Since its beginning as an offhand suggestion to Vermonters in *Vermont Life* magazine circa 1954, the Vermont 251 Club has grown to around 4,000 members. Their common interest is to visit every town and gore in the state.

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A distinction of the club is the somewhat open-ended suggestion that 251'ers document their visits in some way, though proof is not a requirement. Photographs are a popular means, but members have been inventive when establishing individual, and sometimes challenging, criteria for marking their progress.

Some have determined to bicycle or hike through every town; to make the acquaintance of a resident of each town; or, to research and record some particular aspect of the place, such as how it got its name, for instance.

Those who visit all 251 towns are known as "plus" members. Membership is open to everyone, Vermont residency is not required and many of the members are regular visitors who enjoy extending their exploration of the state. The club meets twice a year.

Dues for the Vermont 251 Club are a modest seven dollars a year. The primary benefit of membership is the Wayfarer newsletter, members gather for two dinners held each year. For more information call 802-229-0253, e-mail at vt251club@aol.com or visit online at: www.vt251.com. The mailing address is: Bill Rockford, 40 Clarendon Ave., Montpelier, VT 05602; Tel. 802-229-0253.

