



# 2022 New England Societies' Annual Gathering

They say the third time is a charm. Let's hope so. Once again, the Order of the First Families of Vermont is hosting the 2022 New England Societies' Annual Gathering the weekend of September 30 through October 2. We will gather at Middlebury, Vermont in the great Champlain Valley the weekend of October 1. While there is no guarantee, the fall foliage should be gorgeous with the Adirondack Mountains to the west and the Green Mountains to the east. During our special annual weekend gathering, we will explore historic sites and experience Vermont culture.

Middlebury is a small historic community of about 8,600 people. Chartered in 1761, its first settlers arrived in 1766 after the end of the French and Indian War.

The Marriott Courtyard at 309 Court Street will be our headquarters for the weekend and the location of First Family meetings. Registration will begin shortly before noon and run through the afternoon. Dinner tickets, admission passes, our itinerary, maps, and the schedule of society meetings will be available at registration. If there is interest, we will schedule a walking tour of Middlebury for the afternoon.

Our Welcome dinner will be at the historic Middlebury Inn. We will be called to a buffet dinner by the fiddle of Adam Boyce, a 10th generation Vermonter and a lifelong student of music and history. Adam is also an OFFVT member.

On Saturday, we drive about 30 minutes to His Majesty's Fort of Crown Point Fort which was the terminus of the Crown Point Road. The Crown Point Road ran from Fort Number 4 on the Connecticut River at Charleston, New Hampshire to Lake Champlain. We will enjoy a presentation on the Fort's history and an opportunity to visit its museum and ruins.

After another 30-minute drive, we arrive at Fort Ticonderoga with its tours, demonstrations, museum, and views of the Champlain Valley. While at the Fort, we will have a private tour by one of the Fort's historians. Our visit coincides with Fort Ticonderoga's Annual Heritage, Harvest and Horse Festival with its farmer's market featuring local foods, beverages, and crafts. Lunch will be on your own and available from either festival vendors or at the Fort Café.

The return to Middlebury can be either by the route followed to get to Fort Ticonderoga or by the Fort Ti cable ferry which is reported to be one of the oldest ferries in North America. The Fort Ti ferry is presently not operating; however, we are hopeful it will be back in operation by October. Regardless of the route, the return to Middlebury will take about an hour.

Various New England societies will hold their meetings at the Marriott Courtyard before dinner on Saturday afternoon. Unlike previous gatherings, no meetings will be held during meals. A schedule of society meetings will be available when you register on Friday, September 30.

Dinner will be at Rosie's Diner in Middlebury on Saturday evening. This is a plated dinner. You need to select your choice of entrée on the attached Registration Form.

Sunday morning, we will drive 30 minutes north to Shelburne, Vermont where we will visit the Shelburne Museum. The Museum is "*the largest art and history museum in northern New England.*" The museum sits on a 46-acre campus with 39 historic buildings to explore. Its buildings and art collection are reported to be outstanding. We will enjoy a box lunch at the museum. For the young at heart, a vintage carousel operates near the museum's Circus Building. We are going to have fun.

At the end of the day, we will again gather at the Middlebury Inn for a farewell buffet dinner. Prior to dinner, members of the Children of the American Revolution will treat us to a musical interpretation of Vermont history.

Ours will be a great autumn weekend of Vermont history and culture.

For our weekend gathering, room blocks have been secured at both the Middlebury Inn and the Marriott Courtyard. The hotels are located approximately a mile apart. If you plan to attend our gathering, you should make your room reservation as soon as possible. Our meeting occurs during the "leaf peeping" season, and rooms may be unavailable if you wait too long. You can always cancel your reservation if your plans don't work out.

We have secured a room block of 21 rooms at the Middlebury Inn. There is a three-night minimum. The rooms in this block are as follows:

	Occupancy	Rooms	Nightly Rate
Annex Building	D	3	\$208.82
Annex Deluxe	D	4	\$225.82
Deluxe	D	1	\$234.32
Family Style Suite	D	1	\$251.32
Luxury	D	9	\$242.82
Standard	D	1	\$217.32
Suite	D	2	\$251.32

The above rates do not include State and City taxes. A three-night minimum is required of all guests. For reservations at the Middlebury Inn, call (802) 388-4961 or (800) 842-4666. Be sure to mention that you are with the "Order of First Families of Vermont room block group".

We also secured a block of rooms at the Marriott Courtyard. The hotel is offering the OFFVT a special group rate of \$179.00 per night plus taxes for the period from Thursday, September 29, through Monday, October 3. Double click on the following link to make your reservation: [Book your group rate for Order of First Families of Vermont](https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1634676766528&key=GRP&app=resvlink) (<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1634676766528&key=GRP&app=resvlink>)

If you run into any reservation-related issues, please call Sandy Button, the OFFVT Secretary, at (802) 989-7055.

The next page is your registration form for the OFFVT October gathering. Please complete this form and return it with your check to the OFFVT's Treasurer, Ken Button. **Registration forms and checks received after August 15 will not be honored and will be returned.**

Ken's mailing address is as follows:

Kenneth R. Button  
352 Halladay Road  
Middlebury, VT 05753-9157

I look forward to seeing you at Middlebury!

V. Allen Gray  
Governor  
Order of First Families of Vermont

# Registration Form -- New England Societies' 2022 Gathering

Gathering Headquarters: Marriott Courtyard, Middlebury, Vermont 05753

Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a member of the following: VT MA CT NH ME PHS RI&PP ODAHAC CC&I NY WS.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (cell): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I/We will arrive on \_\_\_\_\_ and are staying at the Middlebury Inn \_\_\_\_, Marriott Courtyard \_\_\_\_, other \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_ live in the area.

\_\_\_\_ (number) I/We will not have a car and need shared transportation to and from events.

\_\_\_\_ I/We can provide rides for \_\_\_\_ additional people.

\_\_\_\_ I/We have the following food allergies \_\_\_\_\_.

I/We will attend the following events – **note the total number of attendees in your party for each item:**

## Friday, September 30

\_\_\_\_ (attending) Meeting Registration Fee @ \$15.00 / pp Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ (attending) Welcome Buffet Dinner, Middlebury Inn @ \$58.00 / pp Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Saturday, October 1

\_\_\_\_ (attending) Crown Point/Fort Ticonderoga Tour @ \$30.00 / pp Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ (attending) Rosie's Vermont Fall Classic Plated Dinner @ \$33.00 / pp Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Select your entrée: Prime Rib \_\_\_\_, Baked Salmon \_\_\_\_,  
Baked Haddock \_\_\_\_, Roast Pork Loin \_\_\_\_, Maple Dijon Scallops \_\_\_\_.

## Sunday, October 2

\_\_\_\_ (attending) Shelburne Museum Tour & Box Lunch @ \$34.00 / pp Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Select your sandwich choice: Ham \_\_\_\_, Turkey \_\_\_\_,  
Roast Beef \_\_\_\_, or Veggie \_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_ (attending) Farewell Buffet Dinner, Middlebury Inn @ \$58.00 / pp Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$228.00 / pp if participating in all events)

Enclosed is my check number \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_ for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$228.00 / pp if attending all events) payable to **First Families of Vermont**. Your check must be received **NO LATER THAN AUGUST 15**. Send your registration form and check to: Kenneth R. Button, 352 Halladay Road, Middlebury, VT 05753-9157.