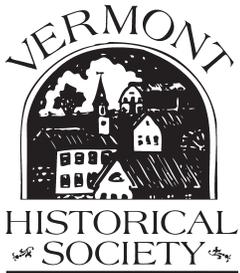


History Connections

Vermont Historical Society

News & Notes

Fall 2015 / Volume #10 / Number 1



Since 1838

Vermont Historical Society
60 Washington Street
Barre, Vermont 05641-4209

Inside This Issue

- Annual Meeting awards 2015
- Historic changes
- New board members
- Financial report abridged
- Year in a nutshell



**Blue Ribbons and Burlesque:
The Country Fair
Photography of
Charles Fish**

See page 7.



Reflections from Mark Hudson...

Looking forward to continued success of the VHS

By the time this newsletter reaches your mailbox, I will be in my second month at Tudor Place Historic House and Garden.

As I depart for this new adventure, I wish to say so long to my Vermont friends and reflect on the possibilities ahead.

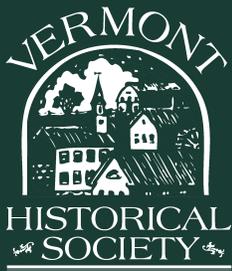
I wish to express to everyone at the Vermont Historical Society my gratitude for the faith you have placed in me during the past six years. I am proud of what we accomplished together and have been deeply moved by the kind words many of you have shared with me in recent weeks. The VHS is a unique organization and it has been an extraordinary experience to serve as your executive director.

I take great comfort in knowing that the organization will be under the capable leadership of Interim Executive Director Jim Douglas until a permanent executive director is appointed. The search committee has been working diligently since the announcement of my departure in July, and I am certain they will find

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*Photograph by Mark Hudson.
Robert Burns statue at the Vermont History Center.*



Since 1838

Fall 2015

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History Connections is published four times a year by the Vermont Historical Society.

The Vermont Historical Society engages both Vermonters and "Vermonters at Heart" in the exploration of our state's rich heritage. Our purpose is to reach a broad audience through our outstanding collections, statewide outreach and dynamic programming. We believe that an understanding of the past changes lives and builds better communities.

Interim Director: James H. Douglas
Editor: Julie Nelson
Printing: Stillwater Graphics

Vermont History Museum & Bookstore

Pavilion Building, next to State House
109 State Street, Montpelier, VT
Tuesday–Saturday 10am to 4pm
(802) 828-2291

Vermont History Center

60 Washington Street, Barre, VT
(802) 479-8500

• **Vermont Heritage Galleries, Offices & Book Nook**
• Monday–Friday 9am to 4pm

• **Leahy Library**
• Tuesday–Friday 9am to 4pm
• Wednesday 9am to 8pm
• Second Saturdays 9am to 4pm
• (802) 479-8509

• **Library admission:**
• Non-members: \$5
• Members and students: Free

One admission fee gives access to both the Vermont Heritage Galleries & Vermont History Museum:
Families: \$12; Adults: \$5
Students, children, seniors: \$3
Members & children under 6: Free
Student school groups: Free
(802) 828-2180

▶ www.vermonthistory.org

info@vermonthistory.org

Vermont history wins awards!



Hathaway award winners, Nick Muller (left) and John Duffy (right) congratulated by Executive Director Mark Hudson at the Annual Meeting September 26, 2015 for their book Inventing Ethan Allen.



John Dumville is flanked by incoming President Richard Marek and outgoing President Laura Warren as he receives the President's award for his dedication to preserving Vermont history throughout the state.

Dawn Andrews (right) is presented with an award of appreciation for her work on the VHS Board of Trustees from Vice President Barbara Mieder (left) and Laura Warren (center).



Historic changes at the Vermont Historical Society

On September 26, 2015, Mark Hudson closed his seventh and final annual meeting with the Vermont Historical Society. He expressed thanks to all for their confidence and kindness. He remarked upon "training" interim Executive Director Jim Douglas, and commented how surreal that task had been. He also noted that the VHS is a unique organization and commented on his involvement over the past six years.



Jim Douglas

Mark resigned in July to take a position as the executive director of the Tudor Place Historic House & Garden in Washington, D.C. At that time, Laura Warren, VHS president, announced that the organization had launched a national search.

Former four-term governor of Vermont Jim Douglas agreed to serve as the VHS's interim executive director. Douglas began his duties in late September and overlapped for a time with the departing Hudson. Laura Warren disclosed,

As former President Laura Warren noted in her annual report letter, change is a natural and important part of life.

"That Governor Douglas is a great leader is well known, but less known is his long membership in the VHS and his understanding of the key role the VHS has in the fabric of Vermont's unique culture."

Since Douglas's retirement from government life, he has been active teaching at Middlebury College as Executive-in-Residence,

continued on page 7—



After four years as VHS president, Laura Warren passes the gavel to Richard Marek with her full support.

Looking forward . . .

Continued from page 1—

the new leadership that the VHS needs. Your trust and support for this individual will be essential to the continued success of the VHS.

While I do not know when we will have an opportunity to return to Vermont, I extend to everyone in the

VHS family an invitation to pay me a visit at Tudor Place.

I would love to see you! Best wishes,

Mark S. Hudson, Executive Director



Carolyn Branagan



Sarah Dopp



Inge Schaefer



Jill Mudgett



Roger Stone

New board members at VHS

We are always grateful for our volunteers—and trustees volunteer a great deal of time toward our goal of preserving Vermont's history. We would like to introduce the newest members of the board.

Carolyn Branagan has served in the Vermont House of Representatives since 2003. She earned her BS and MEd from the University of Vermont in 1976 and 1984, respectively. She also is the *Georgia Town History* editor and has served as Georgia's moderator.

Sarah Dopp is a medical technologist and computer specialist at The University of Vermont Medical Center in Burlington. She served as VHS president from 2007–2011. She is a

continued on page 6—

The year in a nutshell



July 2014

VHS joined the community during the Barre Heritage Festival, offering free tours of the History Center and historic games on the lawn.

August 2014

VHS volunteers were treated to a day at the Shelburne Museum during our annual summer trip in their honor.

September 2014

Author Robert Mello signed copies of the latest VHS publication, *Moses Robinson and the Founding of Vermont*, at the book launch event at the Bennington Museum.

October 2014

History lovers from throughout the state gathered in Brattleboro for the League of Local Historical Societies and Museums Annual Meeting.

November 2014

The Second Saturday gallery talks concluded with an exciting program by historian Brennan Gauthier on John Aubrey Gordon and American Field Service in World War I.

December 2014

The arrival of the Barre History Collection, donated by the Aldrich Public Library, was celebrated at the History Center in Barre.

January 2015

Author Charles Slack examined the role of Vermonter Matthew Lyon during Liberty's First Crisis at Martin Luther King Jr. Day events in both Barre and Montpelier VHS locations.

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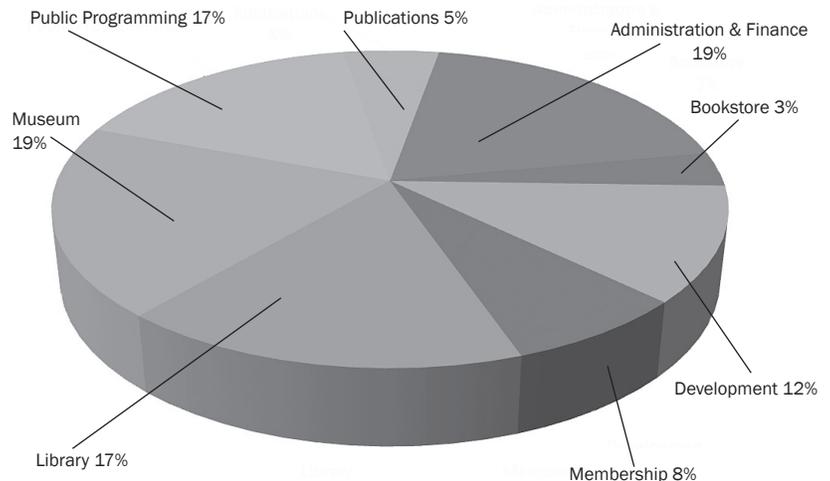
**FY2015 Unaudited
Statement of Activities
June 30, 2015**

Full Annual Report
on website:
vermonthistory.org

Revenue	FY14	FY15
Contributions and Bequests	595,761	517,982
State Appropriation	919,184	909,995
Investment Income	388,072	39,507
Admissions, Fees and Earned Income	73,772	55,037
VT History Bookstore Sales	65,776	50,016
Other Revenue	28,403	28,348
Total Revenue	2,070,968	1,600,885
Expense		
Administration & Finance	277,539	305,712
VHC Operations	188,515	168,871
Pavilion Rent	214,016	210,972
Development	175,021	185,203
Museum	252,039	308,827
Library	247,258	263,099
Public Programs & Publications	555,104	468,975
VT History Bookstore	38,915	54,569
Total Expenses	1,948,407	1,966,229
Change in Net Assets	122,561	(365,344)
Net Assets, Beginning	7,630,905	7,753,466
Net Assets, Ending	7,753,466	7,388,122

*Preliminary and subject to change

Expense



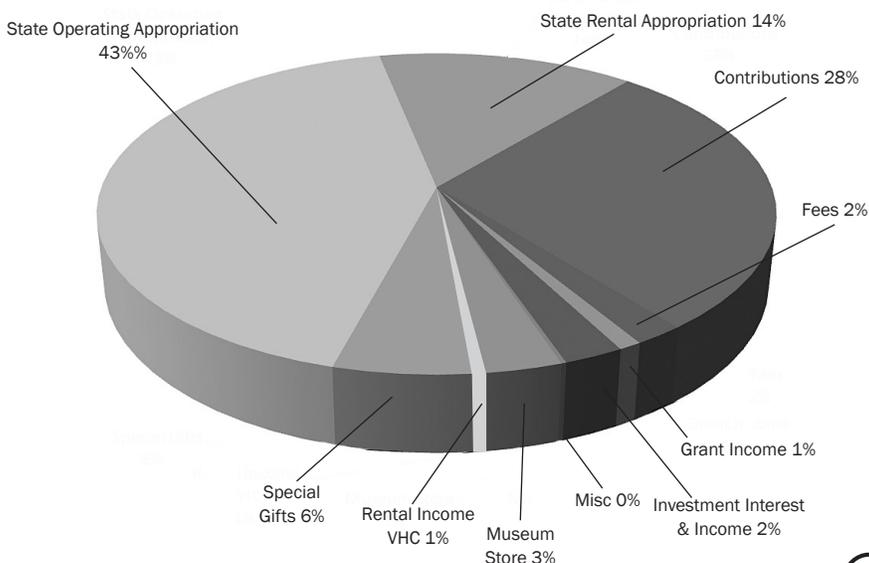
FY2015 Unaudited Balance Sheet June 30, 2015

	6/30/2014	6/30/2015
Assets		
Cash	324,863	265,359
Other Current Assets	479,218	467,449
Investments	2,364,819	2,168,494
Property Plant and Equipment	7,535,844	7,563,178
Depreciation	(1,864,207)	(2,044,217)
Total Property Plant and Equipment	5,671,637	5,518,961
Total Assets	8,840,537	8,420,263
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	102,263	64,853
Short-term Liabilities	100,944	127,179
Mortgage Payable	883,864	840,109
Total Liabilities	1,087,071	1,032,141
Net Assets		
Beginning Net Assets	7,630,905	7,753,466
Change in Net Assets	122,561	(365,344)
Ending Net Assets	7,753,466	7,388,122
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	8,840,537	8,420,263

*Preliminary and subject to change



Revenue



February 2015

Seven Times Salt shared music from the American colonies at the Vermont State House during our annual Farmers' Night Program.

March 2015

A panel of historians explored the question, "Do We Still Need Women's History?" during the 2015 Vermont Women's History Project program.

April 2015

Participants shared their experiences from the counterculture movement during forums held in six Vermont communities as part of the VHS Vermont in the 1970s Project.

May 2015

The Third Thursday lunch series concluded with Ellen Thompson's fascinating discussion of Vermont schoolgirl samplers.

June 2015

Twenty-eight Vermont students presented their projects at National History Day in Maryland.

Help us continue to share Vermont history!

There are many ways you can help. Ask Jane Campbell for more options at (802) 479-8516 or see below to increase your generosity to the VHS.

- I would like to contribute \$ _____
- I want to be a Sustaining member \$500
- I want to be a Contributing member \$250
- I want to be an Associate member \$100

name _____

address _____

phone _____

email _____

Thank you! Please mail this coupon to VHS, 60 Washington Street, Barre, VT 05641



clip & give!

In memoriam

We are sad to note the passing of Mary Fenn, former VHS trustee (1979-1985), who donated the Hartness and Beardsley family papers to the Leahy Library. We appreciate her commitment and generosity to the VHS.

LLHSM Awards 2015

Exhibitions/Public Programs

Award of Merit

Black River Academy Museum & Historical Society for the educational program *Finns of Vermont*

Award of Merit

Stowe Historical Society for the exhibit *High Over Stowe, Vintage Aerial Photos*

Historic Preservation/ Collections Care

Award of Excellence

Peacham Historical Association for building the Lorna Field Quimby Archives & Research Center

Award of Excellence

Montgomery Historical Society for the *West Wall Capital Campaign & Restoration Project*

Lifetime Achievement

James Ballard,
Milton Historical Society

Reg Dearborn,
Bristol Historical Society

Elsie and Lutz Saborowski,
Montgomery Historical Society

Kay Schlueter,
Northfield Historical Society

Publications

Award of Excellence

Greensboro Historical Society for *Forty Years of the Hazen Road Dispatch*

Award of Merit

Hartford Historical Society for *The History of the White River Paper Company* by Tammy Ladd

New board members . . .

Continued from page 3—

past president of the Chittenden County Historical Society and helped produce the *Historic Guide to Burlington Neighborhoods*. Sarah is a member of the Center for Research on Vermont, was a 2014 recipient of the Hildene Award, and has been involved with the VHS Board of Trustees since 1991.

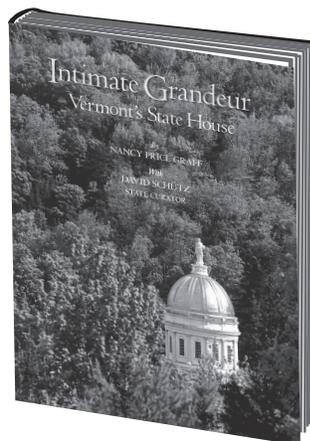
Jill Mudgett is a cultural historian who has taught history and interdisciplinary courses at several Vermont colleges. She earned her doctorate in American history from the University of Massachusetts. She is an occasional commentator on VPR and is currently president of the Morrisville Historical Society.

Inge Schaefer has long been involved with the Colchester Historical Society and serves as one of their guides/greeters at the Historical Society Old Schoolhouse, Museum and Tourist Center at Airport Park in Colchester. She has had two Colchester history books published, *Chronicles of Colchester* and

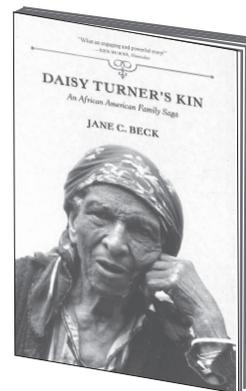
Images of America, Colchester. She also initiated and was the event coordinator for Colchester's 250th Anniversary in 2013 and started the July 4th Colchester Fair Day celebration in 1970. Before retirement, Inge worked in public relations, started Colchester's first newspaper, the *Colchester Chronicle*, and served in the Vermont House of Representatives from 1987 to 1995. She is currently active with OLLI of UVM, and writes a bimonthly column entitled "Colchester's Chronicler" for the *Colchester Sun*.

Roger Stone's ancestors came to Vermont after the French and Indian War. His immediate family moved to Vermont when he was in junior high, and he graduated in 1964 from UVM. He and his wife raised their children in Belmont, Massachusetts, before returning to Vermont. Roger was president of Stone Investment Advisory, Inc., Burlington, providing investment management and consulting services from 1995 to 2008. He joined the Fletcher Allen Health Care Partners Board in 2010, and served as chair from 2011 to 2013. 

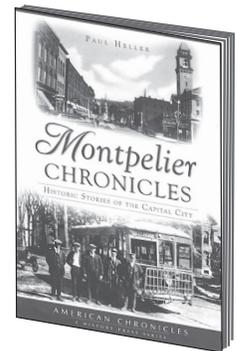
See New Titles insert for full descriptions!



Intimate Grandeur,
by Nancy Price Graff
with David Schütz
Hardcover \$39.95
Softcover \$24.95



Daisy Turner's Kin,
by Jane C. Beck
Softcover \$24.95



Montpelier Chronicles,
by Paul Heller
Softcover \$21.99

**15% discount
for members!**

Shop online: vermonthistory.org/store



Historic changes . . .

Continued from page 3—



John Grosvenor

authoring a memoir and serving on various boards and foundations. He will be in his leadership role at the Vermont History Center in Barre on a part-time basis.

In other updates about VHS personnel, John Grosvenor was hired as the Director of Finance and Operations. He comes to the Society with skills and knowledge attained at similar positions at the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board,

High Mowing Seeds Company, the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, and other Vermont organizations.

His experience includes nonprofit fiscal management and accountability—and, as a nonprofit organization, the Society will benefit from these management proficiencies. John can be reached at (802) 479-8513 at the Vermont History Center in Barre. 



Would you like to get into Vermont History Expo free?

— We need volunteers —

Some options:

- ticket taking
- Clara's Games or kids' history activities
- parade prep
- author presentations
- genealogy assistance
- information booth—giving directions

Please contact Diane Campbell at
(802) 479-8503 or
diane.campbell@vermonthistory.org.

.....
H2O: The Power of Water in Vermont History
.....

June 18 & 19, 2016

Calendar of Events

Wednesday, November 18, 2015 • 7:00 pm

Vermont History Center, Barre

Taking Care of Your Old Paintings

Do you have beloved old paintings in your home that you're worried about? Do they have cracks in the paint, damaged frames, or even tears in the canvas? Conservator Emily Phillips will share the basics so you can take care of your treasures.

*Funded by
The Patrick
Foundation*

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Vermont History Center, Barre

Painting Conservation Workshop

Conservator Emily Phillips will lead an in-depth, hands-on workshop for local historical societies, town clerks, librarians, and anyone else who manages a collection that includes paintings. Call (802) 479-8522 to register.

Saturday, November 21, 2015 • 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Talk by Charles Fish at 2:00 pm

Vermont History Museum, Montpelier

Blue Ribbons & Burlesque: The Country Fair Photography of Charles Fish

The black and white images of Charles Fish capture the personalities of fairgoers and workers, thrilling carnival rides and the blue-ribbon livestock. Hallway exhibit included with admission to the museum.

Thursday, January 21, 2016 • 12:00 to 1:00 pm

Vermont History Museum, Montpelier

Third Thursday: Human Interactions with Wildlife in Vermont!

Bring your brown bag lunch to these monthly talks about Vermont history. See the website for details.

History for Homeschoolers

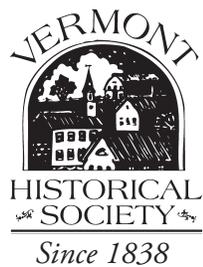
continues through May 12 in Montpelier. These classes typically fill up quickly, so please contact Victoria Hughes at (802) 828-1413 for availability.

Questions?

Please call (802) 828-2180 except where noted.

Watch for Third Thursday topics,
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
and Farmers' Night events
on our website:

vermonthistory.org/calendar



Don't forget!
The Leahy Library closes
January 25 to February 5
for collections processing.
.....
Reopens on February 9, 2016.

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Barre, VT
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Vermont Historical Society
60 Washington Street
Barre, Vermont 05641-4209

Return Service Requested

Mystery Photo

Last issue's mystery photo received a flurry of responses. It turns out that the building is on South Main Street in Chelsea and is known locally as "Park View." It was the early home of the Rufus Hyde family and was later run as a guest house. The photo of it as it appears today as taken by member George Cummings. We also heard from Will Gilman, whose father's book, *Chelsea Album*, includes several historic pictures of the building.



This issue's mystery photograph came with a group of covered bridge photographs, but we don't recognize this one and it wasn't identified. If you can identify this, please contact VHS Librarian Paul Carnahan at (802) 479-8508 or paul.carnahan@vermonthistory.org.