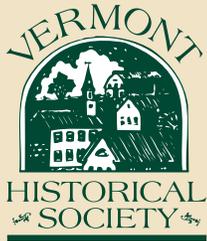


CHistory Connections

Vermont Historical Society

News &
Notes

Fall 2008 / Volume #3 / Number 1



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The Vermont Historical Society is the recipient of the prestigious 2007 IMLS award. The Institute of Museum and Library Services is an independent federal agency that grows and sustains a "Nation of Learners," because lifelong learning is critical to success.

Harold Rugg: A Vermont Collector's Story

Harold Goddard Rugg was a Vermonter, a scholar, a world-traveler and a collector of grand proportions. He died in 1957 and bequeathed what is the most extensive and significant collection of Vermontiana to the Vermont Historical Society.

"The size of the library gift alone was staggering," says Jacqueline Calder, VHS's curator. 11,000 books and pamphlets, including 400 almanacs, 3,600 broadsides and 270 pieces of sheet music, over 200 periodicals, plus dozens of maps were cataloged over the course of 43 years after Rugg's death. Rugg also bequeathed over 2,000 artifacts to the Vermont Historical Society Museum, which were cataloged and placed with other VHS collections.

Calder became curious about Harold Rugg, and began researching his life in 2007, poring through boxes of photographs, diaries and notes. "I've only scratched the surface," she says.

Born in Vermont in 1883, Harold Goddard Rugg was the only child of well-educated parents, his father being the town doctor in Hartland. Rugg began collecting in the 1890s, starting with geological specimens, stamps and coins. Proactive and inquisitive by nature, Rugg wrote to various authors, artists and actors, requesting autographs and work samples.

Childhood accounts indicate that Rugg had a close relationship with his parents, enjoyed friends and activities and worked as a messenger (a page) at the Vermont State Legislature. However, Rugg suffered a devastating blow when his father died in 1900 from tuberculosis. After finishing High School at Black River Academy in Ludlow, Vermont, Rugg attended Philips Exeter in New Hampshire, before attending Dartmouth, where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1906.

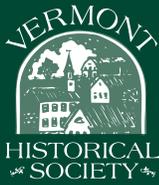
As an adult, Rugg's professional life revolved around Dartmouth, where he worked as a librarian, literary editor, and gave lectures on books and publishing. A life-long bachelor, Rugg enjoyed a wide circle of friends and professional colleagues, and had a passion for traveling and hiking. He visited most of Europe, northern Africa, the Middle East, Mexico, South and Central America and the United States.

Rugg maintained his enthusiasm for collecting throughout his life. As he traveled the world, Rugg sought artifacts with tenacity and meticulousness. He gathered furniture, Vermont-made glass, ceramics, pewter, textiles, currency, and architectural hardware, and he had a special interest in ephemera, books and publishers.



Harold Goddard Rugg, taken in Europe (Italy?) in the 1930s.

Continued on next page



Volume #3, Number 1
Fall 2008

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.

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Business Hours:

Vermont History Center, Barre

Library: Sept. 3 - Memorial Day:
Wed./9am - 8pm; Tues., Thurs., Fri./
9am - 4:30pm; 2nd Sat. of each
month/ 9am-4pm

Administrative Offices & Store:
Mon-Fri / 9am - 4:30pm

Pavilion Building, Montpelier

Museum & Store:
Tues-Sat / 10am - 4pm
Sundays May to October:
Noon-4pm

Museum Admission:

Families: \$12; Adults: \$5; Students,
children, seniors: \$3; Members &
children under 6: Free;
Student school groups: Free
Call 802-828-2180

Library Admission:

Non-members: \$5;
Members and students: Free

From the Director

A Change of the Guard at VHS

A new signature from an Interim Director signs off at the end of this message. If I, and the Board of Directors, do our jobs well, it is not one you'll have to get used to. As a reader of this newsletter, you are already part of the VHS community and probably already know that our Executive Director (and my friend, colleague and former Montpelier schoolmate) Kevin Graffagnino has received an offer he can't refuse. In November, Kevin will assume the reins of the prestigious William L. Clements Library at the University of Michigan.

This message would be the wrong vehicle for enumerating Kevin's contributions to the Society. We're having a special farewell celebration where we will try to do justice to an Executive Director who was the youngest Trustee in our long history, a noted scholar, one of the keepers of the grail of all things Vermontiana and a surprisingly good basketball point guard. I've assured him that he can change his zip code, but he can't change his colors. He's a Vermont history expert and he's too old to get smart about anything else. We'll drag him back – frequently and with pleasure. It's a legacy that he, fortunately, can't escape.

As a former trustee, with a longstanding and very personal connection to VHS, I've watched our organization grow in scope and vision under Kevin's leadership, and I'm looking forward to being able to do my part in helping transition to the next generation of leadership.

It was with great pleasure that I stepped forward in my first public role as Interim Director by introducing Tom Peters, our keynote speaker at the Annual Meeting on September 13. Tom captured much of the essence of what makes Vermont special to me and to all of us. "Vermont has an entrepreneurial spirit that goes back to its roots and an almost obnoxious spirit of independence," he said. "I love Vermont because of its attitude." It has been, and will continue to be, a great privilege to be in the company of great Vermont scholars and thinkers, and I am honored to serve the Vermont Historical Society. Please join me in wishing Kevin a fond farewell to an organization that, since 1838, has captured the spirit of Vermonters and Vermonters at Heart.

– Nick Ward
Interim Executive Director, Vermont Historical Society



Keynote Speaker Tom Peters, on left, and Nick Ward, Interim Director of VHS, at the VHS Annual Meeting.

Harold Rugg: A Vermont Collector's Story

Continued from page 1

Although living most of his adult life in Hanover, New Hampshire, Rugg remained a Vermonter at heart, and he became a member of the Vermont Historical Society in 1908. He was elected Vice President of VHS in 1924. He became a life member 1929 and served as a trustee until his death. Rugg's involvement as a trustee during the 1920s to the late 1940s was pivotal to VHS's collecting decisions and set the tone for years to come.

In October of this year, Calder brought selected objects from the Rugg collection to the Weston Antiques Show for display, where she also presented an illustrated lecture. A grant from the Vermont Community Foundation helped Calder to begin to tell Rugg's story in a new pamphlet: *A Vermont Collector's Story – Harold Goddard Rugg's Legacy at the Vermont Historical Society*.

Jacqueline Calder is available to give the illustrated talk to other interested organizations, and welcomes input from anyone who knew Rugg. Please call her at 802-479-8514. If you wish to receive a copy of the pamphlet, please call (802) 479-8502.

Vermont Historical Society Library Staff at Civil War Expo

The VHS library staff recently participated in the Vermont Civil War Expo in Chester, Vermont. They assembled a three-panel exhibit on the Seven Days' Battles outside of Richmond, Virginia, in 1862.

Assistant Librarian Marjorie Strong created the exhibit from the ample collections of Civil War materials in the Vermont Historical Society. She selected excerpts from the letters of three Vermonters to describe the disappointing series of battles early in the war.

The exhibit also included photographs of the three correspondents along with scans of the actual letters from the collections. Private John F. Cook, writing to a friend in Barnet, described the battles in detail and expressed a consciousness of his role in history: "In what stile we accomplished our change [retreat], and reached our new base of operation, history will tell, all I have to say is: 'I am proud that I belong to the Army of the Potomac.'"



VHS Librarian Marjorie Strong staffs the Civil War Expo booth.

The Vermonters' roles in the battles were overlooked by reporters at the time who were "embedded" with troops from other states, but Vermont Governor Erastus Fairbanks recognized the contributions of his recruits. He wrote to General William Farrar Smith, "While the Massachusetts regiments have been attended by newspaper reporters who have lauded their every movement, it is reserved for the historian of the war to record the heroic deeds of our Vermont Volunteers."

The exhibit also included photographs by Vermonter George H. Houghton of Brattleboro, an illustration by Vermonter Julian Scott, and a map of the action from the Virginia Historical Society. The exhibit is on display in the Vermont History Center through the fall, after which it will be moved to the VHS Museum in Montpelier. 📖

Society's Montpelier Photographs Featured in New Book

VHS librarian Paul Carnahan and VHS member Bill Fish have teamed up to create the first full length book on Montpelier in 30 years. Entitled *Montpelier: Images of Vermont's Capital City*, the book features almost 250 historic photographs and tinted postcards from the 1850s through 1940, selected primarily from the photo collections of the Vermont Historical Society. Published by The History Press, the 144-page volume is the first compendium of historical photographs to be published for the capital city.

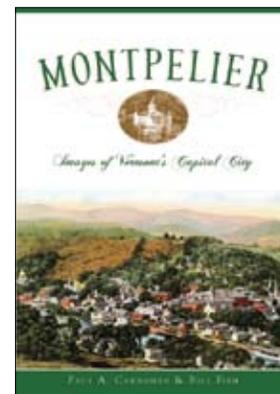
The collections of the Vermont Historical Society are strong in images of the city of Montpelier, the state historical society's home for 170 years. VHS librarian Dorman B. E. Kent, collecting in the early twentieth century, laid the foundation of the Society's large collection. Donors such as Esther Colton, Vincent Alden, and many individuals have contributed priceless images to the Montpelier archive. "Probably the most difficult task we had," says Carnahan, "was narrowing down our choices."

Utilizing sources such as the faded handwritten captions, century-old texts, city directories, and VHS maps, Carnahan and Fish combed through as much material as they could track down to show how Montpelier grew from a small clearing in the woods to the center of Vermont's civic life.

The book shows how Montpelier prospered at the turn of the twentieth century. Special photos include the laying of the

trolley tracks in Montpelier in 1898, the Civil War hospital on Seminary Hill, and the current State House illuminated with primitive lighting at the end of the famous Dewey Day celebration of 1899.

The new book is a must for Montpelier residents and anyone interested in the history of their state capital. Architectural historians and other readers will be fascinated by the many photos of structures that either no longer exist, were altered substantially, or were moved. The book is available at the VHS museum at 109 State Street in Montpelier, through the Society's web site at www.vermonthistory.org/store, and through bookstores around the state. 📖



PLEASE NOTE: The Vermont Historical Society Museum, The Vermont History Center and Leahy Library will be closed the following dates: Thursday and Friday, November 27 & 28; Thursday and Friday, December 25 and 26; Thursday and Friday, January 1 and 2. The Vermont History Center and Leahy Library in Barre will also be closed January 26th thru February 6th.

The History of the Horribles Parade in Vermont

Gail Wiese, VHS Volunteer

In modern America, ghosts and goblins are associated with Halloween, but in the mid to late nineteenth century New England and Vermont “horribles” were a traditional feature of Fourth of July celebrations. Men and boys wearing comic and grotesque costumes gathered early in the morning of the Fourth and marched in highly satirical and humorous “Antiques and Horribles” parades.



The Ancient Horribles parade in St. Albans, July 4, 1872.

“Antiques and Horribles” parades emerged in the mid 19th century as a reaction to the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston’s solemn Independence Day parades. This company, a military organization limited to the social elite, provided a likely target for parody as a group of rich men playing soldier in highly impractical costumes. By the 1850s, uniforms favored by militia companies had become increasingly gaudy and embellished with ornamentation that bordered on the ridiculous. The resulting grandiose and varied display of uniforms lent itself to satire in the form of a folk custom known under several variations of the phrase “Antiques and Horribles.”

Locally produced in country towns and villages, horribles parades were infused with an irreverent humor and biting satire. “Lofty” subjects were made absurd, antiquated and horrible. Peaking from the 1870s to the beginning of the 20th century, many Vermont communities, among them St. Albans, Newbury, West Windsor, Cavendish, Bellows Falls, Waterbury, and Montpelier, celebrated the Fourth in a style designed to mock attitudes of self-important grandeur.

A broadside from the July Fourth 1877 Celebration in St. Albans describes the upcoming appearance of the “Antique Horribles” in dramatically overblown language:

“Therefore, upon our NATION’S BIRTH-DAY, the Saintly and Unique Horribles will present themselves like plain unvarnished tales before the immaculate people of this angelic and long winded community, which is celebrated from the Polar Sea to the Golden Gate, as the Paradise of Hairdressers, Butler

Pedlars and Gilt-Edged Reformers.”

Horribles parades in Vermont targeted persons, groups, and events rather unpredictably on both a local and national level. Highlights of the 1877 St. Albans Antique Horribles included a couple of carts full of sole-leather, labeled “our best cuts for our paying customers” and a depiction of the “Highly Cultivated and most profound Building Committee of the

Franklin County Court House, in a Trundle-Bed with nursing bottle, drawn by 47 Mudturtles with stand-up collars – latest style.” Parading with the Montpelier Horribles of 1884 were caricatures of President Arthur and Ulysses S. Grant.

Another feature of these mid-summer farcical displays were occasional calthumpians (also spelled callithumpians). As early as 1836, people in cities, particularly New York, would gather on New Year’s Eve and parade down the streets with bells, rattles and other instruments, making as much discordant noise as possible. These disorderly processions, known as calthumpians or calthumpian bands, were frequently associated with class tensions. By the late 19th century, calthumpians lost their connection to New Years and became attached to the Horribles tradition.

In Vermont, calthumpians often appeared as attractions or accompaniment to some horribles parades. On July 4, 1898, the Cavendish Cornet Band was assisted by the Felchville Calthumpian Band “and small boys with fire-crackers.” More rarely, such as in Springfield on July 4, 1888, a “Parade of Calithumpians,” and not a horribles parade, was staged. Like the original calthumpian tradition, horribles parades have not remained entirely immobile on the calendar. In early 20th century Cavendish, antiques, horribles, and calthumpians became attractions in some Old Cavendish Field Day celebrations. More recently, the grotesque and frightening elements of the horribles have been incorporated into some Halloween celebrations such as the Halloween Horribles Parade held in Brattleboro. 



Family FUN at the Museum!

Family Fun is already underway at the Museum with some new programs. Our theme this year is “Learning the Old Skills.” Come to one, a few, or all of our workshops for hands-on activities and fun. All workshops are from 10 am to noon at the Pavilion, Montpelier. All of our workshops include a thematic visit to some of Vermont Historical Society’s exhibits and collections, a snack appropriate to the season, and an activity to develop skills and learn about the past and present. Here’s what’s coming:

- **Fitting Square Pegs in Round Holes: Forming Mortise & Tenon Joints.** December 13, (ages 7-12). Syver Rogstad will teach us about the tools of his trade. Buildings with these joints can be taken apart and put back together.
- **Changing Shapes: Carving Soft Stone.** January 10, (ages 11-13). We’ll try our hand at carving marble with the guidance of George Kurjanowicz, one of Barre’s professional stone carvers.
- **Celebrating George Washington: Creating Wigs and Silhouettes.** February 14, (ages 6-10). We’ll recreate powdered wigs for ourselves and see how they make us look.



Geraldine Brown shows an historic quilt to Family Fun participants last year.

- **Tying Up the Season: Rope Twisting and Knot Tying.** March 14, (ages 11-13). Come learn with Art Blair how people made rope for every use – ship mast rigging, leading animals, tying up packages and more!

Participants must pre-register and pre-pay to attend; numbers are limited, so please register early. \$8 per child; members, \$5. Call Geraldine Brown at 828-2180 or e-mail geraldine.brown@state.vt.us.

M u s e u m N e w s

Vermont’s Painted Theater Curtain Project Comes to VHS

For one week this past October, the Vermont Historical Society in Barre hosted the Vermont Painted Theater Curtains Project. Vermont Painted Theater Curtains Project workers were: Chris Hadsel, Project Director; Michelle Pagan, Textile Conservator; and Pete Isles, Technician. VHS staff and volunteers who lent a helping hand were Jackie Calder, Curator; Mary Rogstad, Registrar; and volunteers Sandra Collins, Anita Rogers and Patty Wiley.

The group worked together to restore two of the Vermont Historical Society’s theater curtains, one from Bakersfield and the other from Berlin. The Bakersfield curtain was painted by a well-known theater curtain painter of the time, Charles Andrus. “Andrus’s curtain is a fantastical view,” says Calder. “It depicts a lake with a fort and a biplane flying over it. It’s not anyplace in Vermont we could figure out, we think it’s just someplace he made up in his head.” The Berlin curtain is an advertising curtain with ads from the Montpelier/Berlin area in the early 20th century.

These theater curtains were painted and used from 1880 to 1940 during the Vaudeville era, when traveling acts and local productions performed in opera houses or town halls. As vaudeville waned and acts stopped coming to towns, many opera houses closed and many curtains were ignored.



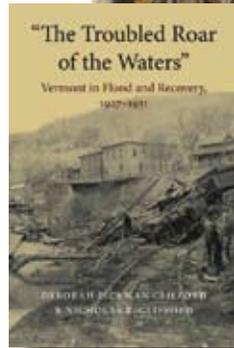
The group works on a curtain from Berlin, Vermont.

The Vermont Painted Theatre Curtains Project has been restoring these curtains for about six years. The group has cleaned, mended and restored over 100 painted Vermont stage curtains to date. The team uses a vacuum, dry sponges for removing dirt, needles and thread, and clear iron-on patches to mend tears.

“Our goal is to make these curtains last another 100 years,” says Hadsel.

VHS Announces Hathaway and Cate Award Winners

The Vermont Historical Society is pleased to announce two winners for the Society's prestigious 2008 Richard O. Hathaway Award presented on September 13, 2008 at the Vermont Historical Society Annual Meeting in Montpelier. Randy Croce was honored for his documentary DVD, "If Stone Could Speak." The documentary looks at the history of the granite quarries in Barre and has been described as an eloquent introduction to the importance of the stone industry in Vermont's socio-economic development. The second award went to Nicholas R. and Deborah Pickman Clifford, for their book, *The Troubled Roar of the Waters: Vermont in Flood and Recovery, 1927-1931*. The book fills a significant



gap in Vermont's published history and was praised by the Hathaway judges as a model of scholarly standards and insightful interpretation.

Randy Croce and Nicholas Clifford each received a \$500 prize and a commemorative plaque. The award, created in 2006, commemorates the legacy of history professor Richard O. Hathaway, who taught at Goddard College, Norwich University and Vermont College. Hathaway also served as VHS trustee, president of the Vermont Labor History Society and as a humanities scholar with the Vermont Humanities Council.

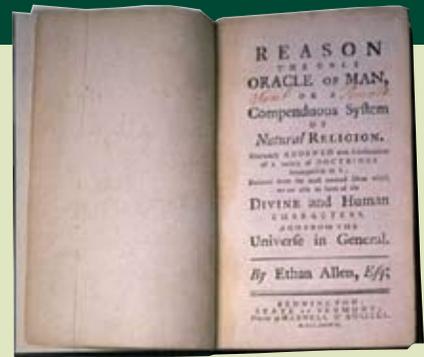
The winner of the annual Weston A. Cate, Jr. Research Fellowship was also announced at the meeting. Charlotte Rodabaugh was this year's selection, for her research project, "Green Mountain Brotherhood: Yankee Masculinity and the Vermont Regional Experience." The Vermont Historical Society awards the fellowship each year to encourage research in Vermont history. The fellowship, which carries a stipend of \$1,200, supports research for one calendar year in any aspect of Vermont history and is open to all individuals.

For more information, or to make a contribution to the VHS Richard O. Hathaway Fund, please contact Jane Campbell, 802-479-8516. 

SAVE THESE DATES!

Ten Treasures of the VHS Leahy Library

Friday, November 21, 2008 1 pm – 2 pm, VHS Leahy Library, 60 Washington St., Barre, Vermont. Come see Ethan Allen's *Reason, the Only Oracle of Man*, the earliest photographic images of Vermont, the original map for the proposed highway across the tops of the Green Mountains, plus seven other priceless materials in the VHS Leahy Library vaults! We will celebrate the launch of the Reiko and Charles E. Tuttle, Jr. Fund, which will benefit the library for years to come, making it possible to preserve and share treasures like these. Free – all are welcome.



Travel to the Holy Land and the Cradle of Civilization

In October 2009 join other history enthusiasts on this trip co-sponsored with the Maine Historical Society. Visit Luxor, the Sphinx, the Pyramids and the Suez Canal. Ancient history and the modern world come together in the biblical cities of Jerusalem and Bethel. From the cradle of Christianity you'll sail to the Byzantine Empire, ending the 14-day cruise in Sicily and Sorrento. For more info, go to www.vermonthistory.org/cruise, or contact Jane Campbell, 802.479.8516 or jane.campbell@state.vt.us.

AUCTION! Win Two 2008/09 Bash Badges for Winter Skiing!

Ski for \$25/day – all season long at Smugglers Notch Resort! Pay just \$25 per day for your lift ticket. Any age, any day, any part of the day, any of the mountains, all season long with NO restrictions! The Badge also gives you selected discounts on lessons, gear, x-country skiing, and more! Proceeds will benefit Vermont History Expo. **Retail Value: \$258. Minimum Bid: \$75.** Donated by Smugglers Notch Resort and Christopher Wren. Go to www.vermonthistory.org. and see our "news" section.

Correction:

The Old Stone House Museum is in Brown-ington, not Greensboro. Thank you to an astute reader of our Summer issue who called to set us straight!

Deborah Pickman Clifford Legacy

With the unexpected death of Deborah Pickman Clifford, 75, of New Haven on July 25, 2008, friends of the Vermont Historical Society lost a dedicated former trustee, gifted biographer, and fine historian. A graduate of Radcliffe College and the master's program in history at UVM, Deborah wrote three biographies of significant American women as well as prize-winning articles about women in Vermont.

Her most recent books include *The Passion of Abby Hemenway: Memory, Spirit, and the Making of History* and *The Troubled Roar of the Waters: Vermont in Flood and Reconstruction, 1927-1931* (2007), which she co-authored with her husband Nicholas and which recently received the Richard O. Hathaway Award.

Deborah was a long-time member and supporter of the Vermont Historical Society and the Sheldon Museum, and she led both as the first woman president from 1981-1985. Her leadership of the Society, her scholarship, and her lectures around the state benefitted all those concerned with understanding Vermont's history and in particular the role of women in the state.



Deborah Pickman Clifford

In honor of her memory and in appreciation of her significant contributions to Vermont history, the trustees have established the Deborah Pickman Clifford Legacy Fund.

The fund is devoted to the mission of the society with a special focus on Vermont women's history. Contributions to this endowment may be made by contacting Jane Campbell, Director of Development, 802-479-8516. 

Thank You!

Many thanks to all who donated to meet the Freeman Foundation's challenge grant. We now have a \$50,000 endowment honoring Reiko and Charles E. Tuttle, Jr. Please join us on November 21 to view "Ten Treasures of the VHS Library" and celebrate this new fund!

Give the Gift of History!

Give your friends and loved ones the gift of a Vermont Historical Society membership this holiday season. You'll connect them to Vermont's heritage and help preserve our state history for future generations.

The person receiving the gift will enjoy these benefits:

- ▶ Unlimited use of the library (waive \$5 per day research fee)
- ▶ Unlimited free admission to the museum
- ▶ 25% discount for advance tickets to Vermont History Expo
- ▶ Notice of and reduced admission to special events and activities
- ▶ Subscription to semi-annual *Vermont History* journal & quarterly *History Connections* newsletter
- ▶ 15% discount on most museum store and mail order purchases
- ▶ Annual updated Book List catalog of publications
- ▶ Voting privileges at annual meeting
- ▶ Special discounts at over 100 historical organizations. Membership in Time Travelers (offering special discounts on admissions, etc. at selected historical societies and museums nationwide)
- ▶ The opportunity to support a vital cultural resource and preserve Vermont history now and for future generations

Membership Levels

- \$35 Institutional (libraries, historical societies, schools)
- \$35 Senior Individual (age 65+)
- \$40 Individual (benefits for one adult)
- \$50 Household (benefits for two adults and children under 18)

Your membership at the Associate level or above helps bring recently expanded Society programs and research to more Vermonters. Please consider a contributing membership at one of these levels:

- \$100 Associate \$250 Contributing \$500 Sustaining
- \$1,000+ Freedom & Unity Circle

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Please mail to: Vermont Historical Society, 60 Washington St., Barre, VT 05641 or join at www.vermonthistory.org or call 802-479-8503.

Upcoming Events

Friday, Nov. 21, 2008

Ten Treasures of the VHS Library – Celebration of Reiko and Charles E. Tuttle, Jr. Fund. 1 pm – 2 pm
VHS Leahy Library, 60 Washington St., Barre, Vermont.

Thursday & Friday, November 27 & 28, 2008

VHS CLOSED, Thanksgiving.

Saturday, December 13, 2008: VHS's Leahy Library OPEN

Saturday, Dec. 13, 2008

(ages 7-12) Family Fun! Forming Mortise & Tenon Joints.
10 am – 12 noon. Vermont History Museum, Pavilion Building,
109 State St., Montpelier, Vermont.

Thursday & Friday, December 25 & 26, 2008

VHS CLOSED, Christmas.

Saturday, Jan. 10, 2009

(ages 11-13) Family Fun! Carving Soft Stone.
10 am – 12 noon. Vermont History Museum, Pavilion Building,
109 State St., Montpelier, Vermont.

Monday, Jan. 19, 2009

Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday: "The Society of St. Edmund's in the Civil Rights Movement." Vermont Historical Society and St. Michael's College. Two presentations.

Saturday, Feb. 14, 2009

(ages 6-10) Family Fun! Creating Wigs and Silhouettes.
10 am – 12 noon. Vermont History Museum, Pavilion Building,
109 State St., Montpelier, Vermont.

Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009

Linda Radtke Performing Civil War Songs.

7:30 – 8:30 pm. Part of the Farmers' Night series at the State House.

Thank You VHS volunteers!

In September, 40 VHS volunteers and staff met at Kent's Tavern for a tour by John Dumville. Then Elliot Morse fired up the Saw Mill for us. After lunch, folks toured the Old West Church Meeting House church and cemetery. We encourage anyone interested in our state's history to become a treasured volunteer!



Mystery Photo

Last issue's mystery photograph was immediately recognized by Margo Caulfield, Coordinator of the Cavendish Historical Society, and member Cynthia Parsons, as the old Proctorsville Branch of the Windsor County National Bank. It still stands on Route 103 as a private residence.



This issue's mystery photo is on a postcard that was sent from Rutland Station in 1938. The writer of the card says, "This is the Town Hall near which we used to live and it is Bush Bushee standing on this end." The card also makes a passing reference to Pawlet. If you can identify this building, please contact the Society's librarian, Paul Carnahan, at paul.carnahan@state.vt.us or 802-479-8508.



Vermont History Center
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