Sikes/Sykes Family Reunion

The Sikes/Sykes Family Reunion will be held in Suffield, CT on October 3, 4, and 5, 2008. In addition to the meeting time in Suffield there will be a visit to Dorset, VT and the Dorset Historical Society. For more information go to the family website: www.sikes-sykesfamilies.rootweb.com.

VGS Fall Meeting

The Fall 2008 Genealogical Society of Vermont meeting will be held at the Vermont History Center, Barre on October 18. Speakers include Mike Sevigny, Vermont-French Canadian Genealogical Society, our own Jonathan Stevens, and a third to be announced at a later time.

President’s Message  Bob Murphy

Greeting, fellow family historians. Vermont History Expo is behind us. The GSV booth was expertly staffed by Board members John Leppman, Jonathan Stevens, Joann Nichols and Mary Pat Brigham. Sales were good, despite less-than-ideal weather and smaller crowds than in previous years, so the Treasurer was pleased to see additional money coming into our coffers.

Jonathan Stevens is working on volume 3 of Vermont Families in 1791. If you have material to submit now is the time to do it. Basic requirements are: for a family enumerated in the 1791 census, a well-documented 3-generation genealogy. Guidelines may be found on our website (http://www.genealogyvermont.org/) or by mail from Jonathan (227 Fletcher Hill Rd., Chester, VT 05143-8639). Be a part of this or succeeding volumes. We are playing catch-up to Maine, which has many volumes in print.

I am pleased to announce Tom Record's volunteering to take over the job of GSV sales, so if you order a publication from GSV in the future, your order will be handled by Tom. We transferred a quantity of books during a rainstorm at History Expo this weekend. Don’t worry, the books did not get wet!

I am still looking for someone to assume responsibility for getting our Newsletter out to the post office. As previously mentioned, that duty has been done by Board members for the first two issues of 2008. Because our bulk mailing permit is in Rutland (where Vermont Genealogy is

Preserving the American Historical Record Act

Representative Maurice Hinchey of New York introduced a bill intended to support the preservation of archive records in the United States. Identified as H.R. 6056 the bill is titled Preserving the American Historical Record Act.

The legislation is intended to support state and local preservation efforts by increasing “federal support for state and local archival records held by government agencies, historical societies, libraries, and related organizations.” The National Genealogical Society reports the bill would support initiatives such as: the creation of finding aids, name indexes and images of key records online; preservation projects to protect historical records and preserve them for public use (digitization, disaster planning and recovery); education and training programs for archivists and others who care for historical records to ensure they have the knowledge and skills to care for their historic records.

Funding of $50 million per year has been proposed. Early estimates of grant awards by state are Vermont—$186,918, Rhode Island—$241,582, New Hampshire—$276,749, Maine—$309,803, Connecticut—$584,588, and Massachusetts—$1,012,923. For more information visit washingtonstatemuseums.org/actionalert.pdf.
Saving Grandma’s Letters

The interest in genealogy has spurred a growing awareness of the personal value of family heirlooms and documents. Once we recognize the value in the papers, letters, clothing and objects that have been handed down to us (intentionally or accidentally) we need to answer questions about preservation.

Advice on preservation is available online at a number of sites, but I will present a summary in the newsletter for those of us not connected to the net. In this article I’ll list several sources for archival supplies you can use to extend the life of your favorite family heirlooms.

- **Archival Products**: pamphlet binders. www.archival.com
- **Archivart**: products for storage and conservation: www.archivart.com
- **Conservation Resources**: conservation and archival storage supplies: www.conservationresources.com
- **Demco**: archival storage and organization supplies: www.demco.com
- **Gaylord**: conservation and archival storage supplies: www.gaylord.com
- **Hollinger Metal Edge**: wide range of supplies: www.genealogicalstorageproducts.com
- **Light Impressions**: Archival materials, scrapbooks and albums: www.lightimpressionsdirect.com
- **TestFabrics, Inc.**: museum grade fabrics and supplies; rather technical site: www.testfabrics.com
- **University Products**: library and archival storage products: www.universityproducts.com

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“As the generation of leaves, so is that of men.”

Homer (*The Family of Man*)
2008 Meeting Announcements


September 14: Lyons Reunion. Eramosa, Ontario. Descendants of James Lyons (1775-1851) from County Tyrone. For more information email jamckane@gmail.com.

September 18, 19, 20: Herrick Family Association Annual Reunion. Salem, MA. The search for the parents of Henerie Herrick continues! Information is available at freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com.

September 19, 20, 21: Celebrate Your Anglo-Celtic Roots. Ottawa, Ontario. This is the 14th annual Family history conference sponsored by the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa. Eighteen presentations. Information is available at www.bifhsgo.ca.

September 19, 20, 21: Scottish Genealogy, History and Culture Seminars. Lincoln, NH. Topics—“Mr. Green Genes & Green Genealogy, Conserving Your Resources,” “Preserving Your Family Heirlooms” and “Hosting Your Own Burns’ Dinner.” New Hampshire Highland Games, Information is available at www.NHHG.org or from Bill Budde, bbudde@verizon.net.

September 19, 20, 21: Life in the Past Lane V. Williamstown, MA. Presented by The Friends of the National Archives—Pittsfield. The conference will be held at the Williams Inn on the Green, Williamstown, MA. For information see the Friends website http://narafriends-pittsfield.org/calendar.htm.

September 26: Hartford’s Record Keeper. Hartford VT. Hartford, VT Municipal Building. For information call 802-296-2568.

September 26, 27: Military Symposium. Fort Wayne, IN. Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center. Fo-
GSV Publications

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 Vermonters.

**Vermont Families in 1791, Vol. 3.** Scott A. Bartley, ed., 1999, 315 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 6; $27.00 members, $30.00 non-members. This third volume includes additional families and more complete information on the fourth 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.

**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 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 nonmembers. This volume presents all births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials recorded in the...

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Our website is at http://www.genealogyvermont.org/

News, articles and comments for the Newsletter should be mailed to:

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Newsletter deadlines are Dec 15 for the February issue
March 15 for the May issue
June 15 for the August Issue
September 15 for the November issue.

If you would like to contact our journal, Vermont Genealogy, write:
Scott Andrew Bartley, Editor
Vermont Genealogy
20 March Avenue
West Roxbury, MA 02132-2604
E-mail: YourGenealogist@aol.com

Copies of relevant books for journal review can be sent to:
John A. Leppman
Book Review Editor
20 Thwing Lane
Bellows Falls, VT 05101-1640

Contact Bob Murphy, President at PO Box 14, Randolph, VT 05060-0014
rmr@sover.net

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 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 the newsletter editor along with the exact wording for the ad. GSV offers no warranty on the services of advertisers.

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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 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 20,000probate 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 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: Transcription of Vital Records and Genealogies of Residents. Mary Ann Z. Wheeler, 2000, 416 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 9; $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 10, $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 Drew Bartley’s Genealogies Found in Vermont Histories (Vol. 10, no. 1 of Vermont Genealogy, also designated GSV publication number 10.).

(Continued from page 3)

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“[Family] History is not what you thought. It is what you can remember.”
W.C. Stellar and R.J. Yeatman, 1066 and All That (1930)

October 18: 40 Years of Discovery—Portals to the Future. Elgin, IL. Illinois State Genealogical Society 40th Anniversary Conference. Speakers include Beau Sharbrough and Loretto Szucs. For information go to www.rootsweb.com/~ilgs/.

October 30, 31, November 1: Tracking New York Ancestors Into, Across and Around the State. Saratoga, NY. New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. For information call Lauren Maehrlein at 212-755-8532, ext. 36 or email education@nygbs.org.
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GSV Membership Chairperson  
57 East Shore North  
Grand Isle, VT 05458

All other correspondence, except for submissions and queries to Vermont Genealogy and items for the Newsletter, should be sent to Genealogical Society of Vermont, P. O. Box 14, Randolph, VT 05060-0014.

West Coast Obits of Former Vermonters

The GSV received a letter from Mrs. Eleanor Evans Borkenhagen of Huntington Beach, California offering clippings of former Vermonters that died in the Los Angeles area. The following were forwarded to GSV:

- McLain, Isabel (Vega) of Santa Ana, CA, born in Barre, VT c 1929 and died February 23, 2008. Survived by her brother, Honorio Vega and “numerous cousins in Vermont, Connecticut, Florida and Somo, Spain.”
- Gladstone, Samuel, born in Burlington, VT April 11, 1918, died in Los Angeles, CA June 3, 2007.
- Boucher, Lionel A., born in Burlington, VT c 1922, died in Placentia, CA September 8, 2007. Surviving sisters are Lucienne Ilnicky, Dora Trembley and Lucille Collins.
- Gracell, Sylvia (Kaufman), born in Burlington, VT August 26, 1911, died in Los Angeles, CA October 25 2007.