**FALL 1997 MEETING**

The meeting will be held on Saturday, October 18, 1997 in the Quality Inn on US Route 5 (Putney Road), just north of Exit 3 of I-91, north of Brattleboro, VT.

The program has not been completed at this time. One of the speakers will be Ken Stevens (author of the acclaimed series of genealogies of Wilsons in New England) on "Locating and Evaluating Genealogical Records."

The cost of the Meeting, morning coffee and the luncheon buffet will be $13.00 for members, $15.00 for non-members. Reservations must be mailed by October 3, 1997. Please mail your check, marked spring meeting to: Genealogical Society of Vermont, PO Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478-1006

**Meeting Schedule**

9:30 Registration starts & morning refreshments
10:00 GSV business meeting followed by morning speaker.
Noon Buffet Luncheon.
1:30: The afternoon program.

For the latest information on the Fall Meeting and GSV, please visit us on our Internt home-page at: http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/induni_n.j.

The final details of the meeting will be sent to the membership by post card six weeks prior to the meeting.

**BOOK REVIEW POLICY**

Books for review should be sent to John A. Leppman, 29 Oak Hill Terrace, Bellows Falls, VT 05101. If you are interested in reviewing books, please contact John Leppman and indicate the type of book(s) you would review.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS**

Thanks to all of you -- 105 of you at this writing -- who took the time to return the questionnaire enclosed in the last Newsletter. For those who put it aside and haven't sent it yet, it will still be welcome. I wish I had time to write a personal response to every questionnaire which came in. A few specific issues will be addressed directly, but members will understand that we can't realistically respond to every point on every questionnaire. Your Executive Committee has spent a good deal of time reviewing the responses and will continue to use them. They include some very thoughtful ideas and suggestions.

Here are a few highlights of the opinions offered by respondents, along with comments which reflect the Executive Committee's present positions:

- The overwhelming majority of respondents checked off that they joined GSV because of Vermont ancestry and a desire to be in contact with Vermont resources; fewer cited living in or near Vermont and wanting an organization close to home. Indeed, our over one thousand members are very scattered geographically, and services to distant members were often mentioned among our priorities.

- A very large number of respondents felt that the organization's major priorities include publishing Vermont resource materials, particularly those which have not previously been published, and information about how to find resources. Clearly this is a priority in the present editorial policies of our publications, and we will continue to work toward improving our efforts.

- The next most frequently cited goal or priority for GSV is the exchange of information among members about Vermont families, including publishing of queries and other efforts at networking people with common interests. Many respondents felt that the new format of our publications reduces the help we give members in this regard. I will first comment that members can still send queries to Vermont Genealogy; that service has not changed. In order to facilitate exchange of common family interests among members, we plan to issue a Members' Research Directory early in 1998, and your membership renewal form this year will include an opportunity to list up to five surnames of Vermont families you are interested in. This will be cross-indexed, so that others members with the same Vermont surname interests will be able to find you easily (including such things as your e-mail address if you wish), and it will be updated every three years or so. The Executive Committee feels that this will be a way of bringing members current, easily used information on significant Vermont research interests. We encourage all members to use this new directory and list surnames of interest on their renewal forms.

- Positive comments about the new look of our publications outnumbered negative ones by about a 3:1 majority. (This excludes a few very specific ideas, mostly having to do with...
Vermont Genealogy's typeface, which we will be considering carefully.) The Executive Committee still supports the decision to make our quarterly journal smaller and more tightly edited, and submissions of materials of all sorts for it are welcomed. Comments to the effect that articles were of too narrow interest to beginners, and more how-to material would be beneficial, are well understood, and more methodological material should be underway. A few people suggested having articles in Vermont Genealogy which described difficult sticking points or enigmas; such articles (which should be brief) are welcome.

- Several people commented on the slow progress of the Vermont Families in 1791 project. Volume II is essentially complete and should be on its way to the printer soon as this is being written. Volume III is well underway. The project has gone slower than hoped for because its editor has had a few other responsibilities (such as earning a Master's Degree), and good work takes time.

- The lack of an index for Branches & Twigs was noted by several respondents. This is a serious gap in our efforts for our members and others, and we are well on the way toward producing one. It will be a big job; those twenty-four years had very large numbers of names in them.

This list only touches a few of the many concerns (and kudos) which appeared in the questionnaires. Your comments will be kept on file and we will be coming back to your ideas as we try to develop programs for your benefit.

John A. Leppman
President

SPRING MEETING

Sixty-four attended the May 17, 1997 meeting in St. Johnsbury, plus our speakers. There was a brief business meeting. John Leppman presided. The first speaker was Alden Rollins who gave a most informative talk on Warnings Out. Peggy Pearl, Director of Education at the Fairbanks Museum, then told us about the Museum and other St. Johnsbury Resources. After lunch, Mr. Pearl gave us a brief history of the North Congregational Church and the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

Following these presentations, the formal meeting adjourned and participants were given a choice of one or more of three activities for the rest of the afternoon. Mr. Pearl led a guided tour of Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. Both the Fairbanks Museum and St. Johnsbury Athenaeum were prepared to welcome GSV attendees who wished to further explore their resources.

Mary Pat Brigham, Secretary

Board News

The Board of GSV recently voted to establish life memberships. In honor of the 25th anniversary of the society, complimentary life memberships were awarded to the five current members who were present at the first meeting, twenty-five years ago. These were Joann Nichols, Leo Fleury, Enoch Tompkins, Ron Warriner and Marjorie Napoli. All but Ron Warriner were present at the meeting. Life memberships are now available to all members of any age, for the sum of $500.00.

Mary Pat Brigham, Secretary

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee met on May 18, 1997. The meeting was attended by John Leppman, Robert Rodgers, Kathy Wendling, and Peggy Jenkins. We welcomed new members: Alden Rollins and Lynn J. Gauthier. Two other new members were unable to attend: James M. Holmes and Robert M. Murphy.

Most of the subjects discussed have been covered in our President's Message. A style manual for transcribed primary records is to be given priority.

Alden Rollins will coordinate the indexing of Branches & Twigs. Volunteers are needed for this project. He will be finding a suitable program so that multiple users in any location may work on the project. If you are willing to index even as much as one volume, please contact Alden. See his addresses in this Newsletter. This is a project for those of you who live at a distance and would like to donate some time to the society.

What was warning out and what does it tell you? Warning out was an aspect of New England's various settlement and poor laws permitting local authorities to issue warrants requiring newcomers to leave town unless they met certain criteria. In Vermont, warning out flourished from the 1760s to 1817, when state law discontinued the practice. Essentially it
was a legal device to protect the town against welfare applicants who did not have a legal settlement. The selectmen could issue the warrants at their discretion, and in many towns warrants were issued to all newcomers regardless of apparent social or economic status. Most newcomers either qualified for a legal settlement or just ignored the warrant. Modern researchers should draw no conclusions about status based solely on a warning to leave town.

For genealogists these warrants are a great blessing. By law they had to be issued within a year of the newcomer’s arrival, and then they had to be recorded in the town books. So your chances of finding an elusive ancestor, who perhaps moved around a lot and did not buy land or get into the other town records, are better than good by checking the warning out documents, now so conveniently abstracted and indexed.

Once you have found an ancestor in a certain town, many possibilities of research suddenly open up. Now that you know where he or she lived, you can check the Grand Lists, land records, school records, town proceedings, county court records, and so on. Even if the family or individuals stayed only a few years, there will be interesting and useful references to them in some town record or other. The warning out warrant is the key that will open the door to the right town.

Then your work REALLY begins........

Alden M. Rollins, Documents Librarian
University of Alaska Anchorage, Consortium Library 3211 Providence Dr., Anchorage, AK 99508-8176 Phone: 907-786-1874. FAX: 907-786-6050
Email: afamr@uaa.alaska.edu

FURTHER THOUGHTS

Those of us who were fortunate enough to attend the May 18 meeting in St. Johnsbury heard the full report on Vermont "warnings out" by Alden M. Rollins. Many of us had encountered such "warnings out" in other parts of New England but never fully understood their meanings.

In the 1930s and early 40s the WPA did a survey of Vermont town records. At that time they found extant in the care of most town clerks, official copies of the warnings out. During the more than fifty intervening year, Rollins found that many towns had lost these records. Fires, changing town officers and locals, and other such reasons are advances for the loss of these valuable records. Alden Rollins' research is at least one way to stop the erosion. He has ardently pursued his mission for several years with a major handicap: Rollins is teaching in Alaska, somewhat removed from the subject of his inquiry.

As he winds up his research, putting the finishing touches on his second and final volume, Rollins observed that the need to preserve all old town records is acute. They are in danger from the 3 d's as he called them: Disintegration, Disasters (fire, floods, etc.); and Disappearance. He asked the group as an organization and as individuals to work for the preservation of these vital pieces of history.

Warnings to leave town were only the beginning. Early Vermonters did develop methods for taking care of their poor and the elderly who could not do for themselves but, until the state took over the welfare of all its citizens in the 1960s, Overseers-of-the-Poor quarreled over which town was responsible for new arrivals with their bonds. Over the months to come, I expect to examine many ways that Vermont towns and the state devised for coping. Of course, the Woodstock area methods will be in the forefront of this discussion.

Kathy Wendling, KWendling@aol.com

FALL VOCA MEETING

The fall meeting of the Vermont Old Cemetery Association will be held on Saturday October 4, 1997 in the Second Congregational Church, Berlin, VT. Registration & coffee at 9:00, business meeting at 10:00. An Old-fashioned "church dinner" will be served at noon [price not set at this time]. Afternoon program, at 1:15: a slide program by Charles Marchant. Contact: Elizabeth Beckwith, P.O. Box 105, Underhill Ctr., VT 05490 (802) 899-4640 for details and to make lunch reservations or visit the VOCA web site. http://www.together.net/nbrtutor/voca/voca.htm

VERMONT FRENCH CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The VTFCGS was founded in 1996 and is building a library housed in a classroom at St. Joseph's School in Burlington. Last fall they published the first Journal, LINKS edited by Joseph-André Senecal. Contact the Society at: P.O. Box 65128, Burlington, VT 05440-5128 or http://members.aol.com/vtfcgs/genealogy/index.html

NEHGS

IRISH GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 12 & 13, 1997

The conference will be held at the Ramada Rolling Green Inn and Conference Center, Andover, MA. Registration deadline: August 15. For information call: NEHGS, 1-800-286-3447

FAMILY REUNIONS

The Packard and Allied Families Association (descendants of Samuel Packard: Stoneham Aspial, Suffolk, England, 1612 - Bridgewater, MA 1684) will hold a reunion in Colorado Springs, August 8-10, 1997. For details, contact The Packard Family Reunion, P.O. Box 36384, Denver, CO 80236, (303) 989-5090. e-mail: p82058@aol.com

The Sanborn Family Association is having its annual reunion on August 17, 1997 at the Governor Dummer Academy in Byfield, MA. For further information please call Everett Sanborn (603) 735-5817

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.

RUTLAND COUNTY VERMONT CEMETERY INScriptions

All cemeteries in the twenty-seven towns are included in this series of sixteen volumes. Send a long SASE for complete details and prices.

Margaret R. Jenks
24 Mettowee St., Granville, NY 12832
BAILEY/HOWE LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

The Special Collections department of the University of Vermont Libraries consists of the Wilbur Collection of Vermontiana, The Rare Book Collection, and the University Archives.

The Wilbur Collection includes some 80,000 books and pamphlets, approximately 20,000,000 photographs and other pictures, upwards of 7,500 printed and manuscript maps, and more than 8,000 linear feet of Vermont manuscripts. Contemporary Vermont materials, such as legislative records and state agency documents, are acquired on a continuous basis. The department also maintains an extensive reference file of news articles and pamphlets on issues pertaining to Vermont and Vermonters. Thus researchers have access to a wide range of materials documenting both historical and current Vermont topics.

Most of the printed material is accessible through LUIS terminals throughout the library. Call numbers are preceded by WILB for the Wilbur Collection. For help in finding other special materials, please inquire at the department reference desk.

There are a number of helpful published guides to the collections: Jeffrey D. Marshall, Photographs in the Special Collections Department, Bailey/Howe Library; J. Kevin Graffagnino, Vermont Historical Resources: The Manuscript Holdings of the Wilbur Collection, University of Vermont; Jeffrey D. Marshall, Vermonters in the Civil War: Manuscripts in the Special Collections Department, University of Vermont Library. A number of topical bibliographies are also available, as well as a guide to the University of Vermont Libraries Folklore and Oral History Collection.

Due to the unique nature of the collections, materials do not circulate and must be used within the Special Collections Department. Although this policy may seem restrictive, it was established to ensure that the items you need will be available at all times. Some items may be placed with the Reserve Desk for after hours use.

Please inquire at the department reference desk to make these arrangements.

Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 9:00 pm; Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm.

 Exceptions: During university intercessions and summer sessions, hours are Monday - Friday, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. Check on holiday hours. Phone (802) 656-2138, Fax: (802) 656-4038

VERMONT NEWSPAPER
PROJECT

The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded the UVM Libraries a preservation and access grant for $157,413 to coordinate the statewide Vermont Newspaper Project. The Vermont project is part of the United States Newspaper Program to locate, catalog, and preserve early newspapers published in each state. Vermont is the fifth project to be funded.

Vermont's newspaper publishing heritage enjoys a special historical distinction, if only by virtue of coincidence. The Vermont Gazette, or Green-Mountain Post-Boy began publishing at Westminster on December 14, 1780. The first Vermont newspaper was printed on the same hand press used in 1639 to produce the Bay Psalm Book, the first printed book in America. Through printers Judah Spooner and Timothy Green, the old printing press known as the Stephen Daye press had found its way from Harvard up the Connecticut River Valley to Vermont, where it continues to reside on exhibit at the Vermont Historical Society museum.

An initial survey indicates nearly 700 Vermont newspaper titles published since Spooner’s and Green’s inaugural effort. Paper issues and microfilm copies are scattered throughout the state in public libraries, historical societies, archives and academic libraries. The Vermont Newspaper Project will provide greater access to this wide dispersement. Cataloguing and holdings records provided under the Vermont Newspaper Project will be available electronically through the Vermont Automated Library System (VALS) in 1998. The final objective of the project, to assess the condition of newspapers in paper format, will provide the basis for microfilm preservation. We hope to write a second proposal to restore and microfilm many of the newspapers identified during the cataloguing phase.

From LIBER, A Newsletter for the Friends of Special Collections at UVM, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405 [Vol. IX, No. 27, Autumn 1996, page 2, cont. to page 8.]

Submitted by Robert Rodgers.

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
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NATIONAL ARCHIVES,
PITTSFIELD, MA.

If you are planning to visit the Archives in Pittsfield, or any of the other facilities, especially during vacation times, it is wise to write and make a reservation. The Pittsfield Archives will only accept written reservations, for up to six hours. Write to: National Archives, 10 Dan Fox Drive, Pittsfield, MA 01202; by FAX: 413-455-7599 or by e-mail: Archives@Pittsfield.nara.gov. If the archives are crowded, you may be bumped off your reader after a certain number of hours. The reservation assures you more time.

VERMONT 1850 CENSUS INDEX

This index was published by Ronald Vern Jackson and Gary Randall Teples, Accelerated Indexing Systems, Inc., 3346 South Orchard Dr., Bountiful, UT 84010, 1978

Added in pencil to the copy in the Vermont Room of the Rutland Free Library: "Not Complete, 18 whole towns not included resulting in 4250 heads of household missing." All of the Vermont 1850 census is on The National Archives Microfilm M4332.

Roll 920: Addison County - Appears to be correct.
Roll 921: Bennington County - part of Winhall missing.
Roll 922: Chittenden County; Roll 923: Caledonia & Essex Counties; Roll 924: Franklin & Grand Isle Counties; Roll 925: Lamoille & Orleans Counties; Roll 926: Orange County, not checked.
Roll 927, Rutland County - The last four towns were omitted: Trimouth, Mount Holly, Shrewsbury and Clarendon.
Roll 928: Washington County - Four towns omitted: Barre, Berlin, Plainsfield, Roxbury.
Roll 929, Windham County - Eight towns omitted: Athens, Brattleboro, Brookline, Newfane, Stratton, Townshend, Wardsboro, Westminster. At least some names missing in Putney.

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.

Janet Induni, Treasurer
Lachine rapids near Montreal) or Hurons from Ancien-Lorette, a suburb of Quebec city. Occasionally, too, Oneidas and Senecas strayed here from New York’s Finger Lakes region where the Iroquois Confederacy was a going concern until the late 1770s.

The Abnakis who dwelt in Vermont (or trickled in from Canada) spoke poor French and even worse English. They were willing enough to interpret Indian names but the first two or three generations of Green Mountain settlers couldn’t understand Indian Joe very well, and were too busy clearing land to pay much heed. It follows, therefore, that compared with other New England states (and with New York) Vermont has relatively few Indian place names, and in too many instances those locatives are garbled.

Even in the Champlain valley the great majority of place-names transmitted to the first Yankee settlers are Algonkian, which is to say, chiefly Abnak or Mohican. But on both shores of Lake Champlain a considerable number of Mohawk (and other Iroquoian) terms have been preserved, notably on French and British military maps. There is also a sprinkling of toponyms from far distant tribes; wherever possible these non-Algonkian, non-Iroquoian words have been labeled and translated.

Evidently the (Iroquoian) Mohawks controlled the whole Lake Champlain watershed form 1400 (?) A.D. until around 1600, while the rest of Vermont was (Algonkian) territory belonging to Mohicans, Pocumtucks, Pennacooks and later, Abnakis. None of these people "stayed home" before or after Samuel de Champlain’s visit in 1609. The east shore of "Iroquois Sea" (Lake Champlain) was quite vulnerable to Mohawk raids, while the heavily forested ranges to the west were often visited by Algonkian hunters. The Indian name for New York’s Mount Marcy is Wa-wob-aden-ek, identical with the Abaki-Pennacook words meaning "at the White Mountains" in New Hampshire. Further, the work "Adirondacks" was not originally applied to the mountains but was a derivative Iroquoian nickname for Abnak interlopers. The Mohawk term Ra-to-ton-to-keks can be translated approximately as "those (weaklings) who eat bark and other things from trees." Significantly, Lake Saranac, in Mohawk country, probably gets its name from Abnak sen-hal-on-ak, literally "sumac buds."

Aboriginal place names are generally simple descriptives, so we have "Big Island" (Abnak Kchi menahen; Mohawk Ka-weh-mi-yo), etc. Indian names often contain "action-sense," too; "Quinnesaska Point (and river) in Shelburne gets its name from Abnak Kiwin eskuan, "a long elbow or other joint which bends." In Grand Isle County, De-yeh-won-kwa-tha comes from Mohawk words which signify "at which somebody picks up his canoe," that is, a portage or carrying-place.

George Washington inherited a striking nickname from his grandfather, whom the Iroquois called A-na-da-gaari-as, "destroyer of towns." Governor Montgometry of Quebec (1636) was On-non-tie, "Mountain large," a direct translation of his French name.

Copied from the introduction to Indian Place Names in Vermont, by John C. Huden, 1957, pp. 1-3.

Chimney Point in Addison: Chemans Nayaug, from Chemans "a canoe" plus Nayaug, "a point of land."

Kawasseniekwa: a bare place near the Connecticut River in Putney: "Whirlwind blew into river." This name was apparently given by Abnakis or Pennacooks or Squakheags to any place where high winds or hurricanes had uprooted trees, causing them to drop into a stream.

Passumpisc: a village and a river so-names in St. Johnsbury. From Abnakis Pa-

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

Moosalama: a mountain near Lake Dunmore, Salisbury. Some say this is derived from an Indian name for silver trout, it may be a corruption of Moosalama: "high, "big" ferns" or "many ferns." Also Moz, "moose"; Alamos, "dog," hence "moose chased by dog."

Mettawee: a river and its valley in Pawlet [and Granville, NY. Spelled Mettowee today by the residents.} Metta means "furthest away" in some Algonkian dialects; but in the Natick, Mettie is "poplar tree." Also possibly a corruption of Metawemick, "place of black earth."

Popasquash-(Menoni): an island in St. Albans jurisdiction. The derivation is given variously as: Pamupsak, "rocky place;" Pop-e-kwa, "cranberries;" Pop-e-quack, "broken land;" Wab-ees-quaw, "white, bubbly water."

Wassabestego: in Sharon, "The White River"

Shatterock: a mountain in Jamaica. Possibly the derivation is Iskoda-ouke, "at the fire-place." Another suggestion is Nashua-tuk-ouke, "place where two streams meet."

Keekomkwak: a fishing spot on the Barton river, Orleans; "sucker-fishing-place." From Keekomkwak, "sucker" plus ak the location suffix.

PAID ADVERTISING

The Newsletter is 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.

VERMONT GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH & DESKTOP PUBLISHING

* General or specific searches * Also design & typeset your printing needs.
Contact Jeanine at The Little House DTP
RJ3, Box 578, West Glover, VT 05875
(802)525-6949 * correction: jdhdp@sover.net
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.

Work is continuing on Volume 2. Scott has not yet set a publication date. Watch your Newsletter for further information.

Vermont Families in 1791
Change of Address

When submitting information for the 1791 project please write to Scott Andrew Bartley, Editor at 258 Shawmut Ave. #4, Boston, MA 02118-2143

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 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 addresses. Mail your checks, payable to GSV, to:

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