Vermont Historical Society

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 2013 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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Preserving Vermont's heritage since 1838

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I am profoundly pleased to say...

As I look back over the past year, I am profoundly pleased with the positive advancements made toward achieving our mission of exploring our rich heritage and engaging Vermonter and Vermonter at heart in understanding and appreciating that heritage!

Under the leadership of Executive Director Mark Hudson and Curator Jackie Calder, the Society worked hard to significantly improve exhibit outreach in the past year. Certainly, one of the major highlights of the year occurred last summer and fall—the opening of our new Vermont Heritage Galleries. These beautiful new galleries at the History Center now house three new exhibits: “Service and Sacrifice: Vermont’s Civil War Generation,” “The Emergence of the Granite City: Barre 1880-1940” and “Icons, Oddities and Wonders.” Additional aspects of our fascinating history can be seen at the exhibit in the new Archaeology Heritage Center, which opened last September at the History Center in Barre.

I hope that those of you who have visited the new exhibits enjoyed the experience, and those who have not yet seen them will take some time soon to do so! All of these new exhibits garnered the Society increased foot traffic and visibility to create connections to a broader and more diverse audience. Thank you to all the members, staff, and volunteers who created such valuable interpretations of our shared past.

Our revised long-term plan calls for more exhibits, accompanied by additional public programming and outreach throughout the state. By enhancing our existing program offerings and developing new ideas, the past year has been full of rich engaging experiences. These successes in museum exhibits and programming are possible only with strong financial and staff support. Our financial wellness continues to improve but we face challenges and continually look for creative ways to stretch every dollar, save money and operate efficiently. The continued financial support of the State of Vermont and our members/supporters remains critical to achieving our mission.

The Society’s new staff additions over the last year certainly play a large part in our success . . . we welcome Amanda Gustin, Public Programs Coordinator, Dan Lord, Facilities Manager, Laura Brill, Community Outreach Coordinator, Jessie Dall, Museum Assistant and Katherine Poarch, Campaign Assistant. Our senior staff, led by Executive Director Mark Hudson, are topnotch, and I thank them for a successful year!

Throughout this year the Society celebrates our 175th year—and what better way to begin the year than with a newly revised strategic plan?! The Board approved the plan in January and action plans are now underway to execute it. The plan covers all aspects of the Society’s mission and provides an exciting path forward.

At this annual meeting we say thank you and goodbye to two stalwart Board members—Nick Muller and Victor Swenson. Their contributions to the Society and to the Board have been invaluable. Lastly, I would like to thank all of our tireless staff, supporters, volunteers, board members and members for assisting in the mission of treasuring our past!

Sincerely,

Laura Warren
President
Homeschool classes
- total students: 338

History kit usage
- 139 classrooms,
- 69 rentals,
- total students: 2,263

VHS Membership
- total active memberships: 2,372

Visits to the History Museum
- total visitation: 11,791
- student field trips: 5,526

Visits to the Heritage Galleries
- total visitation: 3,253

Public programs & outreach statewide
*VHS event attendees: 2,526

Media coverage:
TV, radio, & print items: 170+

Figures given are for fiscal year 2013
* Does not include education programs.

For over 59 years the Vermont Historical Society has provided services for the League of Local Historical Societies & Museums

Some of the services offered:
- Weekly e-news: Local History News
- Inclusion in website directory
- Annual meeting and daylong conference for networking and education
- Achievement awards program
- Workshops and informational fairs
- Collections care library
- Collections care mentoring
- Vermont History Expo
- Technical assistance on creating bylaws, hosting public events, applying for 501(c)(3) status, and more

To find out how your organization can join, call Laura Brill at (802) 479-8522 or email laura.brill@state.vt.us
Dear VHS Members and Friends,

Accomplishment, acclaim and accommodation have characterized the past year at the VHS. It began amid the excitement of introducing new exhibition galleries and welcoming the Archaeology Center to its new home at the History Center in Barre. Further excitement was experienced when we received two Awards of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History—one for Don Wickman’s *A Very Fine Appearance*, which we published in 2011 and one for the Vermont History Explorer website, which we launched that same year. A year-long planning process culminated in *Towering Achievements*, our new strategic plan that was endorsed by the Board in January.

The tremendous satisfaction of seeing these efforts reach fruition was accompanied by the challenges and opportunities presented by personnel changes in our Education Department in late summer and early fall. Vacancies in three key positions allowed us to reconfigure our staffing, combining our Museum and Education Departments into a new Museums and Public Programs Department under the leadership of Curator Jackie Calder. This change, coupled with the arrival of creative and energetic staff members in the vacant positions, has allowed us to integrate our exhibitions and public programming, expand our outreach efforts and better serve hundreds of community heritage organizations around the state.

We entered our 175th year with a refined vision, new energy and a deepened collaborative spirit. In meetings throughout the state in the winter and spring, we gained a better understanding of the needs of the state’s heritage organizations. We expanded the impact of existing program offerings, like the Martin Luther King Jr. Day program, Farmers’ Night and Women’s History Project, while exploring new programming ideas like the Undergraduate Research Forum and Second Saturday Gallery Talks. Through our partnership with Montpelier Alive! and the emerging Barre Cultural Alliance, we collaborated on special events that celebrated the unique identities of the communities where our facilities are located. In classrooms throughout the state we continued to find innovative and effective ways to aid educators in the teaching of Vermont history, through training opportunities and the delivery of information and resources. Expanded programming and a deepening relationship with homeschool families brought Vermont history to this learning environment as well. Growing participation in our museum field trip program and Vermont History Day demonstrate the need for meaningful learning opportunities for students of all ages.

Our Marketing and Community Relations Coordinator, Julie Nelson, led an overhaul of VHS websites and a complete makeover of our online presence. These changes improved the operability of our websites, created a user-centric interface, enhanced the organization of information, and provided for new online services, such as the “Ask the Librarian” service. Our websites are now better equipped to provide access to VHS collections, including research resources and virtual exhibitions.

This year of accomplishment, acclaim and accommodation has been gratifying and provides momentum as we move toward our next 175 years. We are grateful to each of you for your involvement and advocacy which are so crucial to everything we do at the Vermont Historical Society. Your ongoing support will allow us to continue to do great things and build upon the success of the past year.

Sincerely,

Mark Hudson
Executive Director

Vermont History Day always inspires young students in Vermont schools.

A PastPerfect workshop held at the Vermont History Center helped League of Local Historical Society and Museums members with collection cataloging.

VHS hosted Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce members at the Vermont History Center, sharing the Heritage Gallery experience.
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.
Thank you to our donors and members (continued from page 4).

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Each year, local historical societies and museums receive awards and honors for exemplary work in history.
Your generous support makes it possible to preserve Vermont’s rich history.

Historical Games were played on the State House lawn on a beautiful July evening.

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Two National History Day award winners were from Vermont: Kelsey Rupe (L) and Celeste Gander (R).
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Civil War medals capture attention whenever visitors view the Service & Sacrifice exhibit.

(continued on page 10)
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In our State House Farmers’ Night, many actors and actresses played historic roles with insightful delivery.

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(continued on page 12)
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We are deeply grateful to all those who contribute to preserving our heritage.

Note: These are donations received between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013.
* Designates donors or members who are deceased.
### FY2013 Unaudited Statement of Activities
**June 30, 2013**

#### Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and Bequests</td>
<td>709,584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Appropriation</td>
<td>863,619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>327,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admissions, Fees and Earned Income</td>
<td>63,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VT History Bookstore Sales</td>
<td>35,457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Revenue</td>
<td>11,626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,010,496</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Expense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration &amp; Finance</td>
<td>308,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities Operations</td>
<td>340,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pavilion Rent</td>
<td>210,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest on Debt</td>
<td>17,921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development</td>
<td>168,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Relations</td>
<td>93,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museum</td>
<td>223,253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>173,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; Publications</td>
<td>306,703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VT History Bookstore</td>
<td>42,451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,885,129</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Change in Net Assets

**125,367**

#### Interfund Transfers

**0**

#### Net Assets, June 30, 2012

**7,389,925**

#### Prior Year Net Asset Adjustment

**0**

#### Net Assets, June 30, 2013

**7,515,291**
## FY2013 Unaudited Balance Sheet
### June 30, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>376,387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>2,148,622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Current Assets</td>
<td>243,112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,768,121</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>7,492,803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>(1,683,813)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Property &amp; Equipment</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,808,990</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,577,111</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>53,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Current Liabilities</td>
<td>22,056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>75,170</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortgage Payable</td>
<td>926,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Long-term Liabilities</td>
<td>59,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Long-term Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>986,650</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,061,820</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,515,291</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,577,111</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013*
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Thank you 2013 Volunteers

Thank you! We give pursue 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!

VHS volunteers toured the Rokeby Museum in Ferrisburgh to learn how others made a difference in Vermont history.

6,735 hours!

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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.

On the front cover:
Top left: Families enjoyed trying their hand using watercolor at the Hopkins event.
Top right: Vermont Women in Journalism brought in a large crowd at the museum.
Bottom left: VHS staff will work more on weekends if the time is needed!
Bottom right: The Central Vermont Chamber moved its up at VHC in February.

Thank you!
Vermont Historical Society

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.

Celebrating 175 years!