FALL MEETING

Our 25th anniversary meeting will be held on Oct. 26th in the city where it officially began. This meeting is at the Radisson, 60 Battery Street, Burlington. Should you need accommodation there, you can contact the hotel at 802-658-6500. The meeting format will be slightly different to honor the occasion, and maybe one or two surprises! The schedule is as follows, with tentative titles for the lectures. Vendors may be on hand, but those details are not available at this time.

8:00-8:45: Registration; Coffee, teas, assorted muffins and pastries
8:45-9:30: 25th annual business meeting
9:30-10:30: Nancy L. Dodge, "Approaches for researching Northeast Kingdom families"
10:30-11:45: Martin E. Hollick, "Genealogical resources on the Internet"
11:45-2:15: Luncheon: Soup, maple-glazed ham on sourdough roll topped with Vermont cheddar cheese (vegetarian substitute if requested), cookies & brownies

Luncheon speaker: Joann H. Nichols, past president and original founder of GSV, "Reflections of GSV"

25th Anniversary Awards
2:30-3:30: John D. Austin Jr., "Yorkers and Yankees"
3:30-4:30: Roger Lawrence, "The French settlement on Lake Champlain shores prior to 1759 and their resettlement after the war"

The cost of this special anniversary celebration is $15 ($20 for non-GSV members). Please join us for this very special occasion. Mail in the coupon within this Newsletter by Oct. 1, 1996 to insure your place for this event.

GSV ELECTIONS

The October 26, 1996 meeting will include the election of officers for the next two years. All GSV members are encouraged to vote. Please return the enclosed ballot to the address on the ballot. If you are coming to the meeting and want to, you may bring your ballot and present it to the president by 8:45. The votes will be tallied and announced at the business meeting.

Since all GSV members may not know the candidates, the following brief description for each nominated person is included. Please feel free to write in other names.

John Leppman, of Bellows Falls, is a physician serving Springfield Hospital and the Bellows Falls village. John's interests are Vermont history and bibliography, and genealogy. He has amassed a fine collection of Vermontiana which is recognized by bibliographers nationally. He has served on the GSV Board since 1993 and on various committees. He is best known to GSV members as the Book Review Editor for Branches & Twigs since 1979 and now Vermont Genealogy. He is president of the Rockingham Meeting House Association and active statewide in the medical field.

Grace E. Simonds, of Whiting, has been clerk/treasurer of Whiting for 18 years and a long standing GSV member. In 1988, the Society named her "Town Clerk of the Year." As Town Clerk she has had contact with many people doing family research. She has gathered material on families in the Whiting area. In exchange for her services, people have helped her with her own family history especially in Canada. She and her husband are the 8th generation to live in the family homestead. Both of the families were early landowners of Whiting and Revolutionary soldiers.

Mary Pat Brigham, of Montpelier, was a past Librarian Assistant at the Vermont Historical Society in Montpelier for seventeen years. Mary Pat moved to Vermont in 1968, but her interest in Vermont genealogy preceded that. She travels widely, is an avid bird-watcher and an active choir member. She is actively engaged in pursuing her children's ancestry. She has been on the GSV Board since 1991.

Janet Induni, of Colchester, is an Import Specialist for the U. S. Customs Service in St. Albans. Janet moved to Vermont in 1988 from Montreal. She has been active in genealogy since 1984 tracing her Vermont ancestry. She sings in the Colchester Community Choirs. She has served in the past as treasurer for other non-profits in Quebec.

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF VERMONT ON THE INTERNET

The "Internet," accessible through most online services (CompuServe, America Online, Prodigy, etc.), has become a new and different method of access for people throughout the world to information maintained by libraries, organizations, and societies. Genealogy is only one of millions of topics available.

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

Deadlines for information will be:
Dec. 1, March 1, June 1 and Sept. 1 for the January, April, July and October issues of the Newsletter.
Several genealogical societies have developed their own "Home Page" which may be described as an advertisement for services available from the particular organization.

GSV has recently joined this group with our own homepage. We list the aim of the Society, membership benefits, available publications, as well as an invitation to join the Society, complete with a membership form to print and mail.

The key to the success of a homepage is its "links" to other homepages as well as to "search engines" which allow topic searches by keyboard. Without these links the home page languishes in Internet never-never land. Since establishing our own homepage in February, the Society has been setting up these links in order to reach a larger audience.

Our address on the Internet is: http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/induni_n_j Comments and suggestions are welcome, either by E-mail or snail mail to Janet Induni, Genealogical Society of Vermont, PO Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478.

SPRING MEETING MINUTES

GSV members met at the Congregational Church in New Haven Village, Vermont on May 18, 1996. Robert Rodgers welcomed those attending on behalf of the Congregational Church and the Town of New Haven, and announced that the profits realized from putting on the luncheon would be used to continue the project of restoring the old records of the church.

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. with 66 members and guests present. The secretary's minutes of the August 12, 1995 meeting were read and accepted. No treasurer's report was available.

Reaction of the membership to the new formats of the society's publications has been gratifying and positive.

A discussion on the subject of the "Apple Orchard," so long a feature in Branches & Twigs followed. Several ideas were put forth, none were decided upon.

The GSV Library has been disbanded. About one third of the books went to the Vermont Historical Society Library. Substantial numbers of books went to the Bennington Museum Library, the libraries in Arlington and Brattleboro, and the Gates Library in White River Junction. What then remained was offered to NEHGS Library and the NSDAR Library, the residue to the National Genealogical Society Library.

Following the business meeting, Robert Rodgers, editor of Vermont Genealogy, discussed the present policies and practices and needs of that publication. This was followed by an extensive question and answer session.

Margaret Jenkins was in Connecticut receiving an award from the Connecticut Society of Genealogists. Discussion of her role as editor of the Newsletter was put off until a later meeting. Scott Bartley spoke about the Vermont families in 1791 project.

Following an extremely pleasant luncheon provided by church members and town residents of New Haven, Meldon J. Wolfgang III spoke on "Sleuthing in the Stacks: using non-traditional resources to uncover genealogical clues."

ARE YOU MOVING?

Please advise the Society of your new address as soon as possible. If your mail is forwarded to your new address, GSV receives notification from the Post Office in the form of a Postage Due Notice and a photocopy of the cover copy of Vermont Genealogy that was forwarded to you. Each one costs us fifty cents. Please help us cut down these expenses by notifying the Society at PO Box 1553, St. Albans, VT, 05478. The money can be better spent elsewhere.

OLD MEDICAL TERMS!

From a Vermont vital records death card: Keith, triplets, d. Nov. 1867 age about 3 days. Cause of death: seed too much scattered.

Helen Kinsey, #2901, 18 Slim Brown Road, Milton, VT 05468-3592

GSV Newsletter, July 1996

THE BENNINGTON MUSEUM'S HISTORY-GENEALOGY LIBRARY

As an institution devoted to the heritage of its region, the Bennington Museum offers a library for genealogy and history research that generally fits that definition.

Open to patrons and members six days a week in summer-fall, and three days a week in winter-spring, the museum's non-circulating library is one of the premier genealogy resources in New England. There are also substantial holdings in Vermont history and that undefined region where Vermont, Massachusetts and New York adjourn.

Another specialty of this library is a military section that focuses on the Battle of Bennington, along with rosters from the American Revolution and Civil War.

The Bennington Museum opened in 1928, and its collection of books, correspondence, and related files became a formal library in the late 1950s. It is located in a portion of the museum's Church Gallery, a stone building that was the first Catholic church in Vermont, built in 1855.

The museum itself is open every day of the year except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's days. Use of the library is for patrons of the museum; this means either those who pay the daily admission of $5 ($4.50 for senior citizens), or museum members who pay an annual fee of $20 for an individual or $35 for a family. On Sundays, the library is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is always closed on Sundays.

Mail inquiries are handled relatively promptly. There is no fee, but those who engage in correspondence are asked to make a modest contribution to the museum and cover any costs of photocopying. Copies are available at 10 cents an image. Proceeds go to support the library's acquisition fund.

The museum has prepared a handout listing "twenty-three ways to find people in the past" using the library. These include:

* Census indexes including those for Vermont from 1790 to 1850, plus others for
Vermont Families Project Update

The Vermont Families Project (VFP), a project to identify everyone enumerated in the 1791 federal census for Vermont, has received over 1100 submissions so far - many more than anyone dreamed. Thus is the success of GSV's premier project. There were 126 entries published in VFP1 in 1992 with an all-name index. By the end of the year, the index to VFP1 (and probably VFP2) and the database containing a list of all 1100 submissions with be accessible through our Web page [see article about this by Janet Indurn]. The most current information will always be available to all here. I am working on entries for volumes 2 and 3 now. If you have had correspondence from me within the last year, this is for material for one of these two volumes. I hope to include 200 entries for volume 2. When I reach that point of completely edited submissions, the remainder will be slated for volume 3. If you are not in this small group, please do not despair. You can help me move your submissions along by reviewing your previously (or newly) submitted entry against the following scheme of work.

Since VFP's inception in 1990, the project, its form and style, have evolved. Most of the 1100 plus submissions predate the revised standard for entry into this series. This is through no fault of your own, but an outgrowth from the knowledge gained by creating the award-winning volume 1. Please take a moment to review your earlier submission. If you can, please research in the following sources and consider rewriting your submission in the standard format.

All VFP submission must be strictly in the form as presented in VFP1. If you do not have access to the first volume, please write me at PO Box 1118, Boston MA 02123-1118 with a SASE requesting a sample form. Study the form closely. The design is very structured. The first paragraph is only the vital facts of the entrant in the census; his marriage information; and then the same for his (first) spouse. The next paragraph(s) are biographical and chronologically patterned. Then the children and their spouses are listed with only their vital facts (ie. no biographical.

You can submit as many entries as you wish. The only thing that must be given close attention is the sources you have for every fact - without exception! If the reference is to a standard genealogy or local history, you do not need to send copies. If it is to original records (though not vital records in New England), please include a photocopy of the source. This is very helpful in the editing process.

I see three levels that all accepted (for publishing) submissions should meet. Level 1 is the absolute minimum reference checks that all submissions must have been evaluated against. Level 2 is what I believe the majority of submissions should receive as you compile your genealogical record. Level 3 is the ideal, but I realize that not all of us have the time to ferret out this information or the access either. Obviously, most entries will be a combination of two or more levels. If you have access to some of the sources mentioned in level 3, please use them. You must not feel you have to cover everything in a given level, except level 1, the minimum requirement level.

Level 1 means that all the basic published sources have been consulted in the writing of your submission. You have used the Vermont state vital records (on microfilm and available from any LDS Branch Library and other places) and traced your entran down through his grandchildren on every line possible - including children of his daughters. You have checked all major published genealogies on all the surnames within your entry (again including married daughters). All local histories for all the towns that the family lived in
throughout their life have been scanned. Abby Hemenway's Vermont Historical Gazetteer (1867-1892, 1923), which does not include Windsor County, and Alden M. Rollins' Vermont Warnings Out (1995) [volume 1 covering northern Vermont, volume 2, as yet unpublished, will cover the lower four counties] has been checked. Almost all entrants served in the Revolutionary War. You should list their service record. You should consult the following three works to uncover this information: Carleton Edward Fisher and Sue Gray Fisher, Soldiers, Sailors and Patriots of the Revolutionary War -- Vermont (1992); John E. Goodrich, Rolls of the Soldiers in the Revolutionary War, 1775 to 1783 (1994); and Virgil D. White, Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files (1990, 1992) in four volumes. If your entrant served from another state, there are similar compiled service records for the other state that you should read.

Level 2 means you have checked a few primary sources for your ancestor. You have seen the probate / surrogate records for the entrant, all spouses, children and children's spouses in your submission. You have culled all the data in all land transactions in all locations your ancestor lived. You have seen all surviving grand lists (tax records) to identify your ancestor's residency in Vermont if no land records have been found. You searched the LDS International Genealogical Index and the Ancestral File for clues to follow up. Inclusion of these sources makes a submission a better than average research job, in my opinion.

Level 3 is for the researcher devoted to discovering all they can about their subject. You have taken the results of your state-wide vital records search and verified this transcription against the original town records (probably on microfilm). That means your entry will cite the actual town record (ie. TR 2: 24) instead of the state vital records (ie. simply VR). You will have read through the early town records picking out every thread of information concerning your subject. You will have checked the civil court records in the appropriate jurisdiction. You will have searched through the major likely manuscript repositories: the New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston; the Vermont Historical Society, Bailey Howe Library at UVM; and any local public libraries and historical societies. Here you peruse all the manuscripts dealing with your family. You also look at account books, diaries, scrapbooks, etc. of material dealings with your locale and time period for the elusive facts that cannot be found anywhere else. You have now found about every shred of information possible!

After all of your fine research, you are now ready to write up your results to share with the world. You have followed all of the prescribed directions for writing your submission. If you do not have a computer available, you have typed your submission. If you are fortunate to be able to use a computer, you can submit your work on any size and density diskette. Your diskette will have a label clearly stating IBM (preferred) or Mac. Also, the name of the program and its version number will be listed. On the diskette, you have included your file and an ASCII version of the same file. If you use WordPerfect or Word versions 5+, please include a version 5 file which all programs allow by utilizing the "save as" function. You send this diskette or typed copy to: Scott Andrew Bartley, Vermont Families Project, PO Box 1118, Boston MA 02123-1118.

Now you are a part of the continuing series of VFP volumes. Again, I ask, please review all pre-1992 submissions and compare them to the above guidelines. I would greatly appreciate the help!

Scott Andrew Bartley

**B & T Back Issues**


**NEW BOOK REVIEW POLICY**

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

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**GSV Newsletter, July 1996**

**GSV Publication Guides**

Guidelines are being prepared by the Publications Committee for primary record extraction: vital, probate, land, church, cemetery and for Bible, diaries, letters, newspapers.

Unfortunately, the announcement in the April *Newsletter* was premature. At this time none of the Guides are ready for distribution. Please watch the *Newsletter* for details as the various guides become available in the future.

**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 add is to appear in. Checks must be made out to GSV but sent to the Newsletter editor along with the exact wording for the add. Camera-ready copy or IBM ASCII disk would be appreciated.

**MEETINGS**

"IN YOUR ANCESTOR'S IMAGE"

A conference for the Nation's Genealogists, August 14-17, 1996 at Rochester, NY, is sponsored by the Federation of Genealogical Societies and hosted by the Rochester Genealogical Society. For registration forms contact: Federation of Genealogical Societies, P.O. Box 830220, Richardson, TX 75083-0220. GSV, VOCA and Peggy Jenkins will be sharing booth #105 in the exhibit area.

**YANKEN JAMBOREE**

The Swedish Ancestry Research Association (SARA) is sponsoring the "Yankin Jamboree: A Multicultural Genealogical Gathering" to be held Friday September 13, 9-6 and Saturday September 14, 1996, 9-5 at the Sturbridge Host Hotel, Sturbridge, MA. There will be 20-24 lectures on many genealogical topics and about 100 vendors. Contact Kay Sheldon, SARA president, at (508) 757-0002 (days) or (508) 867-0478 (evenings) or write to Yankee Jamboree, 27 Burbank St., Millbury, MA 01527.
ITALIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

The Society was founded in 1994 by Jonathan D. Galli, CGRS, based on the need of Italian-American genealogists to foster greater awareness and action in Italian genealogy. For more information send a SASE to: Italian Genealogical Society of America, P.O. Box 8571, Cranston, RI 02920-8571

VERMONT FRENCH-CANADIAN GENEALOGY SOCIETY

The Society was formed on March 12, 1996 at St. Joseph School in Burlington. The purpose, as a non-profit organization, is to build a library to preserve Vermont American-French genealogical data and related materials to aid genealogical researchers. For information contact: Paul R. Landry, President, 260 Laurel Hill Drive, So. Burlington, VT 05403-7381

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The National Archives and Records Service of the General Services Administration in Washington, DC maintains twelve regional offices in the United States. Each branch maintains records for that area plus the 1790-1920 census record films for the entire United States. Most branches are open weekdays 8-4, closed all federal holidays.

Each census recorded different facts about a family. From 1790 [1791 in Vermont] to 1840 only the head of the household was named, with the members of the family divided into various age groups. It should be remembered that parents, inlaws, hired help and boarders would be listed with the family. Starting in 1850 each person in the home was listed. We can learn a great deal about a family from the census.

The 1900 census schedules give for each person: name, address, relationship to the head of the household, color or race, sex, month and year of birth, age at last birthday, marital status. If a wife is listed within a household, then the number of years married, number of children born of that marriage, and the number of living children is included. Each individuals place of birth, parents place of birth, citizenship if foreign born, year of immigration, citizenship status, occupation; weather or not the person can read, write and speak English; living in an owned or rented home or farm and if mortgaged or not. The 1910 and 1920 censuses give much of the same information.

An indexing system "Soundex" for the 1880 - 1920 census has been devised. With this system, names that sound the same are coded together. Each surname code begins with the first letter of the surname, then three numerals from zero to six. Within each code, the cards are filed by first name, then by place of birth.

Each family has a card and each individual with a surname other that of the head of the household has an individual card. Each state has its own set of indexes. To find your family, you need to know what state they lived in at the time of the census. Unfortunately, the 1880 soundex lists only families with children age 10 or younger.

The Pittsfield, MA branch, 100 Dan Fox Dr., Pittsfield, MA is open to researchers Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m., Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. (413) 445-6885 x26

Major Microfilm Holdings:
US Census, 1790-1920
Misc. Atlantic Ports, 1820-1873
Canadian Border Crossing Records, 1895-1954
Enrollment Cards, Five Civilized Tribes, 1898-1914
Eastern Cherokee Applications of US Court of Claims, 1906-1909
Military Records including: Revolutionary War Pension files and Compiled Service files; War of 1812, index to pension files; Register of US Army Enlistment's, 1798-1914; War of 1812 Bounty Land Warrants; Volunteers Compiled Service records, 1784-1811; The 54th MA Vol. Infantry records, 1863-1865; Indexes to service records: Mexican War, War with Spain, Philippine Insur.; Selective Service cards WWI, NY & NE.

FAMILY RESEARCHER

Frary Family Association, Anne Frary Lepak, Historian, 10615 Mosquero Drive, Port Richey, FL 34668, has lineages of Frary family members in the US, Canada and in 69 Vermont towns from 1782 - 1985. Lineages are free for a SASE.

CIVIL WAR ANCESTOR?

If your ancestor fought in the Union Army during the Civil War you are eligible to join the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War. For information write to Thomas P. McKenna, 1810 Bliss Road, Montpelier, VT 05602

GSV Newsletter, July 1996
FAMILY REUNIONS

The Sikes/Sykes Families Association Reunion will be held August 11-12, 1996 in Suffield, CT. Contact Arthur M. Sikes, Jr., 1175 River Blvd., Suffield, CT 06078 (860) 668-0414

The Jewett Family of America will hold a reunion July 4, 5, 6, 1996 in Rowley, MA. Contact Ted Loranz, Sec./Treas. JFA, 114 West Street, Medway, MA 02053 (508) 533-2216

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. xxvi + 281 pp.

Scott is continuing the work on Volume 2 and hopes to have it completed soon.

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 four 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
PO Box 1553
Saint Albans, VT 05478-1006