NERGC 2013 in Manchester, N.H., was a huge success, with around 880 registered attendees. Our sponsored speaker, Scott Reilly, gave an excellent and informative presentation on the holdings of the Vermont State Archives. Congratulations to Darlene S. Sellars of Tilton, N.H., the winner of our door prize. She won a copy of Nancy Price Graff, *Looking Back at Vermont: Farm Security Administration Photographs 1936-1942* (Middlebury: Middlebury College Museum of Art; University Press of New England, 2002). This is a very interesting book that I am sure she will enjoy; thank you to John A. Leppman for purchasing the book at the Vermont Spring Antiquarian Book Fair. A large thank you to everyone who helped GSV out at NERGC, those who had their volunteer time credited to GSV included: John, our treasurer Jane Belcher, and members Judy Goss and Kathleen Kirby. Our booth in the Exhibit Hall was a great success, and it is truly amazing how many books we stuffed into John’s Prius. It amazes me every time. Thank you to member Lonnie Lisai, for helping us move the material into the Exhibit Hall from the parking garage. A special thank you to both Judy Goss covering the booth during Scott’s talk, and Bob Murphy for covering the booth during the luncheons. Once GSV provided a quart of fancy grade pure Vermont maple syrup, that ever so popular item, for the volunteer raffle.

Two simple words that pertain to genealogical research in Vermont and elsewhere: town records. Even though the Vermont Vital Record Card Index has long been the standard for a majority of Vermont based research, it is hardly all encompassing. This raises a fundamental question: by using the index are you...
GRAVE DEDICATION IN PUTNEY

On August 10, 2013, at 11 a.m. there will be a dedication of a plaque commemorating Laura Elvira (Moore) Roberts (1813-1900), a DAR Real Daughter, in Putney’s Old North Burying Ground. Local Boy Scouts will perform a flag ceremony. Laura, was the daughter of Rufus and Betsey (Moore) Moore, and married James Hidden Clark Roberts (1810-1895) in Putney in 1832. Laura (pictured at right) was a member of the Brattleboro Chapter of the Daughter’s of the American Revolution, as her father Rufus was a Revolutionary War veteran. Old North Burying Ground is located north of the village on the Westminster West Road.

For more information on the dedication contact Laura’s 3rd great grand daughter Sandi Bateman at skb32049@wowway.com.

Descendants of Giles Roberts of Scarborough, Maine
by Joann H. Nichols

For $20, plus $3.50 shipping for the first copy and $1.00 for each additional copy


Finally, we all extend our deepest condolences to Bob Murphy, whose mother Annie Murphy died in early April.

Jonathan W. Stevens, President
Preserve the Pensions
War of 1812

"O! thus be it ever when freemen shall stand,  
Between their lov’d home, and the war’s desolation…”¹

This little-used quote is from one of the later stanzas of what is now known as the “Star-Spangled Banner,” penned by Francis Scott Key after witnessing the bombardment and eventual triumph in defending the City of Baltimore at Fort McHenry.

The War of 1812, often called the “Second Revolution,” was a pivotal moment in our Nation’s history. Individual states struggled to become one nation after a long-fought Revolution, and the “American Experiment” was still at a precarious stage. Without the strength and courage of those patriots who fought in the War of 1812, our American Revolution may have ended up as just a footnote to British history and conquest. Instead, however, these men—farmers, merchants, seamen, fathers, sons—became soldiers to fight for what they and their fathers had believed in: their American home.

Now, two hundred years later we celebrate their success and honor their memories. We have at this time a unique opportunity. As they records become more and more fragile, we are placed at a time with technology that can preserve and showcase what the patriots of 1812 sacrificed for. We are here to Preserve the Pensions.

180,000 pension records are at the National Archives from the War of 1812. Over 3000 requests come for these pensions each year. Time, however, is taking its toll on these fragile papers.

The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), Ancestry.com, and fold3 are pleased to partner together in this monumental effort to digitize and index these pensions to be made available online for free to genealogists and historians across the country.

This monumental effort plans to digitize 7.2 million records just for the War of 1812. It will cost approximately $3.7 million dollars.

Pat Oxley, current President of FGS, says “Preserve the Pensions will not only preserve the fragile original documents, but also ensure that the sacrifices and monumental achievements of our forefathers are never forgotten.”

As we work to preserve these War of 1812 pensions allowing them to be digitized and opened to a wider public, we pave the way to future partnerships to preserve records from the Civil War, World War I, and World War II.

Each pension page costs $0.45 to digitize. Each dollar of contribution digitizes two pages. Every little bit helps.

The time is now: For a limited time, Ancestry.com has agreed to match every dollar! Each dollar you contribute now digitizes twice the records. Each donation is tax deductible. Contribute today or visit www.preservethepensions.org.

What value do these pensions have to genealogists and historians? The files often contain such family history gems as:

- Veteran’s name and age
- Residence
- Widow’s name and maiden name
- Service history and dates
- Military rank and organization
- If Bounty Land were granted and information on those warrants
- Marriage information
- Death dates for soldiers and widows
- Additional names of neighbors and comrades

“We should look for opportunities to promote the educational value of having information-rich historical documents available to everyone, everywhere, at no cost. Not only do the digitized War of 1812 pension documents help genealogists, historians, and academicians, now every classroom teacher in America that has an Internet connection at school (as so many do) can use these documents in teaching about the War and in demonstrating the use of primary source documents in historical research.” Curt Witcher, Senior Manager of Special Collections, Allen County Public Library.

Volunteers have carefully flattened and conserved the valuable documents. Arrangements are being made for more cameras and digital equipment. People have willingly sacrificed their time; now we need money to help catalog and digitize these records in archival-safe and sustainable ways.

Through the Preserve the Pensions Project, record images are posted online for free at http://go.fold3.com/1812pensions/ as they become available; not held until the end of the project.


John C. Clements was one of those men hunkered down behind the battlements at Fort McHenry. Still a journeyman shoemaker, John was 30, still single and had only recently come to Baltimore from Virginia to find better work. As the shells screamed overhead, he likely wondered if he’d ever have a chance after this to find a nice girl and settle down. The men of the 5th Maryland around Private Clements shivered in the chill September night, now choked with smoke and ash from the British mortars. He did survive that night, and other battles as well. He married Elizabeth Wingate in 1815 and had at least eight children. We, with those children’s children join in the refrain:

“And the star-spangled Banner in triumph shall wave,  
O’er the Land of the Free, and the Home of the Brave.”

DEATHS.

Marcus A. McCorison, 86, described by the Wall Street Journal in 1986 as the tiger of rare book librarians, died, surrounded by his family, on February 3, 2013, in Worcester, Massachusetts. McCorison’s skills as a noted librarian, bibliographer, and scholar of early American printing were informed by his intense personal interest in American cultural history. Over the course of 32 years at the American Antiquarian Society he served as librarian, director and, finally president. He was named president emeritus of the American Antiquarian Society at his retirement in 1992. During his tenure, McCorison, sometimes referred to as the “Grand Acquisitor,” expanded the Society’s holdings by some 115,000 items and greatly enhanced access to the Society’s collection by creating a machine-readable catalogue system and encouraged the production of bibliographies that would include AAS holdings. He laid the foundations for a scholarly community through the establishment of the fellowship program to draw visiting scholars from around the world to Worcester. McCorison also enlarged the institution’s endowment with vigorous and successful fundraising campaigns and personal appeals to potential donors.

After serving with the United States Naval Reserve during World War II with active service in the Pacific, McCorison graduated from Ripon College in 1950 and earned master degrees from the University of Vermont (1951) and Columbia University (1954). His academic study was interrupted by U.S. Army service as a first lieutenant in Korea in 1951-52. His first professional position was librarian of the Kellogg Hubbard Library in Montpelier, Vermont. In 1955 he became the chief of rare books at Dartmouth College. McCorison served as Head of Special Collections at State University of Iowa in 1959. After accepting the position of librarian at the Society in 1960, McCorison moved to Worcester and became involved with most of the historical associations in the region. He was a trustee of Fruitlands Museum, Old Sturbridge Village, and Historic Deerfield. He was a member of the Club of Odd Volumes, the Society of Printers, the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Historical Society, Worcester Club, Worcester Fire Society, St. Wulstan Society, and United Congregational Church. McCorison was also an honorary member of the New-York Historical Society, Ephemera Society of America, Zamorano Club of Los Angeles, the Century Association, and the Roxburghie Club of San Francisco.

His professional contributions include service as president of the Bibliographical Society of America, member of the Board of Governors of the Research Libraries Group, as a founder of the Independent Research Libraries Association, trustee of the Vermont Historical Society, and councilor of The Grolier Club. McCorison’s consultancies included the National Endowment for the Humanities, Folger Shakespeare Library, Independent Research Libraries Association, Library of Congress, and the Newberry Library. He was awarded Distinguished Alumnus Awards from Ripon College and Columbia University’s School of Library Service. Honorary degrees were bestowed on McCorison from Assumption College, Clark University, College of the Holy Cross, and the University of Vermont.


Marcus McCorison was born on July 17, 1926, in Lancaster, Wisconsin, son of Rev. Dr. Joseph Lyle McCorison, Jr., and Ruth Mink McCorison, formerly of East Corinth, Vermont. Marcus was married for forty-eight years to Janet Buckbee Knop, who died in 1998. Together, they had a dynamic impact on the intellectual and cultural landscape of Worcester. In addition, they raised six children and relished cross-country camping trips with them, stopping at every historical marker and landmark along the way. He was predeceased by a daughter, Mary (Mrs. Joshua L. Rosenbloom). He is survived by his dear friend, Carolyn Knight Dik; a sister, Virginia Simmons; four sons, Marcus II and wife Helen, Andrew and wife Stacey, James and companion Karen, Peter and wife Catherine; a daughter, Judith and husband Jeffrey Gove; and eleven grandchildren: Emily, Justin and Molly Gove; Sarah and Matthew McCorison; Samuel and Melanie McCorison, Jacob McCorison; Benjamin, Nathan and Timothy Rosenbloom. Marcus’ accomplishments were many, none more so than the respect and abiding love of his family and friends.

A memorial service will be held on February 16 at 11 a.m. at United Congregational Church, 6 Institute Road, Worcester, Massachusetts with reception following at the American Antiquarian Society. A memorial book fund has been established at the American Antiquarian Society to honor Marcus and his work to collect, preserve, and make useful the written record.

For further information or to make a contribution, please contact Matthew Shakespeare, Exec. Vice-Pres. for External Affairs, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609; mshakespeare@mwa.org, 508-471-2162.
Why have a New York State Family History Conference?

The idea originated at the Central New York Genealogical Society's 50th Anniversary Conference in Syracuse in 2011 — a great success.

The inspiration for the conference is the special — and sometimes daunting — challenge of researching New York families, experienced even by those with advanced research skills.

New York's long and complicated colonial and state history; the patterns of immigration into and migration within the state; the diversity of its population; the challenge of uncovering and accessing an extraordinary range of records frequently created and kept inconsistently; the quest for substitutes for major records lost to fire and flood, none more devastating than the New York State Archives fire of 1911; and the idiosyncrasies of records dispersed among sixty-two counties are among the many reasons why New York genealogical research has this reputation.

The conference goal is to break down research barriers and to provide a forum for sharing research knowledge and problem-solving experiences.

The 2013 New York State Family History Conference will be the first in a series of regularly scheduled conferences focused on researching New York families; the plan is to improve it incrementally so that it becomes the best regional genealogical conference in the nation.

What, When, and Where in 2013

DATE: Friday, September 20 and Saturday, September 21.
PLACE: Holiday Inn and Conference Center Liverpool, Syracuse, NY
PROGRAM: Twenty lectures in two tracks: Focus on New York State and Beyond the Baptist. Welcome reception. Two luncheons and a dinner, all with speakers. Vendor exhibitions.
WEBSITE: www.nysfhs.org
REGISTRATION: Early bird rate (ends July 1):
NYG&B and CNYGS members: $90
Non-members: $115
Thursday pre-conference: Shuttle to Onondaga County Public Library or all-day Guided History Tour
Register in the online store at www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org
Or by calling 212-755-8532, ext. 211
Vendors/Exhibitors/Advertisers:
Visit www.nysfhs.org/exhibitors.html for fees and contracts.
QUESTIONS:
Contact Lauren Maehlheim:
education@nygbs.org or 212-755-8532, ext. 211
HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:
$119+ tax per night at Holiday Inn Liverpool.
Use code “CGS” for discounted price.
Reservations: 315-457-1122 or 877-834-3613
SPEAKERS:
- Blaine Bettinger, *The Journal of Genetic Genealogy*
- Ruth Carr, *New York Public Library* (retired)
- Sachiko Clayton, *New York Public Library*
- Laura Murphy DeGrazia, CG, *NYG&B Record*
- Stefani Evans, CG, *National Genealogical Society*
- James D. Folts, *New York State Archives*
- Karen Mauer Green, CG, *NYG&B Record*
- Eric Grundset, *Library of the Daughters of the American Revolution*
- Terry Koch-Bosick, *National Genealogical Society*
- Michael Leclerc, *Mocavo*
- Joseph Licby, *Palestines to America German Genealogical Society*
- Maira Litman, *New York Public Library*
- Kathleen Roe, *New York State Archives*
- Paula Stuart-Warren, CG
- D. Joshua Taylor, *findmypast.com*

Conference Sponsors

**General Sponsors**
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- The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society

**Conference Sponsors**
- findmypast.com
- Mocavo
- New York Public Library
- New York State Archives Partnership Trust
- William G. Pomeroy Foundation

[Image of New York State Family History Conference]
The society offers the following publications for purchase by our members and readers. GSV members receive a 10% discount on the purchase price. Postage and handling is extra—please add $3.50 for the first item and $1.00 for each additional item in the same order to the same address. Mail your checks, payable to GSV, to:

***Genealogical Society of Vermont, P.O. Box 14, Randolph, VT 05060-0014***

**Vermont Families in 1791, Vol. 1** is out of print.

**Vermont Families in 1791, Vol. 2.** Scott A. Bartley, ed., 1997, 304 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 5; $27.00 members, $30.00 non-members. This second volume covers 107 families, has improved formatting and more complete information on the third generation of early Vermonter.

**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.

**Vital Records of Rockingham, Vermont and the Records of the First Church of Rockingham.** Reprinted from the 1902 and 1908 first editions, newly indexed by Christopher T. Norris and Scott A. Bartley, 323 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 3; $27.00 members, $30.00 non-members. Reprinted from the first editions of 1908 and 1902, this is an important source of one of Vermont’s oldest towns. The town records extend to 1845 and church records from 1773 to 1839. New to this edition is an indispensable index of nearly 1,000 names.

**Georgia, Vermont Vital Records.** Peter S. Mallet, ed., 1995, hardbound. Item No. GSV 4; $27.00 members, $30.00 non-members. This volume presents all births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials recorded in the town. All the civil books (Continued on page 7)

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57 East Shore North
Grand Isle, VT 05458
were transcribed as well as the records from the Georgia Plains Baptist Church, Congregational Church, and Methodist Church of Georgia and North Fairfax.

**Windsor County, Vermont Probate Index, 1778-1899.** Scott Andrew Bartley and Marjorie-J. Bartley, compilers, 2000, 560 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 6; $45.00 members, $50.00 nonmembers. This is a comprehensive index of all files in the Windsor County Probate Court Districts —Windsor and Hartford. The records cover the period from the earliest 1778 records through the end of the nineteenth century, more than 20,000 probate files. The files are indexed by the name of the major party in the case, place of residence, probate district, type of record, year, and probate record volume.

**Index to Branches & Twigs, 1972—1995.** Robert M. Murphy, ed. 2000, 572 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 7; $58.50 members, $65.00 nonmembers. This is the entry-name index to GSV's Branches & Twigs, published for 24 years in 96 issues. The 180,000 entries include every genealogically important name mentioned in every issue. Separate sections of this work list the coverage of each Apple Orchard installment, and provide a full author and title index to book reviews. Branches & Twigs included large quantities of information of interest to family historians.

**Sudbury, Vermont: Genealogies, Vital Records, and Census Records.** Mary Ann Z. Wheeler, 2000, 416 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 8; $44.55 members, $49.50 nonmembers. 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; $9.00 members, $10.00 nonmembers. (Mail orders should add $1.50 for postage and handling, not the $3.50 normally charged.) This is a new edition of A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy was released in April 2005. It includes more listings than the first edition, most published since 2000. It is keyed to Scott Andrew Bartley’s Genealogies Found in Vermont Histories (Vol. 10, No. 1 of Vermont Genealogy, also designated GSV publication number 10.).


**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, 15: 2 and 16: 2, are available for $10.00 each. There is a mailing fee of $2.00 ($3.00 to Canadian addresses) for each single issue, $2.50 ($3.50 to Canada) for each double issue (i.e., the $10 issues). 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.

**GSV Special Publication Number 13**

**VITAL RECORDS OF SPRINGFIELD, VT.**

by Scott Andrew Bartley

Back Issues available: For $15, plus $3.50 shipping for the first copy and $1.00 for each additional copy.
Dues Notice!

Please look at your address label for your membership expiration date. Your membership expires on the date shown on the top line of the address label.

Dues are $25.00 for US addresses.
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Send membership dues and applications to:

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