



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

DATES TO REMEMBER:

May 15, 1999 GSV membership meeting Watch for details on place, which will be in central Vermont. Program details forthcoming. A full program with speakers on areas of interest to the GSV community is expected. Lunch will be included.

October 16, 1999 GSV membership meeting We expect this meeting to be in the Burlington area.

May 31 -- June 4, 2000 New England Regional Genealogical Conference, combined with National Genealogical Society conference. Providence, Rhode Island.

GSV Officers 1998-2000 There were no surprises since there were no contested positions, but your vote of confirmation of the slate is appreciated. Your officers pledge to continue to work hard for the future of GSV.

President -- John Leppman
Vice President -- Tyler Resch
Secretary -- Mary Pat Brigham
Treasurer -- Janet Induni

Town Clerk of the Year Award Prominent newspaper publicity in the *Bennington Banner* honored 1998 recipient Judy Stratton of Shaftsbury and gave GSV a boost as well. Nominations for the 1999 award will be happily received by the Board at any time.

Access to 1955-1978 Vermont Vital Records Your officers have communicated with Thomas Torti, Commissioner of the Department of Buildings and General Services for the State of Vermont, about this concern. Briefly, between 1955 and 1979, applicants for marriage licenses were asked a number of questions about such matters as race, marital history, and education. Their answers to these questions were to be used for statistical purposes only and not become part of the

public record. Through oversight, when vital records of this period were micro-filmed for public access at the Public Records Division in Middlesex, some of these "confidential" responses were filmed with them. This renders the entire body of vital records from this period inaccessible except with staff assistance. If you want a vital record from the 1955-1979 period, you have to ask a staff person to find it on the film, make a print, and give that to you, and you will be charged on a per-record basis for this.

Obviously, this is unacceptable to a researcher who is interested in viewing numerous records from this period. Commissioner Torti and his staff realize this and hope to have the necessary funding through a special appropriation in 1999 to re-film the records without the offending "confidential" material.

Our discussion about this problem has been cordial, and we hope it will be productive. The appropriation necessary to carry out the necessary re-filming will be included in legislation before the 1999 session of the Vermont Legislature, and if it appears that lobbying of individual legislators -- for example members of involved Legislative committees -- is worthwhile or necessary, you will be notified. In the meantime, repeated pestering of Commissioner Torti and his staff about this situation will not be productive. They have a job to do and laws to obey, and we will try to make it possible for them to do so while emphasizing to them that access to these records is important to us.

Records Preservation Grants Program GSV has offered up to five mini-grants yearly to individuals and organizations for assistance with preservation and dissemination of records of potential interest in the study of Vermont family history. We are pleased that the maximum amount for each of these grants has been raised to \$1000. Contact any officer for more details on how to apply.

Microfilming of WPA town record inventories With much encouragement from Alden Rollins and financial support from GSV, the Public Records Division is microfilming the unpublished inventories of town records prepared by the WPA Historical Records Survey in the late 1930s and early 1940s. These inventories generally contain a well-written capsule history of the town and a thorough inventory of the town records which existed at that time. (Some have since disappeared.) The condition of the originals is such that filming is a useful preservation effort. Copies of the film will be available at Public Records and at such libraries as the Vermont Historical Society.

New England Regional Genealogical Conference The October 1998 conference in Portland, Maine was a success, and GSV met many people interested in Vermont genealogy at our booth. The May 2000 conference in Providence, Rhode Island, combined with a large national conference of the National Genealogical Society, promises to be quite a blockbuster. Planning is already well underway, and anyone interested in assisting with committees -- Local Arrangements, Volunteers, On-Site Registration, Hospitality, Local/Regional Publicity, Program, Computer, Syllabus, Signs and Audio-Visual, Participating Societies, Photography,

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 & No-
vember issues of the *Newsletter*.

Meals, and Exhibitor -- contact any GSV officer. Planning these conferences has become a major project, but participation on the process is an excellent way of meeting other people active in the genealogical, world.

GSV NEWS

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Fiscal year ending September 30, 1998

GENERAL FUND

Income:

Membership Dues:	\$20,812.19
Prepaid Membership Dues	6,945.00
Lifetime Membership Dues:	500.00
Contributions (Permanent & Computer Fund):	407.25
Interest:	2,500.98
Program Fees (semi-annual meetings May 97, Oct. 97, May 98):	2,149.00
NERGC:	0
Miscellaneous:	0
Total Income:	\$33,314.42

Expenses:

Editor's fee:	
Vermont Genealogy	4,000.00
Newsletter printing (4 issues):	2,067.54
Newsletter postage & delivery (4 issues):	740.45
Vermont Genealogy printing (4 issues):	7,501.08
Vermont Genealogy postage & delivery (4 issues):	1,505.11
Program Expense (semi-annual meetings May 97, Oct. 97, May 98):	3,586.19
Promotional Expenses:	228.29
Postage (all but periodicals):	2,394.55
Office supplies:	867.32
Telephone:	2.45
Subscriptions to VMCTA, VOCA, FGS:	160.00
NERGC:	303.00
Bank service charges:	0
Computer Fund expense:	150.00
Miscellaneous:	72.58
President's Discretionary Fund:	0
Total expenses:	\$23,578.56

Excess of Income over

Operating Expenses: \$ 9,735.86

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Induni, Treasurer

Contributions to the Permanent Fund:

March 1998 - Sept. 1998

Barbara Anthony	
Lela Avery	3782
Robert Chapman	2995
Gratia Mahony	4264
Gale Murray	3773
Lois Richardson	1288
Robert Smith	2790
Vickie Storlie	4014

Contributions to the Computer Fund:

Horace Carpenter	4207
Sandra Hewlett	2806
Joan Melton	2099
Adele Porter	4421

Please send your donations to GSV, P.O. Box 1553, St. Albans, VT. 05478-1006. Please mark your check, "Permanent Fund" or "Computer Fund."

Janet Induni, Treasurer

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.

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

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Please send all address changes and corrections to Janet Induni, Treasurer at P.O. Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 95478-1006. She maintains the mailing list. Any changes sent to your editor must be forwarded to Janet. Thank you.

Peggy Jenks.

BRANCHES AND TWIGS

INDEXING PROJECT

OFF AND RUNNING

by Bob Murphy

After months of talk and planning, the Branches and Twigs Indexing project has at last begun. Being a "new cucumber", so to speak, on the GSV Publications Committee, yours truly was fingered for the job of spearheading this project. And I, being green and innocent, agreed to the assignment.

Several months went into an on-line discussion of guidelines to use for the index, and although some would have liked to see a more elaborate treatment, we decided in the final analysis to keep it simple. The index will include all names listed in the 24-years' worth of issues, with some exceptions: (1) Apple Orchard entries, (2) contributors and book reviewers, (3) authors and publishers, (4) names mentioned in connection with GSV business and (5) casual historical references. Each index entry will include a person's name and volume and page reference. Married women will be listed by both their married and maiden names if known.

There was some consideration given to including a geographic and/or date reference for each person as well, but it was felt this would greatly complicate the indexing process and the idea was dropped.

Although some may regret the decision to exclude from the index those names included in the Apple Orchard feature, please be assured that the final publication of the index will include a special section identifying in which issues one may look for specific alphabetical entries for this feature. Another special section in this publication will be an index to book reviews by title and author.

During the past year or so, many GSV members have indicated an interest in helping out with this project. In September, a letter was sent to all who had expressed an interest, asking about their continued interest, and advising them of the computer requirements associated with the software which was selected

(SKY Indexer). Responses to this mailing resulted in a final list of 12 indexers.

Software was purchased in early November and forwarded to indexers with instructions and initial assignments. To the extent possible, all correspondence and submissions will be by e-mail. That will result in some of us (including yours truly) learning a lot more than they do now about file transfers, conversions, etc. Questions about the process have already started coming in, and responses are being provided simultaneously to all indexers, so that we may all be privy to all discussions about the project.

As part of the initial package to indexers, a "practice sheet" was developed that all were asked to complete before beginning their first issues. That is proving to be a valuable learning tool, and is an opportunity to ensure that we all understand expectations before undertaking the indexing of an entire issue. Some indexers are already at the point where they are ready to move on to the actual work of their first issues.

I have established no timeline for this project to date, preferring instead to let indexers learn and proceed at their own individual paces, and see how progress goes in these first few months. Once we have an idea how quickly indexing will proceed, it will be possible to project a completion date for the total index. Based on the results of working with the relatively simple "practice sheet", it looks like the final product will be mammoth in size!

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**

For the latest information on Meetings and GSV, please visit us on our Internet home-page at:

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

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.

B & T BACK ISSUES

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

Your checks should be payable to GSV and sent to: GSV Back Issues, PO Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478-1006

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The directory is published and has been a best-seller among GSV members. Contact us at our post office box address for a copy. \$3.00 for members.

MEETINGS

NEW ENGLAND GENEALOGY

February 19-20, 1999 Lakeland, Florida

Two days of lectures on "Learning New Techniques for Researching Your Family History."

In addition, participants may sign up for private research consultation with NEHGS Senior Research Scholar and Genealogist, Gary Boyd Roberts.

NEHGS RESEARCH PROGRAM TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

March 25-April 1, 1999

Participants visit the National Archives, DAR Library & the Library of Congress with NEHGS research consultants at each site. A daily shuttle bus will take participants between all three repositories and the hotel.

Registration required for the above programs. Contact: The New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA, Education Department at 1-888-286-3447 or (617) 536-5740 ext. 202 or visit the web site at www.nehgs.org.

GETTING STARTED

This program is offered the first Wednesday of every month from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA.

This **free** program gives an introduction to NEHGS, its services and ways to help you find your family roots. Tips on how to begin your own family research, tour of the newly renovated library and a chance to meet the library staff. No registration is required.

SPRING VOCA MEETING

The spring meeting of the Vermont Old Cemetery Association will be in New Haven, VT on May 1, 1999.

The fall meeting is planned for Fairfield, VT on October 2, 1999.

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

1999 NBGS CONFERENCE

"New Brunswick Ancestors - Arrivals and Departures"

Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada

July 30-August 2, 1999

This conference is focused on Immigrant Ancestors who arrived in the province of New Brunswick and who sometimes moved to other Canadian provinces or to the USA. Within the overall theme the program will present a series of topics on Loyalist, Irish and Scotch settlement patterns.

Private consultations and a large research room will be available. For details, contact: New Brunswick - Ancestors & Descendants, P.O. Box 7102 Riverview, N.B. Canada E1B4T8 or at: <http://www.bitheads.com/nbgs/>

Mary Par Brigham will have more details at our spring meeting.

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

5084

Forest S. Horner
PO Box 568
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Tillotson, Robbins

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Morehouse, Eldred/Eldridge, Armstrong

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5086

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Roberts, Lovejoy

5087

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Provost, Paradis, Desjardins

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Thompson, Elkins, Pearson

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e-mail correction:
dbourque@cyberportal.net
research interests: Pollard, Perry, Grover,
Ash, Morris

PLANNING A TRIP TO D.C.?

The hours of the three major repositories should help you make the best use of your time. Play it safe, don't walk around D.C. alone after dark.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Open Monday and Wednesday 8:45 a.m. - 5 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 8:45 a.m. - 9 p.m., Saturday 8:45 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

The holdings include:
United States Federal Census Records 1790-1920 (all states)
Federal Land Records for 30 states, 1800-1974
Bounty Land Warrants Applications Files, 1775-1855
Military Pension application files, 1775-1934
Homestead applications

Compiled Military Service Records.
Confederate and Union Service Records
Passenger lists
Customs and Immigration records, 1820-1954
Native American records
Records of all federal departments and agencies

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Of special interest to the genealogist:
U.S. Local History and Genealogy Reading Room, with specialized card catalogs for genealogies and local histories.

International genealogy and local history resources.

City directories, 1785-present.
New York Telephone Directories, 1878-1959.

Manuscript Reading Room.
Newspaper and current periodical reading room (newspapers from all over the U.S. from the 18th-20th centuries are on microfilm.)

Geography and Map Reading Room (includes many types of U.S. maps from the early 19th century; Eastern European atlases and gazetteers).

LDS Family Search Workstations.

THE DAR LIBRARY

Open Monday - Friday, 8:45 a.m. - 4 P.M. Closed Saturday. Open Sunday 1-5 p.m. There is a daily fee for non DAR members. In April, the library is crowded with members in town for the annual meeting.

The holdings include:
Major collections of printed genealogies and town and county histories.
Lineage books of members and DAR applications.
Thousands of typescript volumes with family, church, cemetery and town records from all over the United States.
Finding aids for using unpublished material in the collection.
Analytic index for books, periodicals and for special projects.

Your editor has spent many days at the above repositories doing the past thirty years. Don't expect to walk in and find everything you want at once. It takes time to find your way around each of the facilities. For some records at the National Archives, you may have to place your request the day before. Census records are filled by year, then alphabetically by state. Revolutionary War Pension records are filed alphabetically. You help yourself to one roll of film at a time. Good hunting.

Announcing a New Program

"Picking The Brains of Vermont Genealogical Researchers Dead and Alive"

One Hour Program of Vermont Council On the Humanities

Free To Town Historical Societies For Information Call 802-644-2480

PITTSFORD'S SECOND CENTURY 1872-1997

The first History of Pittsford since the *History of Pittsford* (1882) by A. M. Caverly, in being published by the Pittsford Historical Society.

Pittsford's Second Century is a beautiful hard cover book with a color print of the 1848 Frederick E. Church oil painting of Pittsford's Otter Creek Inn on the cover. The book contains 750 pages of history, genealogy, houses, maps and photographs.

Price: \$50.00 plus \$3.50 s/h.
Order from: Pittsford Historical Society
P.O. Box 423, Pittsford, VT 05763

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.

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:

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



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