

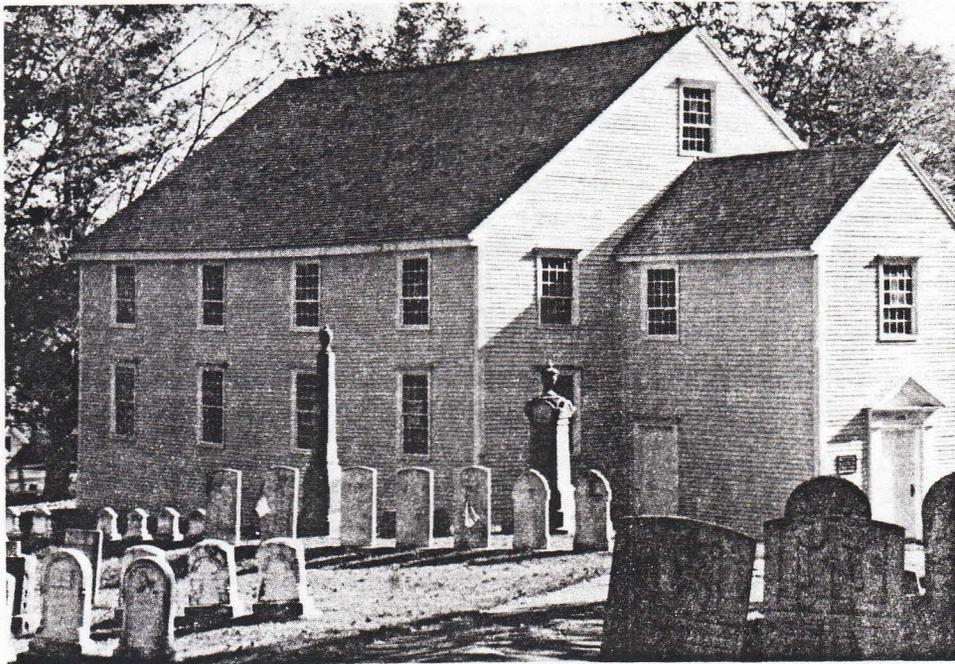
Old Broad Bay Bund und Blatt

A Newsletter about the German Colony
Established at Broad Bay, Maine
1740 - 1753

Volume 2

July/Aug 1993

Number 4



The old German Lutheran Church in Waldoboro, a designated Historic Landmark, once the happy scene of religious and family activities for many of our ancestors, reverberated once again with songs, sermons, prayers and laughter as over 100 descendants of those hardy Germans met for the first time in an official capacity and inaugurated the **Old Broad Bay Family History Projects** on 1 Aug 1993. The German Protestant Society, which takes such good care of this magnificent old building, and the Ladies Auxiliary, President Becky Maxwell, opened the building, and their hearts, for our use. We wish to thank Becky and those fine women who baked their way into our hearts for such a kind reception. Thank you, also, to the German Protestant Society for their many kindnesses to us. Richard Castner gives a report in this issue of the business meeting we held. It was thrilling to sit in those old pews and imagine our German ancestors hovering, just over head, just out of sight, and approving of our activities that day! Thank you all for a great weekend. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Official Publication of Old Broad Bay Family History Projects

Subscriptions to Bund und Blatt

It was rather disconcerting to add everything up and discover that only 54 out of over 220 on our mailing list have been contributing financially to our project. Now, 25% response is not very good. If you don't care for what we are doing, let us know and we will take your name off our mailing list. In order to more equally distribute the cost of publication, mailing, etc. it was decided at our official meeting to make subscriptions \$10 per year.

Subscription: \$10 per year

If you can't afford that, but wish to remain on our mailing list, please let Will know.

Contributions in General

We appreciate any contribution you can send in. There are always costs involved with a project of this size. So far, I have managed to cover most of those costs. As we grow, however, we need to share the burden. I love these German ancestors who have brought us all together. Now our coffers are depleted and we could use a little extra financial help in the printing and mailing of the newsletter. So, if you think we are doing any good, hop on board, send us your data and your check. Thank you very much and keep them coming.

Back Issues available

Many of our new readers have asked if back issues of our newsletter are available. I have reprinted all and back issues are now available. \$2.00 for each back issue and \$12.00 for one year of back issues.

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Official Publication

Well, I guess we are now "Official". At the Business Meeting held Sunday morning, 1 Aug 1993, at the Old Lutheran Church in Waldoboro, it was proposed that "Bund und Blatt" continue as the Official Publication of the "Old Broad Bay Family History Projects" and that Will Whitaker continue as the Publisher, Editor, etc. The proposal passed.

Chatter from the Chair

Pearls of Wisdom

from

Richard L. Castner

First off, let me express my thanks and gratitude to you all for the confidence you have shown in my administration (such as it is) by extending my term of office for a second year.

The first general meeting of our new organization (not to be confused with the planning meeting which took place in August, 1992) occurred on Sunday, 1 Aug 1993, at the Old German Church in Waldoboro, with myself in the chair [hot seat ww] (being careful not to be so presumptuous as to preside from the pulpit).

The first order of business was to bring the Old Broad Bay Family History Projects into existence by following parliamentary procedures and ratifying the proposal put forward last year by the organizing committee. I won't go into a lot of detail, since the secretary's report will appear elsewhere [next issue]. But you should know that the following slate was elected to serve until the second general meeting, which is itself slated for the first Sunday in August (the seventh) in 1994 at Waldoboro.

Chairman: **Richard Lyon Castner**

Vice-Chairperson & Conference
Co-ordinator:

Deborah Benner Matson

Secretary: **Trudy Overlock**

Treasurer: **Renee Seiders**

Registrar: **Douglas N. Prescott**

Editor: **W. W. "Will" Whitaker**

Now, speaking of next year's general meeting (which may or may not set a precedent for annual meetings), there are those who feel that bi-ennial or tri-ennial meetings, at which reports on current research results would be shared, would be often enough. It's time NOW to make your reservations for lodging for 5 and 6 Aug 1994. It will be at the height of the "high season" and Waldoboro is usually full to over flowing at that time. Moody's Motel (207) 832-5362 is least expensive, because it's not a B & B. Or you might try the Lakeland Motel in Nobleboro (207) 563-3673. In 1993, rates at the former were circa \$25; at the latter, ca. \$37. And, a number of B & B's were listed in the **Bund und Blatt** on a loose page in Vol. 2 # 3 issue. (Will's notes)

Special thanks to the following people, each of whom made a donation to OBBFHP (I defy you to pronounce it as an acronym! [Why, Richard, that's easy! Just say 'AUB' and flip your lips, 'FIP' AUB-FIP ww.]

rd 8/31/93

above and beyond the weekend fee for the 1993 meeting: **Randy Bairnsfather, Keith Hoffses, Deborah Benner Matson, Douglas N. Prescott, Frances Richardson, Dolores Ring, Virginia Sides and Richard Slade.** It is the generosity of people like these, and the widespread support of all of you who attended the meeting that enable us to share the good news from the treasurer Renee Seiders to the effect that we ended the first weekend in the black...a wonderful surprise, indeed!

We have the signatures of several people who attended the first general meeting, then departed without leaving their addresses. If you can help locate these 'lost sheep' please write to Will Whitaker so he can post them to our membership/ mailing lists. They are: Willis and Mildred Berry, James and Margarete Faber, and Mary Gammion. I'm not sure these spellings are correct, since some of the signatures are, shall we say, "so plusticated" (I wouldn't dare say "unclear") If any of these names look even remotely familiar, do contact Will.

And speaking of lists: at this point we have 235+ names on Will's computerized mailing list and a couple of dozen names on the list of charter members. We have a list of those who have paid in \$15.00 for annual dues (our fiscal year currently runs from August 1st through July 31st.) These dues cover \$10 to go towards the newsletter **Bund und Blatt** and \$5 to go into the general operating fund. We will hold

the list of charter members open until 31 Jul 1994, on which date your opportunity to become a charter member of this *promising* organization will cease. So send \$15 (made out to OBBFHP) to our treasurer, Renee Seiders, P.O. Box #1221, Damariscotta, ME 04543. And remember, giving someone else a membership might be a nice gesture on your part, and would certainly be helpful to our (society, organization, club, association?? Just what should be call ourselves for short, when we don't want to spell out "Old Broad Bay Family History Project"?)

And what about a graphics design, a logo, maybe even a coat of arms for OBBFHP?? Something that would look good on a button or badge. Richard Warner, Keith Hoffses, Trudy Overlock and all you other artistically inclined folks, please send me your sketches. We'll consider anything short of the proverbial kitchen sink, even if you're not able to do a sketch, at least describe your ideas. Maybe we'll even turn this into a contest. My address is very simple; it's just Richer Castner, Waldoboro, ME 04572-0010. In case you're confused, I do the Herr-Doktur-Professor-Richard bit when I'm being formal; with my friends, my nickname is "Richer". And yes, there's a family story that goes with it, but I'm not sure it should be committed to print.

PROJECTS REPORT

From your Chairman

In the interests of clear communication, your chairman submits the following "Projects Report"

Project #01: Establishment of a **Family History Registry.**

Purpose: to create a means for people researching specific genealogical lines to get in touch with each other and share data.

Facilitator: Richer Castner

Status: Ongoing, Castner has placed looseleaf binders at the Waldoboro Public Library and the Waldoboro Historical Society. The binders contain forms upon which anyone can enter the names of families and/or individuals for whom genealogical data is available and/or wanted. Project # 1 is now under the aegis of our new registrar, **Douglas M. Prescott** 240 Broadway, Rockland, ME 04841-2610.

Project #02: Organize a Family History weekend. **Projector:** Richer Castner. **Status:** Project completed! Sessions held at Waldoboro, Maine, 30 & 31 July & 1 Aug 1993. [Very successful!ww]

Project #03: The funding, designing and installing of a plaque on the Old German Church attesting registration as an historic landmark. **Projector:** Virginia Sides, Blueberry Acres, 295 Rockland St., Rockport, ME 04856 **Status:** Approved by general meeting 1 Aug 1993. Virginia has already collected upwards of \$100, and is working with graphics person **Richard Warner** to design an appropriate bronze marker.

Projected completion date
7 Aug 1994

Project #04: To clear away the underbrush and attempt to define the boundaries of the original German burying ground on the east side of Medomak River.

Projector: Renee Seiders, P. O. Box # 1221, Damariscotta, ME 04543.

Status: Approved by general meeting, 1 Aug 1993, via tally sheets which asked those attending to indicate their priorities among a number of

proposed projects. Renee states that she hopes for help from Keith Hoffses, Deborah Benner Matson, and Richard Warner, all of whom have had experience doing this sort of activity, plus help from any volunteers who contact her. The idea is to choose a weekend (perhaps in October) when the underbrush had died and go at it w/ weed whackers, scythes and lots of energy. She will also solicit help from the Lincoln County Cemetery Preservation Society and/or the Maine Old Cemetery Association.

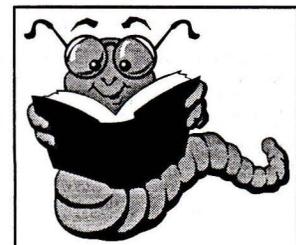
Since the burying ground is now on private property, conditional permission for the project to go forward has already been obtained from the owners by Richer Castner. They ask of Renee and her project people that a written proposal of just what is to be done be submitted to them for their approval. They are sympathetic to the project and ask that the work be done in cooperation with them.

Project completion date: Ongoing. Preliminary work to be attempted during autumn of 1993; interim report to be presented at general meeting 7 August, 1994.

Project #05: Family History Conference #2, 5-7 Aug 1994.

Projector: Deborah Benner Matson, 600 Manktown Road, Waldoboro, ME 04572. Approved by general meeting 1 Aug 1993. Deborah and her project people are to keep us informed via the pages of **Bund und Blatt**. **Project completion date:** First weekend in August 1994.

Project #06: Yet to be determined. Send suggestions: Richer Castner, Waldoboro, ME 04572-0010.



Gary Horlacher

For those of you who have been anxiously awaiting a picture of our talented and busy researcher, Gary Horlacher, here he is! This picture was taken 5 Aug 1993 as Gary sits in front of my computer, wondering why the Broad Bay file just hung up! This photo is a digital photo, taken with the **DyCam** Digital Camera. This camera takes the picture and stores it in the Camera until it can be downloaded directly into the Computer as a digital *.TIF file. Word Perfect word processor can then load the *.TIF files into a document, just as we have done here. As I have talked with Gary and looked at the material he has obtained from Germany, I decided to first publish his journal, which will give us a little background and some amusing anecdotes concerning his research activities. This will be followed by an in-depth study of his research findings in the next issue.



Gary's report on his stay in Germany follows:

Gary's Journal - 1993

(19 June 1993) Saturday 14 June 1993 Monday

I should write down what has happened so far on this trip before it all starts to blend together. Today is Saturday Morning. On Monday we left the airport at 12:30. We had lunch on the plane to Dallas. After an hour we left Dallas about 4:00 their time for Frankfort. We had dinner and a movie. I listened to the movie (Scent of Woman) in German to practice. I understood most of it but got lost in the details of the conversation at times. One of the runways in Frankfort was not working and they were backed up 1 hour so we had to get to Stuttgart airport to refuel.

15 June 1993 Tuesday

We arrived in Frankfort about 3:30 p.m. Tuesday local time. We couldn't find Paul (my brother, stationed at the military base in Bad-Hersfeld) but after getting our bags we found him and Benny (his son) waiting for us outside the terminal. He had another soldier who also needed a ride to Bad Hersfeld. We toured a little of Frankfort. Paul showed us the military base where he was attending school and the opera house where Hitler attended operas. We then drove to their home and enjoyed the evening with his family. I had bought gifts for the children. Paul/Darleen & I stayed up till about 12:00 p.m. visiting. That was then Tuesday night and seemed like all one day to me. On the ride from the airport to Bad-Hersfeld Paul had me drive so I knew what it was like.

16 June 1993

Wednesday

Wednesday morning after breakfast Paul took us up to the base. We got a cooler and some groceries for the week and I headed south towards Wurzburg to work on the genealogy while Paul's family and George were going to visit Czechoslovakia and Berlin.

I arrived in my first village about 12:30 p.m. It was called **Eichfeld** and had about 500 people living there. I parked at the church and a lady was playing the organ so I went in and asked her where I could find the minister. She told me so I headed out. The minister's house was down the street a couple of houses and his office with his house is called a **Pfarramt**. He was very nice and showed me around the church. We then went back to the Pfarramt and he pulled out the oldest church book that covered years about 1609 - 1778 and I sat and extracted names from five families that lived in this town prior to emigrating to Maine. He had some apple juice and pastries for me and I sat & worked until about 10:30 p.m. We made copies of the important documents and he gave me a couple books about the church and about Castell district. He was very nice! Apparently he was interested in local history and genealogy.

Since it was so late I didn't try to go somewhere else for the night but got in the car and it was also raining. I put the sleeping bag Paul gave me and slept near the church in Eichfeld that night. I woke up with the light and it was about 5:00 a.m.

17 June 1993

Thursday

I decided to take some time and see the town. I walked around the town from one end to the other and back again and admired all the big old buildings/houses and the brick roads and the beautiful gardens. I also looked at all the stones in the cemetery. They don't keep the stones for more than about 40-50 years but they had a garden by each tombstone and it is very beautiful and fun to see if I can find any of the old names of people that emigrated.

Although it was early Thursday morning, I decided to get an early start and see the next town. Next on my list was Prichsenstad which also had the records for Alten Schonbach. Since it was early I just wandered around for a couple hours. I went through the cemetery and the down town shopping street, and all around town. There were some pretty small lakes with noisy frogs.

Finally, at 8:00 I rang the Pfarrer's door. He answered it but wouldn't agree to letting me see the records. He said they could put him in prison if he let me see the records and that I needed to write down my request and leave it in his mail box and he would send me the information. I was very sad but couldn't think of anything else to say so I gave him the saddest look I could muster and said "goodbye". He had other business to attend to right then.

Well, this was sure a contrast experience from the day before and I really had to evaluate what had gone wrong. I wrote him a letter with what I wanted and asked again if I couldn't look in the church records when I returned to this area in two weeks. I then got in my car and headed to my next area, Ebersbrunn.

Ebersbrunn

Ebersbrunn is also a small village and it wasn't apparent where the minister lived so I knocked on a door that was adjacent to the church lot. A lady answered but she (Karin) wasn't connected to the minister and said they didn't have a minister right now. The records were at Ebrach and no one really had access to them. She listened to my plea and let me in. She made some phone calls for me and made an appointment for me to visit the minister at Aschbach on Friday morning. She said he may be able to let me see the records at Ebrach or give her the key. She was very nice and took me over to see the Ebersbrunn Church. There was a christening stone there from 1718 from a Matheus Huhn & wife Elisabeth and the family I was researching was Hahn (actually also Huhn). She was very interested and invited me to come back when her husband was home as he spoke English and would be interested in visiting. He lived in Texas for a year. She said I could stay with them the night. They also have a son a little younger than me who is a student of linguistics and Indo-European studies (Sanskrit, etc.).

With a couple disappointments and a couple successes, I headed for Castell and Wustenfled, after trying the minister at Aschbach, who wasn't home. Wustenfled was a very small village and had no church but only a small meeting location. It was apparent that if there were any records they would be with those of Castell. By the time I got to Castell it was about 12:30 and the "Pfarramt" was closed at 12:00. No one answered at the minister's house either. I knew at least some of the records were at Regensburg but I want to make sure. Pfarrer Thun at Steinfeld had said they also had an archive there in the castle. After wandering around the whole town I asked about the castle and learned where it was and they told me I could see the archivist but they had to find him. I took a tour of the castle grounds and got some information about the ducal families of Kastell-Kastell and Kastell-Rudenhaus. Then I tried to get the archivist again. He worked with me for about two hours. There were two rooms full of millions of documents and he had index cards with tiny writing that was an index to this enormous feudal records. We found a marriage record, several land records and a deed from a father to a son-in-law. He then told me I should pay 30 DM an hour and for copies. I didn't have any money in German currency so after a while we made an appointment for Monday morning and I left about 4:30 p.m.

After seeing a little more of Castell I went to Kitzingen and ate a little. Kitzingen was so big compared to these other towns I had been in that I was a little "overrasket" (over-astounded). I could

see three churches in the downtown area alone and had no idea where to begin. I was also exhausted. I finally pulled into a parking place next to the road and took a nap in the front seat of the car for an hour. It was then 6:30 and I had to hurry back to Ebersbrunn for my meeting with Karin's husband Ernst Klier "Charlie".

They had a light supper waiting for me, my first truly German meal. They are very wonderful people! She had made an appointment for me in Aschbach and had called the minister's place in Prichsenstadt. He wasn't home but later she talked to him and he will see me again. This couple has really turned out to be a wonderful contact and made part of my trip a real success that wouldn't have been much otherwise.

They have two sons who are both in college and they have let me stay in the son's room until Monday morning. We visited until about 10:30 p.m. and then I retired. I have my own room and shower here. It is really nice. The house used to be a school adjacent to the church but is now just a private house. Karin's grandfather used to be an Evangelical missionary in Australia and minister at Aschbach and is buried in Jerusalem.

18 June 1993 Friday

Yesterday after breakfast we went to the minister in Aschbach 9:30 - 10:00 a.m. He let me look in the records and she look up also her grandfather. We sat in a library and I worked there until about 1:00. The records were in two books and extended back to 1650's.

(Writing 20 June 1993, Sunday)

I then asked about going to Ebrach to see the Ebersbrunn records. He said he would meet me there but could only spare one hour. We were to meet there at 3:00. In the meantime I visited the cemetery in Aschbach and ate lunch. I then went to Ebrach and visited the bank and walked over to the church to wait for the minister. He was a couple minutes late and once in the records I scrambled to get as much information as was possible. It was apparently a small parish and if I had only two hours I could have seen all the death records and been more complete but I was able to find most of the information I needed.

Since I still had some time after 4:00 p.m. (I was to meet Charlie & Karin at 6:00) I went to see the sights while I was in Ebrach. There was a beautiful huge cloister-church that was simply magnificent. I couldn't believe there was something so extravagant and beautiful in such a small country village in Germany. There was also a huge building now used as a jail and post office. I bought some post cards, a map of this area and a book with history and information about this area. I hurried back to meet the Kliers at 6:00 and we went to the friend's house in Rudenhausen. Gertrud had a cousin who is the mayor of another town named **Hahn** and they

wondered about a possible connection. They had a beautiful garden and we sat around and had a lovely evening. The man Felix was an officer in the German army during WWII and was from Slesia which is now Poland. They had a girl from Poland living with them and her friends joined us for a while.

19 June 1993 Saturday morning

I headed out after breakfast. Gertrud was going to find out about the records of Monchsondheim and get back with us but we waited till about 10:00 and she didn't call so we decided I would head out for my next day's adventure and I could call at noon to see if there was a message.

I went first to Rehweiler. The minister there was real nice, young, and informal. He invited me in and told me they only had a church there since about 1749 and the records began in 1739. Earlier than that they were in Abtswind. Also the minister had sent the records prior to 1889 to the archive in Regensburg so there wasn't a lot I could do there. I thanked him and headed up to see the cemetery. Two men were digging a new grave over an old one and an old man was there taking care of his wife's plot. I talked with them for awhile.

The dialect of the everyday people is very difficult but it was also very interesting to note that the sounds p, t, k are pronounced here as b, d, g. It is really true that the name Brierenstad from the passenger list is Prichsenstad. They told me I should see a town called what sounded to me like "Breul" which was actually "Pruhl" on the map. They also shorten the ends of longer words. This town I'm staying in, in the old records was Eberhardtsbrunn and was shortened to just Ebersbrunn.

From Rehweiler I went to Abtswind. Here they had been renovating the ministers house and all of the books and documents were boxed up and there was no way to get access to them. I made an appointment with the lady (apparently wife of the Pfarrer) to come back 6 Jul and see the records.

Next I drove to Frostockheim. The minister here was living in the neighboring town of Rodelse. There was an old castle in Frostockheim that I checked out. It looked like people were living there so I asked and they said a private family had bought the castle and was living there with their family and three boarders.

The roads in Rodelse were all stone and narrow. I parked the car near the Catholic church and set out to find the Lutheran minister. He was young and dressed in shorts and tee shirt. He invited me in and got the first three books for Frohstockheim. I checked through these as fast as I could for the Newbert family. He was a little impatient after about 1 1/2 hours but offered me copies of the books and some apple juice after. The older church books before

about 1700 are also in Regensberg but I might not need them as the family moved to Frostockheim from Monchsondheim.

I headed next for Markt Einersheim. The Elflein family was from here. There was a funeral march going down the street and I thought, "I better try another town first and come back here later as it looks like the minister is busy." I didn't know if it was ok to drive past a funeral procession but I did and I went next to Monchsondheim. The minister in Rodelse had told me the records for this town would be in Nenzenheim but I wanted to see for myself since I heard this church had a museum.

In this small town there was a fortress built all around the church. In the walls of this fortress were rooms with displays of old wood working tools, spinning wheels, smithee tools, etc. It was interesting to walk through and cool in these rooms. There was a large tourist group there. There was also a man making baskets and wife making doilies.

Next I headed for Nenzenheim. Uh-oh, in this town there was a wedding. The minister was not home, of course, so I looked around, ate lunch, and tried again. I then headed back to Markt Einersheim but this minister still wasn't home. Since I still had about 2 1/2 hours (was supposed to meet Charlie & Karin for a barbecue at their house between 6 - 7:00 p.m.), I wrote a couple post cards and decided to see what I could see in Kitzingen. I parked the car and then walked for about 1 1/2 -2 hours in Kitzingen. It sure seems like a big town compared to these others. It lies on the Mainz river. I thought, all of these families that emigrated probably met here in Kitzingen and headed in big group together up the Mainz to the Rhine river and then to Rotterdam.

Everything in Kitzingen was closed but I scouted out the library and Lutheran church for another time. There were a lot of Americans there but I didn't stop to talk to any of them. I just pretended that I was German. One bumped into me and said "excuse me" quite loud. I thought I would say, "You better say excuse me" or something stupid to let them know I was American but I didn't. The Main river was very pretty. All of the rivers in Germany except the Donau go North and the latter goes east.

My legs were quite tired of walking so I drove back to Charlie and Karin's place in Ebersbrunn. Tomorrow I'm going to have to stop and get some gas for the car. This has sure been fabulous. The Klier family has really made this week special for me. They had a turkey barbecue supper waiting for me. After supper we rested an hour and I wrote a letter and then we sat outside with the upstairs door open and classical music playing and a candle on the table. We just enjoyed the music and the pleasant evening. It was very nice. There were some fireflies or colorful flies that were pretty to watch. They also have a lot of slugs here they try to get rid of. It was so nice and peaceful to sit and enjoy the evening, that

we stayed out till 12:30.

20 June 1993 Sunday

Breakfast was to be at 8:30 a.m. so I pulled myself out of bed at 7:00 and took a shower. It is so nice here with my own bath and big bedroom.

After breakfast we went next door to the church at 9:50. Church starts at 10:00 in this parish. This weekend has been "Kirchweie" (Church dedication reunion) celebration. Last night there was a late party and they had a special brass band (Pasaun) in the church. The choir was not huge but the acoustics in this old building with its thick walls are truly magnificent. It is like the sound of the nuns on "The Sound of Music" and reverberates in the walls. It was really special. The minister was from Argentina and spoke about Peter's three statements:

"Do You Love Me?"
"Feed My Sheep"
"Follow Me"

It was a good talk. They sing several songs, stand up at certain times, and even participate by repeating certain sayings at certain times. In the olden days the men sat in the balconies and the women on the ground floor. In this village everyone attends church, but not in other parts of Germany.

After a wonderful church service I finished my letter and wrote here. We then had a big lunch (the main meal) after which we all took naps. There was a "kirchweie" parade at 2:30 but I was so tired I just slept but I could hear them go by on the street below.

At 4:00 we got up (two hours nap) and had this special "kirchwei" Knee-bread and it was good. The tea tasted stronger than the peppermint tea and I thought it might be the real stuff. I guess I'm too wary of everything here. [Here Gary is thinking about the LDS "Word of Wisdom" which suggests that members refrain from coffee, tea and tobacco and alcoholic beverages. One has to be very careful not to offend because wine and tea are an integral part of life for the Europeans.] I just took about two sips and left the rest. She said she was sorry I didn't like it.

In a few minutes I'm going with them on an outing in the Northern Steigerwald. It is famous for its many trails and walking paths and since I've heard that Germans love to take walks in the forest, I'm quite looking forward to this experience, too.

I guess that finally catches me up to present. I'm learning better how to introduce myself to the ministers. Since my unlucky encounter in Prichsenstadt I've learned I should stress I'm

publishing a book of a group of Germans that emigrated and not that I'm just wanting to look at the church book. I should also say that it is a University study I'm doing and that I'm from somewhere other than Utah/Mormon but so far I haven't gone that far. The minister's wife in Abswind found out I was a Mormon and my companion Will Whitaker was also a Mormon but I assured her this project had nothing to do with the Mormons. She then asked me if it was a book like those in the States that have a lot of addresses of everyone with this surname. [By the way, don't waste your money on this kind of a book, unless you want a list of addresses of a certain name from around the United States, with perhaps a Coat-of-Arms of someone who had that name. ww] Again I told her "No!". She was so wary I thought Maybe I should change my story a little to make them less wary about me but so far I'm still holding to the truth but just changing how I present myself. I have to let them know I can read the old script also as that is one of their major concerns, when they hear my imperfect German.

The Steigerwald area is very beautiful. That is the name of the forest here. The villages are in the clearings, some on hills and others on flat ground. Ebersbrunn is on Kirchberg, a hill with the church at the top and Castell is on a steep hill "slossberg" while Wustefeld is just on the other side of the same hill. The forest separates Eichfeld/Alten-Schonbach from Ebersbrunn, etc. Some areas like Castell are primarily vine-growing regions but most of this area has regular crops of wheat, corn, peas, potatoes, onions, etc. Also fruit trees here and the cherries are ripe. Everyone here is so proud of their local beer/wine that they want me to try it, but I have to deny them that pleasure. I wouldn't know if it was good or not as I can't compare it with anything else.

These huge castles and churches in such small villages really astound me. It's no wonder the poor farmers decided to leave. They must have been enormously taxed by their rulers to pay for these magnificent buildings.

It is also so neat here. The fields are small and close together but they seem to be able to get much more use out of their land per acre than we do as they don't have as much. The yards are immaculate and these old buildings are really kept in good condition.

I will add a few words about what I've seen here. Tonight is my last night here with the Klier family and they have really been wonderful towards me. It has really made this memorable.

After I finished writing we went hiking in the Steigerwald. There are hundreds of trails through these woods. They look like dirt roads but apparently no cars go on them. Probably they were used as wagon roads in the old days. They told me the names of all the trees and flowers but I couldn't remember them all. Stinging nettle is very common here and called "brenn nessel". We saw

forest frogs - just little ones, and they reminded me of Prichsenstadt where these lakes had frogs that croaked quite loud and apparently were quite large.

We walked to a restaurant and ate there a small supper and then hiked back to Ebersbrunn. The trees were very tall and thin and many had moss on the trunks. The wild flowers were also very beautiful.

The landscape here is very beautiful but a small picture wouldn't do it justice. I'll try to draw a picture: [Here Gary has penned in mountains and forests and towns and field plots, etc.]

Well, it's hard to draw without the picture in front of me but it is a patch work of farms in the valley and thick forest bordering on the sides. We heard a couple KuKu birds singing.

Apparently they had a typhoon and a big storm that destroyed lots of trees and that was interesting to see. The trail to Alten Schonbach is not far, even though the road for cars is further. In the olden days they went more directly.

Well, I better quit. Tonight they showed me pictures of their trips to Africa, England and America and that was nice. p. s. If I could spend so much individual time with Germans the other 5 weeks of this trip as the last four days I'm sure my German would be much better. I am gaining a lot of confidence in my language abilities although I don't think I've reached my capacity yet.

6 July 1993 Tuesday

Before telling what went on since the last time I wrote (20 June) I will tell what I did today.

I left Paul's house this morning about 7:45 and got to Abswind about two hours later. The minister lady let me in and I looked up the records on the Elflein family back to about 1641 and decided that was enough. Next it was about 1:00 so I went to Prichsenstadt for the third time but again the minister wasn't there. Then I went to Nenzenheim again and that minister wasn't there either. I decided I might just write to the minister in Nenzenheim and let that suffice, but maybe I'll try one more.

Next I went to Kitzingen. First I went to the city library to ask about biographical information and old newspapers. They referred me to a Frau Dr. who I talked to on the phone. She was nice and told me to try the minister as the Kitzingen church books are indexed and then try the University library in Wurzburg as they have a special collection of local information.

I went to the minister's office but the secretary said I couldn't look at the books as she was alone in the office and couldn't have

people with her. The minister wouldn't be back until next week. Well, I wrote down what I wanted to know and left the note to have them research it and send it to me in America.

I then came to Wurzburg. It was after 3:00 by the time I got here and the archive here was to close at 4:00. I was so exhausted that I just found a shopping center to park the car and slept 1 1/1 hours in the driver's chair in the car.

I then got out and walked downtown and saw where the archive, Residenz, Castel on the hill (Marienberg) and about 7-8 cathedral churches (Peters, Pauls, Marie, Gertrude, William, etc). They were all magnificent but by the time I was through I had walked about 4 1/2 hours and was worn out.

I decided I could skip the archives since it probably isn't worth the time. I then drove around and found the University library that opens at 8:00 a.m. and the train station. I decided to sleep in the car at the train station here in downtown Wurzburg. Tomorrow about 6:30 or 7:00 a.m. I can take a shower here and then head back to the University.

I really want to see the Prichsenstadt/Alten Schonbach records so that is another priority for tomorrow morning. It's now 10:20 and I won't be able to write much longer as it is getting too dark to see.

I guess I forgot to say what happened Monday 21 June. It is hard to remember for sure but I think that was the day with my dread encounter with the minister at Markt Einersheim. His first question after he put me in a special room was, "You aren't a Mormon, are you?" I said [after some soul searching], "No!" He said, "Good, because if you said yes, I would show you the door right now." He asked me that question a couple of more times. [When Gary told me of this encounter, I said, "Well, Gary, you must remember that Peter denied HIM three times!" Gary groaned.] Maybe my "No!" wasn't too convincing. I've never been a good liar. He said, "My second question is, this doesn't have anything to do with the Mormons?" He then asked me where I was going to school. [In Utah, though many LDS go to the University of Utah, it has a majority of non-LDS students. Gary didn't think the minister would understand that degree of difference.]. Again I lied and said "University of Maine." If he had delved much deeper he may have caught my lies because I was making it up as I went.

He said I could have a 1/2 hour and would have to leave a note and have their researcher finish anything I didn't get done. In the half hour I was able to find that the family I wanted wasn't in the records and there weren't any other families so I lucked out. I was worried if I found something needed further research what I would use for an address. I couldn't use Utah!

When I got to the car I breathed a sigh of relief and searched through my files for an address in Maine that I could use if I had to. I need to think out my complete story before I get in another situation like that.

I think after that experience I tried Nenzenheim for the Monchsondheim records and Prichsenstadt but no one was there. I then made a list of four stops I'd like to make the next time I came back to that area and then left.

1. Abswind - appointment
2. Prichsenstadt
3. Nenzenstad
4. Kitzingen

7 July 1993

Since I'm now back in Bad Hersfeld I'm ready to complete my story. Last night I slept in the car at the train station in Wurzburg. I couldn't get anyone to answer at the bath so I didn't take a bath. After getting lost I finally went back to the University.

It opened at 8:00 a.m. so I found the "Franken Abteilung" (Local history special collection). I wanted to find out about the Kitzingen newspaper and about the Hobbhan family of Kitzingen. Neither was successful but I was able to find a genealogy on the Gross family of Erlangen. That was worth it. They tried to help me find some immigration sources but I'm sure we have them in the states so I headed to Prichsenstadt as I was anxious to be there early.

Since I had so little luck even finding anyone home at the minister's offices I decided to fast last night that today would be successful. I had a good feeling.

As I got to the minister's house at Prichsenstadt the gate was opened so in I went. I talked to an older couple. They said no one was allowed to see the church books because someone had cut some of the pages out of it once. They didn't even want to encourage me about having someone else check them. Well, as I was despairing, here came the minister. He had the letter I had written him and had checked the records for three requests I had asked for. Only one of them was helpful and he said he checked very thoroughly for the other two. I was very glad but when I asked if I could just briefly look at the church books, his countenance changed and he flatly refused. I thanked him for the information and headed for the car.

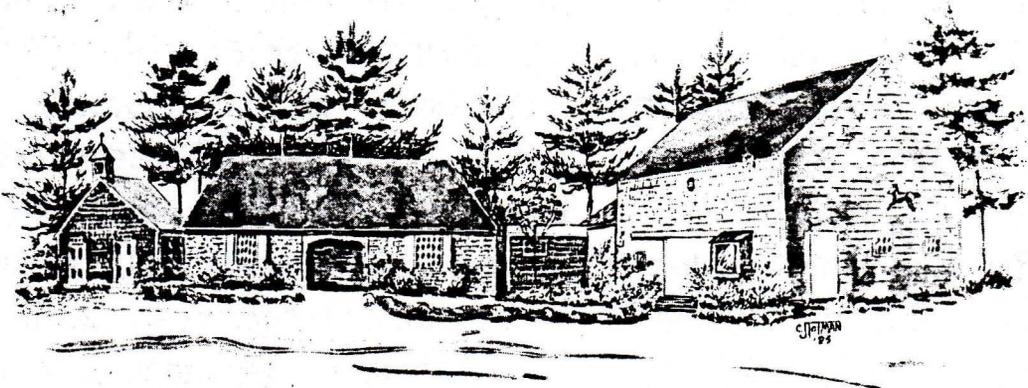
The information he gave me said the Gross family was from "Mainbernheim" so I found it on a map and headed out. It was the beautiful walled town that I had passed and admired on my way to Kitzingen in the past. It was a lovely town. A lady at the

minister's house told me the records were at Monchsondheim.

Well, since the Monchsondheim records were those I wanted to see at Nenzenheim I headed to the latter place next. A minister's wife or secretary was there and let me look at the "Familienbuch" which came from the church books of Monchsondheim. After about 1/2 hour she had to go and lock up the building so, although I wanted to check a couple dates in the original church books, I was glad for the time I had and for her geniality. She told me when I could come back but I as not making that was part of my plans.

She didn't have the Mainbernheim records so I headed back to Mainbernheim and stopped on the way in Monchsondheim to ask about the records. This time in Mainbernheim the minister was there and told me the records were in the Regensberg archives and was very nice. After taking pictures of the town and visiting the cemetery, I decided my work in that area was completed and head back to Bad Hersfeld.

(To be continued)



The Waldoborough Historical Society Museum
Waldoboro, Maine

Old Broad Bay Roots

Antoni* (Anton), Becker, Beckler*, Benner*, Birkenbanel*, Bornemann,
 Bornheimer*, Brodtmann* (Broadman), Burkhardt* (Burkett),
 Daurenheim, Demuth*, Dickendorff, Dies/Theis* (Dice), Dochtermann*
 (Tochtermann), Doerfler* (Doerflinger), Eichorn* (Achor), Eisele,
 Ellein*, Engel, Engelbert, Feiler* (Feyler), Feilhauer, Genthner*,
 Georg* (George), Getsinger, Gross*, Hahn*, Heidenheim (Huettenheim),
 Heiler** (Hylar), Heun* (Hein), Heisler*, Heyer, Hild* (Hilt), Hoch*,
 Hoffses*, Holzapfel, Huebner* (Heabener), Iselen, Janson, Jung*
 (Young), Kammerer* (Comery), Kastner* (Castner), Kintzel* (Kinsel),
 Claus*, Klein* (Cline), Koehler* (Kaler), Kraemer (Creamer, Crammer),
 Krebs (Crapes), Kroehn*, Kuebler*, Kueblinger* (Kiblinger), Kuhn
 (Coon, Cone), Kumaler (Comler), Lagenauer*, Lang* (Long), Lauer*
 (Lowry, Lowery), Leben Zelner* (Lebensaler), Leight* (Light),
 Leissner*, Loesch* (Lash), Ludwig*, Martin, May*, Mellen*, Mueller*
 (Miller), Mink* (Mank), Moser, Neubert* (Newbert), Neuhaus*
 (Newhouse), Orff*, Oberlach* (Overlock), Pracht* (Prock), Reich
 (Rich), Ried* (Reed, Reid), Rehfuss (Refuse), Reisser (Razor),
 Roemele* (Remily), Rodner, Rominger*, Roth* (Rode, Rhodes),
 Schaeffer/Schoefner (Shephard), Schencks* (Shanks), Schmaus*
 (Smouse), Schmidt* (Smith), Schnaudiel* (Snowdeal), Schneider*
 (Snider, Snyder), Schumacher, Schuhmann (Shuman), Schwartz
 (Black), Siegrist* (Sechrist), Seitensberger* (Sidensparker), Seiter*
 (Seiders), Seitlinger* (Sidelinger), Seitz* (Sides), Stahl* (Stall,
 Stoll), Storer*, Treible (Treupel, Dribble), Ukele* (Ukley, Eugley),
 Ulmer*, Unbehend (Amberhine), Vogler** (Fogler), Wagner*, Walch*
 (Walck), Wallis (Wallace), Walter, Waltz*/Woltz, Weber* (Weaver),
 Wier/Weier, Wiest*, Weyel* (Weyl), Weller (Willard), Werner*
 (Warner, Hannah), Winchenbach* (Wincapaw, Wink), Wolfahrt*,
 Wolfsgruber (Wolsgrover), Ziegler, Zubenbueler *= found in Germany ** in
 Switzerland.