**SPRING 1998 MEETING**

The meeting will be held on Saturday, May 16, 1998, at the Brandon Inn in the center of Brandon, a location we have enjoyed in the past. A program of speakers on areas of historical and genealogical interest is planned. You will get details in a postcard mailing closer to the time of the meeting.

The cost of the Meeting, morning coffee and the luncheon will be $13.00 for members, $15.00 for non-members. Reservations must be postmarked by May 9, 1998. 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

10:30  Morning Speaker

12:00  Luncheon

1:30  Afternoon Speaker(s)

**FALL 1998 MEETING**

We usually have a meeting the third Saturday in October, but that comes within one week of the New England Regional Genealogical Conference on October 23-25 (see below), and many members will want to attend that. We are therefore tentatively planning to have a GSV meeting to coincide with the Annual Meeting of the Vermont Historical Society on Saturday, September 19, 1998. We will work with VHS on a program which will be of interest to GSV members and will reserve some time for a brief business meeting of GSV.

For the latest information on the Spring Meeting and GSV, please visit us on our Internet home-page at: [http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Induni_n_j](http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Induni_n_j).

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Sometimes it seems that GSV moves slowly, but like Ol’ Man River, our organization just keeps rollin’ along, and sometimes we do make progress. Here are some things you will want to know about.

**Vermont Families in 1791**

You are no doubt aware that the long-awaited Volume II is published, and work is proceeding on Volume III. Contact Scott Bartley directly if you have material to submit, revise, or delete.

**Index to Branches & Twigs**

Under the direction of Alden Rollins, detailed guidelines for a comprehensive name index to the twenty-four years of Branches & Twigs have been developed and appropriate computer software recommended. Several members have indicated willingness to participate in data entry, but more volunteers can be accommodated and would lighten the load of what promises to be a big project. The plan is to supply every volunteer indexer with the necessary indexing software; the volunteer will have to have adequate computer capability and a Windows® operating system. Each volunteer would take a block of issues (depending on how many people participate), and then a chief indexer would see to the merging of the files into one index which would meet standards of format and coverage. At this writing, the position of chief indexer is still open.

Branches & Twigs included many thousands of names, even if we exclude the already alphabetized “Apple Orchard” feature and names mentioned in entirely non-genealogical context. The indexing project is not a small one. We feel it will be greatly beneficial to the value of the publication to future researchers, and we encourage your participation if you can spare some time and talent. Contact John Leppman if you are interested.

**Member directory**

This new publication will be available in the spring of 1998. March 1 is your deadline for submitting information for your listing to Janet Induni. Your listing will include your name and address, e-mail address if you wish, and up to five Vermont surnames which you are researching. The surnames will be cross indexed. This should provide useful information to members about what other members are interested in corresponding about, and it will be updated frequently enough that it can be reliably used. The directory will be available only to GSV members and will not be knowingly provided to anyone intending to use its information for commercial purposes. It will be priced to reflect our cost in producing it.

**Vermont Historical Society League of Local Historical Societies**

The annual meeting of this group will be held on Saturday, May 9 (a week before our May meeting) in Northfield and will feature a program on “Doing Family History.” GSV will plan to be on hand to lend our expertise and interest.

**New England Regional Genealogical Conference**

This conference is held every year and a half, and the next one will be in Portland.
Maine, October 23-25, 1998. A brochure with registration information will be mailed to every GSV member. GSV will sponsor a speaker and have a booth in the exhibit area as usual, and the educational and personal stimulation at these conferences is always a pleasure.

We would like to have a selection of worthwhile used books for sale at our booth this year, including books on Vermont topics and/or of genealogical interest. If you have books of that sort which you were thinking of disposing of, we will be interested in having you consign them to the GSV Book Shop. You would set a selling price which you considered reasonable and GSV would split the proceeds with you 50/50 if the book sells. More on this in the next Newsletter.

**Preservation of local records**

GSV has a fund which provides grants of up to $750 seed money for projects aimed at preservation and/or publication of previously unpublished records. This might include town and church records of genealogical interest; or other unusual and interesting records. (This is not a fund for publication of individual family history material.) If you or your local government, church, or historical society has a project which you feel might qualify, notify us and we will send an application form. Those who attended the May 1997 meeting in St. Johnsbury and heard Alden Rollins’ plea for preservation of town records will understand that nothing we do as an organization could be more useful than this.

**B & T BACK ISSUES**


**VG BACK ISSUES**


Your checks should be payable to GSV and sent to: GSV Back Issues, PO Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478

**BOOK REVIEW POLICY**

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

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

**Fiscal year ending September 30, 1997**

**GENERAL FUND**

**Income:**
- Membership Dues: $20,728.97
- Lifetime Membership Dues: 500.00
- Contributions (Permanent & Computer Fund): 480.00
- Interest: 1,053.84
- Program Fees (semi-annual meetings Oct. 96, May 97, Oct. 97): 1,762.00
- NERGC: 750.00
- Miscellaneous: 8.50
- **Total Income:** $25,283.31

**Expenses:**
- Editor's fee: Vermont Genealogy 3,000.00
- Newsletter printing (4 issues): 1,702.68
- Newsletter postage & delivery (4 issues): 404.52
- Vermont Genealogy printing (4 issues): 8,805.80
- Vermont Genealogy postage & delivery (4 issues): 728.94
- Program Expense (semi-annual meetings Oct. 96, May 97): 2,918.36
- Promotional Expenses: 604.00
- Postage (all but periodicals): 1,205.02
- Office supplies: 431.15
- Telephone: 13.90
- Subscriptions to VMCTA, VOCA: 5.00
- NERGC: 365.00
- Bank service charges: 0
- Computer Fund expense: 150.00
- Miscellaneous: 12.92
- President's Discretionary Fund: 50.00
- **Total expenses:** $20,397.29

**Excess of Income over Operating Expenses:** $ 4,886.02

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Induni, Treasurer

**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.

The second implication involves the creation of a history of the commonality, the articulate masses of early American society. By clearing away the myths of elitist "trickle-down" history, individual families may take their rightful place in major historical movements and rise far beyond their local town status. With the reconstructive method, not 100, but rather nearly 500, individuals can claim Green Mountain ancestors.

And, finally, both Vermont genealogists and historians should be ever-mindful of
the continuing impact of established, elitist, pro-Puritan historians. Not only does their overwhelming influence still skewer early Vermont history, but its unstated objective is to nullify it by stereotyping the entire early Vermont populace as a "bunch of troublemakers" and deny them their rightful place in the development of the American democratic tradition.

Donald A. Smith
34 South Main Street
Millbury, MA 01527

Our first afternoon speaker, worried that the audience would go to sleep with their full stomachs, was Ken Stevens on "Locating and evaluating genealogical evidence: A Wilson multi-family case study". Ken presented eight typical case studies he has encountered in his work on the Wilson families of New England.

Each of these studies presented conflicting data. For example, Mary Wilson, marriage intentions 27 Sept. 1721 to John Bennett in Kittery, ME. Mary Wilson, married 16 Sept. 1722 John Remick who had married Elizabeth Ham in 1713.

There was only one Mary Wilson, dau. of Joseph and Hannah Wilson of the right age in the area to have married at this time. The solution: The will of Elizabeth Ham's father proves she was married to John Remick in 1731. John and Mary Bennett sold some land in 1750 that had belonged to her father Joseph Wilson. Thus the 16 Sept. 1722 marriage is fictitious.

Another problem: Did Daniel C. and Almira/Flemira (Pollard) Wilson have one or two sons named Gilman A.? Pittsfield, Rutland Co., VT records show Gilman A. b. 5 Jan. 1859, the IGI 29 Dec. 1858 & died in Mendon, VT. The Mendon records show he died 19 Aug. 1861 age 2 years, 7 months and 14 days which exactly fits the Jan. birth date. The child was not in the family at the time of the 1860 census or any later census, nor has any gravestone been found for him.

The list of scholars in Mendon for the year 1862 lists a Gilman A. Wilson. On 6 Nov. 1871 Mendon, VT, Gilman A. Wilson, age 21 [b. c 1850] Pittsfield, son of Daniel C. & Elmira Wilson, married Susie Nims. Gilman A. Wilson, age 29 [b. c 1851, same parents] married 13 March 1880 Plymouth, VT VR, Betsy A. Dix. The death on 9 Dec. 1926 of Gilman A. Wilson, born 25 Aug. 1850 age 76 years, 3 months and 14 days is recorded in Pittsfield. This second Gilman A. was of an age to be the scholar in 1862.

It is hard to believe the 1859-61 Gilman A. ever existed. It would be highly unusual for parents to give two living children identical names. This problem showed a horrible set of records which defy analysis. Perhaps one of you will shed some light on this problem.

Ken Stevens
P.O. Box 118, Walpole, NH 03608

Out third speaker was Jim Holmes. His program was titled "Come to your census." He explained the many types of information that may be found in the census. He reminded us that the 1880 Soundex only included families with children born between 2 June 1869 and 1 June 1880. The Soundex/Miracode for 1900, 1910 [only some states] and 1920 list each head of family, and all persons of other surnames in the family.

The census was supposed to represent the family as of the following dates: 1790: Monday, August 2, 1790; 1800: Monday, August 4, 1800; 1810: Monday, August 6, 1810; 1820: Monday, August 7, 1820; 1830: Tuesday, June 1, 1830; 1840: Monday, June 1, 1840; 1850: Saturday, June 1, 1850; 1860: Friday, June 1, 1860; 1870: Wednesday, June 1, 1870; 1880: Tuesday, June 1, 1880; 1890: Sunday, June 1, 1890 (unfortunately almost all of this census burned, except parts of the Union Veterans & Widows schedules); 1900: Friday, June 1, 1900; 1910: Friday, April 5, 1910; 1920: Thursday, January 1, 1920. It may have taken the enumerator weeks to visit each home, therefore, the data may not accurately represent the family on the above dates. This may explain why some families that moved are enumerated twice, and some omitted.

There are guides listing the numbers for rolls of census film. The guides cover 1790-1890, 1900, 1910, 1920.

See the July 1996 Newsletter for more on the Pittsfield, MA Federal Records center. The hours of operation have changed to: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 8 am to 4 pm. Wednesday: 8 am - 9 pm. closed all Federal holidays. They close at 4 pm the day before a Thursday holiday.

See also the Aug. 1997 Newsletter for information on reserving a reader at the Archives.

Genealogists Never Die
They just loose their Census

LAST CALL FOR THE MEMBERS' RESEARCH DIRECTORY

Your Society will be publishing a Members' Research Directory in the Spring of 1998. The Directory will include members' names, addresses, e-mail addresses (if applicable) and up to five surnames of Vermont families being researched. The Directory will be available for purchase for a small fee by members of the Society only.

The deadline for inclusion in the first edition of the Members' Research Directory is March 1, 1998. If you have not already submitted your information for the Directory, this is your last chance.

To be part of this project, your submission must be postmarked no later than March 1, 1998. Please include your name and membership number, e-mail address (if applicable), and up to five surnames of Vermont families being researched.

Please mail to GSV, PO Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478-1006 or send an e-mail message to:
76165.3613@compuserve.com
THE BERKSHIRE ATHENAEUM IN PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

A visit to the Athenaeum will be rewarding for anyone interested in Vermont families and their roots.

The collection contains:
- Films of the Vermont Vital Records from the beginning to 1908.
- A complete set of Abby Maria Hemenway's Vermont Historical Gazetteer.
- All of Margaret Jenks, Rutland County Vermont Cemetery Inscription books.
- A large collection of Massachusetts town histories.
- The "official series" of Massachusetts vital records.
- Jay Mack Holbrook's town vital records on fiche. [VR not in the official series]
- The Mayflower Descendant magazine. The Boston Evening Transcript genealogical column on fiche.
- World wide IGI.
- Hale Collection: inscriptions from 2,000 Connecticut cemeteries; marriages and deaths from 90 early newspapers.
- They have a small collection of family genealogies, a few Vermont county and town histories.
- Arnold's Rhode Island Vital Records

The library is located at 1 Wendell Ave, Pittsfield, MA 01201 phone: (413) 499-9486. The Genealogy Department head is Katherine Westwood. The library is free. The fiche copier is 10¢ and the film printer is 25¢ an image. The library is open 9:00 to 9:00 Monday through Thursday, 9:00 to 5:00 Friday, 10:00 to 5:00 Saturday, closed on Sundays.

Submitted by Ted Atkinson

THE HYDEVILLE CEMETERY
Castleton, Vermont

On Saturday October 11, 1997 a volunteer party of seven, Ken Flowers and Joe Duran of the Castleton Historical Society, Hugh & Dani Roberts of Fair Haven, editor of Rooted in the Green Mountains, Nicki Maynard, a VOCA member, with her nine year old granddaughter Rachael Santos both of Woodstock, and your editor descended on the cemetery armed with various gardening tools to begin cleaning out the underbrush.

A large section was cleared. In four hours, fifteen stones and several foot stones were located and marked with surveyor's tape so that they may be easily found after the leaves have fallen and the winter snow. All the stones need to be reset but most were in fairly good condition. The old Samuel Whitlock Mausoleum is still standing but in very poor condition. Both chambers are open. Hugh Roberts returned another day to do more clearing.

Some pictures were taken to document the condition of the cemetery. In the spring the area needs to be probed for buried stones. There is said to be a list of about 28 stones done a number of years ago. To date this list has not been located.

We were joined by the Castleton-Poultney Boy Scout leader, Michael Peltier, who was most interested in having the Scouts continue the work in the spring as a community project.

There is still much to be done. The area needs to be surveyed to find the exact bounds of the cemetery. A number of large trees need to be removed and the fence replaced. In spite of being surrounded by the auto salvage yard, almost no junk was found in the cemetery. This cemetery is not "One of the Worst in the State."

Peggy Jenks

MEETINGS

SPRING VOCA MEETING

The spring meeting will be held in the South Windham, VT Congregational Church on Saturday May 2, 1998. The program has not been set at this time. Contact Carolyn Partridge, RR Box 192, Windham, VT 05359 (802) 874-4182.

GSV Newsletter, February 1998
The fall meeting on October 3 is planned for Peacham, VT.
Please visit VOCA's web page at: http://homepages.together.net/~btrutor/voca/vocahome.htm

1998 AGS CONFERENCE

The 21st Annual Conference of the Association for Gravestone Studies will be held from noon June 25 through noon June 28, 1998 at the Monmouth University, West Long Beach, NJ. All attendees must be pre-registered. For information contact: AGS Office, 278 Main Street, Suite 207, Greenfield, MA 01301 or by e-mail at ags@javanet.com.

The mission of the Association for Gravestone Studies is to foster appreciation of the cultural significance of Gravestones and burial grounds through their study and preservation. They publish a journal each year called Markers, with articles on various aspects of gravestones and their carvers. Contact AGS or your editor if you find any signed gravestones or probate records showing payments for gravestones.

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF VERMONT WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING REINSTATSED AND NEW MEMBERS:

1725 (reinstated)
Rosalie V. Flint
17431 Rd 5.2 NW
Quincy, WA 98848-9697

research interests: Matthews, Farnham, Preble, Woodworth, Follenbee

4827 (change of address)
LuEllen J. Pettengell
4500 South Land Park Drive
Sacramento, CA 95822-1638

email: pettengell@aol.com
research interests: Raymond, Johnson, Manley, Derby, Holt

4833
Patricia D. Schubert
30 Las Brisas Circle
East Greenwich, RI 02818-4031
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.

ARE YOU MOVING?

REPLACEMENT COPIES

Please notify the Society in advance of any address changes (including summer and winter addresses). 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.

REGISTRATION FOR GSV SPRING MEETING

Name: ____________________________

Membership Number: ____________________________

Mailing Address: ____________________________

I am / we are members of: ( ) GSV and/or ( ) non-members and will be attending the May 16th, 1998 meeting

Enclosed please find a check for the meeting and luncheon: $13.00 for GSV members ($15.00 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 (for GSV), postmarked by May 9, 1998 to: Genealogical Society of Vermont
P.O. Box 1553
St. Albans, Vermont 05478-1006
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. xxvii + 281 pp.

Volume 2
Edited by Scott A. Bartley

The long awaited second volume is now available. The goal of this series is to describe in genealogical detail the families listed in the First Federal Census taken in Vermont in 1791, the year Vermont joined the Union. 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.

Work has been started on Vol. 3. 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 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 State 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