

## Colleague Profile



# Jeanne Gilbert

Try this. List your three favorite living creatures in order of preference, and describe why you like them. Done? Well now we can do an analysis of your personality. Your first choice is how you want other people to see you. Your second choice how you see yourself, and your third choice is how you really are.

It's a fun exercise and a whole lot easier to do than a Myers-Briggs. You can be the judge of its accuracy and, we suspect that much depends on the third choice. Those who chose the eagle tend to like the test. One person chose a coyote, and he seems to have reservations. One popular choice is the horse. Chinese astrology incorporates the characteristic of different types of animals and describes the horse as follows:



*"People born in the year of the Horse often turn out to be completely devoted to their work. They are always willing to do the very best they can. Even if they are tired and face many obstacles, they are intent on completing the day's work. This quality emerges from the strength and persistence of the Horse energy and it makes them great members of any work force. They are strong and dependable, honest and loyal. If they make a promise they will do their best to keep it. They will rarely let you down and they will hardly ever give up."*

For Jeanne Gilbert, it's right on. Her third choice was the horse, and the above characteristics capture her.

Although Jeanne was born in Rhode Island, she came to Vermont at age 6 when her father relocated to work for the Howe Richardson Scale Company. One of five children, Jeanne grew up in Proctor. A member of the National Honor society for the Proctor High class of 1973, she began work immediately after graduation in the bookkeeping department of the Proctor Bank. Jeanne enjoyed working with numbers and was attracted to the business field. She married in 1975, worked five years before



starting a family, briefly worked in Boston, and settled into raising her daughter Amanda while working for Vermont banks. In 1979, tired of commuting, she took a job at Vermont National Bank as a floating teller. It was this career decision that led her to us.

In 1988, she was promoted to Branch Manager of the Rutland Mall office. By 1990 she grew restless, and interviewed with Steve Singiser who managed the Rutland office of Vermont National's Trust Department. Although lacking in trust experience, she was drawn to the work, took the position, attended many courses and programs too numerous to list, flourished, and by 1999, after a series of promotions, became an Assistant Vice President. That's the year when Steve left to co-found the Trust Company of Vermont. Less than a year later she followed him and joined us in April of 2000.

In addition to her responsibilities as a trust administrator for the accounts in the Rutland region, Jeanne is our IRA specialist (she is a Certified IRA Services Professional) and handles the administration of IRA accounts state-wide.

She likes to babysit for her grandson, travel, read, play tennis, and dance. When we asked about her softball and volleyball teams, she informed us that she had recently given up both sports and returned to one of her earlier loves, horseback riding. When we asked about her favorite book, she informed us that it had not changed over the years. It was still Marguerite Henry's "Misty of Chincoteague," a classic for lovers of horses.