

Old Broad Bay Family History Association Newsletter

New Series Volume 5 No. 1 – Winter 2008

The Old Broad Bay Family History Association, P.O. Box 1242, Waldoboro, ME 04572-1242
On the web at: www.rootsweb.com/~meobbfha/ – Editorial comments & queries to obbeditor@earthlink.net

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1753/54 Memorial

The granite rock for the 1753/54 memorial has been placed in front of the flag at the entrance to the Miller School on Route 32. Members living locally may have seen the article about the memorial in the *Lincoln County News* on October 31st.

The total cost of the 12x12 plaque is \$606.82, including installation. **There is currently \$565 in the Memorial Fund which leaves about \$41.82 to be raised.** If you would like to make a donation to the Memorial Fund, please send a check made out to the OBBFHA to William Conary, OBBFHA Treasurer, 9 Hilltop Rd, Plaistow, NH 03865. Please mark the check as being for the Memorial Fund. Any funds received over the amount needed will be used to help pay for upkeep of the memorial and for plants placed around it.

It may also be that future research will allow a second plaque to be placed on the memorial with the names of the settlers who died. Anyone who has evidence identifying these settlers should send that information to the Association.

The plan is to dedicate the memorial during Waldoboro Days the third weekend in June (the 21st & 22nd). Details of the dedication ceremony will be published in the spring newsletter. Suggestions for the format of

the dedication are welcome. Also, if you would like to volunteer to man the booth, please let one of the officers or directors know.

Waldoboro Vital Records Book

The long awaited *Vital Records of Waldoboro, Maine Maine Genealogical Society Special Publication No. 54* by Marlene Groves is now available. The cost is \$67.50 (plus \$3.38 tax for Maine residents and \$5.00 shipping when applicable). For Maine Genealogical Society members the price is \$57.50 (plus \$2.88 tax for Maine residents and \$5.00 shipping when applicable; please provide membership number when ordering). You may order the book from Picton Press on-line at www.pictonPress.com; by phone at 207-596-7766; or by mail at Picton Press, PO Box 1347, Rockland, ME 04841.

The book contains not only births, deaths, and marriages recorded in the town record books, but cemetery records from those same town books, Bible records for several Waldoboro families (from private sources), and records from the Congregational, Baptist, and Methodist churches in Waldoboro. The church records cover the period from the founding of the church to the early 1890s. The records for the Congregational church are at the Maine Historical Society.

Upcoming genealogy classes

Helen Shaw is teaching the following genealogy classes this spring. Details about the classes and costs can be found in each schools' adult education brochure.

At Camden Hills Regional High School in Rockport

Cemetery Research: February 25, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Census Analysis: March 10, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

At MSAD #11 in Gardiner, Saturday, April 5

Horse Thieves & Prostitutes, Heroes & Heroines – Discovering Your Family History: 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Federal Censuses: Mining the Population Schedules: 1:00-4:00 p.m.

At Medomak Valley High School in Waldoboro

Cemetery Research: May 5, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Everything You Wanted to Know About the Census and Were Afraid to Ask: May 19, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

To sign up for classes at CHRHS call (207) 236-7800, ext 5; for MSAD #11 call (207) 582-3774; for Medomak Valley call (207) 832-2280.

Castner Bible up-date

Richard Castner has been working diligently to transcribe the numerous family data in the Castner Bible he bought last fall on eBay. We hope to have that material soon for the newsletter.

Index for newsletter volume 4

Due the need to include the by-laws and vote on it in this newsletter and the illness of the editor for most of the month of December, the name index for volume 4 of the newsletter has not been completed and will be published in the spring issue of the newsletter. It will be integrated into master index and uploaded to the Association web site as soon as the editor can get to that task. My apologies for the delay and any inconvenience.

Results of OBBFHA constitution vote

The following is the results of the vote for the Association constitution. Twenty-three ballots were received, though not everyone voted for every issue. The new constitution has been uploaded to the Association web page. Members who do not have access to the website may request a print copy of the document by contacting the editor via the Association PO box. Please note that the new dues format will take effect with the next membership cycle, July 1, 2008 to June 31, 2009.

Article V: membership, paragraph 1 (eligibility)

9 to keep the association for descendants & relatives

14 to open the association to anyone interested in Waldoboro history

Article V: membership, paragraph 2 (dues)

- 8 to keep the current dues structure
- 15 to change to a 2-tier system**
- Article VI: Association business
- 19 to have the board of directors be composed of the elected officers and the directors**
- 1 to have only directors on the board
- Approval of the remaining wording in the constitution
- 21 Yes**
- 1 No

By-Laws discussion & vote

The by-laws of an association is the document for the basic day-to-day conduct of the organization, covering, among other things, how often meetings are held, what constitutes a quorum, how officers are elected, duties of the officers, how committees are formed, and specifying the fiscal year.

In the case of OBBFHA there are few issues of argumentative importance in the by-laws. The discussion at the annual reunion and meeting focused on lessening the problems due to so few active members. Specifically, it was recommended that the number of directors be three rather than four and that the offices of vice president and secretary be combined into one. The officers would be president, vice-president/secretary, and treasurer. A related problem is the number of members required for a quorum to conduct business at the annual meeting.

BYLAWS

I. ANNUAL REUNION AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING

One meeting, determined by the Board of Directors, shall be designated the Annual Reunion and Membership Meeting of the Old Broad Bay Family History Association. The agenda for this meeting will include certain reports, transaction of business that may properly be considered and the election of directors and officers of the Association. Members of the Association shall receive a notice of the Annual Reunion and Membership Meeting via the Association newsletter at least thirty days in advance of the date thereof.

II. SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Special membership meetings may periodically be held and may be called by the President, a majority of all directors in office, or fifteen members, provided proper notice is given to the membership, for the purpose of transacting business as may properly be acted upon by the membership. For the purposes of a special meeting, "proper notice" is a written announcement of meeting date, time, location, and purpose of the meeting. This announcement is to be mailed via first class U.S. mail or published in the Association newsletter at least 30 days in advance of the meeting date to the membership.

III. QUORUM AND RULES

A quorum at any membership meeting for the transaction of business shall require the presence of at least fifteen qualified members and fifty-percent plus one of the duly elected Board of Directors. Rules for governing the conduct of any membership meeting may be made at and for such meeting by a majority vote of the qualified members present. Lacking definitive rules to the contrary, procedure shall follow Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

IV. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

A. Eligibility to Serve

Persons wishing to pursue election to the Board of Directors or as an officer in the Association must have been a member of the Association for at least six months prior to the date of their nomination.

B. Election, Number and Terms

1. *There shall be a maximum of three (3) duly elected directors. Directors shall serve a term of two (2) years or the remainder of uncompleted terms of directors who were unable to complete their elected terms of office. Directors shall be elected by a majority of qualified members voting at each annual Membership Meeting. Directors may be elected to more than one term.*
2. *In addition to the directors, the members of the Association shall also elect three officers. These officers will be: President, Vice President & Secretary, and Treasurer, each of whom shall serve a term of two (2) years. Officers may be elected to more than one term, but no more than two of those terms may be consecutive.*
3. The Officers of the Board constitute an "Executive Committee" whose duties and powers shall be designated by the Board of Directors.
4. A "year" as used in this section is the time between two consecutive Annual Reunion and Membership Meetings.

C. Vacancies

Any office may be presumed vacant when in the deliberative opinion of the remaining members of the Board unanimously resolve that officer has substantially and continuously failed to perform his or her duty.

In the event a director or officer is removed from office or is unable to complete his or her term, the President or any member of the Board may nominate a replacement with the consent of the Board to serve until the next Annual Membership Meeting. If the unfinished term continues beyond the next Annual Membership Meeting, the membership must vote at that meeting on a replacement to fill the remainder of the term.

D. Removal by Membership

Any officer or director may be removed from office for cause, to be defined by the qualified membership and clearly stated prior to vote on removal, upon two-thirds affirmative vote of the qualified membership present at a duly called special meeting as prescribed in Item II of the Bylaws. The qualified membership shall then fill the vacancy by majority vote for the remainder of the term.

E. Meetings

Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held two times per year at a regularly scheduled time and location which is to be published in the Association newsletter. One of these two meetings shall be in conjunction with the Annual Reunion and Membership Meeting. Special Board meetings may be called from time to time by the President (or in his or her absence, the Vice President).

Members of the Association may attend Board meetings and may address the Board, but have no vote in any action taken. The agenda for each Board meeting shall have on it a place for comments from members.

Non-members of the Association may attend Board meetings, but have no vote in any action taken.

F. Quorum and Rules of Order

Fifty-one percent of the Directors in office constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Board shall use Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, with the right to set its own rule on pertinent issues. When voting on an action, the presiding officer shall have the tie-breaking vote.

Votes may be taken outside of board meetings with the majority consensus of the Board on issues that are time sensitive or extraordinary in nature. Such discussion and voting may be conducted by the President or designated officer(s) via e-mail, fax, or voice communication. The outcome of this vote must be announced to Board members within twenty-four (24) hours of the vote.

G. Actions and Duties

No Board action shall be taken which requests or requires an Officer, Board Member, or Association member to act in any manner contrary to state or federal law or city ordinance or against manifest public interest. It shall be the duty of each and every Board Member to fulfill his fiduciary responsibility conscientiously and in the interests of the Association and its members.

V. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

A. President

It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all membership and Board meetings at which he or she can be present; to appoint all committee chairs and members as may be required by the Bylaws, action of the membership or Board action, and to perform all other duties usually pertaining to this office. The President shall be ex-officio member of all committees, excepting the Nominating Committee.

B. Vice President & Secretary

It shall be the duty of the Vice President to perform as President in case of the absence of the latter from Membership or Board meetings and to accept such other responsibilities as may be properly given him or her by the Membership or Board of Directors. In the event the President is unable to complete his or her term, the Vice President shall assume the Office of President of the Association until such time as a new President can be elected.

In the absence of both President and Vice President, the chair may be temporarily filled from the qualified members present by election, provided the Treasurer is not present. For the purpose of filling the chair, temporarily, to hold such election, the ranking person shall be the Treasurer and then Directors in order of the Board tenure or expiration of their terms, the earliest expiration ranking first among them.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to act as the Recording Secretary for the Board and to maintain the minutes of the proceedings of all membership and Board meetings. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to transmit by mail or the association newsletter, notices of all duly called Board and Membership meetings; and to perform all other duties usually pertaining to his or her office.

D. Treasurer

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive and keep safe all moneys and to disburse same upon order of the Association or of its Board of Directors. In case of the absence of the Treasurer or of his/her inability or refusal to make withdrawal, any two of the other three officers shall be empowered to make such withdrawals. The Treasurer shall make a report in writing at each Annual Reunion and Membership Meeting, and shall also report at any other meeting in a manner deemed advisable by the Board; and he/she shall perform all other duties usually pertaining to his/her office.

VI. COMMITTEES

A. Power to Appoint

Committees of one or more individuals may be appointed at the direction of the Board of Directors with appointments made by the President or presiding officer with the consent of the Board of Directors. All committees shall be responsible to report all findings or results of deliberation to the Board of Directors. In no instance will any appointed committee or committee member issue public statements or reports, or take any action, overt or covert, on behalf of itself or the Association, without first gaining approval of the Board of Directors. Members of committees may only be removed from their committee position by action of the President, with the advice and consent of the Board and/or committee chair. No committee chair may appoint additional members to the committee he or she is chairing. All committee members shall be members in good standing of the Association. A member of the Board of Directors shall be a member of each Standing Committee. Three consecutive absences from a duly called committee meeting without excuse shall be deemed a resignation from that committee.

B. Executive Committee

A committee of the officers of the Association, i.e., President, Vice President & Secretary, and Treasurer, will be designated the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee may act on issues that are delegated to it by the Board of Directors. In all instances of Executive Committee

action, a written report must be created and distributed to the full Board of Directors. Action of the Executive Committee shall not act to relieve the Board and its members of legal responsibility.

C. Committees

Committees, for undertaking projects may be filled in part with non- members, who shall act in the name of the Association only under direction of, and be responsible to, the Board of Directors. A member of the Board of Directors shall be a member of each committee.

E. Nominating Committee

1. A Nominating Committee shall be appointed at least three (3) months prior to the next Annual Reunion and Membership Meeting for the purposes of developing a slate of nominees to fill expiring terms on the Board of Directors, any current vacancies that may exist on the Board. The committee shall also prepare a slate for officers of the association. The committee shall consist of a minimum of three members, none of whom are current officers of the Board, and at least one member shall not be a director, and such member shall be an Association member in good standing of at least one year prior to his appointment. Any director named to the Nominating Committee shall be one whose term is not expiring at the end of that year.
2. The Nominating Committee shall report their slate of candidates to the President and Secretary no less than two months prior to the Annual Membership Meeting. The report shall include biographical data pertinent to the nomination. The slate of nominees shall be published in the association newsletter published immediately prior to the Annual Reunion and Membership Meeting and will be announced at the Annual Reunion and Membership Meeting at which time nominations can be made from the floor by a member.
3. Additional nominations can be made in writing by any three qualified members of the Association, said nominations to be signed by the nominators along with the written acceptance of the nomination by the nominee, and must be in the hands of the Secretary five weeks before the date of the Annual Reunion and Membership Meeting. All nominees must meet the eligibility criteria specified in Item IV-A of these by-laws.
4. A notification of the candidates shall be distributed to all eligible members in the Association's newsletter. This notification must be mailed at least fifteen days prior to the Annual Membership Meeting.

VII. FISCAL YEAR

The official fiscal year shall run from 1 July of one year to 30 June of the succeeding year.

VIII. ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS

- A. The Board of Directors or qualified members by a majority vote at any membership meeting may originate an amendment to these bylaws. All proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing and shall be subject to regular parliamentary action.
- B. Any amendment thus passing the Board of Directors or the qualified membership shall be mailed via first class U.S. mail to all qualified members at least ten days before a membership meeting, the agenda of which shall include a call for consideration of the amendment(s). The suggested amendment shall be accompanied by the current bylaw it purports to amend, and may include arguments pro and con regarding the amendment.
- C. Only those members of record on the date of the origination of the amendment shall be eligible to vote on the amendment.
- D. The amendment shall be considered adopted and in effect when it is ratified by a majority vote of qualified voting members present at a duly called membership meeting.

BALLOT FOR BY-LAWS

There are two options for submitting this ballot.

1. You may photocopy or print off this ballot and send it to OBBFHA, P.O. Box 1242, Waldoboro, ME 04572-1242. **Please write “Ballot” somewhere on the envelope.**

2. If you receive the newsletter by e-mail you may open the separate Word file named “by laws ballot,” fill it out, and e-mail the completed ballot to obbeditor@earthlink.net.

Whichever option is chosen, the ballot must be postmarked or e-mailed before midnight, Friday, February 29, 2008.

Please check one response for each article.

1. Article IV B, Election, Number and Terms :

1. *There shall be a maximum of three (3) duly elected directors. Directors shall serve a term of two (2) years or the remainder of uncompleted terms of directors who were unable to complete their elected terms of office. Directors shall be elected by a majority of qualified members voting at each annual Membership Meeting. Directors may be elected to more than one term.*

Approve Disapprove

2. Article IV B, Election, Number and Terms:

2. *In addition to the directors, the members of the Association shall also elect three officers. These officers will be: President, Vice President & Secretary, and Treasurer, each of whom shall serve a term of two (2) years. Officers may be elected to more than one term, but no more than two of those terms may be consecutive.*

Approve Disapprove

3. Article IV E Meetings:

Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held two times per year at a regularly scheduled time and location which is to be published in the Association newsletter. One of these two meetings shall be in conjunction with the Annual Reunion and Membership Meeting.

Approve Disapprove

4. Article IV F, Quorum and Rules of Order

Votes may be taken outside of board meetings with the majority consensus of the Board on issues that are time sensitive or extraordinary in nature. Such discussion and voting may be conducted by the President or designated officer(s) via e-mail, fax, or voice communication. The outcome of this vote must be announced to Board members within twenty-four (24) hours of the vote.

Approve Disapprove

5. Check “yes” to approve, or “no” to disapprove, all other wording in the By Laws:

Yes No