



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dates to remember

Saturday, May 6, 2000

Genealogical Society of Vermont meeting
The Equinox
Route 7A

Manchester, Vermont

9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Registration form included in this issue of the *Newsletter*. \$16.00 for members, \$18.00 for non-members pays for refreshments during registration, buffet lunch, and meeting activities including speakers. A reminder card with details on speakers will be sent to you later.

The Equinox, one of Vermont's landmark resort hotels, will be one of the more memorable locations we have selected for a GSV meeting. Expect comfortable meeting accommodations and great food. The hotel is in Manchester village on Route 7A. Parking is behind the building, and access to the meeting area is through the entrance toward the parking area. The hotel is fully handicapped accessible. You may want to plan to spend a little time exploring Manchester's variety of shopping opportunities after the meeting is over.

Wednesday - Sunday, May 31 - June 3, 2000

National Genealogical Society conference, hosted by New England Regional Genealogical Conference

Providence, Rhode Island

See brochure for details.

GSV will have an active presence at this important conference. Thanks to several volunteers from GSV who have already signed up to assist with conference responsibilities such as registration, helping people find their way around, setting up rooms, etc. We will also have a booth in "Society Row" in the exhibit area, and will need to be sure that a GSV member is on hand there as much of the time as possible to answer questions about GSV and Vermont, to sell our publications and other books that we will have available,

and to meet as many as possible of the hundreds of people who will be attending the conference. Please let us know if you will be at the conference and can help with either of these responsibilities.

Saturday, October 21, 2000

Genealogical Society of Vermont meeting
Place not determined; we are expecting that this meeting will be in the White River Junction area. Save the date.

Publications

As you have heard by now or soon will hear, GSV will open the year 2000 with two major new publications: a comprehensive name index to the twenty-four years of our publication *Branches & Twigs*, and an index to the contents of probate court files in both districts of Windsor County from the earliest records through 1899, prepared by Scott Andrew Bartley and Marjorie Bartley. Members will have an opportunity to order both of these books at a 20 percent discount from the retail price.

Public records access

Members will recall that access to microfilm copies of many twentieth-century Vermont marriage records was recently restricted because confidential information had been filmed along with the material which is considered to be in the public domain. The Department of Public Records making progress with re-filming these records and should soon have all appropriate records available for full public access. We appreciate their efforts in correcting this problem.

NGS CONFERENCE

The NGS *Newsletter* includes information on the conference being held in Providence May 31- June 3, 2000. It reports that the hotels are filling up very fast. If you are planning to attend, make your hotel reservations at once.

You can find the information on the NGS website <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>.

Joann Nichols

BRANCHES AND TWIGS INDEXING PROJECT NEARS COMPLETION

by Bob Murphy

As we approach this year's (and century's) end, this project is coming to an end. Names from all 96 issues have now been individually compiled, the inputting of names has been checked, and all those separate 96 files have been merged into one mammoth file, using a computer program called SKY Index. The program has generated the final name index, which consists of over 180,000 entries. The resulting Word document is 539 pages long (8 1/2 " x 11", 5 columns per page).

I began checking the name index for obvious typos and other errors, and to see whether the "see also" references made sense. At first I resisted the urge to insert additional "see also" references, but soon realized that unless I did so, they would appear very haphazard, giving a sloppy appearance to the finished work. So I am now going through the index, page by page, adding "see" and "see also" references that I believe will be helpful to future users. They will link names such as Abear, Hebert, Hibbard and Hurlbut, names that may not seem to some people to have much in common. They will also

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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 and
November issues of the *Newsletter*.

point to many spelling variants that some names exhibit. It is hoped that this small delay at this late date will add value to the finished product.

In addition to the name index, of course, there will be a book review index (titles and authors). That work is essentially complete and comprises another 46 pages. A guide to the Ancestry Service (Apple Orchard) feature is also included. All told, the final product will contain about 600 pages.

It would be most appropriate at this point to recognize those who gave so willingly of their time and talents to support this project. Indexers who devoted many hours to the laborious task of inputting data were Fletcher Blanchard, Robert Colvin, Gary Felts, John A. Heath, Sandra McKenny, Irene Miller, Carl Mix and Lisa Gilbert Soo. In addition to the indexing work, they each had the task of checking the book review indices for their issues. To each of them I owe a debt of gratitude for their efforts and for a job well done.

Robert Colvin deserves special recognition for his extraordinary contributions to this project. He alone indexed a total of 57 of the 96 issues. This is far beyond my initial expectations of any of the indexers, and I am deeply grateful for his prodigious output. It is largely through his efforts that the project was able to stay on schedule.

Recognition must also be given to the Vermont Historical Society for contributing photocopies of the vast majority of the 96 issues needed for this project. Without that contribution, the cost of this project to the Genealogical Society of Vermont would have been significantly higher.

This will be my final report on this project. By the time this article appears in the *Newsletter*, the project will have been completed, and the book will perhaps already be at the printer. May we hope for a favorable review from Oprah?

BOOK REVIEW POLICY

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

GSV NEWS

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Fiscal year ending September 30, 1999

GENERAL FUND

Income:

Membership Dues:	\$16,440.00
Contributions (Permanent & Computer Fund):	501.35
Interest:	3,016.24
NERGC:	900.00
Miscellaneous:	3.00
Total Income:	\$22,442.59

Expenses:

Editor's fee: (Vermont Genealogy, 3 issues)	3,000.00
Newsletter printing (4 issues):	1,494.42
Newsletter postage & delivery (4 issues):	536.09
Vermont Genealogy printing (3 issues):	6,234.68
Vermont Genealogy postage & delivery (3 issues):	1,227.75
Program Expense (semi-annual meetings (May 99, Oct. 99):	3,910.12
Promotional Expenses:	97.50
Postage (all but periodicals):	1,097.87
Office supplies:	214.96
Subscriptions to VMCTA, VOCA, FGS:	135.00
NERGC:	303.00
Computer Fund expense:	150.00
Miscellaneous:	66.62
President's Discretionary Fund:	0
Total expenses:	\$18,468.01

Excess of Income over

Operating Expenses: \$ 3,974.58

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Induni, Treasurer

Contributions to the Permanent Fund

Evelina Baird	4399
Bernice Carter	1806
Patricia Haslam	78
John Heath	4498
Forest Horner	5084
Dwight Hurlbert	3239
Priscilla Nielsen	4164
Berenice Powell	2478
Harman L. Remme	1252
Virginia Proulx Thomas	3403
Barbara Walling	5065

Contributions to the Computer Fund

Shirley Hyland	5081
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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) at GSV, P.O. Box 1553, St. Albans, VT. 05478-1006. 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

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.

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.

McCOON/McKOOON FAMILY NEWSLETTER

The prime interest of this *Newsletter* is the ancestry of James Timothy McCoon, b. 3 March 1802 Stanford, VT. Contact Laurence McCoon, Apt. 500, 438 Main St., St. Paul, MN 55102

MEETINGS

SPRING VOCA MEETING

The spring meeting of the Vermont Old Cemetery Association is planned for May 6, 2000 in Williamstown, Vermont. Unfortunately, due to scheduling problems, this is the same day as the GSV meeting in Manchester.

VOCA grants funds for repairing old cemeteries. The grants are to be matched with volunteers or money. Workshops may be scheduled to teach grave stone repair. Please visit VOCA's web page at: <http://homepages.together.net/~btrutor/voca/vocahome.htm>.

NEHGS GETTING STARTED

New Time and Day

This program is offered the first Monday of every month from 12 noon-1 p.m. and from 6-7:30 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. Non-members will receive a free pass to the library. No registration is required.

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
Canada and Mexico \$25, foreign \$30**

For the latest information on meetings and GSV, visit us on our Internet home-page at: http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/induni_n_j

NEHGS RESEARCH TOUR TO SALT LAKE CITY

18-25 June & 29 Oct.-5 Nov. 2000

A week of research at the Family History Library. Orientation, lectures by NEHGS staff, ample research time, personal consultations.

COME HOME TO NEW ENGLAND

30 July - 6 Aug. 2000

Search your roots with help at the extensive NEHGS Library. The program will be held at the John Hancock Conference Center a short walk from the Library. You will receive one-on-one personal consultations, use of the library when its normally closed, daily lectures, a tour of the Boston Public Library and more.

Pre-registration required for the above programs. Contact: The New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston, MA Education Department at (888) 286-3447 or (617) 536-5740 Ext. 202.

Email education@nehgs.org
Or visit the Web Site at
www.NewEnglandAncestors.org

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DEAR FELLOW GENEALOGISTS IN THE UNITED STATES

Millions of Americans from all over the United States find their search for roots leads back into Canada and thus they turn to surviving Canadian vital and census records in order to extend or complete their family trees. The loss of public access to all post-1901 Canadian census records is therefore a blow to genealogists on both sides of the American-Canadian border.

Withdrawal of public access stems from a clause inserted in a 1905 law which in the view of the Canadian government guarantees perpetual confidentiality of census records. Unless this law is changed there will never be another Canadian census made available to genealogists.

Canadian genealogists are fighting this recent government decision and are inviting American genealogists with Canadian roots to have their say as well. Canadian Senator Lorna Milne feels strongly that

RUTLAND HERALD EXTRACTS

1806-1810 at \$17.50

1811-1815 at \$12.50

1816-1820 at \$12.50

Reviewed in July *Vermont Genealogy*

Extracts by D. Hance and J. Nichols

Order from Joann H. Nichols

110 Chestnut Street

Brattleboro, Vermont 05301-6579

all those affected by this decision whether citizens of this country or not have a right to be heard. She is asking Americans and all other non-Canadians to write her if they are concerned about the loss of these irreplaceable old records and she will be their voice in Canada's Parliament. She intends to read some of the letters in the Senate Chamber when this issue is debated later this year. Letters may be sent to her by email (please include postal address) or via regular mail at: Senator Lorna Milne, The Senate of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A4 Canada Email: <Farquhar@netcom.ca >

Americans can also contribute by signing a special "Petition of Support" which will be presented to Parliament by Senator Milne. Copies of this petition are available on the web where they can be downloaded and printed out. The web address is: <http://www.globalgenealogy.com/census/petition.htm> > Completed petitions should be sent to the following address: Senator Lorna Milne, c/o Muriel M. Davidson, 25 Crestview Avenue, Brampton, Ontario, L6W 2R8 Canada

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.

Registration for GSV May 6, 2000 Spring Meeting
at The Equinox, Route 7A, at Manchester, VT
[Old 7, south of Manchester Center]

Name _____

Membership Number _____

Mailing Address: _____

I am/we are members of () GSV and/or () Non-members and will be attending the May 6, 2000 meeting. Enclosed please find a check for the morning coffee, luncheon and meeting: \$16 for GSV members (\$18 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 or money order payable to GSV, postmarked by April 28, 2000, to:
Genealogical Society of Vermont, PO Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478-1006

**VERMONT FAMILIES IN 1791,
Volume 1**

Edited by Scott A. Bartley

This award-winning first volume of a projected long series has stimulated research and guided many people to sources useful to establish their own ancestry. The goal of this series is to describe in detail the families listed in the First Federal Census taken in Vermont in 1791, the year Vermont joined the Union. Special Publication No. 1, 1992. xxvii + 281 pp.

Volume 2

Edited by Scott A. Bartley

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.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The directory lists addresses & interests of a majority of GSV members. Published for GSV members only. \$3.00 from our post office box address.

**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 address. Mail your checks, payable to GSV, to:

**Genealogical Society of Vermont,
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