, Walpole, NH 03608

Out third speaker was Jim Holmes. His program was titled "**Come to your census.**" He explained the many types of information that may be found in the census. He reminded us that the 1880 Soundex only included families with children born between 2 June 1869 and 1 June 1880. The Soundex/Miracode for 1900, 1910 [only some states] and 1920 list each head of family, and all persons of other surnames in the family.

The census was supposed to represent the family as of the following dates: 1790: Monday, August 2, 1790; 1800: Monday, August 4, 1800; 1810: Monday, August 6, 1810; 1820: Monday, August 7, 1820; 1830: Tuesday, June 1, 1830; 1840: Monday, June 1, 1840; 1850: Saturday, June 1, 1850; 1860: Friday, June 1, 1860; 1870: Wednesday, June 1, 1870; 1880: Tuesday, June 1, 1880; 1890: Sunday, June 1, 1890 (unfortunately almost all of

this census burned, except parts of the Union Veterans & Widows schedules); 1900: Friday, June 1, 1900; 1910: Friday, April 15, 1910; 1920: Thursday, January 1, 1920. It may have taken the enumerator weeks to visit each home, therefore, the data may not accurately represent the family on the above dates. This may explain why some families that moved are enumerated twice, and some omitted.

There are guides listing the numbers for rolls of census film. The guides cover 1790-1890, 1900, 1910, 1920.

See the July 1996 *Newsletter* for more on the Pittsfield, MA Federal Records center. The hours of operation have changed to: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 8 am to 4 pm, Wednesday: 8 am - 9 pm, closed all Federal holidays. They close at 4 pm the day before a Thursday holiday. See also the Aug. 1997 *Newsletter* for information on reserving a reader at the Archives.

Genealogists Never Die
They just loose their Census

LAST CALL FOR THE MEMBERS' RESEARCH DIRECTORY

Your Society will be publishing a **Members' Research Directory** in the Spring of 1998. The Directory will include members' names, addresses, e-mail addresses (if applicable) and up to five surnames of Vermont families being researched. The **Directory** will be available for purchase for a small fee by members of the Society only.

The deadline for inclusion in the first edition of the **Members' Research Directory** is **March 1, 1998**. If you have not already submitted your information for the Directory, this is your last chance.

To be part of this project, your submission must be postmarked no later than March 1, 1998. Please include your name and membership number, e-mail address (if applicable), and up to five surnames of Vermont families being researched.

Please mail to GSV, PO Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478-1006 or send an e-mail message to:

76165.3613@compuserve.com

A REMINDER

Please look at your address label. Your membership expires on the date shown on the label. Send your check in US funds to:

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

**Dues are \$20 for US addresses
Canadian & Mexico \$25, foreign \$30**

**Please visit our home page at:
http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/induni_n_j.**

THE BERKSHIRE ATHENAEUM IN PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

A visit to the Athenaeum will be rewarding for anyone interested in Vermont families and their roots.

The collection contains:

Films of the Vermont Vital Records from the beginning to 1908.

A complete set of Abby Maria Hemenway's *Vermont Historical Gazetteer*.

All of Margaret Jenks, *Rutland County Vermont Cemetery Inscription* books.

The *Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records* on film.

A large collection of Massachusetts town histories.

The "official series" of Massachusetts vital records

Jay Mack Holbrook's town vital records on fiche. [VR not in the official series]

The *Mayflower Descendant* magazine.

The *Boston Evening Transcript* genealogical column on fiche.

World wide IGI.

Hale Collection: inscriptions from 2,000 Connecticut cemeteries; marriages and deaths from 90 early newspapers.

They have a small collection of family genealogies, a few Vermont county and town histories.

Arnold's *Rhode Island Vital Records*

The library is located at 1 Wendell Ave, Pittsfield, MA 01201 phone: (413) 499-9486. The Genealogy Department head is Katherine Westwood. The library is free. The fiche copier is 10¢ and the film printer is 25¢ an image. The library is open 9:00 to 9:00 Monday through Thursday, 9:00 to 5:00 Friday, 10:00 to 5:00 Saturday, closed on Sundays.

Submitted by Ted Atkinson

THE HYDEVILLE CEMETERY

Castleton, Vermont

On Saturday October 11, 1997 a volunteer party of seven, Ken Flowers and Joe Duran of the Castleton Historical Society, Hugh & Dani Roberts of Fair Haven, editor of *Rooted in the Green Mountains*, Nicki Maynard, a VOCA member, with her nine year old granddaughter Rachael Sentos both of

Woodstock, and your editor descended on the cemetery armed with various gardening tools to begin cleaning out the underbrush.

A large section was cleared. In four hours, fifteen stones and several foot stones were located and marked with surveyor's tape so that they may be easily found after the leaves have fallen and the winter snow. All the stones need to be reset but most were in fairly good condition. The old Samuel Whitlock Mausoleum is still standing but in very poor condition. Both chambers are open. Hugh Roberts returned another day to do more clearing.

Some pictures were taken to document the condition of the cemetery. In the spring the area needs to be probed for buried stones. There is said to be a list of about 28 stones done a number of years ago. To date this list has not been located.

We were joined by the Castleton-Poultney Boy Scout leader, Michael Peltier, who was most interested in having the Scouts continue the work in the spring as a community project.

There is still much to be done. The area needs to be surveyed to find the exact bounds of the cemetery. A number of large trees need to be removed and the fence replaced. In spite of being surrounded by the auto salvage yard, almost no junk was found in the cemetery. This cemetery is not "One of the Worst in the State."

Peggy Jenks

MEETINGS

SPRING VOCA MEETING

The spring meeting will be held in the South Windham, VT Congregational Church on Saturday May 2, 1998. The program has not been set at this time. Contact Carolyn Partridge, RR Box 192, Windham, VT 05359 (802) 874-4182.

The fall meeting on October 3 is planned for Peacham, VT.

Please visit VOCA's web page at: <http://homepages.together.net/~btrutor/voca/vocahome.htm>

1998 AGS CONFERENCE

The 21st Annual Conference of the Association for Gravestone Studies will be held from noon, June 25 through noon June 28, 1998 at the Monmouth University, West Long Beach, NJ. All attendees must be pre-registered. For information contact: AGS Office, 278 Main Street, Suite 207, Greenfield, MA 01301 or by e-mail at ags@javanet.com.

The mission of the Association for Gravestone Studies is to foster appreciation of the cultural significance of Gravestones and burial grounds through their study and preservation. They publish a journal each year called *Markers*, with articles on various aspects of gravestones and their carvers. Contact AGS or your editor if you find any signed gravestones or probate records showing payments for gravestones.

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF VERMONT WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING REINSTATED AND NEW MEMBERS:

1725 (reinstated)
Rosalie V. Flint
17431 Rd 5.2 NW
Quincy, WA 98848-9697

research interests: Matthews, Farnham, Preble, Woodworth, Follensbee

4827 (change of address)
LuEllen J. Pettengell
4500 South Land Park Drive
Sacramento, CA 95822-1638

email: pettengell@aol.com
research interests: Raymond, Johnson, Manley, Derby, Holt

4833
Patricia D. Schubert
30 Las Brisas Circle
East Greenwich, RI 02818-4031

4834
Mark Stiles
390 Main Street
Warren, RI 02885

4839
Holly Dodge
6280 Gentry Woods Drive
Centerville, OH 45459

We will send you replacement copies of *Vermont Genealogy* by first class mail for a small replacement fee of \$3.25 for each issue. Replacement copies of *The GSV Newsletter* will be forwarded at no charge. Thank you for letting us know of any address changes in advance. This helps keep costs down.

Janet Induni, Treasurer

4835
Charles Lundeen
PO Box 892
Quechee, VT 05059-0892

email: dodge@erinet.com
research interests: Whittemore, Wheeler, Town(e), Jones, Dodge

PAID ADVERTISING

The *Newsletter* is now accepting paid advertising at the rate of \$3.00 per column inch. All advertising must relate to genealogy, preferably Vermont genealogy and must be received before the deadline of the issue the ad is to appear in. Checks must be made out to GSV but sent to the *Newsletter* editor along with the exact wording for the ad. GSV offers no warranty on the services of the advertisers.

In progress:
The Annotated Cemetery Book, Stowe, VT, 1798-1998:
Histories & Inscriptions
by Patricia Halsam, C.G.R.S.

Make a donation in your name and/or a loved one's memory.
 ___ Friend (no book) \$25 - \$74
 ___ Sponsor (incl. soft cover bk) \$75 - \$124
 ___ Patron (incl. hard cover bk) \$125 - \$174
 ___ Benefactor (incl. hard cover bk.) \$175 and above.

Print: Name: _____
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 Name as it is to appear in the listing: _____

Make checks payable to:
 Cemetery Book Project.
 Mail to: The Cemetery Book Project,
 Stowe Cemetery Commission,
 P.O. Box 730, Stowe, VT 05672

4836
Lyn Guiffrida
1450 Treasure Cove
Vero Beach, FL 32963

research interests: Pratt, Baldwin, Bal-
linetine, Johnson

4837
David Franklin Bond
158 Manomet Ave.
Hull, MA 02045

email: davidbond@sprintmail.com
research interests: Bond

ARE YOU MOVING? REPLACEMENT COPIES

Please notify the Society in advance of any address changes (including summer and winter addresses). Your copies of *Vermont Genealogy* and *The GSV Newsletter* are forwarded to you by the Post Office with additional charges to the Society if you have filed a forwarding notice with the Post Office.

4838
Charles A. Dewey
377 US Rte 2
Grand Isle, VT 05458

research interests: Dewey

REGISTRATION FOR GSV SPRING MEETING

Name: _____

Membership Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

I am / we are members of: () GSV and/or () non-members and will be attending the May 16th, 1998 meeting

Enclosed please find a check for the meeting and luncheon: \$13.00 for GSV members (\$15.00 for non-GSV members)

made out to GSV and marked "Spring Meeting" for ___ person/people in the amount of: _____

***Mail this coupon and your check (for GSV), postmarked by May 9, 1998 to: Genealogical Society of Vermont
P.O. Box 1553
St. Albans, Vermont 05478-1006***

VERMONT FAMILIES IN 1791, Volume 1

Edited by Scott A. Bartley

This award-winning first volume of a projected long series has already stimulated research and guided many people to sources useful to establish their own ancestry. Special Publication No. 1, 1992. xxvii + 281 pp.

Volume 2

Edited by Scott A. Bartley

The long awaited second volume is now available. The goal of this series is to describe in genealogical detail the families listed in the First Federal Census taken in Vermont in 1791, the year Vermont joined the Union. This volume covers 107 families and has improved formatting and more complete information of the third generation. Special Publication No. 5, 1997. xlviii + 304 pp.

Work has been started on Vol. 3. See the July 1996 *Newsletter* for detailed instructions on how to submit data.

VITAL RECORDS OF PUTNEY, VERMONT TO THE YEAR 1900

Compiled and edited by Ken Stevens

This is not just a verbatim listing of such events, but a complete, concise and accurate compilation from all primary sources available in the town. This material is augmented by the ministerial records of the pastors who served from as early as 1776. Special Publication No. 2, 1992. x + 406 pp.

GEORGIA, VERMONT VITAL RECORDS

Edited by Peter S. Mallett

The first of its kind for northern Vermont, this volume presents all births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials recorded in the town. All the civil books were transcribed as well as the records from the Georgia Plains Baptist Church, Congregational Church, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, and Methodist Church of Georgia and North Fairfax. GSV Special Publication No. 4, 1995.

VITAL RECORDS OF ROCKINGHAM, VERMONT AND THE RECORDS OF THE FIRST CHURCH OF ROCKINGHAM

Reprinted from the rare first editions of 1908 and 1902, this is an important source for one of Vermont's oldest towns, chartered in 1752. The town records extend to 1845, church records from 1773 to 1839. New to this publication is an indispensable index of nearly 10,000 names, constructed by Christopher T. Norris and Scott A. Bartley. GSV Special Publication No. 3, 1994. 323 pp.

Each of these five books is \$30.00. Please add \$3.50 for postage for the first book, \$1.00 for each additional book in the same order to the same address. Please add the Vermont Sales Tax of 5% (\$1.50/book) for books mailed to a Vermont addresses. Mail your checks, payable to GSV, to:

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