

# Old Broad Bay Family History Association Newsletter

Volume 17 No. 4 Fall 2019

To Search and to Share



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## Presidential Musings

Hello Friends, Fall is upon us once again in New England. Summer was late in arrival this year, but, in recompense, the fine summer weather has lingered into the Fall. As you know our annual meeting was held on August 3rd and it was quite a success! The first order of business was elections for the Board of Directors. The following persons were nominated for office and with consent of the body were approved by a unanimous voice vote: **President-David Putnam, Vice President/Secretary-Renee Seiders, Treasurer-Deirdre Putnam, Directors-Dale Gunn and Ruth Riopell.** I am looking forward to working with everyone as we look forward to the year 2020, which is the bicentennial of Maine's statehood.

The next order of business was especially important to everyone. On behalf of the entire OBBFHA, I was honored to present plaques of appreciation to **Pat Kriso, Becky Boyd and Carol Thompson.** These wonderful ladies are also sisters and together they pay for the printing and distribution of our newsletter. In addition, Pat edits our newsletter. Pat and her husband Mitch, and Becky and her husband Bob flew in from California for the meeting. I can't say enough about the generosity and hard work these ladies put forward for our group!



In addition to members from around New England, there were several members from far and wide that attended the annual meeting. **David Wallace** came from Texas, **Tracie Gross Ott** and her husband **Doug Ott** came from the State of Washington, **Susan and**

**George Raymond** from Virginia accompanied by Susan's mother, **Jane Lufkin** of Massachusetts. I hope they all enjoyed their visit as much as we enjoyed seeing them!



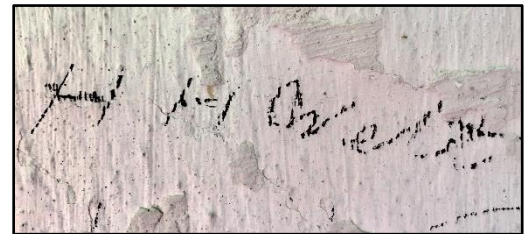
Our featured speaker was **Associate Professor Micah Pawling** of the University of Maine. His presentation was entitled: **Wabanaki Homeland: Waterscapes, Water Connection and Waldoboro.** Professor Pawling spoke about the history of the Wabanaki tribes in Maine and their conceptualization and use of Maine's waterways. The presentation was enjoyed by everyone, including Professor Pawling who was pleased and excited by the quality of and quantity of questions and comments he received.

Member **Jean Lawrence**, who is also President of the Waldoborough Historical Society, always brings us an interesting artifact from the museum to be shown to the members. Apropos of the day's topic, she brought in some ancient Native American stone arrowheads and tools that had been recovered by a local boy, buried in the

banks of the Medomak River in the area that is now the public landing. After lunch, the membership enjoyed socializing and exchanging information with each other. After the meeting, Jean was gracious enough to open the Waldoborough Historical Society Museum for a private tour by our members. Thanks Jean!

I would like to thank the following members for their donations of the funds, food and labor that made our annual meeting a success: **Janet Feyler, Ruth Riopell, Renee Seiders, Dale Gunn, Jean Lawrence, and the descendants of Blasius and Sedona Welt.**

**TAGGING-19th CENTURY STYLE-** As a former police officer I can speak authoritatively about the scourge of graffiti tagging that developed during the 1980's. In urban, suburban, and some rural areas it is hard to find a blank wall or fence in any public place that has not been marked up by some gang banger or aspiring Van Gogh. Recently, I learned that one of my ancestors was practicing this form of expression in the 1880's. I stopped by the Old German Meeting House on my way through Waldoboro recently to search out some gravestones. Deirdre and I have been in the meeting house many times, but since it was open that day we decided to go in and look around. I went up the stairs to see the choir loft and stopped to look at the names and messages that young people had left in pencil on the white-washed walls at the top of the stairs. Many of the messages show dates from the 19th century. I have seen these messages many times, but today Deirdre brought my attention to one I had not noticed before. Written quite clearly in pencil was the name **H H Welt**. To my knowledge there wasn't anyone with those initials and last name except my great-grandfather **Herman Herbert Welt!** Since he left Waldoboro for Lynn Massachusetts around 1890, the message must have predated his departure. I can't say if I am more pleased than embarrassed, but at least I know he went to church and maybe even sang in the choir!



**Member Notes:** Member **Anette Ruppel Rodrigues**, an Instructor in the German Language at the University of Maine, was invited to speak at the Stockton Springs Historical Society on August 4th. Anette spoke on the history of Fort George in Castine and the German regiments that were stationed at the fort during the American War for Independence. Anette has spoken to our group on two occasions and was well received both times.

I received a note from member **Randy Welfare** of North Carolina. Randy commented on the ongoing controversy surrounding David Dearborn's 2018 online lecture about the Moravians. Randy commented that the areas settled by the Moravians in North Carolina (Bethabiah, Bethany, Salem, Friedburg and Friedland) were in Forsyth County, not Guilford County, and these settlements were not large enough to support the number of Moravians immigrants stated by Mr. Dearborn. Thanks for your input Randy!

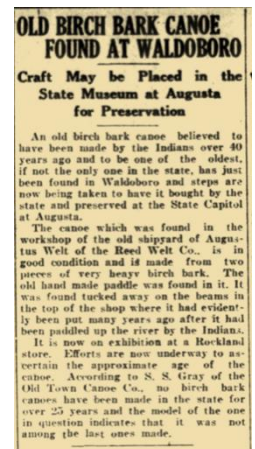
## **THE BATH INDEPENDENT, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1925**

### **OLD BIRCH BARK CANOE FOUND AT WALDOBORO**

Craft May be Placed in the State Museum at Augusta for Preservation

An old birch bark canoe believed to have been made by the Indians over 40 years ago and to be one of the oldest, if not the only one in the state, has just been found in Waldoboro and steps are now being taken to have it bought by the state and preserved at the State Capitol at Augusta.

The canoe which was found in the workshop of the old shipyard of Augustus Welt of the Reed Welt Co., is in good condition and is made from two pieces of very heavy birch bark. The old handmade paddle was found in it. It was found tucked away on the beams in the top of the shop where it had evidently been put many years ago after it had been paddled up the river by the Indians. It is now on exhibition at a Rockland store. Efforts are now underway to ascertain the approximate age of the canoe. According to S. S. Cray of the Old Town Canoe Co., no birch bark canoes have been made in the state for over 25 years and the model of the one in question indicates that it was not among the last ones made. *"NewspaperArchive" at Raymond H. Fogler Library, University of Maine at Orono*



## Massachusetts State Archives Collection Online

### Tracie Gross Ott – Part I

In July of 2019, I had the opportunity of visiting the New England Historical Genealogical Society (NEHGS) for research assistance from David Allen Lambert, Chief Genealogist, who showed me his *THE PAST FINDER* blog article, “*Massachusetts Archive (1629-1799) Collections Now Available Online.*”

(<https://thepastfinder.wordpress.com/2017/10/19/massachusetts-archives-collection-1629-1799-now-available-online/>).

This new find exhilarates me! I hit the New England family historian jackpot and will share several ways of finding and reading this gold mine of archival records, many never published before.

The Massachusetts State Archives Collection (MSAC) provide access to reading digitized images of the original ancient-style script records with the freedom to discover all the details contained within those records; not a paraphrased, interpreted version referenced in the books about Broad Bay.

With that thought in mind, I read through several books that discuss German emigrants, Broad Bay specific, with the intention of not repeating record transcriptions already published. My goal is to excite readers with rare, never published transcriptions and the instructions to find them respective to their topic of interest. From those books, I find authors Burkett,<sup>1</sup> and Whitaker & Horlacher<sup>2</sup> reference less than a handful of MSAC records. Stahl<sup>3</sup> tells the story of our ancestors’ lives by transcribing and referencing a substantial amount of original records from the MSAC with heavy emphasis on volume 15A, Emigrants.

#### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION: MASSACHUSETTS STATE ARCHIVES COLLECTION (MSAC)**

The records are “bound into 328 numbered scrapbook volumes” arranged loosely by topic, originally organized by Rev. Joseph Felt in the 1830s. “The last third of the collection (aka “Felt”) was added in the late 1800s and uses a similar organizational format. Microfilm (filmed by the Genealogy Society of Salt Lake City, UT, 2002-2009)<sup>4</sup> “must be used for most of the volumes for research.” The abstracts of a later date prove more legible than the original early documents. Collections time periods include: Colonial (1629-1686); Inter-Charter (1686-1692); Provincial (1692-1774); Revolutionary (1775-1780); and Early Statehood (establishing the Commonwealth of Massachusetts) (1780-1799).<sup>5</sup>

The MSAC website includes a vast amount of information. “[The Eastern Lands papers](#) (PDF) [click to read] document the settlement of public lands in the District of Maine and its separation from Massachusetts as a state in 1820. Included are legal, survey, and financial records of the General Court, legislative commissions, and the Land Office.”<sup>6</sup>

Only 18 of the 328 volumes make up the *searchable* MSAC database. Results are in the form of descriptive abstracts, not the full records. To read descriptions for the complete collection, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on [volume descriptions](#) for full narrative [partial narrative on *FamilySearch.org*].

(<http://www.sec.state.ma.us/arc/arcsrch/RevolutionarySearchContexts.html>). [Examples of Search:](#)

- [Volume 6: Colonial, 1724-1775:](#) Records detailing interactions between the Province of Massachusetts Bay and other British territories: New York, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Canada, 1723-1775; Maine, 1730-1740; 1751-1764.
- [Volume 9: Domestic Relations, 1643-1774:](#) Divorce and abandonment records; materials concerning slaves, apprentices and family relations.
- [Volume 157: Maritime Miscellaneous, 1777-1782:](#) Maritime records relate primarily to prizes taken by Massachusetts privateers (1777-1783); miscellaneous records from the Provincial Congresses and the General Court concern supplies for the military and truck house provisions.

## TO SEARCH THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE ARCHIVES COLLECTION (MSAC)

Search by one or all to find what you're looking for using the drop-down bar to select: Personal name, location, subject, volume, dates. In this case, I found records by using Location. Select and click on Waldoboro (ME) resulted in seven documents. Click [view](#) to find additional details about the record: Geographical locations, personal names, signature type, subjects. Example:

**Vol. 15A. Emigrants, 1651-1774:** Records relating to non-English settlers of the Massachusetts Bay area. Finding aids: card catalogue, table of contents [case abstracts], name index [*not found*].

[Two database process: 1. Search MSAC; 2. Browse to Read via FamilySearch.org]

- VOLUME ABSTRACT. vol. 15A. Image 264 of 1068. pp. 240-242a. *Petition from [18] Germans, at Broad Bay for assistance. May 13 1754.* RECORD images 880-889.
- MSAC SEARCH ABSTRACT BELOW. "*Translated the ii Juin i754: by John Ernest Knöchel, some time ago, Secretary to Several imperial Commissions in Germanie*"  
Stahl provides a full transcription and analysis of this document on pages 199-200.

<a href="#">view</a>			
Date	TRANSLATION OF A PETITION TO GOV. SHIRLEY FROM GERMAN SETTLERS AT BROADBAY ( <b>WALDOBOROUGH, ME</b> ) REQUESTING RELIEF FOR PROVISIONS AND WEAPONS FOR GARRISONS IN THE EVENT OF ATTACK BY INDIANS.	Vol.	pg.
06-11-1754		15A	240

Geographical Location	
WALDOBORO (ME)	
Name (23)	Signature Type
DEIS, JACOB	Transcript
DEMUTH, JOHANNES HEINRICH (DIMUTH)	Transcript
DOCHTERMAN, PAULUS	Transcript
EISELE, FRANTZ	Transcript
JUNG, VALENTIN	Transcript
KNOCHEL, JOHN ERNEST	Transcript
LAUER, JACOB (LAUR)	Transcript
LORSCH, CASMIR (LOSCH)	Transcript
REISER, JOHANNES MARTIN	Transcript
REMELLE, MATHEUS (RINNELL)	Transcript
RENER, PHILIP (RINNER)	Transcript

ROMINGER, DAVID	Transcript
SEITZ, LAURENTIUS	Transcript
SHIRLEY, WILLIAM (SCHIRLEY)	
TREUPEL, CONRAD	Transcript
ULMER, JOHANNES	Transcript
ULMER, JOHANNES MARTIN	Transcript
ULMER, JOHN JACOB	Transcript
VOGLER, PHILIP	Transcript
WALDO, SAMUEL	
WOHLZ, JACOB (WALTZ)	Transcript
Subjects	
GARRISONS	
GERMANS	
HOSTILITIES	
INDIANS	
POOR RELIEF	

## SEARCHABLE EQUALS A TWO DATABASE PROCESS

- SEARCH by using (<http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ArchivesSearch/RevolutionarySearch.aspx>).  
There are two ways to access *FamilySearch.org* to READ the record:
  - 1) Digital Records at the Massachusetts State Archives  
(<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/arc/arcdigitalrecords/digitalrecordsidx.htm>).  
Volumes 1-239. Link: *FamilySearch.org*, MSAC colonial period, 1629-1788.  
(<https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/1055547?availability=Family%20History%20Library>).  
Volumes 240-328. Link: *FamilySearch.org*, MSAC colonial - post colonial, 1626-1806.  
(<https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/1050952?availability=Family%20History%20Library>).
  - 2) READ RECORD, Petition on 6-11-1754, go to (<https://www.familysearch.org>) and *set up a free account*. You can be logged in for two weeks.
- Log-into *FAMILYSEARCH.ORG* and click on Search and scroll down to Catalog and click,
- Search By: Click on Title. Type: Massachusetts State Archives [David Allen Lambert's post provides the website too].
- Result = 5: Click on Massachusetts State Archives collection, colonial period, 1622-1788.
- Example: Click on Digital Film (DGS) 007702895 = vol. 14, vol. 15A.
- Begin BROWSING to find the record.

It's common that there's more than one volume on each DGS. I find the beginning of the film by scrolling down the page with multiple images. Usually the volume order follows:

1) Abstract of Cases, 2) Surname Index (both state the page numbers), 3) Records. Next, BROWSE to find the page number corresponding with the record you're seeking. In this example the entire volume 15A is on the same film. As I browse, I keep a record of the beginning image making it more efficient and effective for future searches. In addition, the surname index is helpful for discovering related records since the case abstracts do not necessarily provide personal and place names. Example: **DGS 007702895; 1068 Images**.

Image 251, BEGINS, **vol. 15A**.<sup>7</sup>

Image 254, ABSTRACT OF CASES; I looked at every image & *No* SURNAME INDEX.

Image 262, Index 2a. German Emigrants; Abstract of Cases (10), pp. 115-148.

Image 262, Opposite page. Emigrants etc. cont., 1752-1754; Abstract of Cases. (16), pp. 109-248.

Image 266, Emigrants etc. cont 1754-1774; Abstract of Cases.

Image 269, RECORDS.

## KNOWLEDGE OF HISTORY HELPS

From my own experience, the longer I browsed **vol. 15A**, *searchable via Massachusetts Archives*, for the record on page 240 above, the more I discovered numerous related abstracts (26+) that did not show up in the search results. The common denominator, subject Germans. This demonstrates the need to know the history of the area to increase the possibility of uncovering desired records by using a variety of *search* criteria ([www.sec.state.ma.us/ArchivesSearch/RevolutionarySearch.aspx](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ArchivesSearch/RevolutionarySearch.aspx)).

## TO BROWSE, GO STRAIGHT TO FAMILYSEARCH

Pick a time period or topic to browse. These documents are mainly Massachusetts and Maine (Statehood 1820). However, many include other British territories. Examples of *Browse only via FamilySearch.org*:

- Volume 38A: Journals, 1695-1767: Various narrative journals, mostly relating to military scouting expeditions and encounters with native Americans.
- Volume 57: Letter Books, 1638-1779: Letter books with copies of correspondence of private individuals, the House of Representatives (1775-1776), and members of the Board of War regarding the Penobscot Expedition (1779).
- Volume 75: Military, 1755-1756: Records of the Massachusetts Bay government relating to military concerns stemming from the French and Indian War (1754-1763) and especially the Crown Point

expedition of 1755. ABSTRACT: Image 1006 of 1739, pp. 267-9. *Petition of inhabitants of Broad Bay (mostly Germans) asking for a guard to protect the settlement from the depredation of the Indians (130 names). Mar 10, 1756.* RECORD image 1593.

**DGS Film 007703419; 1739 Images.**

Image 986 of 1739 BEGINS, **vol. 75.**<sup>8</sup>

Image 987 of 1739, ABSTRACT OF CASES.

**DGS Film 0077419** ends with RECORD p. 338.

Image 1043 of 1739, SURNAME INDEX, **DGS Film 0077419.**

Image 1079 of 1739, RECORDS, **DGS Film 0077419.**

**DGS Film 0077420; 1399 Images.**

Image 4 & 10 of 1399, **vol. 75** continued.

Image 17 of 1399, RECORD p. 338.

#### **HISTORICAL REMINDER:**

Most of our Broad Bay ancestors arrived on one of four ships from 1742-1753.

According to Whitaker & Horlacher, "On the following four passenger lists [three partially reconstructed, one complete], 807 individuals and 160 families were identified."<sup>9</sup>

This analysis tells us that roughly 81% of family heads signed the petition of March 10, 1756; not accounting for additions and subtractions of families during the time period of 1742-1756.

1. *Lydia*, 24 Sept 1742 (Marblehead, MA), Capt. James Abercrombie.<sup>10</sup>
2. *Priscilla*, 9 Nov 1751 (Boston, MA), Capt. Brown.<sup>11</sup>
3. *St. Andrew*, 19 Sept 1752 (Boston, MA), Oct 1752 (Broad Bay, ME), Capt. Alexander Hood.<sup>12</sup>
4. *Elisabeth*, about 8 Oct 1753 (Broad Bay), Capt. Pendock Neale.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>14</sup>**Broad Bay Settlers Petition**

**March 1756**

[Cover page, image 1596]

*The  
Humble Petition  
of  
The Settlers of Broad Bay  
to his Excellency William Shirley Esq<sup>r</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup>  
Generall and Govern<sup>r</sup>  
in and over his Majes  
tys province of the  
Massachusetts Bay  
in New England and  
to his Majestys Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
Councill*

The Humble Petition to His Excellency William Shirly Esq<sup>r</sup>-Captain Generall and Governor, in and Over his Majestys Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, and to his Majestys Hon<sup>ble</sup> Councill, of the Settlers at Broad Bay.

Shewed ) [Showed]

That Your Humble ) Petitioners, return their Humble Thanks , for Your Excellencys, and Your Hon<sup>rs</sup> Fatherly providing a protection, for us poor and distreßed people in the Year past, we onely are very vary , that Your Good inclination, did not prove to YOUR expectation, and to our Easep. [Esp]

We petitioned last sumer ( in Your ~ Excellencys absence, to his . Hon<sup>r</sup> the liffenant Governor <sub>3</sub> and their Hon<sup>rs</sup> were pleased to grand us the most wish full Answer , that there were two Companies appointed, the One at S<sup>t</sup> Georges, the other at Cheapscott, to protect our Place; but the latter being all most at the very same time order an nother march, and at S<sup>t</sup> Georges refused coming here, ( saying they must protect the Garrisons at their Places so we were in left helpeßs, and desolute; at the tine of most distreßs, a nd prevented to c hear YOUR Excellenc'ys, a nd Your Hon<sup>rs</sup> Fatherly dispose tion, and Goodneßs.

We are very sorry to be obliged, to Trouble Your Excellency, and Your Hon<sup>rs</sup> ones more, with our Humbly Prayers, to be Pleased to the Barbarity of the Enemy, what we have suffered all ready, and what may be the Consequence the future, we are the last Settlement in the East'd besides S<sup>t</sup> Georges, and all the inhabitants there, was, and are under pay now in the Ford, & most of them that are not are moved of this likewise

268

being one of the Considerablest Settlements in the Eastern parts, but so newly Settled, that we are yet helpeßs – and obliged to Labour on Our Farms, or to Starve our Famelys, which are Daily increasing, where trough we expose our self to the common Enemy.

We therefore Pray Your Excellys and Your Hon<sup>rs</sup> for some Protection, for the Future ). to inable us, to improve our Farms in Savety, which might be done by putting a Number of People in Pay, to protect the rest or by raising a marching Company at this Place , which would prevent the ruin o f a promising, and Useful Settlement to this Nation , and the destruction of a vast number of distreßed People.

We there fore have sent our Cap<sup>t</sup> to wait on Your Excellency and Your Hon<sup>rs</sup> for Your most Grateful Answer and we will in Duty bound for ever Pray

Broad Bay 10<sup>th</sup> march 1756      *Leissner* [CE Leissner]

**130 SIGNATURES; VOL. 75. DGS FILM 007703419; RECORD IMAGES 1593-1596.**

*Can you find your ancestor's signature?*

SUGGESTION: Try using Burkett<sup>15</sup> and Whitaker & Horlacher<sup>16</sup> ship passenger lists to help figure out who could've signed the petition of 10 March 1756, and to decipher the name.

*Transcribed by Tracie Gross Ott, Oct. 10, 2019.*

This transcription is my interpretation of the handwritten record, emphasizing transcribing the exact spelling of words and names, punctuation, gaps between found in the format, and symbols.

- The cover page: I used “*French Script NF*” to demonstrate Leissner’s handwriting style. For ease of reading, the remaining transcription is New Times Roman.
- Another interesting observation, throughout Leissner writes, “Your Hon<sup>rs</sup>,” larger.
- His use of “Fatherly” reflects a society of feudal Europe with overlords.

- Looking at the original, Leissner's:
  - "t" is French Script "t" either barely crossed or not at all resembling modern day "t".
  - "S" in "Shewed" is written sideways, above the rest of the word; decorative. Lower case "s" in the word "most" is written sideways as well.
  - Long "s" in Archaic hand = "ſ" Two "s" consecutive = "ſſ" = Modern hand "ss".

PAGE 268

in Your Excellency and Your Hon<sup>rs</sup> favor  
 Your most Gratefull Answer and we will  
 in Duty bound for ever Pray  
 Broad Bay 10<sup>th</sup> March 1756 C. Leissner  
 Matth. Sigmund Broger  
 Johann Winkler Sohn Math. Winding  
 Conrad Bantz Jacob Ulmer  
 Bathfried Säger P. Raminger  
 Johann Winkler Sohn John Ulmer  
 Johann Martin Ulmer William Edgar  
 Mathias Ciffarum Henry Edgar  
 Jacob Raltz Michael Waltz  
 Wifrl Zoschinger Martin Smith  
 Jacob Imhofen  
 Johann Cornus Franz Kasiller  
 Johann x Silt Johann's goep  
 Simon x Meißl Jostoff wolff's grab.  
 B. Jung Smet.  
 Jakob Jostoff's goep Ernst Hofen  
 Jakob Sigmund Johann Drey hahn  
 Jakob Koller Johann Winkler  
 Löwen Zöllner





Johann Martin Josef König Johann Georg  
 Jacob Lutz Georg & Johann  
 Felix Delpach Christian Albin  
 Hans Dellermann Johann Friedrich  
 Johann Baptist Ungar Jakob All  
 Christoph Seyler Georg Dantz  
 Casimier Lesch  
 Johann Ludwig Jacob Schorn  
 Johann Hunsch Friedrich Genster  
 all Johann Wauer Johann Einzell  
 Johann Luder Georg Sen  
 Valentin Lutz Jacob Jung  
 Martin Luster Friedrich Bräuer  
 Daniel Lutz Gustav Luder  
 John Gair Conrad Fritsch  
 Andreas Fleiter Benno A. Ueber  
 Johann Feld Josef Engel  
 Martin Fay Georg Leit  
 Josef Lutz Josef Murr Johann Lutz  
 Johann Wenzel Johann Grundler  
 Georg Winkler  
 Nicolaus Winkler  
 Nikolaus Fay Martin B. Jung

REFERENCE

1. Burkett, Brigitte. *Emigrants from Baden and Württemberg in the Eighteenth Century Volume 1, Baden-Durlach and Vicinity.* (Camden, Maine: Picton Press, 1996).
2. Whitaker, Wilford W. & Gary T. Horlacher. *Broad Bay Pioneers: 18<sup>th</sup> Century German-Speaking Settlers of Present-Day Waldoboro, Maine.* (Camden, Maine: Picton Press, 1998).

3. Stahl, Jasper J. *History of Old Broad Bay and Waldoboro, Volume 1*. (Portland, Maine: The Bond Wheelwright Company, 1956).
4. *FamilySearch.org*. Beginning of each film: (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/1050952?availability=Family%20History%20Library>).
5. Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Massachusetts Archives. Under Collection Records & Historical Sketch: ([www.sec.state.ma.us/arc/arccol/colmac.htm#1780](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/arc/arccol/colmac.htm#1780)).
6. *Ibid.* Under Collections Overview: (<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/arc/arccol/colidx.htm>).
7. Massachusetts Archives Collection. Item 2, Vol. 15A. Filmed by the Genealogy Society of Salt Lake City, UT, 21 Aug 2002. Film Emulsion No. 2446015901 101; Film Unit Ser No. GS-1 5421; Mass Project No. 00500; Roll No. 90; Massachusetts State Archives, Boston, MA.
8. *Ibid.* Item 2, Vol. 75. Filmed by the Genealogy Society of Salt Lake City, UT, 26 Feb 2003. Film Emulsion No. 2446016201201; Film Unit Ser No. GS-1 5421; Mass Project No. 00500; Roll No. 133; Massachusetts State Archives, Boston, MA.
9. Whitaker & Horlacher, 30.
10. *Ibid.*, 28.
11. Burkett, vii.
12. *Ibid.*, vii, 342-344.
13. *Ibid.* viii.
14. *FamilySearch.org*. Massachusetts Archives Collection, Vol. 75, pp. 267-269. DGS Film 007703419; Record images 1593-1595. (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9YT-3DW1?mode=g&cat=1055547>).
15. Burkett, 338-370.
16. Whitaker & Horlacher, 40-48.

Contact me with any questions: [tracott@comcast.net](mailto:tracott@comcast.net)

#### **OBBFHA Web Links and Contacts:**

The Old Broad Bay Family History Association, on the web at: [www.obbfha.org](http://www.obbfha.org)  
 Editorial comments & queries to [pmkriso@gmail.com](mailto:pmkriso@gmail.com)  
 Visit the OBBFHA Facebook page at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/waldoboromaineancestors>



### **Waldoboro Shipping History Kiosk (Pictured below) The Waldoborough Historical Society Early History**

Waldoboro's first recorded shipbuilder was John Jacob Ulmer who arrived in 1742. He was a man of many talents: schoolteacher, preacher, soldier, boatbuilder and land speculator. It is believed that shipbuilding began around 1767 for, in 1771, Ulmer built a brig of 150 tons which was called the *Yankee Hero*. No doubt other vessels were built in the Ulmer yard, same site as the Clark yard, on the east side of the river behind what is now the Samson Block or home of the Community Pharmacy. Another famous top sail schooner the *Broad Bay* was built here before the Revolution. Throughout the Revolution, Captain George Demuth Smouse built schooners and carried on West Indies trade. His shipbuilding was carried out on the west side of the Medomak close to the present bridge and site later of the Fish Yard and the first sail loft. Smouse's trading brought him great wealth and provided the local inhabitants a profitable way to send their goods out into the world and a source of needed supplies which they bartered at Smouse's store. While Smouse was not the largest operator in the town; he was in the words of Dr. Jasper Stahl, "the most venturesome." When he died in 1803, he left his wife with the title of "the wealthiest widow in town."

## Waldoboro Shipbuilding Develops and Diminishes

From the late 1700's to the early 1900's, Waldoboro was a major shipbuilding center. It is believed that over 500 sailing vessels were built within ½ mile of the village. We don't know for sure where every shipyard was located; it is believed that approximately 22 yards existed on both sides of the river.

The most common type of vessel built here was the schooner, a two or three masted 'Coaster.' These were built to carry bulk cargoes such as wood to be exported from local ports to large cities on the east coast. Schooners operated like the trailer trucks of today – traveling back and forth, up and down the coast and often rarely going out of sight of land while making many trips a year. From 1820 -1840 there were 12 schooners, 11 of which were built locally that ran regularly between Waldoboro and Boston.

Other types of vessels built here were brigs, ships, barks, barkentines, brigantines and sloops. Many of the largest, primarily the ships, were sold to prominent firms who used them in trade to faraway places such as Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia. The second half of the century found larger and larger crafts produced. In 1841, Joseph Clark built the *Desdemona* at 625 tons the largest built until he built the *Caroline and Mary Clark* at 800 tons in 1849. Then in 1854, B.B. Haskell and Co. launched the ship *E. Wilder Farley* of 1300 tons. Clark's ship *Joseph Clark* in 1856 was measured at 1308 tons. In the same year, Storer & Comery's *Hamilton Fish* outstripped it at 1628 tons. Edwin O. Clark, Joseph's son, built the ship *Mabel Clark*, 1661 tons in 1877. A.R. Reed in 1884 completed the *George Curtis* of 1745 tons. She remained the largest of all until the Palmer Schooner Fleet built by George Welt and measuring from 2075 to 2400 tons created from 1900-1904.

Because of the shipbuilding industry, the peak years in Waldoboro were from 1840 – 1860 when 225 vessels were built, and the town enjoyed its height in a recorded population of 4569. For the town, the fortunes of shipbuilding were great. Totals: 21 in 1850; 23 in 1849 and 22 in 1848 by the following firms: Thomas Gay, Reed & Welt, J.R. Groton, Wm. Fish, Vannah & Hall, Henry Kennedy, Genthner and Morse, Harriman, Samuel Nash, M.M. Rawson, Robert Miller, William Welt, Jacob Hahn, Joseph Clark, Edwin Achorn, George Sproul, Anthony Castner, Fred Creamer, John Levensaler and Alfred Storer.

By 1853, Waldoboro had become the name place in a customs district that stretched from Bristol to Thomaston and produced 23% of the total tonnage – 40,453 – from the State of Maine and was second only to the district of Bath. This was far more than the districts of Portland, Belfast, and Wiscasset combined. The village itself was a busy, thriving place with many stores, hotels, large homes and a bustling waterfront. Vessels appeared from downriver daily to drop off and pick up cargoes. Sounds from shipyards such as the ping of the caulker's maul and irons could be clearly heard by the traveler entering the outskirts of the town. Prosperity was to continue through the 1850's, suffer somewhat from the Civil War and then gradually decline.

Along with the small schooners being produced on a fairly regular basis, Waldoboro also was the birthplace of a number of large full rigged ships. The firms of Joseph Clark, Reed & Welt, Henry Kennedy, Alfred Schooner, B.L. Harriman, Edwin Achorn (who built two of the three true clipper ships), Comery, B.B. Haskell, James Hovey, and Edwin O. Clark were all responsible for vessels of over 700 tons. People wonder how vessels of such great size could ever be built and launched within the narrow confines of our village waterfront. However, as in many Maine towns, the financial rewards of building a vessel were so potentially high, often paying for itself in the first voyage, could be endured.

Towards the end of the 1800's and the early 1900's, the large schooners of Alfred Storer and George Welt formed the last part of the wooden sailing ships industry. In 1881, Storer built the *Governor Ames* – the first five masted schooner in Maine – and then followed the Palmer Fleet. With the costs of labor and materials and the rushing and ever improving steamship, wooden shipbuilding came to an end and the prosperity of the kind enjoyed by most of the populace in Waldoboro during the middle years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century was never seen again.

In 1900, William F. Palmer of Boston contracted locally for his six mammoth five-masted schooners. The smallest was the *Paul Palmer*, larger than any vessel previously built in the town, and the largest ever constructed on the Medomak River, the *Harwood Palmer* of 2400 tons. George L. Welt, nephew of major shipbuilder Augustus Welt, was in charge of the construction of this fleet; *Fannie, Baker, Paul, Dorothy, Singleton, & Harwood*. By 1904, the last of the schooners was in the water, and it was all over.

After a lapse of 40 years, with World War II came a need for all types of vessels and The Waldoboro Shipyard was begun in May 1942 by the Cooney family. The old Reed & Welt yard and two adjacent sites south were

acquired by the corporation led by Carroll T. Cooney, Sr., Carroll T. Cooney, Jr. Russell S. Cooney and Stuart Hemingway. General Manager was Carroll T. Jr.; Master builder, Frank B. Day; Yard Superintendent and Draftsman Scott Carter succeeded Day in peace time. At the height of wartime 110 men were employed. Harbor tugs, draggers and yachts were built, the largest of which was the dragger *Edith and Lillian*. Seventeen vessels were built between October 1942 and September 1945.

The value of the Medomak River has been brought before the citizens of Waldoboro primarily through the efforts of those who form the working waterfront individuals many of whom utilize the two landings that the town supports. Their work to show the importance of the river has made the value of this site on the Medomak increase in the eyes of the citizenry.

--Sources for this information: Dr. Jasper Stahl's *Waldoboro and Old Broad Bay*; Mark Biscoe's writings included in a volume in the Society's archives: *Waldoboro Ships and Shipbuilding*.



The Waldoboro Historical Society has shared the responsibility for the kiosk for the past twenty years with the Waldoboro Garden Club. The town recently updated the Town Landing so both groups got busy on beautification. More to do next year. Collaboration gets things done.

Pictured are Trustees: Eric Norden, Roy Hatch and Bill Maxwell

### Photos on the Kiosk



Governor Ames



Carrie Clark



Fannie Palmer



Ida C. Southard



Waldoboro-Maine Shipyard



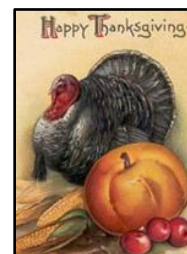
Willie Reed



Masthead: Shipbuilding in Waldoboro



**“Waldoboro Ships”** 18 months calendars 2019-20 are still for sale.  
 Is a great gift! Order WH Society, PO Box 110, Waldoboro, ME 04572.  
 \$10 each plus \$3 for mailing



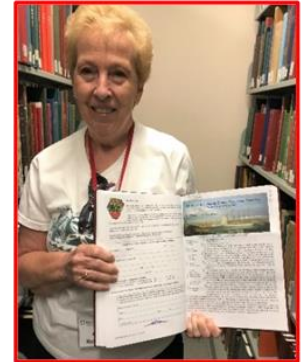
## Visit to Boston and Waldoboro August 2019

We have been looking forward to this visit for a year. We were excited to be in Boston to visit the historic sites with our husbands. Becky and Pat visited the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) to further our research on our Waldoboro ancestors; Peter and Georg Creamer. Becky is the genealogy expert, so she spent a lot of time with Rhonda McClure, Senior Genealogist, who was amazing and gave her a considerable amount of information. She recommended using <https://www.americanancestors.org/visit> to check out the resources. The



Rhonda and Becky

Technical Services Librarian Anne Meringolo, our contact person for the newsletter, took me to the area with books about Waldoboro. Much to my surprise and thrill, there were many beautiful hard bound books of our very newsletter from over the years. **For those of you that have submitted articles to the newsletter in the past have your information archived forever!**



Pat and bound newsletters

The next day we went to the OBBFHA and were met with a lot of friendship and warmth. David and Deirdre Putnam are wonderful hosts and capable President and Treasurer. We are in good hands with them on board. After an interesting speaker, Micah Pawling and a social time, we headed to the Waldoboro Historical Museum which is under the care of the president of the Waldoboro Historical Society. You have seen her name in almost every newsletter as she is a prolific writer and historian. She then took us to the Town Landing to see the actual place where shipbuilding and launching took place. (article above)



Jean Lawrence

We always need articles about our ancestors. We are lucky to have found a 3<sup>rd</sup> cousin in the Waldoboro area through Ancestry.com DNA and met with her and her husband when we visited in 2015. Becky and Bob's daughter Monica and her wife Tuyet had arrived in time to join us for lunch in her lovely home. We have many happy memories of the beautiful place and people and highly recommend a trip to see where your ancestors lived.

*Becky Boyd and Pat Kriso*

## WALDOBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2019 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

**October 20, Sunday, 1 P.M.** at the Museum. "Salute to Morse's Sauerkraut." Guest speaker from Morse's.  
**November, TBA** at the Museum. Recognition of WWI Armistice and Veterans with Revere Bell ringing.  
**December 1, Sunday, 1-4 P.M.** At the Hauck/Bailey Building. Holiday Open House; Christmas artifacts, exhibits, carol singing, refreshments.  
**Each second Saturday, June through October,** the Society will support ArtWalk by remaining open noon until 6 P.M. Look for the red balloons! All presentations are free and open to the public.



**Merry  
Christmas**



**Happy  
New Year**



# Old Broad Bay Family History Association

To Search and To Share

## Membership Application or Renewal

The Old Broad Bay Family History Association is a group of people interested in discovering and preserving the genealogy and history of the founding families of Broad Bay, now known as Waldoboro, Lincoln County, Maine. The Old Broad Bay Family History Association Newsletter is available either by email or USPS mail.

**Please attach a list of your Broad Bay Ancestors or write on the back of this form.**

New Member

Renewal

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The membership year is July 1 to June 30.

| Choose One | Type of Membership | Voting Rights | Cost per year |
|------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
|------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|

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|  | Individual, email | One vote  | \$15 |
|  | Family, email     | Two votes | \$20 |

**Paper newsletter by US Mail**

|  |            |           |      |
|--|------------|-----------|------|
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|  | Library    | No vote   | \$20 |

A library membership is solely for allowing distribution of the newsletter to research facilities and confers no right to vote.

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Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Second person in the household  
Of Family Membership \_\_\_\_\_

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