

Old Broad Bay Family History Association Newsletter

New Series Volume 9, No. 1 – Winter 2012

The Old Broad Bay Family History Association,
On the web at: www.rootsweb.com/~meobbfha/ – Editorial comments & queries to obbeditor@earthlink.net

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20th annual meeting and Old German Church service

This is an early notice that the annual meeting and reunion of the Old Broad Bay Family History Association will be held on **Saturday, August 4th** in the basement of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Knox and Lincoln Counties Office, 377 Manktown Road, Waldoboro. Doors will open at 9:00 a.m.

Because this will be our 20th anniversary, special events will be held. If you have any suggestions for these, please contact Helen Shaw at 77 Pascal Ave, Rockport, ME 04856 or at Obbeditor@earthlink.net.

At this time, a possible group breakfast at Moody's Diner on Saturday morning prior to the annual meeting is being investigated. Details for meeting and reunion events will be published in the spring and summer newsletters.

The annual service at the Old German Church will be Sunday, August 5th at 3:00 p.m. Details on this event will also be published in the spring and summer newsletters

Lapsed membership outreach

Because this is our 20th anniversary year, a special effort is underway to reach out to past members with whom the Association has lost contact and get them to renew their membership. An e-mail message was sent to fifty-one past members. Thirty-nine of these messages reached their goal. (Or at least they did not bounce back as invalid!) Seventy-five post cards were mailed to those without e-mail and to those whose e-mail address was invalid for a total outreach to 114 past members. So far, only two of the postcards have been returned.

If you know a past member or someone who has deep roots in Waldoboro, please invite them join

the Association and to attend the annual reunion and meeting. Or you can pass their name and contact information to Helen Shaw at 77 Pascal Ave, Rockport, ME 04856 or at Obbeditor@earthlink.net.

Help needed at the Waldoboro library: Randy Gross genealogy collection

Last year the Association received from the Waldoborough Historical Society a large number of notebooks and files that were part of the collection of Randy Gross. An inventory of that material was compiled and a summary of the collection was published in the fall 2010 newsletter.

The Association donated several notebooks of Randy's material to the Waldoboro Public Library, specifically: four notebooks on the Gross-Hatch family, one notebook on the Ulmer family (data collected by Richard Castner and material from Eleanor Sargent Beverage), a notebook of Randy's correspondence about local genealogy, one scrapbook of queries, newspaper clippings on cemeteries & local history, and one notebook that appears to be photocopies of Jasper Stahl's notes for his history of the German Protestant Society which became chapter XVI of his book.

After going through Randy's collection, the Waldoborough Historical Society donated all of the collection (many boxes) to the Waldoboro Public Library in October 2011. None of this material has been reviewed or catalogued. If you can help with the library go through the boxes and get them inventoried and organized, please contact the library director, Tim McFadden, at (207) 832-4484 or stop by the library to speak with him.

Upcoming events

The annual conference of **Palatines to America** will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, June 14-16. For more information please go to www.palam.org. Speakers this year will be Warren Bittner and Michael John Neill.

The Maine Genealogical Society will hold a **workshop with Maureen A. Taylor**, the Photo Detective, Saturday, April 21, at the Civic Center in Augusta. For more information please go to www.maineroots.org or contact Celeste Hyer, 69 Loop Road, Otisfield, ME 04270-6456.

Vital records access update

On September 28, 2011, a new law regulating access to vital records took effect in Maine. Rules for implementation of the law, including the cost of the state research identification card, have not yet been revised so old rules and fees are still in place. A bill (LD 1627) to bring access to marriage applications into line with the new law on access to marriage certificates was introduced this second legislative session and will have a public hearing on January 26.

For complete information on the new law and how to access vital records, please go to the Maine Genealogical Society website [www.maineroots.org] and click on the link to the document *Accessing Vital Records in Maine*.

Veterans' graves inventory

Senate president Kevin Raye submitted a resolve this legislative session, LD 1630: Resolve, To Establish a Stakeholder Group for the Development of a Plan for the Inventory and Proper Care of Veterans' Graves. According to the bill summary: *This resolve directs the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services to establish a stakeholder group for the development of a plan for the inventory and proper care of veterans' graves in the State and to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over veterans matters.*

The bill has been referred to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. No public hearing has been announced as of this date. The Maine Old Cemetery Association will have at least one member in the stakeholder group. Notice of the Resolve has been sent to the DAR, SAR, Maine Genealogical Society, and several Civil War societies.

Two resources for historic county boundaries

Two resources are now available on-line for determining historic county boundaries. The original resource is the Newberry Library's Atlas of Historical County Boundaries project which was completed in June 2010. This data is available on-line in two digital formats, as files for download and as interactive maps on the Newberry's website dedicated to the project [<http://publications.newberry.org/ahcbp/>]. The site includes an article about the project which explains how the atlas is organized, the importance of counties, and the history of the atlas. The site also provides a list of states for which the atlas takes book form (click on Publications).

Randy Majors has taken the Newberry material and created an on-line interactive tool for use with Google Maps. His website is <http://randymajors.com> – click on Historical U.S. County Boundary Maps in the upper right part of the home page and follow the directions.

Every name index to vol. 8 (new series) 2011 OBBFHA Newsletter

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1940 census coming!

The long wait for the next federal census is almost over. The 1940 population schedules will be released to the public on April 2, 2012.

While many of the questions on the 1940 census are ones we are familiar with, there are many new questions about employment and income.

Unfortunately, the 1940 census will not open with an index for names. It is only indexed down to the enumeration district.

Be assured, however, that many companies will be working to complete a full name index as quickly as possible. You can start now to locate your family's address in April 1940. Tips on how to find people without a name index can be found at <http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1940/start-research.html>.