The Vermont Historical Society is a nonprofit organization that operates the Vermont History Museum in Montpelier, the Vermont Heritage Galleries in Barre, and the Howard and Alba Leahy Library in Barre; publishes books of historic interest and offers programming throughout the state.

Established in 1838, the Vermont Historical Society's purpose is to reach a broad audience through outstanding collections and statewide outreach. The Vermont Historical Society believes that an understanding of the past changes lives and builds better communities.
Thank you 2014 Volunteers

Thank you! We give profuse thanks to our volunteers who donate their time, talents and energy on behalf of the Vermont Historical Society. Your dedication means more than lending a helping hand to the staff, our projects and our programs. It means that because of you, we have the impact and outreach of a much larger organization. We couldn’t do it without you!

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The Vermont Historical Society was chartered in 1838 by an act of the Vermont Legislature. It is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization, governed by a board of trustees.

It takes a lot of volunteers for events such as History Day—an exciting interaction between students and volunteer judges.

The Vermont Historical Society preserves Vermont’s history since 1838

Vermont Historical Society

60 Washington Street • Barre, Vermont 05641

(802) 479-8500 • vermonthistory.org
Together, we have made positive progress!

Vermont’s Historical Society enjoyed many successes and faced many challenges this year. We recognized Senator Doyle at our Annual Meeting last year—and announced the creation of the William T. Doyle Vermont History Day Fund at that time. We wrapped up our 175th anniversary commemoration with a birthday bash on November 5th, which featured the unveiling of our commemorative brick courtyard in front of the History Center in Barre. If you missed the opportunity to put your stamp on history by supporting either the William T. Doyle Vermont History Day Fund or purchasing a commemorative brick, contact Jane Campbell, our development director, today!

Our signature event, the Vermont History Expo, played out successfully on a picture perfect Vermont summer weekend this June with the theme of “Artists and Artisans: Vermont’s Creative Heritage.” My sincere thanks to all the volunteers and loyal members who helped to make this such a wonderful celebration of our shared history. The active participation of so many vibrant local historical societies is truly inspiring.

The Society published three books this year and paired the book launches with events and programs:

- *Uncommon Law, Ancient Roads and Other Ruminations on Vermont Legal History*, by Paul S. Gillies
- *The Problem of Slavery in Early Vermont, 1777–1810*, by Harvey Amani Whitfield
- *The Vermont Difference* (published with the Woodstock Foundation)

If you haven’t yet picked up your copy of one of these fine publications, go online to order or stop by the store at the annual meeting.

From a strategic perspective, we’ve made positive progress towards achieving our long term goals set out in our 2013–2018 plan, “Towerig Achievements.” Most significantly, we boosted our statewide outreach and public awareness—two critical issues identified in our long range plan.

Much challenging work remains in the Strategic Priority areas of technology and financial sustainability. Exponential leaps in digital technology mandate that we broaden our outreach through Internet and social media if we hope to attract the next generations of historians and history lovers. Rising costs place enormous pressure on our annual budget, which funds the ongoing care of our buildings, our collections and research materials, and programs.

Only through the continued commitment of the State of Vermont, the generosity of our members, and careful stewardship by the Board will we be able to meet these challenges. I am so very thankful for our dedicated staff and cadre of volunteers (including the Board) who work hard to fulfill our mission every day—to preserve the past, inform the present, and promote Vermont’s shared legacy to the future.

Sincerely,

Laura Warren, President

---

Barbara Meider, Vermont History Day judge, interviews student about hands-on projects and presentations.

Senator Leahy and his wife Marcelle visited the Leahy Library at the Vermont History Center in Barre—accompanied by VHS President Laura Warren.

Local historical societies and museums gathered in downtown Barre to explore history—and make connections with history-loving peers.
What would they think of us now?

Our 175th birthday celebration in November was punctuated by visits from several luminaries from our organization’s past. As they shared their stories, I realized that the extraordinary accomplishments of the Vermont Historical Society have been built upon the dedication and hard work of those who preceded us and wondered what they would think of the VHS today.

Given his proclivity to keep the VHS “close to home,” what would our founder, Henry Stevens, think of our efforts to bring programs and services to each corner of the state? Would he have been pleased with the exhibition workshops that were held in Middlebury, Woodstock, and Brownnington in March and April? Was he with us in spirit last spring in St. Johnsbury, Cawlelon and Brattleboro for the educator workshops and public forums with Amani Whitfield about “The Problem of Slavery in Early Vermont?”

I could imagine the prolific chronicler of local history, Abby Hemenway, endorsing our efforts to assist community heritage organizations through the League of Local Historical Societies and Museums’ collections management workshops, collections care mentoring program, and the “Collections Corner” section of our weekly Local History Enewsletter.

At the same time I had difficulty envisioning the VHS librarian of a century ago, Dorman Kent, nestled in front of his computer screen for our October webinar, “Beyond Ancestry.com” or scrolling through the online gallery of Rebecca Lepkoff’s “Hippie” photos.

I sensed a warm smile of approval from our first female president, Deborah Clifford, as we launched the new Second Saturday lecture series and Third Thursday luncheon series, to accompany our existing line up of outstanding programs like Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Farmers’ Night, and, of course, the Vermont Women’s History Project.

Undoubtedly the Vermont Historical Society has grown and evolved from its founding in 1838. While we have retained the core commitment of our founders to collect and preserve Vermont’s history, we recognize today the tremendous importance of our work and the many ways we are changing lives and building better communities throughout Vermont. We are indebted to those whose efforts ours have been built upon, and extend our deep appreciation to each of you for your involvement and support in this important endeavor.

Mark S. Hudson, Executive Director
You are leaving a legacy.

We are deeply grateful to you, our many donors and members, who help preserve Vermont's rich history so each generation can learn from the legacy of the past.
Your generous support makes it possible to preserve Vermont’s rich history.

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Annual Report 2014

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Toby Bashaw and Elizabeth Hendrix
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Randall Balmer
James and Linda Ballard
Ann Aspell and Leigh Seddon
Cynthia J. Arnold
Marcia Anderson
Richard H. Allen
Wendy Aarnio
Walter A. Abbott

(continued on page 8)
Many teachers, staff, and volunteers became engaged learners as they take part in Vermont Historical Society education seminars.

Dr. Donald E. Harpster

Diana M. Hardy
Deborah J. Hardy

Dr. Burt B. Hamrell

Timothy Leno

Jane Lendway
Douglas K. Lehman
Marcia R. Legru
Paul J. Ledak
John Lazenby
Kenneth Lawson
Ann Lawless
Clifford Laplante

The Vermont History Expo was the scene for Revolutionary types in summer 2014!

Kathryn Groover
Rebecca Blymuth Gauthier
Alden D. W. Dorn
Sandra Gay
James Haef
Ernest J. Hae
Roger Frey
Paul Faber
Ted Friedman
Will Morgan Fort
Charlotte Wieseman

Kathryn Groover
Rebecca Blymuth Gauthier
Alden D. W. Dorn
Sandra Gay
James Haef
Ernest J. Hae
Roger Frey
Paul Faber
Ted Friedman
Will Morgan Fort
Charlotte Wieseman

Your generous support makes it possible to preserve Vermont's rich history.

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Rebecca Davenport
Leighton Dalmasse
Elizabeth A. Curler
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Emma Lou G. Craig
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Debra L. Fall
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Suzanne L. Lord

William W. Jenney
David A. Jenkins
Suzanne L. Lord

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John L. Lowery

9

Thank you!
Thank you to the many individuals, businesses, and foundations for their generosity.

Worcester Historical Society

Thanks to the many individuals, businesses, and foundations for their generosity.

Joseph P.

Kathleen R.

Mary J. Morris

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Thank you to the many individuals, businesses, and foundations for their generosity.

Note: This list shows donations that makes a difference.

Your loyalty creates some animated discussions.
FY2014 Unaudited Statement of Activities
June 30, 2014

Revenue
- Contributions and Bequests: 595,761
- State Appropriation: 919,184
- Investment Income: 388,072
- Admissions, Fees and Earned Income: 73,772
- VT History Bookstore Sales: 65,776
- Other Revenue: 28,403

Total Revenue: 2,070,968

Expense
- Administration & Finance: 231,486
- Facilities Operations: 188,515
- Pavilion Rent: 214,016
- Interest on Debt: 20,714
- Development: 185,021
- Community Relations: 24,376
- Museum: 263,259
- Library: 257,288
- Public Programs & Publications: 565,104
- VT History Bookstore: 38,915

Total Expenses: 1,988,664

Change in Net Assets: 82,304

Net Assets, June 30, 2013: 7,515,290

Prior Year Net Asset Adjustment: 0

Net Assets, June 30, 2014: 7,597,593

FY2014 Unaudited Balance Sheet
June 30, 2014

Assets
- Cash: 324,863
- Investments: 2,364,819
- Other Current Assets: 357,164

Total Current Assets: 3,046,846
- Property & Equipment: 7,500,586
- Depreciation: (1,862,737)

Total Property & Equipment: 5,637,819

Total Assets: 8,684,665

Liabilities
- Accounts Payable: 102,263
- Other Current Liabilities: 32,280

Total Current Liabilities: 134,543
- Mortgage Payable: 883,864
- Other Long-term Liabilities: 68,665

Total Long-term Liabilities: 952,529

Total Liabilities: 1,087,072

Net Assets: 7,597,593

Total Liabilities and Net Assets: 8,684,665

July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014
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Paul Donovan

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16 Vermont Historical Society Annual Report 2014
Thank you 2014 Volunteers

Thank you! We give profuse thanks to our volunteers who donate their time, talents and energy on behalf of the Vermont Historical Society. Your dedication means more than lending a helping hand to the staff, our projects and our programs. It means that because of you, we have the impact and outreach of a much larger organization. We couldn't do it without you!

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Thank you!
Vermont Historical Society

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