

THE BRIDGER



The Vermont Covered Bridge Society Newsletter – June 2025

Mark Maddox, Editor

From the Editor

Welcome to the 101st edition of *The Bridger*! Spring has finally sprung and soon we'll be into Summer (with hopefully some warm and dry weather.)

If you've been reading our prior newsletters, you'll know that we are celebrating our 25th anniversary! As a result, Governor Scott has declared August 2nd thru August 9th as Vermont Covered Bridge Week. We hope this is going to be an annual event. In this edition, read what we are doing to celebrate as well as other events where we will be during the summer.

I'm excited that we'll be in Saxtons River for our Summer meeting on June 7th. I've lived just outside the village for almost 6 years now and am glad to call this home. Hopefully, a number of you will be able to

attend our meeting and explore the Covered Bridges in our area.

Read on as we introduce a new member of the Board, Peggy Wilson, as well as news regarding what's happening with (or to) some of our Covered Bridges.

As always, if there are items you'd like to see in *The Bridger* or interesting tidbits you hear about regarding any of our bridges I'd be glad to hear from you.

Cheers!

Mark Maddox
(marmad40@gmail.com)

President's Report

- by Beth Brown-Limmer

Currently, I wear three hats for VCBS. I'll attempt to tell you of the activities I have been involved with while wearing my President's hat here. Look elsewhere in this newsletter for the Events and Fundraising reports. There's plenty to do in each role, so if you can jump into the Chair (or Co-Chair) role of Events Committee or Fundraising Committees, please come forth! Also, our long-time Treasurer, Dan Monger, is wanting to be released from his duties.

For changes to the Board of Directors, there has been one in the last three months. William McKone, VCBS founder and long-time director, has turned over the reigns of Chairman of Publicity Committee to Peggy

Wilson as of May 15, 2025. Read Peggy's bio elsewhere and see if you don't agree that she is a true treasure! VCBS is very fortunate to add her to our Board of Directors. Welcome, Peggy!

For a summary of actions taken at our two recent Board meetings, March 20, 2025, and May 15, 2025, read further in this newsletter. To say that there are many moving parts, that all the committees are busy, that VCBS is humming with volunteers working for the benefit of our organization would be an understatement.

My sincere gratitude is extended to everyone!

President: Beth Brown Limmer, 2702 RTE 30, Sudbury, VT 05733, email: melby5584@aol.com

Vice President: Steve Miyamoto, 8 Ridge Rd., Essex Junction, VT 05452, email: spmiamamoto@comcast.net

Secretary: Mark Maddox, PO Box 296, Saxtons River, VT 05154, email: marmad40@gmail.com

Treasurer: Dan Monger, 26 Lake St., Tunkhannock, PA 18657-7128, email: teelmonger@ptd.net

My husband and I attended the New York State Covered Bridge Society Meeting in Syracuse, NY on Sunday, April 27, 2025, on our way home from a 3-week trip to the mid-west. I was asked to speak about VCBS, which I did. Twenty-one NYSCB members were there, including us and Clay and Jane Converse (life members of VCBS). We sold three 2026 calendars (yes, this early!) and gained one new VCBS member. It was fun.

On Tuesday, April 29, 2025, I attended the Vermont Tourism Summit in Burlington, VT. This is an annual event sponsored by VT Tourism Commission and 200+ businesses and organizations in the “tourist trade” were there. I applied for a scholarship and received \$100 which defrayed the cost by 40%. I made several good contacts, and I do expect this summit will pan out to be a worthwhile expenditure. In 2026, the Summit will be in Killington, VT so it will be much less hassle to get there. I’ve been invited to an evaluation luncheon on June 18, 2025, at Basin Harbor Club in Vergennes, at no cost. I plan to go to that and lobby hard for a stronger link between the VCBS and the VT Tourism Commission.

The trip to the Vermont Statehouse in Montpelier, which has been in the works for months, happened on Friday, May 2, 2025. Thirteen VCBS members were in the House of Representatives that day, including Rep. Alicia Malay and Rep. Jim Casey. Alicia introduced us and read the announcement of Governor Scott’s proclamation (signed on February 24, 2025) and declaration of Covered Bridge Week in Vermont, August 2 – 9, 2025. The 11 VCBS members in the balcony rose and were recognized by the 150 House members. It was

a memorable event to mark our 25th anniversary year!



VCBS members at State House - Photo courtesy Facebook - Scott Scribner

I look forward to seeing many of you at the VCBS Spring Meeting on Saturday June 7, 2025, in Saxtons River! The Vision Box is ready to go, and I hope you will put your comments, ideas, and goals for VCBS in the next 5 – 10 years in it. Work on the Strategic Plan for VCBS will continue this summer, using your input. For those not attending the meeting, please email me at Melby5584@aol.com

Lastly, Miles Jenness was the guest on the March VCBS podcast / video. If you have not seen it on YouTube or the Okemo Valley TV website (search VCBS), you are really missing a great discussion about Vermont covered bridge trusses, building and restoration, and tools used by bridge builders in the past. It is titled: Learning with Vermont Covered Bridge Society. The next (our 4th) podcast is coming very soon!

Enjoy the Summer!
Respectfully submitted,
Beth Brown-Limmer

Events Committee

- by Beth Brown-Limmer, Chair

On an unseasonably cool day in May, I am thinking ahead to what the weather might be during Covered Bridge Week in Vermont which is August 2 – 9, 2025. We may be wishing for some of the cold breezes we have today! But before I outline the events I know will happen in August, let me talk a bit about the 2025 VCBS Spring and Fall meetings. (The fairs and festivals we plan to attend are outlined in the Fundraising Report)

The Spring Meeting this year will be in Saxtons River, VT at Main Street Arts (former Odd Fellows Hall) on Saturday, June 7th. Meet and greet begins at 10 a.m. with the business meeting beginning in the theater upstairs at 10:30 sharp and lasting 75 – 90 minutes. (Yes, there is an elevator to 2nd level)

Lunch will be buffet style at noon in the dining room on the main floor. Afternoon activities will include recognition of VCBS life members, announcement of the

poster contest winner, group brainstorming session (30 minutes), Silent Auction and teacup raffle results (yes, one of each, but small), and an optional caravan to Hall, Worrall, and Bartonsville Covered Bridges, led by Phill Gatenby. It will be a full day, but a fun one! Please plan to come!

And if it's hot, there's air conditioning at Main Street Arts!

The VCBS Fall Meeting is set for Saturday, October 4 at the Weathersfield Town Offices. They have a large meeting space on the ground floor. There is ample parking, ADA-accessible entrance and restrooms, wi-fi, fully equipped kitchen, and plenty of space for meeting and eating. There will be a program at 1 p.m. I have it planned but will provide the details in the September newsletter. Caravan to local covered bridges will leave at 2:30 ish, as usual.

Now, let me tell you what I know, as of May 19, 2025, about the events during August 2-9 to celebrate our beautiful historic covered bridges in Vermont! Some of these are nailed down, and some are in process. Please watch for email via Mail Chimp as these dates draw closer for a finalized event list. Also, check the VCBS website (vermontbridges.org) frequently or you can always email me at Melby5584@aol.com

Saturday, August 2:

- Montgomery, VT Farmer's Market: VCBS booth for education, recruitment, sales. (Jeanne & Marcel Beaudry)
- Pittsford, VT Pittsford Day, noon to dark, VCBS booth at Rec Park and/or Gorham CB (Beth & Paul Limmer)

Sunday, August 3:

- Pop-up meet-up at one of the CBs in Stowe area where the New England Audi Rally to Covered Bridges (their 10th annual) will be stopping. They'll see 20 VT CBs in 2 days. (Email me if you want to join this rally. I'll give you the leader's contact info. Benefits a good cause.)

Monday, August 4:

- Maple Monday at local covered bridges. Beth and Paul will be at Brown CB in Shrewsbury with

Stewart Maple Products of Shrewsbury. Other pairs (1-2 VCBS members with a maple producer) may go to other CBs. This event is in the preliminary phase right now. Want to join? Email me.

Wednesday August 6:

- Town Library in Springfield, VT "Covered Bridges of Windsor County: Past and Present", begins at 1 p.m. A member of VCBS Speakers Bureau will field questions after the presentation.

Thursday, August 7:

- Brattleboro – Creamery Bridge: 6-8 p.m. Phill Gatenby's world premier film, "Windham County Covered Bridges", will be screened. Seating will be inside the Creamery Covered Bridge and ice cream will be served. This event is a collaboration between Brattleboro Parks and Recreation Dept and VCBS. There will be a banner on the covered bridge.

Friday, August 8:

- Brandon Farmer's Market, Central Park, Rt 7: 9:30 – 2:30, VCBS booth and banner saying: Celebrating...Covered Bridge Week..in Vermont. Sales, recruitment, and education, with a side of good humor, and tall tales, upon request.

Saturday, August 9:

- Cambridge Junction / Poland Covered Bridge in Jeffersonville: Dedication of the new plaque on the bridge to commemorate it being the impetus to the founding of VCBS in 2000, listing VCBS charter members, and sporting the VCBS logo. VCBS booth at the Artisans Fair on Main Street. Time: TBD
- Bennington's Bike to the Bridges: Gather at Monument Arts and Culture Center, 44 Gypsy Lane, at 9:30 a.m. Bikers leave at 10 a.m. (with escort vehicle for safety) to tour Silk Road, Paper Mill, and Burt Henry Covered Bridges. Free lunch served to all participants 12 – 1. (I submitted a grant to fund this event and will know by mid-June if it is awarded. If not, this event will not take place.)

There may be more events that are added to this list as time goes on. Other towns with covered bridges are planning what their community will do.

VCBS had a 10 ft x 2 ft banner designed in March. It is light blue heavy-duty vinyl with fade-resistant resin lettering in red which says: Celebrating... Covered Bridge Week ...in Vermont. These are being offered to towns with covered bridge(s) for \$80 each. Fifteen banners have been sold thus far. Free delivery will be in June. Again, contact me if your town or business is interested or needs a photo of the banner. They are striking and can be used year after year. Did you think Covered Bridge Week in Vermont was a one-year only

event? Think again, my friends. It is the beginning of a trend, and soon to be a tradition!



VCBS Covered Bridge Week Banner

Fundraising Committee

- by Beth Brown-Limmer, Acting Chair

As we ramp up for our 4th season of fundraising events, the committee met via Zoom on May 8, 2025. All items for sale at the VCBS online store were reviewed and prices adjusted to reflect the ever-increasing cost of shipping and sales history. Several of the descriptions were edited. VCBS does not ship internationally, or to Hawaii or Alaska. This info was added to each listing to avoid potential confusion by shoppers. Some item prices were reduced. Love a sale? Head over to vermontbridges.org and select online store from the drop-down menu.

There's a new item in the online store: a thumb drive with 103 photos taken by John Knox, all of covered bridges in Vermont and many in the Springtime when the flowering trees are so pretty, as they are right now! This thumb drive is the perfect gift for folks that have digital photo frames. They can also be viewed on your computer. We set up the VCBS digital photo frame at inside venues so visitors can enjoy these fabulous images. We've sold some thumb drives to professionals to use in their waiting rooms. Very relaxing! Very Vermont-y!

The 2026 VCBS calendar is all done and will debut, as usual, at the Spring VCBS Meeting. Steve Brown of Farmington, NH did all the format work on the photos and that is the hardest part. This is the fourth year of making a calendar of covered bridges, all are in Vermont. It was decided by the FR Committee to raise the price from \$15 to \$18 per calendar. Cost of mailing is \$4 each if bought online, and each calendar must be mailed in its own envelope. Look for them at the online store in mid-June. Last year, a handful of people waited

too long to buy the 2025 calendar and missed out. Buy early!

Special thanks to Diane Sullivan of Poultney who does all the shipping of orders placed online, and by mail from the VCBS Marketplace, except for Joe Nelson's book which is shipped by Steve Miyamoto. Orders are fielded by Mark Maddox. It takes a village....

Do you have a passion for selling, marketing, inventory control, and leading a committee? Please get in touch at vermontcoveredbridgesociety@gmail.com. I have been the Acting Chairman of Fundraising Committee since its inception in November 2022 and would welcome a new volunteer.

As far as the events planned for the 2025 "sales season", *and not having to do with meetings or Covered Bridge Week*, this is where we are setting up the VCBS booth for sales, recruitment, education, and friendly banter:

- August 12 – 16, State Fair at Rutland
- September 12- 15, Tunbridge World's Fair
- Sept. 20 -21, Chester Festival
- October 10 -11, The 200th birthday party for Hyde Hall Covered Bridge in Cooperstown, NY.

Volunteers are needed to help at all of these. I love to go to fairs and festivals, but they can be exhausting. Many hands make light work!

See the Events Committee Report for Spring and Fall Meeting details and for the events we are planning to

celebrate Covered Bridge Week in Vermont, August 2-9, 2025!

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Brown – Limmer
Acting Chairperson

Education Committee

- by Jeanne Beaudry, Chair

The 25th Anniversary High School Poster Contest was successful. As you'll recall, the contest was open to Vermont residents who were 13 to 18 years old. The 18" x 24" poster was required to include a depiction of a covered bridge in Vermont and the words "Vermont Covered Bridge Week" and the date. It could also include up to 3 additional words, such as celebrate, heritage, etc. Hopefully many VCBS members will attend the June 7th meeting in Saxtons River to vote and decide the winning entry.

On Saturday May 17th, Marcel and I traveled to the Barre Auditorium for the Vermont 4-H 2025 State Day where we met up with Education Committee member Joe Mitchell. Joe and I were judges for the tabletop category. Students were encouraged to highlight aspects of covered bridges in their area in the tabletop display. It was a fun day but also a difficult day as so many had excellent displays. I was able to connect with some of the County Leaders and hope to be able to continue with the 4-H and Covered Bridge Society connection.



Jeanne Beaudry and Joe Mitchell – Photo by Marcel Beaudry



Jeanne and Joe busy judging - Photo by Marcel Beaudry

Membership Committee

- by Scott Scribner – Chair

It's time to welcome our new members! The following are new individuals/couples:

- Stephen Mills - Franklin, MA
- Paulette Thompson – Mechanicsville, VA*

*In our last edition, we mistakenly showed Paulette as residing in VT instead of VA.

- Scott & Trisha Mitchell – Newbury Park, CA
- Mansel Wells – Cuba, NY

- Donald Trachte – Bennington, VT
- Jeannette Pompi – Greenville, SC
- Bill Kaigle of Ye Olde Sign Shoppe – Milton, VT
- Anita Baldwin – Chittenango, NY

We also have the following new towns as members:

- Town of Danville, VT
- Town of Lunenburg, VT
- Town of Tunbridge, VT
- Town of Waterville, VT

We're excited to have all of you!!

Barbara and I made phone calls to all our Life Members to personally invite them to our next meeting to receive a special gift. Unfortunately, we found out we had lost some of our members. Some family members told us that they are still happy to receive information from our society.

Let's take a moment to remember our departed covered bridge enthusiasts.

- Ron Bechard
- Linda Bills
- Mark Bramhall
- Raymond Gendron
- Robert Kane
- Helga Macguire
- Ann Ovit
- Sylvia Russell

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting in June and it was great catching up with everyone over the phone.

Best regards,
Scott E. Scribner

Directors Spotlight

- By Peggy Wilson

We are pleased to welcome Peggy Wilson as the new Publicity Chair on the Board of Directors. Peggy is the owner of WCG, a marketing and advertising agency based in southwest Florida. With a strong background in

branding and marketing communication, she brings a fresh perspective and deep enthusiasm to the role.

Peggy is passionate about being an active part of her community, supporting organizations by leveraging her professional expertise—contributing to make big impacts in meaningful ways. She's excited to help promote the Society's mission, increase public awareness, engagement and shine a light on the rich history and charm of Vermont's very iconic covered bridges.

As she takes on this role, Peggy follows in the footsteps of William (Liam) McKone. Liam has played a priceless role within the organization serving as founder, charter member, director for decades, of which the last three, Publicity Chair. The Society is deeply grateful for Liam's long-standing commitment and contributions. Peggy is honored to carry forward the work he has so thoughtfully led.

Peggy's contributions to VCBS thus far include creation of the organization's brand standards, digitizing the VCBS brand identity, assisting in development of the new VCBS website currently in production and deploying the first press release of many; announcing



Peggy Wilson

the declaration of Vermont Covered Bridge Week on August 2-9, 2025, by Governor Scott.

Bridges in the News

- By Mark Maddox

Sanborn Covered Bridge – Lyndon – Plans to restore the historic Sanborn bridge in Lyndon have been revised aimed at improving water flow under the bridge to reduce flooding. The plan calls for raising the bridge more than 4 feet. This allows for more water to flow under the bridge allowing flood waters to pass more freely, reducing the risk of damage to nearby roads.



Sanborn Covered Bridge prior to being disassembled - photo by Mark Maddox

Chamberline Covered Bridge – Lyndon – On May 5, 2025, Jeanne and Marcel Beaudry attended the Select Board meeting in Lyndonville to discuss public concerns regarding the Chamberlain Covered Bridge. Representatives from Hoyle, Tanner & Associates who had inspected the bridge in October of 2024 presented on the condition of the bridge. The bridge that had been built in 1881 and refurbished in 1980 was rated poor for the deck condition, fair for the superstructure condition and satisfactory for the substructure condition. Additional observations revealed rot, splits and breaks, rusted hardware, sagging and missing planks, all in various parts of the bridge.

Rehabilitation of the bridge is possible but would be a great deal of work. To fund rehabilitation, 80% of the money would be from Federal funds, 10% State funds, 10% Town funds. (If a temporary bridge is not needed during refurbishment, the state would pay 17.5% and the town 2.5%.) The timeline would start with a scoping report in the Fall of 2025, Contract Plans/Advertising in

the Summer of 2029 with construction beginning in 2031.



Chamberlin Covered Bridge - Photo by Mark Maddox

The audience in attendance who spoke were in favor of refurbishing the covered bridge and not removing it and replacing it with a metal and/or concrete one.

Salisbury Station / Cedar Swamp Creek / Creek Road Covered Bridge - Salisbury-Cornwall - This covered bridge was unfortunately lost due to fire on September 10, 2016. In 2022, the residents of Salisbury and Cornwall provided their input that an authentic covered bridge should be built to replace the original covered



Salisbury Station or Creek Road or Cedar Swamp Bridge prior to it's demise - Photo by Bob Sheldon, 2010

bridge. The select board proceeded with that request with a targeted construction date in 2025. However, the current Chair of the Salisbury Select Board has

recently informed us that due to federal funding cuts the timeline for construction is now delayed to 2031.

Williamsville Covered Bridge – Newfane – On April 30, 2025, a large box truck driven by a Lowell Massachusetts driver struck the bridge causing significant damage. He fled the scene but was apprehended about half an hour later in Dover, VT. He was cited for leaving the scene of the accident as well as providing false report to law enforcement authorities. The driver is due in court on June 17 to answer the charges.



Damage to Williamsville Covered Bridge - Photo by Bill Caswell



Box truck that damaged the Williamsville Covered Bridge – Facebook – Phill Bridges

Miller's Run Covered Bridge – Lyndon – On March 21, 2025, the final phase to install headache bars at the

Miller's Run Covered Bridge was completed. An effort that was conceived almost 3 years ago to protect the 146 year-old span. The final pieces, the steel arches, were created by Momentum Manufacturing and by students from the Lyndon Institute welding and fabrication class. Total cost for the new barriers was estimated at \$60,000.



Miller's Run Covered Bridge new headache bars - Photo by Jeanne and Marcel Beaudry

Lost Bridges Series – VCBS website

Have you looked at the Lost Bridges Series on our Website? Under the [Member Portal Home Page](#), you can find the ever-growing series detailing covered bridges that have been lost. The most recent update adds the Lost Bridges of the Passumpsic River. This details the 36 covered bridges that once crossed the Passumpsic River in Vermont.

Okemo Valley Magazine – Covered Bridges

If you are keeping up with reading the newsletter, you may recall that VCBS is a member of the Okemo Valley Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber's latest magazine features an article on Vermont's Covered Bridges. Some members of the VCBS were interviewed in preparation of the article. Hard copies are available around the Ludlow, VT area plus an electronic version can be found here:

<https://www.yourplaceinvermont.com/okemo-valley-magazine/> The article starts on page 58 of the magazine. Hard copies will also be available at our Spring meeting.

Board of Directors Meetings

- by Mark Maddox

The Vermont Covered Bridge Society Board of Directors have started meeting more frequently. Instead of printing a complete copy of the minutes in the newsletter, a synopsis will be included. Full copies of the minutes are available on the Vermont Covered Bridge Society website under the member's portal.

Abbreviated minutes from our March and May meetings are as follows:

March 20, 2025

Item 1: Officer Reports

1. President's Report – Beth Brown Limmer
 - a. Official proclamation from Governor's office of Vermont Covered Bridge Week.
2. Secretary's Report – Mark Maddox
 - a. Changes needed for online store due to International/orders outside the lower 48 US states
3. Treasurer's Report – Dan Monger
 - a. Transfer of PayPal business account from Steve to Dan finalized
 - b. Dan processed a refund for an international sale
 - c. Investigating where to create a high interest savings account since PayPal savings account can not be used for business
 - i. Criteria:
 1. 4.0% APY or greater
 2. no fees
 3. min deposit of \$5,000 or less
 4. no additional deposits required
 5. FDIC insured
 6. customer satisfaction of 4.5-5 out of 5.

Item 2: Committee Reports

1. Education – Jeanne Beaudry
 - a. River Valley Tech Center in Springfield will make and decorate a cake as a covered bridge for our June meeting instead of having a cake decoration contest.

- b. Science Fair from February 20th: Jeanne will present 4 students who won the scavenger hunt with a student membership for VCBS.
 - c. Poster contest – being held for high schools/home schoolers 13-18 year old.
 - i. Intent is to print and sell posters for part of the 25th anniversary celebration
 - ii. May 1st deadline to send in
 - d. 4H State Day is May 17th
2. Publicity
 - a. Brands Standards Guide – Peggy Wilson
 - i. Will set the stage for everything we use in Marketing
 1. Phase I – the basics
 - a. Our Organization
 - b. Logo – allowed on photo, green, red or white background
 - c. Authorized Logo Usage
 - d. Typography (Font)
 - e. Color Palette
 - f. Would like Phase I completed by end of April
 2. Phase 2
 - a. graphics elements
 - b. imagery
 - c. application of brand standards
 - d. brand architecture
 - ii. Logo may need to be recreated if the native file cannot be found.
 - iii. Can expand the brand standards to include merchandise (e.g. colored hats, shirts)
 - iv. The Brands Standards Guide will be sent to Beth to distribute to board members
 - b. Peggy will work with Steve to get the press release for the Vermont Covered Bridge Week on our website. Will also work on getting it out to other sources.
 - c. Cambridge Junction 25th Anniversary Celebration - Liam
 - i. Currently closed to all traffic including pedestrians
 1. Liam will try and be on the agenda for the 3rd Tuesday in April to recommend it being closed to vehicle traffic

2. Economic Development Chamber would like it to be open to traffic due to rail trail traffic to allow cars to cross bridge to be able to have overflow parking.
- d. investigate presence at Champlain Valley Fair in Essex Junction Bridge - Liam
3. Membership – Scott Scribner
 - a. Still working on renewal process
 - i. Concerned about lack of response - 150 members have not renewed
 - ii. A number of members are converting back to hard copies newsletter, incurring additional costs
 - iii. 40 hard copies going out
 1. Cost is \$1.10 per newsletter
 - b. Life membership – 67 verified out of 133
 - c. Membership – current 351 (not counting the 4 students Jeanne will award)
4. Bridge Watch
 - a. Jeanne and Marcel are keeping track of the new headache bar on Millers Run Bridge in Lyndonville
5. Events – Beth Brown Limmer
 - a. Spring meeting – Saxtons River - June 7
 - b. Fall meeting – Weathersfield – October 4
 - c. Several towns are interested in buying banners and celebrating Covered Bridge week
 - i. Pittsford, Cambridge, Bennington
 - ii. Jeanne has contacted Montgomery to see if interested
 - d. Rutland Fair - August 12-16 – probably will do
 - e. Best of Vermont – August 23, 24 – uncertain if we will do
 - f. Tunbridge Fair - Sept 11-14 - uncertain if we will do
 - g. Chester festival – September 20, 21 – Definitely will attend
6. Fundraising – Beth Brown Limmer
 - a. Need to have a meeting with the Fundraising Committee in May
 - i. Discuss what we sell online
 - ii. Prices for items being sold
 - b. 2026 calendar is at the printer
 - c. 15 dark green hats on order

Item 3: New items

1. Accounting policy
 - a. Accounting policy – defined in the manual of policies
 - b. You must submit the paperwork and invoices to be reimbursed
2. Approved change to the bylaws that donations less than \$50 should be put in operating budget instead of the save-a-bridge fund
3. Banking changes:
 - a. Approved change to make Treasurer (Dan Monger) and President (Beth Brown Limmer) the only individuals who are able to sign checks with Union Bank
 - b. Approved change to make Treasurer (Dan Monger) and Membership chair (Scott Scribner) the only individuals have access to online banking with Union Bank
4. Approved Okemo Valley Chamber renewal - \$153
 - a. Benefits
 - i. Okemo Valley TV spots
 - ii. Speaking engagements
 - iii. New members
 - iv. Article in Okemo Magazine in May
5. Additional consensus that VCBS supports Scott and Barbara Scribner to renew the membership at the Brandon Chamber of Commerce

May 15, 2025

Item 1. Peggy Wilson – approved as Publicity Chair to replace Liam McKone

Item 2. Life Membership awardees – awarded to Liam McKone and Jane and Terry Shaw for contributions to the VCBS

Item 3. Funds for fire retardant application – Approved \$500 to be given in addition to the cost of the materials provided by the National Association for the Preservation of Covered Bridges for application of fire retardant

Wording: VCBS may contribute up to \$500 for the application of fire retardant to historic or authentic covered bridge in Vermont.

Item 4. Plaque on Poland/Cambridge Junction Bridge – Jeanne

Jeanne Beaudry spoke with Eric Bozman of Cambridge to add plaque to recognize the

beginning of the VCBS. Approved by Cambridge Junction Select Board to add

- Will be paid by Jeanne and Marcel Beaudry
- Wording to be reviewed with the VCBS Board.
- Hope to dedicate this on August 9th as part of the Covered Bridge week.

Item 5: Officer Reports

1. Presidents Report - Beth
 - a. See this edition's President's Report
2. Vice-President Report - Steve
 - a. Website
 - i. Evaluating website with Peggy. Peggy's firm (Wilson Creative Design) will work on this.
 1. Peggy would like to have something for Covered Bridge Week in Aug. Go live with primary pages and then work on secondary pages
 - b. Venmo - 2 parts: iPhone needs a carrier to have a service provider, then we can sign up – needs more investigation as to how to use it.
 - c. Crowd Funding
 - i. different options, with varying fees
 - ii. Liam checked on this as well and will look at providing information in June
 - d. Zeffy – nothing new
 - e. Mail chimp – going to per fee in June. Looking at several different options for non-profit: Google Meet to replace Zoom. Also looking at Microsoft package -365 for non-profits
 - i. NOTE: Steve investigated Mail chimp and found that there will still be a free edition for use. It gets rid of some features but for our purposes it will still work for us to be able to send emails to our members.
3. Treasurer's Report - Dan
 - a. Live Oak account savings account created – 3.5% apy

- b. Union CD –renewal coming up in June, Dan to confirm, will roll over
4. Secretary's Report - Mark
 - a. Bylaws update added to the VCBS Jim Fearon Save-a-Bridge Fund: "Money from donations of \$50 or more will be contributed to the Save-a-Bridge Financial instrument. Donations less than \$50 will go into the VCBS general operating fund."
 - b. Unauthorized T-shirt sales on Facebook – resolved by contacting the seller and taking the ad off our Facebook page
 - c. Email updates – town memberships
 - d. Online vote for advertising in Doug Lazuras periodical - declined
 - e. Question – Is the Save-a-bridge fund in Union Bank a separate account? – no it isn't per Dan - Treasurer

Item 6: Committee Reports

1. Events - Beth
 - a. See this edition's Events Report
2. Fundraising - Beth
 - a. See this edition's Fundraising Report
3. Publicity/Communications – N/A
4. Bridge Watch – N/A
5. Education - Jeanne
 - a. Cake decorating – working on trying to get the cake but not able to reach them yet
 - b. Poster contest – 7 entrants. Jeanne will pick up the 4 finalist entries. Steve is working on certificates for the entrants
 - c. 4H State Day – Joe Mitchell and Jeanne will judge the covered bridge entries
6. Historical – Steve
 - a. William Caroll information has now been placed in the storage unit.
7. Membership – N/A

Item 7: New items

1. Coverage Bridge Week – discussed under events above
2. QR subscription - deferred



PO Box 83
Brandon, VT
05733-0083



Vermont Covered Bridge Society Membership Application

Dues and donations are used to promote the preservation of Vermont's covered bridges

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: () _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

- Membership:** New Renewal
- Student (\$10) Individual (\$15) Couples (\$20) Life (\$200)
- Life-Couple (\$300) Business/Organization/Municipality (\$15)

(Memberships are valid to the end of the current calendar year)
(New memberships purchased in the fourth quarter are valid through the next calendar year)

- Newsletter Delivery:** Postal Mail Email Opt-out
- Receive VCBS Email:** Yes No

- Donations:**
- Palladio (\$2) Palmer (\$5) Hale (\$10) Burr (\$25)
- Powers (\$50) Town (\$75) Tasker (\$100) Long (\$150)
- Paddleford (\$200) Whipple (\$250)
- Other Amount (\$_____)

(The Vermont Covered Bridge Society is a 501c3 organization)

Return completed application with payment to: **OR** Visit our website to join:

Vermont Covered Bridge Society
PO Box 83
Brandon, VT 05733



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