

*Office of the Vermont Secretary of State*  
**Vermont State Archives**

**1976: Lieutenant Governor**

<b>Total votes cast:</b>	<b>170,971</b>	<b>Percent: 100%</b>
<b>Necessary for election:</b>	<b>85,486</b>	<b>50 plus 1 vote</b>
<b>John T. Alden had:</b>	<b>82,632</b>	<b>48.4%</b>
<b>T. Garry Buckley had:</b>	<b>81,471</b>	<b>47.6%</b>
<b>John L. Franco had:</b>	<b>6,778</b>	<b>4.0%</b>

**Comments: John T. Alden fell 2,854 votes short of a majority in the General Election of 1976. The joint assembly convened on January 6 to hear the report of the canvassing committee and, in the case of the office of Lieutenant Governor, to vote by joint ballot for the three candidates who received the greatest number of votes. On the first ballot, when the ballots were taken and counted, the result was as follows:**

<b>Total votes cast:</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>Percent: 100</b>
<b>Necessary for election:</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>50 plus 1 vote</b>
<b>T. Garry Buckley had:</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>50.6%</b>
<b>John T. Alden had:</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>48.9%</b>
<b>John Franco had:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>.56%</b>

**T. Garry Buckley was declared to be the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Vermont for the two years next ensuing.**

**Prior to the joint assembly, the Senate had debated the question of whether or not the President of the Senate, presiding in Joint Assembly, had a casting vote to break a tie involving the election of a new Lieutenant Governor. The temporary Rules Committee of the Senate had opined to the contrary. The Chair overruled that opinion, stating that he, as presiding officer, did have the right to a casting vote in**

**such election. This ruling was appealed by Senator Bloomer, and on vote of the Senate the appeal was overruled, the Chair's ruling sustained.**