

# Old Broad Bay Bund und Blatt

A Newsletter about the German Colony  
Established at Broad Bay, Maine 1742 - 1753

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Cologne, in the heart of Germany's Rhineland, is a starting point for many Rhine River cruises. The city is famous for its cathedral.

The Official Publication of the Old Broad Bay Family History Association

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Thank you for all who have paid their subscriptions and those who additionally sent extra contributions. Because of you, I will be able to meet expenses this year. That is great!

I would again appeal to those who have an interest in these Broad Bay German ancestors. Send a contribution of what you can afford, that is a good way to express your interest and willingness to help in this project.

## Bund und Blatt Reprinted! 6 Page Table of Contents Every Name Index 63 Page Index!

Several researchers have expressed interest in obtaining back issues of *Bund und Blatt*. Certain issues have been reprinted several times and as I needed to reprint several issues this last time, I decided to "do it right" and include a Table of Contents and an Every Name Index. The Entire Series from 1992 through 1994 was renumbered from 1 through 234 and I included several fliers that I had left off other reprints and a 63 page **Index** was made and included. The Entire Series, from Volume 1, Number 1, 1992 through Volume 3, Number 4, 1994 is bound in a soft blue spiral binding and includes the Table of Contents and Index.

Price: Spiral Bound Copy, \$35.00 + \$5.00 p.& h.

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If you want to renumber your copies of *Bund und Blatt* then the TOC & Index would be a great addition to your library.

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## BROAD BAY'S FIRST FULLING MILL

Broad Bay had a fulling mill! This may come as a surprise to the Historians of Broad Bay. At least, I have never seen one mentioned in any of the histories I have read. Stahl, who is usually so complete, does not mention one in either book. This is the first of my research into the milling industry in Broad Bay and Waldoboro. There are several saw mills and grist mills described but this is the first fulling mill that I have run across.

The following deed of George Verner [Warner, Werner], millwright, to Benjamin Sylvester is of some interest:

George Verner, millwright, of Waldoboro, for £50 sold to Benjamin Sylvester, clothier of Waldoboro - to begin at a stake and stones on the West side of the Medomak River - at the center between Verner's Grist Mill and Sylvester's **FULLING MILL** - 1 3/4 acres including the whole of Sylvester's Fulling Mill and the trough or spout that leads the water unto the same and also an equal share or 1/2 part of the Mill Dam. 3 Mar 1791. John Martin & George Doelhrein, witnesses.<sup>1</sup>

This is the only mention I have found of Benjamin Sylvester in Waldoboro records. It appears he was only here a short time and then turns up in Warren on the St. Georges River where Eaton informs us that Benjamin had the first Fulling Mill on the St. Georges River.

. . . Mr. Copeland this year [1793] erected a **Fulling-Mill** at the Head-of-the-Tide, the first establishment of the kind on the river. The first clothier was Benjamin Sylvester, who carried on the business about five years and removed to Newcastle.<sup>2</sup>

Eaton also relates the following, presumably of Benjamin Sylvester's family:

. . . Wm. Lermond, . . . sold another portion for a burying-ground. As if hastening to occupy this newly appointed resting-place, great numbers of children were carried off, this season [1793], by the scarlet fever, or throat distemper, as it was then called, which was very malignant and mortal. . . . but in May, 1794, when the town voted to fence the old burying-ground with pine logs and the new one with stone wall and board fence, it was restricted to a line . . . . By this restriction, the graves of several children were left outside, on the common; and the town voted " to remove such of them, whose relations were willing, within the said limits." This was done; but some were allowed to remain; and the graves of Mr. Sylvester's children were enclosed by a fence, which remained on the common for many years.

To be profitable a fulling mill must have a large supply of raw material, cotton, or wool, flax, etc. This may be one of the reasons that Benjamin Sylvester was unable to stay long in either area.

-v.fulled., full·ing., fulls. -tr. To make (a garment) full, as by pleating or gathering. -intr. To become full. Used of the moon.  
ll'ness ful'ness n.

full2 -tr. v.fulled., full·ing., fulls. To increase the weight and

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<sup>1</sup> Lincoln County, Maine, Deeds. FHL# 11372. 28:220.

<sup>2</sup> Eaton, Cyrus, A.M. Annals of the Town of Warren, etc. Second Edition. Hallowell. 1877. p. 253

bulk of (cloth) by shrinking and beating or pressing. [ME fullen < OFr. fuler, fouler < Med. Lat. fullare < Lat. fullo, fuller.]<sup>3</sup>

### fuller's earth

—n. A highly absorbent claylike substance used predominantly in fulling woolen cloth, in talcum powders, as a filter, and as a catalyst.

### fuller's teasel

—n. A European plant, *Dipsacus fullonum*, having bristly flower heads used by fullers to raise the nap on cloth.

### clothier

(klōT'y\_r) (klō'Tē-\_r) —n. One who makes or sells clothing or cloth.

## Lincoln County Deeds

These records still remain a virtually untouched gold mine of land holdings and transfers and once in a while, a genealogical treasure. I have read and abstracted generally from 1740 to 1760 in York County and from 1760 to 1803 in Lincoln County deed books. A great project would be to read the deeds from 1803 to 1850. If any are willing to help in this project, please let me know and I'll co-ordinate our efforts and give each a suggested number of book numbers so we will know what is done.

The following "Marriage Contract" is a gem. Not only does it give the terms of the agreement, but from it we learn that Rosanna Rhodes was a Cider, dau of Henry Cider (Seiders) and we learn for the first time, Henry's wife was Sisily! George and Rosanna had several children but we do not have the names of all of them. One of the Rhodes joined the Quaker Religion in Nobleboro. Can anyone enlarge on these?

## A Matrimonial Contract - 1772

*A Matrimonial contract or agreement made this fifteenth day of January Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred & seventy 2 in the tenth year of his Majesty's reign, between George Rhodes & Rosanna Cider Daughter of Henry & Cisily Cider all living on the westerly side of a place called Broad bay, without the bounds of any Town but in the County of Lincoln & Province of the Massachusetts bay. viz. Be it known to all manner of persons that I George Rhodes doth take Rosanna Cider Daughter, etc to be my lawful Wife, & if the said Rosanna should survive or outlive me, I the said George doth make over and bequeath unto her all my real and personal Estate, both Land Stock buildings*

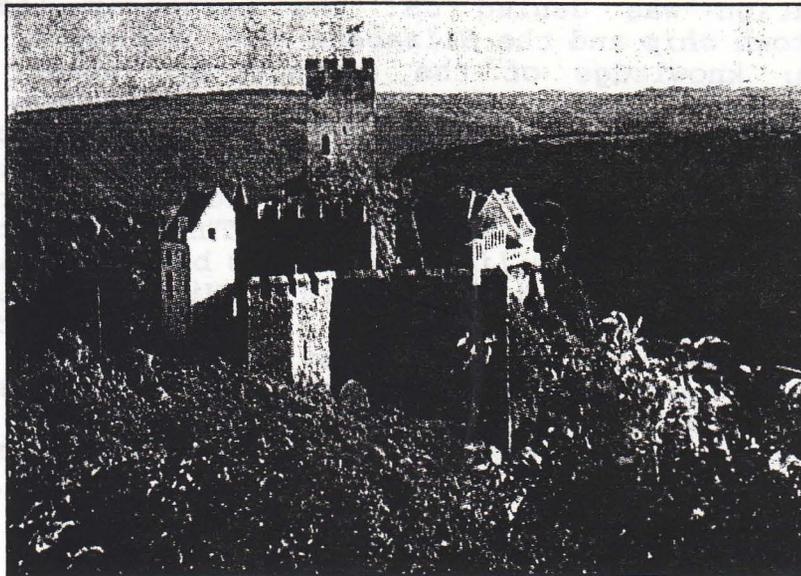
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<sup>3</sup>*The American Heritage Dictionary*, (Houghton Mifflin, 1987), Microsoft Bookshelf 1992, s.v. "full."

cash & every other individual or title belonging unto me free from all incumbrances, orders, and from any other person living. Also if I the said George should survive or out live the aforesaid Rosanna, that every Article belonging unto her shall be properly mine as being her lawful Husband; and further more if I the said George should survive the said Susanna, her Father Mother or any other relation belonging to her shall claim no manner of right or property to anything belonging either to her or me, but if I the aforesaid George should survive the aforesaid Rosanna & should have any Children by her male or female They shall inherit & possess all my real & personal Estate after my decease. And be it also further known that my only Son Cornilius Rhodes now living in the Town of Bristol & County and Province aforesaid has had a sufficient Share both of my real & personally Estate already & he his heirs or Assigns shall never inherit or possess anything belonging unto me or mine either in my life time or after my decease. In Testimony there of We have both parties interchangeably set our hands & Seals the day & date above mentioned. George X Rhodes & a Seal. Rosanna Cider & a Seal. In the presence of us John Martin Schaffer . his mark and Edw. Lieson. A will to be drawn by this & 10# Old Tenor to be given to the Son. Lincoln Co., Seal Broad bay 8 Jun 1772. Then the within named George Rhodes & Rosanna Cider alias Rosanna Rhodes appeared personally & acknowledged the within written Instrument to be Their free Act or Deed before me David Fales Just. Pacism ~

Recd June 24th 1796 & entered & examined  
by Tho. Rice, Regr.

Lincoln County, Province of Massachusetts, Deed Book 37, Folio 63. [FHL# 11376.]



Ancient fortifications are part of the scenery along the Rhine.

## An Important Series Continued

David C. Grindell had nine installments of his important work *Waldoboro German Names in the War of 1812* published in *Downeast Ancestry*, edited by Mary H. Dormer. For reasons unknown to this editor, that fine bi-monthly publication is no longer being printed. David sent me his last two installments, numbers ten and eleven, as he knew of our interest in this generation. He has given his permission to publish these last two installments in *Bund und Blatt*, #10 in the last issue and #11 in this one.

### **Waldoboro German Names in the War of 1812**

by David C. Grindell

Part Eleven

(ABBREVIATIONS)

Apl.	Appleton	Dam.	Damariscotta	ML	Dr. Moses R. Ludwig,
BB	Broad Bay, became Waldoboro 29 Jun 1773	FM	Frank Miller, <i>The Miller Family</i> Rockland. 1934.		<i>Ludwig Genealogy</i> , Augusta, 1866.
boW	both of Waldoboro	Fsh.	Friendship		Nbl. Nobleboro
Brm.	Bremen	G.	Germany, German(s)	Nwc.	Newcastle
Bst.	Bristol	Hpe.	Hope		pens. pension
CD	Christine Dodge, <i>Vital</i> <i>Records of Old Bristol &amp;</i> <i>Nobleboro, 1947, 1951.</i>	IGI	International Genealogical		Pts. Pittston
CE	Cyrus Eaton, <i>History of</i> <i>Thomaston, 1865,</i> <i>Annals of Warren, 1877.</i>	JS	Dr. Jasper J. Stahl, <i>History Uni.</i> <i>of Old Broad Bay and W.</i> <i>Waldoboro. Portland. 1956.</i>	Union	Waldoboro
Cmd.	Camden	Lib.	Liberty		Wrn. Warren
Csh.	Cushing	MAB	Mark A. Benner, <i>The Descendants</i> <i>of John Henry Benner, 1990.</i>		Wsh. Washington
DA	<i>Downeast Ancestry</i>				
					Thn. Thomaston
					Rkl. Rockland

From the Achorns to the Wolsgrovers we have now passed in review those families who provided militiamen to this war. My apologies to those who find here no mention of some remembered forebear. There is reason for their regret. Unit rosters aging and yellowing in the National Archives building in Washington reveal names unknown in that book which gave me my checklist: Gen. Gardner W. Pearson's *Records of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia ... during the War of 1812-14*. An inviting project for some future researcher!

My point of departure was the valuable genealogical chapter in vol. I of Dr. Stahl's great pioneering historical work. Some information was denied JS: the passenger lists of the *Germantown ship* and the *Elizabeth* were unknown or unavailable to him; knowledge of the correct derivation and primal spelling of G. names was less diffused in his time. New sources of information are disclosed: civil and church records in Boston, the IGI, are several at the present time. My own work I have seen as a kind of scaffolding to a great edifice that might be called something like "*Three Generations of the Waldoboro: German Families.*" This has been a developing dream among us and it was Justice David A. Nichols of Lincolnville who first suggested it to me. A landmark of progress in this direction is Jenness P. Eugley's 1992 book, *The Eugley Genealogy: Descendants of Bernhardt Uckele of Langensteinbach, Bavaria, Germany, and Waldoboro, Maine, 1752-1992*. Industrious researched and handsomely bound, this is the kind of book of which we need more.

**WINCHENBACH.** The Department Bas-Rhin in France's province of Alsace has a little village called Wintzenbach, meaning "Winzo's brook." Just over the border from Germany, about as far east as it could possibly be in France, this petite community can be found only on a detailed tourist map. It is just west of Karlsruhe, and slightly to the west of the Rhine. If an individual- and not the designation of a tribe or group -he was a man of some consequence because he has another place in Alsace named after him: Wintzenheim, "Winzo's home." Often pronounced and sometimes spelled "Winapaw" here in MA, this has always been, on both sides of the Atlantic, a very rare name. I may venture the claim that up to and including 1800 at least, there were no Winkelplechs (Wingleblaugh, Windelplank, etc.) offer no competition because theirs is really a different name, having a derivation of its own. Speaking merely of Friendship, ME, Melville B. Cook in his *Records of Meduncook Plantation* (1985) observes that Winchenbach has "the distinction of being spelled in a different manner by almost every family in the town"!

Friedrich Winchenbach, tailor, came from that Nenderoth/Odersburg in Hesse which gave Broad Bay also, in part at least, the Bornheimer, Hilt, Koehler/Kaler and Ludwig fams. By a fine stroke of genealogical luck the passenger list of the *Elizabeth*, 1753, names his wife, Marai Katherine, and her mo., Margaret "Kohler," b.c. 1690, who is reckoned into the fam. of her son-in-law Friedrich. We do not learn here the ages of Friedreich and his wife. Johan Kohler, whose name follows immediately on the list, would naturally be considered a bro.-in-law of Friedrich; also the chn. of both men fall into the same age range. Winchenbach took up #39 on the upper end of Dutch Neck, west side, and in 1758, and Matthias Remley, 1759. The Elizabethers' deposition of 1769 is the last document where I find his name; his is fine, steady hand and, unlike most of the signers, he has mastered the English script so that his signature is immediately recognizable.

The Maine State Library at Augusta has a sketch of the Winchenbach fam. made by Clarence F. Palmer of Somerville, MA. As I understand it, Mr. Palmer worked with Dr. Stahl (himself a Winchenbach descendent), and the original sketch, dated 1933, has since been updated more than once by various persons. the information I offer here is based, unfortunately, on slender knowledge of the Palmer material as a whole, but it may do something to round out our understanding of the fam. The chn. of Friedrich and Maria Katherina (Koehler) Winchenbach were: 1. Jacob Heinrich, b. 15 May 1742, d. 1825. His previous military experience in the Old French War (1760 with Capt. Remilly, whose name were better spelled Roemele) helped him get commissioned a Lt. in the

Revolution. A capable man, ready to help his neighbors, Jacob was prominent in town affairs. He is said to have had three wives, out of none of them do we know the surname. Eleven chn., I think, are given to him by Palmer. 2. Anna Eve, ae.5 in 1753, and therefore b.c. 1748; and 3. Maria Elisabet , ae.2/b.c.1751, are not further known to me. The foregoing chn. are named on the ship list. Those following were b. over here but my tally probably falls short: noticeably, no females can be named. 4. John, 1754-17 Aug. 1847, m. perh. Elizabeth Walch/Wallis, 1757-25 Apr.1858. Nine chn. are given to them. Elizabeth fa. would have been the emigrant Johannes Walch. In my consideration of the Walch fam. in this series I noted the passage of Welch to "Wallis" or "Wallace". That one of the chn. b. to this couple was named Wallace Winchenbach would seem to certify the identity of the mo. the fa. is known to Palmer as "Waldoboro John Winchenbach." Here again we have the problem of siblings with same forename. I hypothesize that this later one was, more fully, 'John Peter', who is of record under this second name only one time, being the Peter "Wincheboo" (sic!) of a 1779 Rev. enlistment. John Winchenbach--presume. he of W.--had his enlistments 1777 and '79, and I suppose that his younger bro. on this occasion wanted to assert his own identity. Families phased their enlistments, the older sons taking the earlier ones; the work on the farm had to go on, war or peace. 6. Henry , 1762-16 Mar. 1831 m. Mary Waltz (Andreas), d. 19 Oct. 1822. Their ten chn., 1787-1810, and their further descendants are given in CE/Wrn.

The soldiers of 1814 are grouped here according to the town from which they came or in which they served. The Palmer material should be able to help in the placement of some of them. *Waldoboro*: Henry, musician. A Henry Winchenbaugh, 1798-1869, is bur. in Dutch Neck Cem. with wife Mary 1801-'45. Henry Winchenbach int. W., 21 Jun. 1813, Mary Genthner, boW. ISAAC. A Cpt. Isaac Winchenbach, 1779-1828 lies in D.N. Cem. with wife Sarah, 1782-1845; Cpt. Isaac Jr. m. W., 22 Apr. 1824, Sarah Creamer. *Friendship*: Census records of 1820 and 1830 suggest that the three men were bros. "Friendship John" is the natural choice for their fa. but I do not know that this is supported by documentation. The fa. was in Fsh. at least as early 1768. DANIEL. Cpt. Daniel of Fsh. int. W., 24 May 1820, Polly Benner of W. (Johan Jost Jost Heinrich). They m. 20 July 1821 (MAB p.31). HENRY of Fsh. these wingumpaws have a boy and a girl, each of the tenderest age. JOHN is called "Tersher" (i.e. Tertius or Third), but the record is hard to make out. *Washington*: JACOB of Fsh. int. Fsh., 21 Jun. 1809, Lucy and Polly Benner were sisters. C/1850 Wsh. has Jacob ae. 64, Lucy 61. They had come to Putnam (earlier name for Wsh.) as early as 1820.

**WOLSGROVER.** A *Wolfsgrub* is a pit dug in the ground to catch these animals. In the genealogy of words, *die Grube* is a second cousin to the Engl. "grave: and "groove," and first cousin to our verb "to grub". *Wolfsgrub* originated not as a "does it" name, but rather as a "where from" name: that is, from a place in G. called *Wolfsgrube(n)*. the analogous name *Foxgrover*, of Cook Co., IL, made news in July 1991. These are both exceedingly rare and the early censuses of PA yield no name looking like *Wolfsgrub*. The 1988 IGI for G. offers only one entry worthy of note here: at Oberacker, Karlsruhe, Baden, 1 Jun. 1723, Anna Catharina *Wolfsgrub* m. Hans Michael Scheufele. The locality and the time are promising, but the name Scheufele never came to BB.

Christoff *Wolstgruber*, b.c. 1728, came in the *Elizabeth*, 1753, with his sister Ursula, b.c. 1735, and we would be happy to learn anything more of her. Ae. 25 on arrival, Christoff looks like a youngish bachelor, so that it may be an assumption on JS' part that "his wife apparently died in the early 1750s." Or is this a confused fam. remembrance of his sister's death? He was still alive in C/1800, living in W.'s Goose River section, he and his wife making up the entire fam. I cannot give her a name, but the associations of the *Wolsgrovers* were with *Delanos*, *Millers*, *Walchs* and *Winchenbachs*. George *Wolsgrover* was b. between 1755 and '60, as later censuses narrow it down. There were probably other chn. but he is the only ch. I can identify for Christoff. Sooner or later some of our *Wolsgrovers* may have wanted to become simply "Wolfs" or "Grovers": this is the expectable thing with the longer G. surnames. his wife cannot be named, so far as I know, but it seems significant that C/1800, Fsh., (then "Medoncook Plantation") has George *Wolfsgrover* with *Alpheus Delano* to one side and *Nathan Delano* on the other. He must surely be the fa. of our 1814 militiamen, both of Fsh.

Christopher, b.c.1792,, finished the last of three enlistments 5 Nov. 1814, and exactly a month later got his certificate to m. Mary Condon, b.c. 1795. Fsh. has this couple in C/1830. GEORGE is prob., as indicated, George (George Christoff). If George, he was a man at least 54 years old at this time. Such cases of over-age soldiering are not unknown, but they are exceptional.

**ULMER:** A CORRECTION. Capt. Philip Martin Ulmer, 1751-1816, and Genl. George Ulmer, 1756-1825, both of Lincolnvillle, ME, are not the sons of Johan Martin Ulmer of W., as stated earlier in this series. The town records of Lincolnvillle are authority for the fact that the father of both was *Johan Jacob Ulmer*. Evidence found in G. would have it that the latter's wife was named *Christiana*. Many problems remain for genealogists of the fam., but Parrish Manson of Waterville,

ME, Gary Horlacher of Salt Lake City and Will Whitaker of Murray, UT, are doing much to come up with solutions. The latter sent me Vol.1, No.6, of *Old Broad Bay: Bund und Blatt* (Oct.-Nov.-Dec. 1992.), which has a fine up-date in the earliest Ulmers.

**KALER: AN AMPLIFICATION.** The basic genealogical structure of the first two generations of the Kalers in BB seems clearer to me now than when I dealt with this fam. previously (DA Oct. 1988, Vol.12, No.3). Of the third generation I give here every name that has come to my notice, so far as its belonging to a particular fam. seems assured. It is hardly necessary to repeat what was said about the etymology of Koehler/Kaler, nor was the placement of the soldiers of the 1812 war given a critical reexamination. Some day I hope this will be done.

Early Boston records are suggestive of a larger context into which our W. fam. fits. Margaret Kohler m. 29 Aug 1765 Nicholas Fry. I have not been able to trace Nicholas any further and think that Margaret was probably a sister of the Anna Kohler who had m. 24 Jun. 1762 John George Kuhn (Jacob). This m. is validated from another source though the civil record has George Kuhn Marrying "Ann Cole." John George and his wife, whose full name has been given as Anna Maria Barbara Kohler, constituted the Boston wing of the Massachusetts Kuhns; his bro., thrice-married John Jacob Kuhn (1743-1808), had eight chn. recorded in Newburyport. Documents in connection with the Kuhn fam. yield the date of birth of Anna Kohler : 18 Sep. 1737. They also gave her place of birth, but this is a matter which requires special consideration and is placed in a note, below. At Braintree, MA, 17 Oct. 1752, Michael Kellar and Peter Caller were indebted to Isaac Winslow, the son-in-law of Gen. Waldo. On the document on question the names are predominantly G. and several of the men came to BB, e.g. Paul Kuhn, the progenitor of the ME Kuhns. But I find no later mention of Michael and Peter, nor were these names ever favored by our Kaler clan.

Those who came to BB were, in the *Germantown Ship* of 1752, Johann Heinrich and Jacob. The latter's fam. was very small, a couple with one ch. as one might suppose from the amount of provisions sent to him. In any case Jacob is not heard after 1753; he may have died, possibly killed by Indians, or have gone elsewhere. His significance in W. genealogy, if any, must be minimal. The *Elizabeth*, 1753, brought Johann Kaler. What relation were these three men one to another? I know of nothing in the records to elucidate this point and earnestly hope that some reader, acquainted with some sound fam. tradition or possessing documentary evidence, can come to our help. So common a name is Kohler that one might question if they were all necessarily related. Yet my belief is that John

and John Henry at least were probably bros. As will be seen, both fams. shared names, especially in same-year-births, each having had a Jacob b. 1765 and a George b. 1789.

John Henry Kaler, a bricklayer, had a fam. of three and a half freights on arrival, most expectably the parents with three young chn. He was in the French and Indian War as Heinrich Koehler, 1759, had to repurchase his west side land, 1763, and gave patriotic service in the Rev. Henry Kaler's will of 14 Jan. 1790, probated 25 Apr. 1794, reproduced in Judge Patterson's Lincoln Probate Records, name his "Dearly beloved wife Elizabeth." He does not appear on C/1790, being included, as seems likely, in the fam, of his son Jacob who has living with him a male over 16, who could hardly be a son of the young Jacob. Henry names his chn. but the order of their births cannot be made out. He puts all his six daus. together and--quite remarkably--calls them all "Kalers". Thus are we denied knowledge of the married names that most, if not all of them must have had at this time. Henry's chn. were--

1. Charles, 1747-1832, m. Elizabeth Weber, dau. of Johan Jost and Anna Elizabeth Weber. He moved over to the Goose River section on the east side and there associated closely with Philip Mink and Christian Hoffses. The three served in the same unit in the Rev., 1779, and seem to have been partners in the milling on the river. Charles and Elizabeth had--  
(a) Christian, 1771, of W. in C/1850, ae. 79. He m. Mary Robinson (William, Dr. Moses) and is bur. in W.'s Goshen Cem. William Jr., 1796 and Daniel, b.c. 1805 are among his chn.  
(b) Mary Margaretha, 1774. (c) Jost Henry, 1777-1867. Henry Kaler is ae. 74 in C/1850 for Centerville, ME, whither he rem. in 1826, as I am informed. He later called himself William Henry Kaler. His wife was Dorcas Barton. (d) Anna Mary, 1781, m. prob. George Mink (Philip Georg). (e) John Jacob Conrad, 1783, m. Peggy Hoffses, 25 Nov. 1812. (f) John Philip, 1786. (g) George, 1789.

2. Dorothea . 3. Eva . 4. Catherina, prob. the "Keaty Kealer" who int. W. 2 Sep. 1785 Philip Stall, boW. 5. Margaret is perh. she who having dates 1756-1842 m. Henry Miller (Frank). 6. Anna Maria cannot be distinguished by me from the like-named dau. b. 1749 to John Kaler. One or the other of these m. W., 1777, John Burkett. 7. Mary Catharina . 8. is dau., conjectured by some, of unknown name, who may have been the first wife of Philip Mink (Georg) and d. Young c.1771. Her dau. Catherine Mink, 1771-18467, m. Michael Newbert (Christopher Chritoph Zacharias), W., Oct. 1791. 9. Jacob, 1765-1813, was named executor in the will of his father Henry and inherited his father's land. To distinguish him from the many others of identical name he is known as "Jacob Kaler of Dutch Neck." His m., 14 Dec. 1790. was to Mary Catharine

Ludwig (Jacob Joseph ), 1772-1848. In his will of 8 June 1813, m. Mary C. Hoffses, 1793-1891. He is otherwise known as Jacob 5th or Jacob L. (b) Charles Ludwig c. 1795, m. Sarah b.c.1805 Still alive 1884, he was known as the "hero of Dartmoor Prison" (JS II/116, 420).

(c) Joseph Ludwig , c.1801, m. Betsey Hoffses. Mariner.

(e) Eben, c.1807, m. Margaret , b.c. 1802. (f) Moses , c.1811, m. Louisa Creamer, b.c.1810. (g)Margaretha . (h) Mary .

John Kaler came to BB in 1753 in the *Elizabeth*, whose passenger list is more bountiful than that of the Germantown Ship, providing the names of his wife, Anna Eva, and their two chn. with the ages off the latter. More than that, it names John's mother, Maria Katharina Kaler, who has become the wife of Friedrich Winchenbach, and has three chn. by this time. (These are discussed in this installment under that name.) John Kaler, then, along with John Henry, are the two progenitors of our Kalers, a clan so numerous that by W.'s C/1820 it boasted 18 heads of families. (In second place were the Benners with 16.) Little is seen of John; he and Anna Eve were still alive 1 Mar. 1780, but he is not found on C/1790 and was d. by 1795. His land was very near the old German Chh. his chn.--

1. Willem Ernst , ae. 6 on the list, is the "William" on W. town records, and his stone in the G. Cem. , calling him "John W.," gives his dates as 1753-1839. Their 6 chn. are on the town records W., 25 Dec. 1802 Margreate Schwartz. (f) John Jost , 1782. Jost is a G. Form of "Joseph," and he is the Joseph Kaler of Belfast, Waldo Co., who m. 1807 Mary Hofses, also b. 1782.

The VR of that city give their chn., 1809-21.

2. Anna Maria, b.c.1749 may be the Mary Caler who m, W., 27 Nov. 1777, John Borckhart (i.e. Burkett). But this m. might belong to the other Anna Maria Kaler (John Henry) whose date of b. is unknown.

3. Charles ,1758 (1760?)-1842 is known to be son of John by Linc. Co. deed 34/155. Hem. Mary Genthner. I have not seen her surname but think she must have been a sister of Eve Catherine Kuhn. The Kuhn names Charlotte and Paul occurring in Mary's fam. lead me to this supposition. Their chn.--

(a) Charlotte , 1780. (b) John , 1782, m. Margaret Hoffses, b.c. 1785 (C/1850, p.208). (c) Paul , 1785-1844, m. W., 26 Nov. 1812, Nancy Kinsel. (f) Polly, 1792. (g) Elizabeth, 1797, m. perh. (Robert John), she of Thn. They res. W. (1) Sally , 1802. (j) Bathsheba, 1806, who as "Barsheba" int. W., 10 May 1823, Abijah Sprague. Their father Charles Kaler had in C/1800 the largest fam. in town with "thirteen noses" (JS II/45).

4. Jacob , b.c.1765, int. W., 26 May 1785, boW, Barbara Orff (Johann Nicolaus). He must have m. her because the 1815 Robinson map and censuses up to 1830 show him living squarely in the midst of this fam. His sobriquet might well be "Jacob Kaler of Orff's Corner". Later censuses indicate a fairly large fam. (in 1800, seven; in 1810, twelve), but at present I can name none of the chn.

NOTE. George Kuhn Clarke of Needham, MA, published in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* two articles, both entitled *Jacob Kuhn and His Descendants*. The first, of Oct. 1897, and the second, with much needed corrections and a wealth of fresh material, of Jan. 1933, offer fine flashes of insight into Kaler genealogy. Two points are relevant to us.

A. We may be close to gaining an over-all picture of the first Kaler generation, one which unifies the siblings of both ME and MA. Clarke (1993, p.36) noted, among fam. papers from G. that had come into possession, a certificate of Chh. membership given 3 May 1752 by the pastor of the Evangelical Reformed Chh. (where?) to Maria Margaretha Kohler. Clarke shrewdly suspected that she might be the mother of the Anna Maria Barbara Kohler who m. John George Kuhn of Boston. Now it seems entirely possible--and to my mind very probable--that this Maria Margaretha Kohler is identical with Margaret Kohler, b.c.1690, who came to BB in 1753 and is the mother of Frederick Winchenbach's wife and of John Kaler. Thus a list of her presumed chn. may be drawn up, bearing in mind that we know almost nothing of the sequence of their births. A conjecture within a conjecture is perhaps better than nothing at all, so I offer the following merely as a working hypothesis. These might have been the chn. of the matriarch Maria Margaretha Kohler, whose maiden name as well as her husband's name still remain unknown--

1. Maria Catherina of BB, m. Frederick Winchenbach, oldest ch. b.c. 1743,
2. John Henry, BB, prob. 3 chn. by 1752.
3. John, BB, 2 chn. in 1753.
4. Jacob, BB but soon drops from sight; prob. 1 ch. in 1752.
5. Margaret, did not come to BB, later whereabouts unknown.; m. Boston, 1765, Nicholas Fry.
6. Anna Maria Barbara, Boston, With husband John George Kuhn. Her date of b., 1737, leads one to think that she was the last of these supposed siblings.

B. The place of b. of Anna Maria Barbara Kohler is documented: "Engelstein, a town in Germany in Prussia in the Province which lays 48 miles South East of Koenigsberg." This is a verbatim quotation from Clarke (1897) , who speculated that the city in question was the Koenigsberg of (the former) East Prussia. In 1933 he corrected the locality to *Koenigsbach in Baden*. Nearly equidistant between Karlsruhe and Pforzheim, Koenigsbach is well within the area the Waldoboro Germans would have looked back to as their *Heimatland*.

## A Trip to my German Roots

by Ragnhild Bairnsfather

May 17, 1995

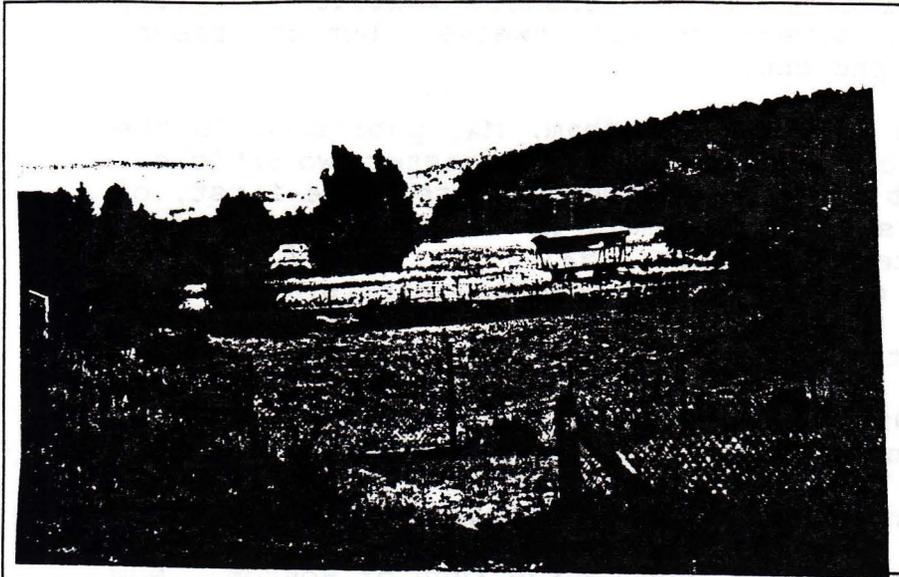


Figure 1. View of hillside, fields in Horbach.

Our first glimpse of the German countryside was seen intermittently through the large clouds that were parting over Frankfurt during our landing. It was mid-May and the fields were spring green and a brilliant yellow. It was to be a day of sun, clouds and rain. My husband, Bob, and I had no problem getting the train from the airport to Wiesbaden where we changed for the train to Eltville, a picturesque town on

the Rhine known for its prodigious production of sekt, German champagne or sparkling wine. (Only the French may call it champagne.) I had thought we would spend the day and night there and board the KDL boat for a cruise down the Rhine River the next morning. People who had been to Germany told us there would no problem finding a bed and breakfast, especially in the Spring. Little did we know when we set out from the local Tourist Office with lists of hotels, pensions and rooms, that every room in the entire town was booked. We knocked on the doors of hotels that, for some reason still unknown to us, locked their doors and did not answer doorbells or knocks. We were pulling our wheeled carry-on suitcases behind us and holding umbrellas, making it difficult to see any charm whatsoever in this village. Reluctantly, but with no other choice, we boarded the train back to Wiesbaden and, at their Tourist Office, found a very nice room in a bed and breakfast near the Rhine River.

May 18

At breakfast this morning we wondered what the small plastic bucket on our table was for. It was daintily decorated and had a lid. It was several breakfast meals later, in another B & B, that we had a similar bucket, but this one said Breakfast

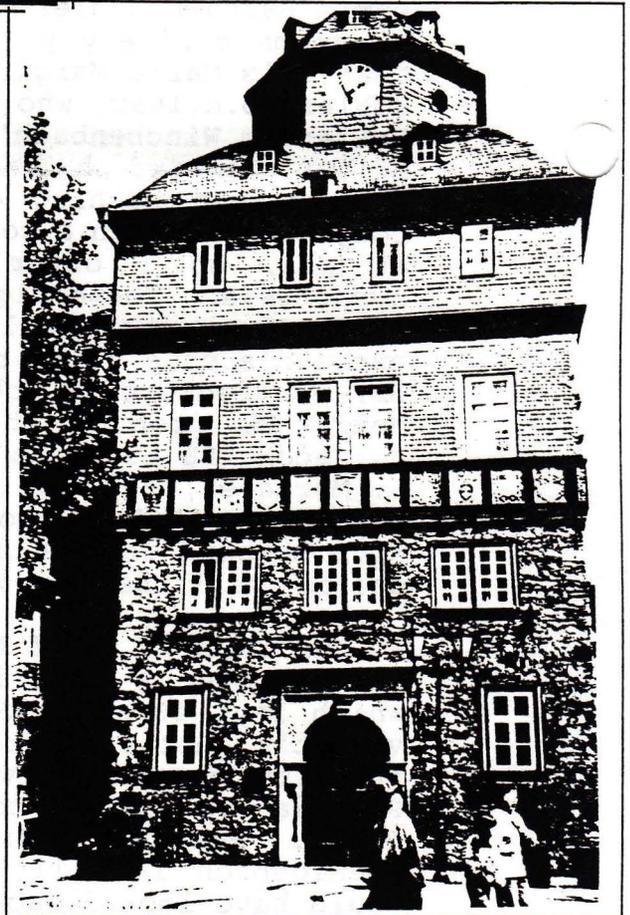


Figure 2. Herborn Market Square.

Waste which we thought was efficient - a good idea. After a few days in Germany, we knew every morning what breakfast would consist of; there were seldom surprises. This is not a complaint because they were good and filling, but they were predictable: cheeses, cold cuts, nice variety of hard rolls and breads which usually included a health bread enclosed in cellophane and about as delicious as its wrapper, jam, hard boiled eggs and coffee with condensed milk.

The Rhine River cruise was an enjoyable 5½ hour trip along the most scenic part of the river - from Wiesbaden to Koblenz. The rain was only a minor inconvenience because the covered parts of the boat afforded good views and refreshments. There was no lack of company, most of it being tour groups of Europeans and school children of all ages. What impressed us were the mile after mile of vineyards going straight up the steep slopes of the hills. Some of these steep vineyards had a small monorail going up the hillside every so often which is used to transport crates of picked grapes. No piece of land was too small to support a vineyard in the villages, but most were between the villages. Roads traversed the vineyards making travel by truck, car, foot and bicycle possible. Freight traffic on the Rhine was constant which is why the roads do not carry as much truck traffic as here in the United States. Of course the railroads carry a lot of freight also.

Koblenz, a city of 115,000, is situated at the confluence of the Rhine and Mosel Rivers. The Romans established a settlement here in 14 AD. Poor Koblenz - during the Thirty Years War, it was taken by the French, then the Spanish, then the Swedes and then the Imperial Forces. In WWII over 80% of the city was devastated. Still, there are a lot of old buildings in the Old Town dating from as early as the 12th C that attract tourists. One novel tourist attraction is the Scalawag fountain which is an urchin boy who, every 3 minutes, spits an arching stream of water on unsuspecting tourists. I think one reason we liked Koblenz so much was due, for the most part, to the owners of The Hotel National - a small pension within 4 blocks of the main railroad station. They were very congenial and both spoke English. When we thought it would be best to book our bed & breakfast rooms ahead of time for our trip along the Mosel River, Mr. Thelen made the phone calls for us. He also provided good directions for leaving the city and returning via the autobahn.

May 19

First we headed for Hörbach where my ancestors, the Lang/Long family, had lived as far back as the 1600s. It is about 70 miles northeast of Koblenz in the parish of Herborn in Hessen-Nassau. We picked up our VW Golf and probably looked incongruous driving it - an over 50 and an over 60 in a sporty car decorated in a Pink Floyd theme. We had asked for a listing of signs with the appropriate meanings in English. No such thing. We received 3 pages of signage (she said she could give me more if I wanted), all in German. However, most are self-explanatory. Only the circle with an X through it and then a small arrow pointing in one direction or the other had us stumped. To indicate our ignorance of the German language and signage, one day we were walking and trying to get our bearings in Koblenz and Bob asked me what street we were on. I looked at the sign and spelled out Einbahnstrasse. That was no help. Then I kept seeing Einbahnstrasse all over the place. No wonder; it means One-Way Street.

I had brought along a detailed road map of that part of Germany, and with Gary Horlacher's excellent directions on the roads to take to Hörbach, we had no problems. Be forewarned that signs at the autobahn exits tell you the distant town or city and not the direction it is in. There is no time for snap decisions and precious little time to pull out the map to search for city names. It is best to have made a list of the major towns along your route where changes in route are expected.

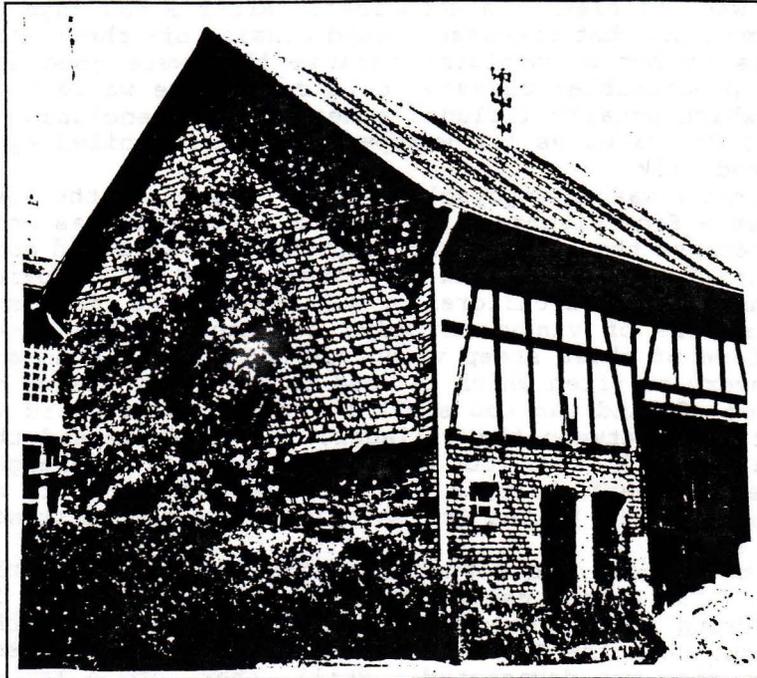


Figure 3. Oldest building I could find in Horbach.  
An old barn faced in slate, in part, typical slate,  
brick, stucco & wood.

We arrived in the sleepy town of Hörbach around 11:30 a.m. We drove through some small streets, trying to find the center, but never found one. We came back to the main road and parked across the street from a church. A small bank and a business of some sort occupied the same building where we parked. Gary had asked me to see if I could purchase a particular book on the history of Hörbach whose author is deceased. The bank seemed like the only logical place to begin the search. The first room I entered was a waiting room. On the wall near the door to the place where the banking business is transacted was an indicator light. If

it is red, you should not enter that room. I learned this by making the mistake of entering when someone was doing their banking with the teller at the lone window. I backed out the door in a flash uttering an apology. It was then that I noticed the light. I waited for the bank customer to leave and the light to turn green and went in. The woman teller was very nice and she spoke some English. I handed her the note Gary had written in German explaining that my ancestors came from Hörbach and I wanted to buy the book on the town's history. She said she thought she had the book at home and would bring it to the bank, if I'd return at 2 pm when she'd be back from her 2 hr lunch break. Before leaving the town, we walked around the town a bit. I took a picture of the fields on the other side of the bank. Farms encircle the town and there are small hills in the distance - rather picturesque. None of the architecture was noteworthy, in fact the town didn't even look old, yet Gary had traced the Lang/Long family back to the 1600s so it has a long history. The oldest building we saw was an old barn constructed of slate, rather interesting in its decrepit state so I took a picture of it. Two elderly gentlemen were standing and visiting near it so I asked them how old it was by writing 1700, 1800 on piece of paper. One of the men wrote 1893. That is a young age for buildings in Germany. The other quaint site was a horse watering trough and it must have been the pride of the town for flowers were planted around it.

About a 5 minute drive away is the town of Herborn that Gary had told us was worth a visit. Indeed, it is a most charming town and not one found featured in guide books, though it had a fair share of tourists wandering the old market square surrounded by half-timbered buildings. The two bookstores here did not have the book, but gave me the names of two men who might know where it can be purchased. I have written them, but have not had a reply yet.

Back at the bank, the lady teller did not have the book on Hörbach's history to give me and I

didn't inquire why. She made some phone calls to people who might have a copy, but no one was at home. She gave me two other books that have small sections devoted to the town's history and I thanked her for her generosity. On our way back to Koblenz we stopped in Weilberg, site of a 16th C. Renaissance castle, situated on the Lahn River. Could this have possibly been the same route the Long's took from their home in Hörbach in 1753? Most likely it is. Here is what Jasper Jacob Stahl wrote in *History of Old Broad Bay and Waldoboro*. Camden, Maine: Picton Press, 1956, p. 187:

"At the beginning of May 1753, the 360 ton ship, *Elizabeth*, under the command of Capt. Pendock Neale, arrived at Amsterdam for fitting out. In the meantime, the emigrants from the Taunus Mountains region, and probably those families living to the north of them, began their journey in small boats down the Lahn River to the Rhine and to Duisburg, the town where the Ruhr joins the Rhine. When all the scattered contingents had gathered at the mouth of the Ruhr, the migration moved down the Rhine and then across country either by land or canal boats to Amsterdam, where the *Elizabeth* was waiting."

In Weilburg, as in many other villages we encountered, the streets were so narrow, that we thought they must be one-way, yet they were also shared with pedestrians and bicyclists. It certainly forced you to keep your eyes on the road lest you clip a building, another car or, horrors, a walker. It was in one such town that I observed a young man come out of his house and put his back flat against the building until a car had passed.

May 20 - 23

For the next 4 days we took a leisurely drive along the Mosel River, our first stop being Kobern, site of the oldest half-timbered house in the Rhineland-Palatinate. It was built in 1321 though it looks like it is of this century, having been restored to near-perfect condition. On our hike up to the Niederberg Castle behind the village, we got close-up to the grapevines which had grown about half way up the stakes by this time of the season. There was so much slate on the ground that the plants looked

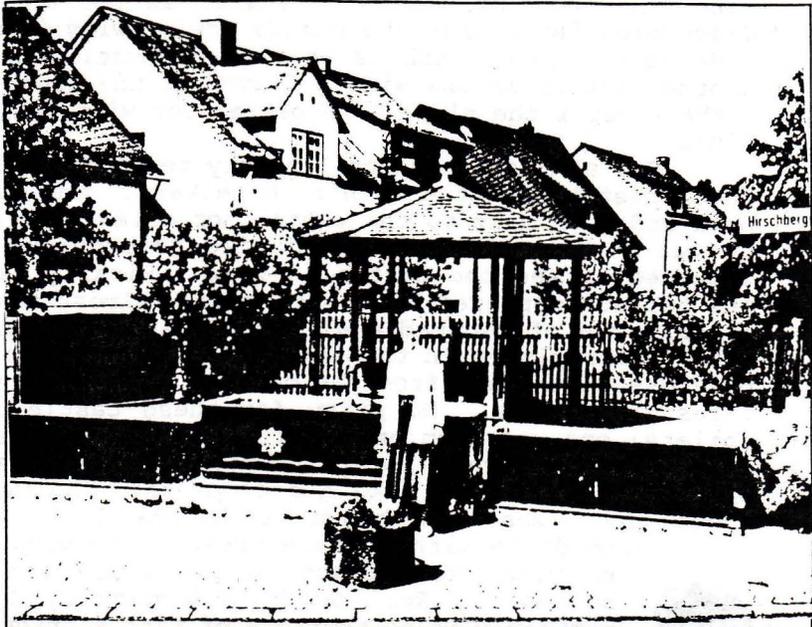


Figure 4. Here the trough is hard to make out. It is in front of the gazebo. Flowers are planted around it.



like they were mulched with slate, an odd material to use, thought I. Discovered later that the plants are growing in natural beds of thin soil made up of slate which is what gives Mosel wine its distinctive taste. Another factor in the wine's flavor is the steep slopes they are grown on - the steeper the slope, the better the wine, said the author of a book on wines.

Our next stop is one I highly recommend. It is Berg Eltz Castle in the forest behind the town of Moselkern. One may either drive part way, park and then hike to the castle, or enter from a route along a back road by car or bus. We chose to hike through the woods and at each turn expected to see the castle in view. Finally, after 30 minutes, its turrets appeared above the trees, almost taking our breath away. It is only one of two Medieval castles in the Rhineland Palatinate. There were 40 fireplaces in the castle. Also used to heat the rooms were coal braziers which hung from the ceiling, but these were a source of frequent fires in castles. No privy for these castle dwellers - there were 20 toilets; one was even enclosed in a fine wood carved closet-like room. At Traben-Trarbach we walked along the streets admiring the architecture of the old buildings. Our guidebook said the two castles that once stood above the towns were blown up in the late 1600s and early 1700s in



accordance with a peace treaty, "leaving the citizens free to get on with more peaceful pursuits like building half-timbered houses." (*Real Guide - Germany* by Gordon McLaughlan) There certainly is no shortage of that attractive style of architecture along the Mosel. Throughout, we were struck by the number of house facades and roofs made of slate in a variety of overlapping patterns resembling fish scales. The pieces of slate often have curved edges and lap around non-flat surfaces requiring skillful construction.

Numerous half-timbered buildings greet the eye in the town of Bernkastel. In the market square stands the Town Hall built in 1698, churches dating from the 13th and 14th centuries and a decorative fountain built in 1606 dominates the middle of the square. Being a Sunday, there were many people out enjoying the sunny weather. It was perhaps in the high 60s. I had taken a short jacket with a warm zip-out lining. It found frequent use in Germany, along with a pair of light gloves and a hat. But while I was bundled up against the cool temperatures, the Germans were in their shirt sleeves - a hardy lot they are.

The town of Neumagen was interesting, for it was the summer residence of the Emperor Constantine in the 4th C. Naturally, the museum was closed on Sunday. In fact, the entire town was almost deserted. The wine-selling establishment on the main street had its wide doors open, samples were on tables to display its offerings, but no one was around to offer assistance. Down the street the florist was elsewhere enjoying his day off, but his pots of flowers and flats of annuals were stacked on racks out in the open. Nothing appeared to have been disturbed in the neat display. This town has its values right - the road next to the river was turned over to bikers and strollers, not motor vehicle traffic. In some villages the main road parallels the river which is nice for people who want to enjoy the scenery from their car, but it relegates foot traffic to narrow sidewalks or dirt paths.

We managed to find our way into Trier, our final stop along the Mosel, by following signs with a big I, the international symbol for information. Trier is a city of 100,000 that has existed since 1,300 years before Rome. It was the capital of the Western part of the Roman Empire by 3 A.D. Emperor Constantine lived there from 306 to 316, the time when he adopted Christianity as the official religion. The first edifice to catch your eye is the massive Porta Nigra, or Black Gate, built in the 2nd century of massive sandstone blocks that have been weathered black. A broad walking street leads from the Porta Nigra to the Hauptmarkt (main market square). Lining it are many old, attractive buildings that had been residences, but now house retail stores or restaurants. One such building dated from the first half of the 13th C.



insights into some of your questions. In particular, because of the fires of 1746, down to 1927, the village was destroyed numerous times, and that would explain why there are no old buildings there. Apparently the oldest building would be the small chapel referred to in this article.

The second item I found particularly fascinating was the fire of 1746, which was a huge incident, apparently known throughout this whole region of Germany. It sure puts some meat on the bones of the history of the Lang-Long family. It is no wonder they would be ready to make a new life in a foreign country after going through what they did.

**Thanks for sharing this with us!**

[A translation of the historical parts of the two books Ragnild found.]

1878

1978

This book is a centennial anniversary book for the local bank. It begins with a short overview of the development of money.

Unknown beginning. Began with Asia minor and Babylonia. The Chinese were the first to use paper money, which spread to Europe through the Arabs in Spain. Before that people traded goods. 350 years ago people traded for slaves (black gold) in Africa and brought them to America. Some believe money corrupts.

Then a letter of introduction by Board of Directors.

We should thank the founders. Those that had the courage to start this bank 100 years ago. The founding members were from the towns of Straßebersbach, Bergebresbach, Neuhütte, and Roth (then District of Biedenkopf). Today the community bank and Raiffeisenbank Dill in Dietzhöhlztal-Ewersbach is the largest bank in the former Dill District. It has 30 branches from Dietzhöhlztal to Nenderoth and from Offenbach to Breitscheid. We celebrate 100 years in the past and look forward to continuing to serve for another 100 years. Our hope: Peace.

Also a letter from the district magistrate and several other officials of the bank and community congratulating the bank on its anniversary.

Then begins a short history of the area where the bank was first begun.

Dietzhöhlz Valley, namely Ewersbach, the main town of happenings for this area. A thousand years ago, the son of Ludwig the German, Karl the Fat (876-887) united again the east Frankish possessions with the west Frankish kingdom, but the dissolution process of the Carolinian kingdom continued on... Karl III, the Fat, took over the rule of Italy and was crowned by Pope Johann VIII as Emperor. The descent of the duchies on German land continued on. Christianity was brought in and convents and monasteries erected. Yet there was a remembrance of the paganism alive among the people so that water spirits, gnomes, and ogres in the near forests, the dragon, and the old gnarled oak remained in the background.

Ebersbach got its name from the wild pigs that lived there [Eber = wild boar] that originally were found in packs in the northern part of the Haiger district. A Roman church was built on the hill supposedly in the 9th century. Some houses were built on this "church-hill". More about this we don't know. The oldest settlements in the valley openings were very old. Tacitus tells us

that our ancestors did not settle in close communities but settled in separate residences.

Through the forests were only a few paths and roads. Oak, Beech, Birch, Ash, and Yew trees covered the mountain slopes, which made it insurmountable and imposing. Amidst this land district, fruitful places were water rich and wind protected, and given to farming land and pastures, human residences appeared, mostly single cabins or villages.

The women's clothing was a long flowing skirt. The girdle surrounded also the man's skirt. In the summer the women put flower wreaths in their hair. The clothing of men was only minorly different from that of women. In the women they wore cloths of leather, possibly with the skin of an otter. The hunter carried a buffalo horn as a hunting horn, which had only one tone and with which man made a hunting signal.

A thousand years ago they began the first great clearing of the forest areas. The roads were poorly cleared, better compared to the old Roman and Royal Roads, which mainly ran along the top of the watershed. Militia developed them for ways of retreat. What took place a thousand years ago remains in the dark.

There were two types of spears: the long thrust and the short throwing spear... As a weapon of war a bow was also used, the quiver was a pouch container. The blood relatives made up the only association, the clan. They were the oldest peace and protection organization. The oldest male clan organization was the pursuance of the cudgel, a clan made for the holy duty. A new born child was laid on the room floor as a sign of its recognition, the father raised it up and kissed it. The most common names were Thusnelda, Gunther, Gernot, Giselher, Hildebrand.

They only ate twice a day. The main mealtime was about 6:00 late in the afternoon. The course was served in wooden bowls. The meal was made up of bread, mainly of meat and venison of every type, and of fish. All food was strongly seasoned, never lacking of table salt cellar and pepper-caster. Foreign travelers were bound to bring gifts. Mead was kept in fermented honey water. In 878, the Germans already had enough quantity of food and drink to be in gluttony and drunkenness.

Bears, wolf, and wild boars were captured by pits, caught by snares. The roebuck was allured by the sound of a doe. The hunted animals were the stag, moose, hare, badger, and ?cock.

## 1886-1986

Commemorative Volume  
4-7 July 1986

For the 100 Years of Existence  
of the Voluntary Fire Station in Hörbach

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p.17

Village Chronicles  
by teacher, Kurt Engelmann  
compiled and enlarged by Heinrich Kneip

As one walks or drives down from Westerwald [Western Forest] to the Rehbachtal [Reh Stream Valley], below Guntersdorf, it opens for about five kilometers to a long basin, which ends between Rehberg and Merkenbach. In this broad Rehbach Valley lies our beautiful home village of Hörbach.

Hörbach's past was especially worthy of note in the records, differing from several points of view for the various farming and social history of the entire areas during the past centuries. This is even more the case as our town has gone through some hard fates, especially in the last 300 years.

War, ravaging fires, epidemics with men and animals have more than once strongly shaken and threatened to destroy our village. Yet it was always the unbending will to live and the diligence of our forefathers, their hopes and good works which looked forward to establishing a foundation for a better future. Today, the tracks of the many problems, which is in the following chronicle, as far as can be ascertained, described the obstacles that our beautiful home village has passed through.

The chronicles begins with the Celts and was first mentioned in documents in 1231 as a gift-record of the Herborn Church where the German places was named as Ober- and Nieder-Herbach. The reference to Nieder-Herbach must have referred to the present valley of Rehbach pasture and Ober-Herbach to the present Hörbach.

Between both settlements, a chapel was established. This building, which was also the only edifice of the village which stands out in scope and significance above the remaining buildings, as its situation was isolated, has withstood all the wars and fires of the centuries. Its special building pattern, at least as far as the tower goes, is a mixture of early Gothic and Gothic, must have been built in the 15th Century. One assumes that the present place of our church was the connection between Ober- and Nieder-Herbach. In 1454 our church was renovated and in 1879 the part containing the length of the hall was renovated. The architecture style no longer tried to retain the Gothic Tower. One would have a hard time to find another such prayer-house in this area.

In later records we hear only of Herbach, whereby the earlier Ober-Herbach is meant. What became of Nieder-Herbach is not found recorded. It is supposed that Nieder-Herbach was destroyed by pestilence and epidemic.

An animal tax list of 1447 gives us a record of the state of farm animals and farming families in our village. This record shows the following for Hörbach:

14 Families, 24 horses, 54 head of cattle, 317 sheep, 38 goats, 30 pigs.

The development of the total population has grown as follows:

1587=150 population	1870=360	1950=946
1628=180	1900=500	1956=1020
1786=191	1914=580	1961=1100
1830=304	1937=721	1985=1312

The people at that time up into the 19th century lived from farming, but not untroubled. Everywhere were dangers, through wild animals, robberies, poor harvest, sicknesses, etc. In constant defence, certain rough customs and habits developed. One benefit our forefathers had over us, they lived without time. The haste and hurry, the stress of our present time they didn't know.... The people retained the dress and simple standard of living of their fathers... Perhaps, with the help of God, a later chronicler may be able to describe the present Hörbach residents.

In the year 1523 and 1585 there are two records about a mill near Hörbach on the Rehe [River]. It is assumed that this refers to the present Klaase-Mill, near the foot trail, which goes over the Rehbach [Reh Stream] and today the mill has connections with Hirschberg. A second mill (600-

800 meters downstream, on the street to Merkenbach), named Andreas- or Palz-Mill, must have been built in the 18th Century.

About 1570 the tithes of Hörbach were paid to Dillenburg by Minister Geldenhauer. The tax collector Hatzfeld and Law Servant Nickel visited the community of Hörbach. According to their report, because of the poverty of the people of Hörbach, their taxes could not be paid....

Also the problems of war during the 30-Years War were felt by our forefathers. When one knows how often in the years - 1620, 1623, 1634, 1635, 1639 - that Herborn was plagued by troops of war, then one can also understand that Hörbach was not preserved from plundering, fire, and epidemics. On the Wacktkippel (the name remains even today) there stood men from our village day and night as watchmen. As soon as men of war were seen near Hörbach, the residents were warned from Wacktkippel by a fire signal and our forefathers fled into the Scheuernberg [Scheuern Mountain], where the cattle were already hidden. The Scheuernberg was, through its marshlands, a sure hiding place.

In the year 1645, the first schoolmaster in Hörbach had his service. Until the year 1792 there was continually a schoolmaster in Hörbach. I can only give the names of those listed in records, there could have been others:

Johann Daniel Geyersberg	1645
Johannes aus Homberg	1646
Jost Rompf	1668
Jo Jost	until 1706
Jo Adam Holler	about 1750
Jo Heinrich Holler	about 1770
Jo Jost Heuser	1792

As Hörbach today has been referred to as the village of the fires, it can have a certain meaning:

1. through the great fire of 1746
2. through the great fire of 1893
3. through the great fire of 1901
4. through the great fire of 1927

The hardest day of our village was October 4, 1746, as our town, except for the church, a small duplex, and two barns, was destroyed by a great fire. For the enormous amount of the destruction, there is in the width and breadth, no comparison. From this gruesome heavy blow, the inhabitants of our village did not recover for decades.

Through the destruction of the complete crops, not only did it threaten their very life, it brought on epidemic sicknesses, such that a number of the fully impoverished people mercilessly were taken up. Many were forced to mortgage their land to rich people in the neighboring communities, especially in Herborn. Only a few families of our village were able to redeem their land from the mortgages. We hear the chronicles of what this violent fire has to tell.

It was on Tuesday, October 4, 1746, on a beautiful fall day, in the afternoon, near 3:00 pm. Nearly all of the inhabitants, and also the shepherds (Hörbach had a cow-, a sheep-, and a pig herd) were outside the village in the field, when the fire broke out. The fire bell rang and running like fools, the men hurried to the village, where even on the upper villages (toward Guntersdorf), they could see the fire blaze. Yet by the time the men were in the village, the wind had spread the flames from one straw roof to another. The extinguishment went slowly as most of the fire-buckets were in the burning houses. After a while, the residents

of the neighboring villages came to help. Even from the "foreign" town of Greifenstein, help for the fire came running. As the lack of extinguishing water became a problem, the Rehbach water was dammed by the Klaasmill and let the water in the Irrlichtbach [Irrlicht stream]. By the time this was done, three fourths of our village was in flames and there was no extinguishing [water] left. The residences of 46 families and the accompanying buildings and barns were in the space of a short time destroyed, besides which the complete unthrashed crops of corn, barley, oats, wheat, buckwheat, millet, peas, lentil, and flax. The complete living for these 46 families, their cattle feed, hay, second crop of hay, and straw was through the fire, and in certain respects from water, totally destroyed. Most of the people had also not been able to rescue any of their belongings of household effects, furniture, beds, linen, clothing, money, etc. Lost was the life, which each had strived after, from the cattle to the hens. The winter loomed before the burned-down village. It was misfortune so great and horrible that there is nothing in the later history of Hörbach that has come close to it. As Steubing relates, there were 190 buildings worth 10452 R, 24 alb, 7 Pfg. that were burned and destroyed.

Already in the evening of October 4, 1746 the friendly families in the neighboring villages took the homeless and gave them temporary accommodations in the towns of Schönbach, Hirschberg, Merkenbach, and Guntersdorf. Some of the homeless spent their first night in the church, where they took the very little they were able to salvage.

The first account of this incident was reported on the evening of October 4th by the Over-Mayer Jeckel to the Ruling Government in Dillenburg. The cause of the fire was blamed on the citizens Heinrich Caspar Scheld, Johann Jacob Selzer, and the blacksmith Christoffel Lang. Yet under further investigation it was reported that the fire arose through a chimney fire in the blacksmithy taking to the straw roof, and spreading quickly from building to building. The fire incident was soon made known in all of the Dillenburg Province and in the neighboring lands. From these areas, from all sides of private persons came charity and gifts.

On October 7, the Government in Dillenburg made a proclamation in all their lands, the districts of Dillenburg, Herborn, Driedorf, Burbach, Ewersbach, and Diez. Also the ministers and preachers in Herborn made a call. The church list of contributions had the following entries:

Bailif		32	4
Oraniensteiner alms	17	20	
A good young woman		30	
A good young woman	1		
A friend	1		
Alms from Hirschberg	1	10	
Dörnberger Alms		4	
Friedr. Adolf Römer		6	
Papermaker in Dietz, etc.		5	

From the first eight pages of the church list 177 R, 22 alb was taken in. From this the manager of the book for 31 days made a fee of 15 R, 15 alb. That left 162 R, 7 alb for the use of the community. Throughout the entire book there was 413 R, 16 alb, 1 Pfg. taken in. From the collection moneys the community received 576 fl, 17 alb, 4 Pfg, the principality government in Dillenburg gave 4500 fl[orin]... The schoolteacher Holler and church manager gathered in the dominions of Solms, Hachenburg, Altenkirchen, Witgenstein, and Berleburg; Church Managers Haupt and Häuser gathered collections in the Palatinate, Hanau, Isenburg, Siegen, and Dietz. The schoolmaster Dietrich from Eisemroth gathered money in other foreign areas. According to the taxes, some 3000-4000 florin went

through these collections which made it possible for the first steps of supporting life of the fire injured people could be maintained. All gifts and offerings did not stretch far enough, however, to rebuild more than a few buildings.

We take it that each newly built house would cost 2000 florin, such that for 46 completely rebuilt houses a cost would be 92000 florin, an enormous sum. Almost every village in the district of Herborn and several villages in the remaining districts of the Dillenburg Principality were required to take part in the rebuilding of Hörbach and to help and had to supply building wood and stones.

The village was rebuilt according to a plan which the ruling government had worked out. The houses should be one floor, a mass of 30:24:11 feet (some 9 meters, 7.2 meters, 3.3 meters) and an distance of 16 feet (some 4-5 meters) from each other, the street a width of 32 feet (some 9.6 meters). The complete rebuilding should be as cheap as possible. Hygiene and practicality were not an issue. The sufferers were later our forefathers. Many houses shortly after the rebuilding stood empty as the Tuberculosis spread easily in these massive, continually moist stone buildings. As they didn't yet know about Dickwurz [carrots?] and potatoes, they had no cellar and the houses were built on the level dirt. The second floor building first began in the 90 Years of the 18th century in the so-called second building. The houses were all attached, always two and two, with a small path between them, which was always so narrow, that not even a wagon of hay could go between them. On June 17, 1747, there already stood 42 barns, which were built first, and 16 living homes; 22 houses were still planned.

The population of our village according to the report of Steubing, in the year 1786 was a total of 36 families. These families were made up of 42 couples, 8 widows, and two widowers. There were 56 males over 15 years old and 44 under 15 years, altogether 100. There were 28 females under 15, and 63 females over 15, a total of 91. According to this, Hörbach had a total of 191 residents in the year 1786.

Yet, the prints of the terrible fire were not gone when the 7-years war broke out in 1756....

In the year 1840 some families left Hörbach for America, in order to hopefully find good luck there.

[Most of the rest of this article is about the latter part of the 19th century. The second section is entitled, "Our village today". It then gives a list of all the people living there today and their occupations. There is also a poem about the town, a description of the fire in 1927, pictures, and a history of the fire station in the town from 1886-1986. The end of the book is full of advertisements of the people who apparently paid for the publication of the book].

[Translations by Gary Horlacher, September 1995.]

**1995 REUNION**

From the few accounts I've heard, the 1995 Reunion was a success. I could print some pictures and your accounts of the Reunion if you will send me copies. I'm sorry I couldn't make it this year. Next year, Yes!

V4#3

## Old Broad Bay Bund und Blatt

Wilford W. Whitaker, Editor  
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Murray, UT 84107-7661

### Old Broad Bay Roots

Antoni\* (Anton), Bausser\*, Becker, Beckler\*, Beisch, Beller, Benner\*,  
BirkenbaueI\*, Bornemann, Bornheimer\*, Brodtmann\* (Broadman),  
Burkhardt\* (Burkett), Christ, Daurenheim\*, Demuth\*, Dickendorff,  
Dies/Theis\* (Dice), Derhinger, Dochtermann\* (Tochtermann), Doerfler\*  
(Doerflinger), Eichorn\* (Achor), Eisele, Elflein\*, Engel\*, Engelbert,  
Feiler\* (Feyler), Feilhauer\*, Flenderick\*, Genthner\*, Georg\* (George),  
Getsinger, Grimmer, Grob, Gross\*, Hahn\*, Heidenheim\* (Huetteneheim),  
Heiler\*\* (Hyler), Heun\* (Hein), Heisler\*, Heyer, Hild\* (Hilt), Hoch\*,  
Hoffses\*, Holzapfel, Huebner\* (Heavener), Iselen, Janson, Jung\* (Young),  
Kammerer\* (Comery), Kastner\* (Castner), Keizer, Kintzel\* (Kinsel),  
Claus\*, Klein\* (Cline), Koehler\* (Kaler), Korr/Korrss, Kraemer\*  
(Creamer, Crammer), Krebs (Crapes), Kroehn\*, Kuebler\*, Kueblinger\*  
(Kiblinger), Kuhn (Coon, Cone), Kumaler (Comler), Lagenauer\*, Lang\*  
(Long), Lauer\* (Lowry, Lowery), Leben Zelner\* (Levensaler), Leight\*  
(Light), Leissner\*, Loesch\* (Lash), Low, Ludwig\*, Martin\*, May\*,  
Mellen\*, Mueller\* (Miller), Mink\* (Mank), Moser, Neubert\* (Newbert),  
Neuhaus\* (Newhouse), Orff\*, Oberlach\* (Overlock), Pracht\* (Prock),  
Rapp, Reich\* (Rich), Ried\* (Reed, Reid), Rehfuss (Refuse), Reisser  
(Razor), Riegner, Roemele (Remily), Rodner, Rominger\*, Roth\* (Rode,  
Rhodes), Rost\*\*, Schaeffer/Schoefner (Shephard), Schencks\* (Shanks),  
Schmaus\* (Smouse), Schmidt\* (Smith), Schnaudiel\* (Snowdeal),  
Schneider\* (Snider, Snyder), Schotts (Shoats), 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), Uhlman\*\*, ULMER\*, Unbehend (Umberhine), Vogler\*\* (Fogler),  
Wagner\*, Walch\* (Walck), Wallis (Wallace), Walter, Waltz\*/Woltz,  
Weber\* (Weaver), Wier/Weier, Welt, Wiest\*, Weyel\* (Weyl), Weller\*  
(Willard), Werner\* (Warner, Vannah), Winchenbach\* (Wincapaw, Wink),  
Wolfahrt\*, Wolfsgruber\* (Wolsgrover), Wunderer\*, Ziegler, Zuberbueler\*

\* - found in Germany    \*\* - found in Switzerland

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